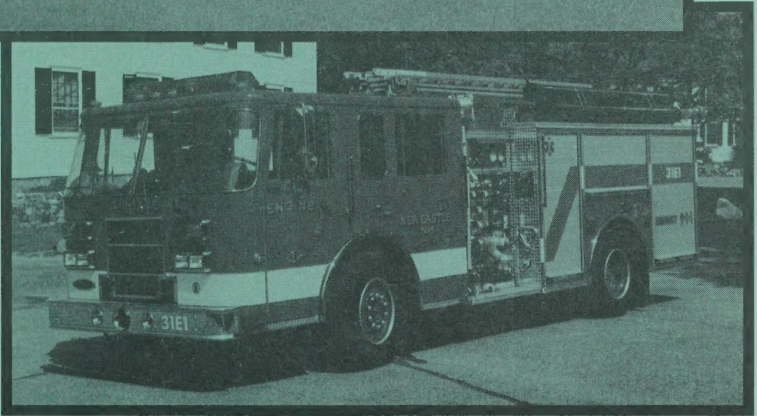
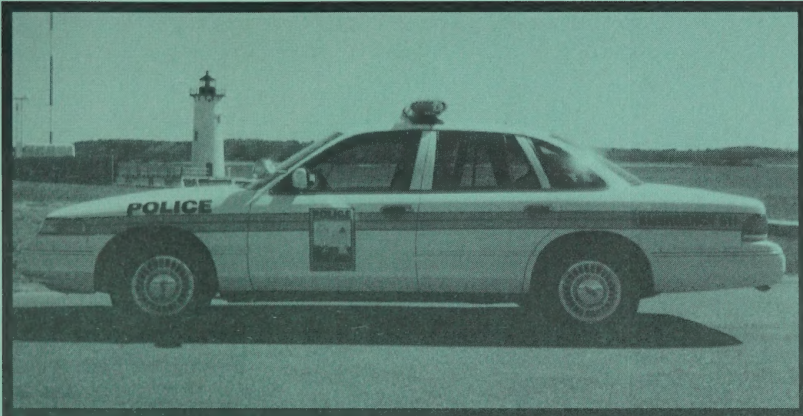


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**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, N.H.
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1997**

HONORED CITIZEN AWARD

TO

LOIS SOFARELLI

In recognition of her volunteerism to the New Castle Public Library

Volunteers are special people who donate their time and love because they care about others. The heart of volunteerism is a generous spirit of wanting to give and reaching out to be with others - such a simple yet neglected aspect of life.

We would like to take this opportunity to honor a unique lady from Portsmouth who has given her precious time to our community above and beyond the call of duty. After her late husband Jake built our wonderful library - recreation complex in 1989, he passed away shortly before the building's dedication in 1990. Lois weaved her strength into the fabric of the library building and town, becoming a permanent part of the ever changing and developing tapestry that Jake created. Her humility and dedication are refreshing in a world where many are caught up in their own interests. We praise her tremendous efforts, capabilities, and accomplishments.

It is indeed an honor and pleasure sharing her life and gift. Thank you, Lois, for being a special friend to New Castle.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Stearns, Chairperson, Trustees
Barbara Newman, Trustee
John Walsh, Trustee
Jane Barrett, Library Director



On the Cover:

Police Cruiser - 1997 Ford Crown
Victoria with new logo.

Fire Engine - 1997 Pierce Sabre 1500
gallon per minute with an 8 man cab.

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1997

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TOWN OFFICERS 1997-1998

Town Clerk	Henry F. Bedford	term exp 5/98
Deputy Town Clerk	Suzanne Shevenell	indef appt
Selectmen	Clinton H. Springer	term exp 5/99
	Gene F. Doherty, Chr.	term exp 5/00
	Richard T. Cowern	term exp 5/98
Treasurer	William B. Marshall, III	term exp 5/98
Deputy Treasurer	Karen Arsenault	indef appt
Collector of Taxes	Pamela P. Cullen	term exp 5/98
Deputy Collector	Marcia L. Whitehouse	indef appt
Chief of Police	James C. Murphy	indef appt
Police Sergeant	Douglas Cummings, II	indef appt
Animal Control Officer	Douglas Cummings, II	indef appt
Patrolman	Donald White, Jr.	indef appt
Special Police	Charles T. Law, Jr.	appt exp 5/98
	Liza Levin	appt exp 5/98
Health Officer	Roger Epstein	appt exp 1/00
Fire Chief	Richard H. White	indef appt
Fire Wards	William G. Kingston	term exp 5/00
	Reginald Whitehouse	term exp 5/98
	Richard White	term exp 5/99
Public Works Superintendent	Dan K. Barrett	indef appt
Public Works Board	Walter Liff, Chr.	appt exp 5/00
	Thomas Roy	appt exp 5/98
	Norman Kent	appt exp 5/99
	Bert Palmer	appt exp 5/99
	Frederick Pitts	appt exp 5/98
	John Walsh	appt exp 5/00
Alternate	Robert Wildes	appt exp 5/00
Alternate	Reginald Whitehouse	appt exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton Springer	term exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Treasurer	William B. Marshall, III	term exp 5/98
Trustees of Cemeteries	William Lanham	term exp 5/99
	Eugene W. Morrill	term exp 5/00
	David Merrill	term exp 5/98
Library Trustees	John Walsh	term exp 5/98
	Mary Beth Kelly	term exp 5/00
	Pamela Stearns	term exp 5/99
Trustee of Trust Funds	Russell Cox	term exp 5/99
	Peter P. Gil	term exp 5/00
	Henry F. Bedford	term exp 5/98
Supervisors of Checklist	Marcia L. Whitehouse	term exp 5/02
	Joann Ireland	term exp 5/98
	Rowena F. Alessi	term exp 5/00
Planning Board	Robert Beecher, Chr.	term exp 5/99
	Chr. Diane McCormack	appt exp 5/99

	Etoile Holzaepfel	appt exp 5/00
	Barton Carr	appt exp 5/00
	Jay Tischler	appt exp 5/98
	David Merrill	appt exp 5/98
Alternate	David Reynolds	appt exp 5/98
Alternate	Christopher Russell	appt exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Gene F. Doherty	term exp 5/00
Board of Adjustment	Janet Harrigan, Chr.	appt exp 5/98
	Paul Cullen	appt exp 5/98
	Russell Cox	appt exp 5/98
	Donald Moore	appt exp 5/00
	Raymond Ambrogi	appt exp 5/99
	Peter Gil	appt exp 5/99
Alternate	Judith Sawyer	appt exp 5/99
Conservation Commission	Wm. B. Marshall III, Chr.	appt exp 5/99
	Irene Crosby	appt exp 5/98
	Elizabeth Hume	appt exp 5/98
	James White	appt exp 5/00
	Carol Lincoln	appt exp 5/98
	Charles Petlick	appt exp 5/00
	Brian Mack	appt exp 5/99
Mosquito Control Board	Darel Fletcher	indef appt
Emergency Mgt. Director	Richard H. White	appt exp 5/98
Deputy Emer. Mgt. Director	Richard Hopley	appt exp 5/98
Building Inspector	Charles Petlick	indef appt
Archives and Record Committee	Eugene Morrill, Chr.	indef appt
	Sr. Catherine Colliton	appt exp 5/99
	Fred White	appt exp 5/98
	Mary White	appt exp 5/98
	Christopher Russell	appt exp 5/98
Budget Committee	Robert Beecher	term exp 5/99
	Raymond Ambrogi, Chr.	term exp 5/00
	Otto Grote	term exp 5/98
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton H. Springer	term exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/School Board	Roderick MacDonald	term exp 5/00
Recreation Committee	Guy Stearns, Chr.	appt exp 5/98
	Ingrid Getman	appt exp 5/99
	Scott Stringham	appt exp 5/99
	Elizabeth Fregeau	appt exp 5/98
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Richard T. Cowern	term exp 5/98
Historic District Committee	Bruce Smith, Chr.	appt exp 5/00
Ex-Officio/Planning Board	H. Jay Tischler	appt exp 5/98
	Barbara Becker	appt exp 5/99
Ex-Officio/Selectman	Clinton Springer	term exp 5/99
	Joan Lockhart	appt exp 5/00
Alternate	Rodney Rowland	appt exp 5/00
Town Moderator	Wayne Semprini	term exp 5/98
Road Agent	Stephen Tabbutt	indef appt

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ELECTED POSITIONS AND SALARIES
FISCAL YEAR 1997**

Position	Annual Salaries
Selectmen, Chairman	\$1,700
Selectmen, (2)	1,600
Town Clerk	5,600
Treasurer	1,500
Collector of Taxes	1,700
Road Agent	150
Cemetery Trustee, (3)	100
Moderator	75 per election
Library Trustee	Unpaid
Supervisor of Checklist	100 & \$50 per election
Trustee of Trust Funds, (2)	100
Trustee of Trust Funds, Bookkeeper	250
Budget Committee	Unpaid

There are many others who participate in Town Government on an unpaid basis and their service is most valuable to the success of our Town. These individuals deserve the whole hearted thanks of the community for their civic involvement.

SELECTMEN'S LETTER

New Castle experienced a year of continued growth by welcoming many new families throughout Town, expanding and finalizing the beautiful playground at the Common, receiving a new fire truck and police cruiser, acquiring land from the Coast Guard adjacent to the Station, reviewing and updating Town appraisals, expanding and/or revising Town Ordinance, and expansion of the Conservation Board to eight members to address present and future development areas and issues of Town conservation.

Residents focused on the proposed development of the Wentworth-By-The-Sea Hotel within the Town and in the media, and saw one of the largest ballot voting and resident turnouts in recent history occur at the special Town meeting.

Town Hall was also the recipient of a new makeover at the front of the building, which included preventive maintenance and repairs, replacement of pillars and the much appreciated attention of the New Castle Garden Club with wonderful arrangements throughout the seasons of the year.

The Common continues to be a very popular place to visit year round and the Recreation Building has seen a tremendous increase in scheduled activities. Tennis, basketball, school use, Coast Guard Functions, aerobics, children's sports, private functions, and special Town uses combine to book the building fully. We again ask Residents to follow the rules in the Common and Recreation Building to maintain safety and enjoyment and usability for all interested Residents.

We would also like to thank our Town Employees, volunteer Fire Fighters, and Board Members, and elected officials who continue to provide the Town with services over and above what is required of them to make New Castle the unique place it is today.

To our residents we thank you for your support, input, suggestions, and guidance in many areas. Your involvement helps us to better serve the town and address issues and concerns that develop over time.

Board of Selectmen,

Gene F. Doherty, Chair
Clinton H. Springer
Richard T. Cowern

PS....and a special thank you to Walter Liff for his sculpture at the Great Island Common.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD
AT GREAT ISLAND COMMON
MAY 13, 1997**

Articles 1 through 8 were voted by ballot with the results indicated. Moderator Wayne Semprini opened the polls at 10AM and declared them closed at 7PM.

ARTICLE 1: Balloting for town officers produced the following results:

Town Clerk (one year):	Henry F. Bedford	213 votes
Selectman (three years):	Gene F. Doherty	191 votes
Treasurer (one year):	Wm. B. Marshall III	203 votes
Tax Collector (one year):	Pamela P. Cullen	207 votes
Trustee of Trust Funds (three yrs):	Peter P. Gil	205 votes
Library Trustee (three years):	Mary Beth Kelly	208 votes
Cemetery Trustee (three years):	Eugene W. Morrill	218 votes
Budget Committee (three years):	Raymond R. Ambrogi	186 votes
Fire Ward (three years):	William G. Kingston	201 votes
Fire Ward (two years):	Richard H. White	197 votes

The ballot for the School District, conducted simultaneously with the election of town officers, had the following results:

School District Clerk (two years):	Becky L. Wooley	201 votes
School District Treasurer (two years):	Carol C. Allen	203 votes
School Board (three years):	Roderick M. MacDonald	185 votes

ARTICLE 2: Zoning Amendment #1 as specified in the warrant was **ADOPTED** by a ballot vote of 155 YES to 63 NO.

ARTICLE 3: Zoning Amendment #2 as specified in the warrant was **ADOPTED** by a ballot vote of 157 YES to 60 NO.

ARTICLE 4: Zoning Amendment #3 as specified in the warrant was **ADOPTED** by a ballot vote of 159 YES to 56 NO.

ARTICLE 5: Zoning Amendment #4 as specified in the warrant was **ADOPTED** by a ballot vote of 162 YES to 51 NO.

ARTICLE 6: Zoning Amendment #5 as specified in the warrant was **ADOPTED** by a ballot vote of 151 YES to 63 NO.

ARTICLE 7: Zoning Amendment #6 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 151 YES to 65 NO.

ARTICLE 8: Zoning Amendment #7 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 158 YES to 54 NO.

Moderator Semprini convened the business meeting at 2pm in the recreation Building at Great Island Common. He welcomed new residents and encouraged their spirited participation in the legislative deliberations of the community. He asked that the meeting recall in a silent moment members of the community who had died during the year since the previous town meeting. He asked approval of rules for the meeting, which included a prohibition of smoking, a requirement that a motion to reconsider be made immediately after the vote at issue, and another that any amendment be submitted in writing. Only registered voters, he said, would be permitted to engage in discussion unless the meeting made a specific exception. Following a motion duly seconded, the moderator's rules were ADOPTED by voice vote.

ARTICLE 9, modifying exemptions from property taxation for certain elderly property taxpayers, under circumstances specified in the warrant, was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

Moderator Semprini noted that Articles 10, 11, 12, and 13 carried the recommendation of the Selectmen and the Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 10, changing the name and purpose of the Town Vehicle Trust Fund to the Town Vehicle and Equipment Trust Funds, and authorizing the selectmen to make withdrawals from this fund at discretion was ADOPTED by voice vote, confirmed by a show of hands. In response to a question, Selectman Springer said that the primary purpose of the fund was the purchase of vehicles, but that he could foresee circumstances that might require the purchase of equipment, such as a computer or copier, with reserve funds.

ARTICLE 11, discontinuing the Public Safety Dispatch Expendable Trust Fund and transferring principal and interest to the town's general funds was ADOPTED by voice vote. Selectman Doherty explained that these funds would be used in lieu of a bond issue to purchase a fire truck.

ARTICLE 12, authorizing the Selectmen to sell Fire Department Engine #1, and to add the proceeds to the town's general fund to help defray the cost of a new fire truck was ADOPTED by voice vote.

ARTICLE 13, discontinuing the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and transferring any remaining principal and interest to the town's general fund to be used for the purchase of 1997 fire truck was moved and seconded. In response to a question,

Selectman Doherty explained that the new Town Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund, established earlier under Article 10, would be used in the future for replacement of a fire truck if the need arose. Andrew Schulte doubted that a single, combined capital fund serving all of the town's needs for vehicles and equipment would adequately meet those of the fire department. He noted that the long range financial plan of the town had contemplated having about half of the future cost of a fire truck available in reserves designated for that purpose, a practice he believed to be good financial planning that ought to be continued. Selectman Doherty replied that prudent planning could and would be continued through the use of a single fund, which would also provide flexibility in meeting the varied needs of the town. The Article was ADOPTED by a voice vote, confirmed by a show of hands resulting in a count of 56 YES and 19 NO.

ARTICLE 14, authorizing the trustees of the library to accept gifts of personal property under conditions specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by voice vote. The authorization was necessary, it was explained, in case of the gift of a copier or other useful equipment to the town's library.

ARTICLE 15, authorizing the selectmen to accept and hold in trust gifts to the town for public purposes, and further that such authorization would continue until specifically rescinded by the vote of a future town meeting, was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 16, authorizing the selectmen to accept gifts of personal property for public purposes until such authority is specifically rescinded by the vote of a future town meeting was ADOPTED by a voice vote. In response to a question from Donald Moore, it was agreed that the gift of a private road to the town was not included in the authority granted under this article, a road constituting real property as distinguished from personal property.

ARTICLE 17, raising and appropriating one million, seventy-eight thousand, two hundred thirty-two dollars (\$1,078,232), to defray the town's charges in the ensuing year was moved by Michael Armitage, Chairman of the Budget Committee. He noted significant variances from the current budget, including adoption of a major program of repaving of the town's streets. He expected any increase in the tax rate to be modest. The motion was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

There were no reports submitted under ARTICLE 18.

The Moderator noted that there were additional motions to be submitted under ARTICLE 19. Selectman Doherty moved to rescind the authority granted Selectmen in the Annual Town Meeting of May 14, 1996, to issue up to \$55,000 in bonds of the town to pay for a new fire truck. Because of actions taken earlier in the meeting, she explained, this authority was not necessary. The motion was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

Selectman Doherty then moved that Selectmen be authorized to withdraw up to \$750 from the Bicentennial Park Trust Fund to defray costs of removal and replacement of trees destroyed in a winter storm. The motion was ADOPTED by a voice vote.

Selectman Doherty called attention to the dedication in the annual Town Report, noting that the town should be at once proud and grateful for the outstanding public citizenship of Fred White.

She then called attention to the town's ordinances with respect to pets, especially dogs, which applied, she said, to visitors to the Great Island Common. The selectmen would monitor compliance with these ordinances at the Common for a month, she reported. If a satisfactory level of compliance is not voluntarily obtained, an ordinance banning pets from the Common between May 15 and September 15 will probably be enacted.

William Kingston called attention to the distribution of bumper stickers advocating enlistment in the local fire department, which provides several emergency services to the town and responded to more than eighty calls in the year previous. Selectman Cowern added that he supported Kingston's request for volunteers, and promised recruits would receive excellent training, use up-to-date equipment, and enjoy good company in the department.

Norman Kent asked why the Wentworth Hotel had not been included in the historic district whose expansion is sought in Article 7. Howard Crosby responded that those responsible for the original historic district had intended to expand incrementally, and that this year's measure was an example of prudent and gradual change. Michael Riffe opposed any expansion of the historic district and asked voters to reject Article 7 at the polls. Bert Palmer, whose property, like Riffe's, falls in the expanded district, disagreed.

Upon motion made and seconded, Moderator Semprini declared the meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.

A true and correct record of the Town Meeting and Election of Officers of the Town of New Castle, May 13, 1997, ATTEST:

Henry F. Bedford
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD
AT GREAT ISLAND COMMON
FEBRUARY 17, 1998**

Articles 1 through 13 were voted by ballot with the results indicated. Moderator Wayne Semprini opened the polls at noon and declared them closed at 9pm. He reported that the Selectmen had received a Zoning Protest Petition filed under provisions of RSA 675:5, but that on advice of town counsel, the Board had concluded that the petitioners had not met the requisite statutory conditions. A simple majority, therefore, rather than a two-thirds majority, would suffice to carry Articles 1 through 13. The moderator said that he would announce and seek approval of rules for the conduct of the evening session when it convened.

ARTICLE 1: Zoning Amendment #1 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 390 YES to 126 NO.

ARTICLE 2: Zoning Amendment #2 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 367 YES to 133 NO.

ARTICLE 3: Zoning Amendment #3 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 383 YES to 127 NO.

ARTICLE 4: Zoning Amendment #4 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 361 YES to 149 NO.

ARTICLE 5: Zoning Amendment #5 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 371 YES to 136 NO.

ARTICLE 6: Zoning Amendment #6 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 376 YES to 135 NO.

ARTICLE 7: Zoning Amendment #7 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 370 YES to 127 NO.

ARTICLE 8: Zoning Amendment #8 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 378 YES to 125 NO.

ARTICLE 9: Zoning Amendment #9 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 384 YES to 125 NO.

ARTICLE 10: Zoning Amendment #10 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 388 YES to 119 NO.

ARTICLE 11: Zoning Amendment #11 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 399 YES to 120 NO.

ARTICLE 12: Zoning Amendment #12 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 381 YES to 144 NO.

ARTICLE 13: Zoning Amendment #13 as specified in the warrant was ADOPTED by a ballot vote of 388 YES to 115 NO.

Moderator Semprini convened the business meeting at 7pm in the Recreation Building at Great Island Common. He applauded the unusually large attendance and encouraged a similar assembly for the forthcoming meeting of the School District. He asked for respectful, patient, spirited discussion in the course of what might be a lengthy meeting and for observance of several rules for which he sought approval. He noted that only registered voters might speak unless the meeting voted a specific exception, and that individuals would ordinarily be limited to two opportunities to speak on any article. He asked that any proposed amendment be submitted in writing. Reconsideration must be proposed immediately following the vote in question. The Moderator's suggested rules for conduct of the meeting were ADOPTED by voice vote. He then announced that he had received and would honor a petition from five voters that votes on Articles 14, 15, and 16 be conducted by secret ballot.

Article 14, proposing to discontinue a portion of Bridge Street and authorizing the Selectmen to convey the town's interest in that property as specified in the warrant was read. Brooks Kennedy offered an amendment, duly seconded, adding the phrase "for not less than \$100,000" to the article, thereby setting a minimum price to be secured by the Selectmen in their negotiation. Gene Doherty, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, opposed the amendment. She noted that Ocean Properties, the potential developer of the site, had agreed to provide public parking and access, and enhanced landscaping in the area. In addition, the developer had agreed to improve water service for the town by replacing a main in Portsmouth; the present offer would provide nearly 1500 feet of new main, and she hoped to be able to secure additional concessions. After further discussion, the amendment was defeated by a show of hands.

Peter Gamester offered an amendment, duly seconded, to add to Article 14 the sentence "Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to discontinue or convey any interest the Town of New Castle may have in land used by Wentworth Road (State Route 1B)." Gamester thought the history of Wentworth Road indicated that title to the land on which the road was built probably remained with the town, the state having a granted right of way. His amendment was an effort to retain for the town any right it might have to that property. The amendment was defeated by a show of hands.

For the Selectmen, Clinton Springer offered an amendment to insert a new second sentence in the article to read "The authority granted herewith will terminate at Town Meeting on May 12, 1998." He remarked that such a limit encouraged serious negotiation in the near future and that the authority sought in the article could be renewed if necessary at the annual town meeting. The amendment was ADOPTED by show of hands.

With discussion concluded, Moderator Semprini opened the polls for a ballot vote; after the polls closed at 8:45pm, he declared the amended Article 14 ADOPTED by a vote of 252 YES to 70 NO.

Articles 15 and 16 were discussed together and the Moderator's suggestion that they be voted on simultaneously by separate ballots was accepted. Chairman Doherty moved to amend both articles by including the sentence "The authority granted herewith will terminate at Town Meeting on May 12, 1998." Both articles were so amended in distinct hand votes. After the polls closed at 10:40pm, Moderator Semprini announced that the amended ARTICLE 15 was ADOPTED, 238 YES to 38 NO, and the amended ARTICLE 16 was ADOPTED, 236 YES to 39 NO.

There was no business under Article 17. The meeting adjourned at 10:42pm.

A true and correct record of the Special Town Meeting and ballot voting of the Town of New Castle, February 17, 1998, ATTEST:

Henry F. Bedford
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OFFICIALS SURETY BONDS IN FORCE
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

TAX COLLECTOR

Pamela P. Cullen	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$60,000
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DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR

Marcia Whitehouse	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$60,000
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TREASURER

William B. Marshall, III	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$55,000
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DEPUTY TREASURER

Karen Arsenault	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$55,000
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TOWN CLERK

Henry F. Bedford	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$15,000
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DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

John Cowan	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$15,000
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TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Henry F. Bedford	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$45,000
Peter Gil		
Russell Cox		

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

John Walsh	NHMA Property Liability Ins. Trust	\$5,000
Mary Beth Kelly		
Susan MacDonald		

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHEDULE OF CITY/TOWN PROPERTY
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

1.	a. City/town hall, land & buildings	327,200
	b. Furniture & equipment	30,000
2.	a. Libraries, rec. hall, & bldgs.	883,700
	b. Furniture & equipment	225,000
3.	a. Police Dept.	-0-
	b. Equipment	17,500
4.	a. Fire Dept., land & bldgs.	225,400
	b. Equipment	340,000
5.	a. Highway Dept., land & bldgs.	-0-
	b. Equipment	45,000
	c. Material & supplies	6,000
6.	Parks, commons, & playground	1,890,100
7.	Water supply facilities owned by city/town	396,197
8.	Sewer plant & facilities owned by city/town	637,404
9.	Schools, lands & bldgs., equip.	760,100
10.	Airports, if owned by city/town	-0-
11.	All lands & buildings acquired through tax collector's deeds	-0-
12.	All other property & equipment	
	Riverside, Frost & Prescott Cemeteries	571,200
	Other Town owned lands & Town landings	399,600
	Town Garage, Old Library Building	
	House on Common	374,800

TOTAL		7,129,201
		=====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997 ASSESSED VALUATION REPORT**

	ACRES	ASSESSED VALUATION
	-----	-----
1. Value of Land Only		
A. Current Use	10.5	158
B. Conservation Restriction	0	
C. Residential	300.39	101,736,700
D. Commercial/Industrial	4.83	1,393,000
	-----	-----
E. Total of Taxable Land		103,129,858
F. Tax Exe/Non-Tax (\$13,726,700)		
2. Value of Buildings Only		
A. Residential		79,673,400
B. Manufactured Housing		0
C. Commercial/Industrial		620,600

D. Total Taxable Buildings		80,294,000
E. Tax Exe/Non-Tax (\$4,118,800)		
3. Public Water Utility-Privately Owned		
4. Public Utilities Gas		
5. Electric		486,100
6. Oil Pipeline		
7. Mature Wood & Timber		

8. VALUATIONS BEFORE EXEMPTIONS		183,909,958
9. Blind Exemption (1)		75,000
10. Elderly Exemptions (1)		
11. Physically Handicapped Exemption		
12. Totally & Permanently Disabled Exemption		
13. Solar/Windpower Exemption		
14. School Din/Dormitory/Kitchen Exemption		
15. Water/Air Pollution Control Exemption		
16. Wood Heating Energy System Exemption		
17. TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT OF EXEMPTIONS		75,000

18. NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE IS COMPUTED		183,834,958

LIST REVENUES RECEIVED FROM PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES:

- 19. State & Federal Forest Land, Recreation and/or
Flood Control Land
- 20. Other
- 21. Other
- 22. Other

TAX CREDITS:

23. Paraplegic, double amputees owning specially adapted homesteads with V.A. assistance		700
24. Totally & perm. disabled vets (\$700/\$1400)		9,400
25. Other war service credits (\$50/\$100)	94	
26. Other credits (wood, solar, etc.)		-----
27. TOTAL NUMBER AND AMOUNT		10,100

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1997 TAX RATE COMPUTATION**

		Tax Rates

---- Town Portion ----		
Appropriations	1,078,232	
Less: Revenues	580,878	
Less: Shared Revenues	3,763	
Add: Overlay	49,792	
Add: War Service Credits	10,100	

Net Town Appropriation	553,483	
Municipal Tax Rate		3.01
---- School Portion ----		
Due to Local School	770,768	
Due to Regional School	0	
Less: Shared Revenues	20,326	

Net School Appropriation	750,442	
School(s) Tax Rate		4.08
---- County Portion ----		
Due To County	243,668	
Less: Shared Revenues	3,379	

Net County Appropriation	240,289	
County Tax Rate		1.31
Combined Tax Rate		8.40
		====
Total Property Taxes Assessed	1,544,214	
---- Commitment Analysis ----		
Total Property Taxes Assessed	1,544,214	
Less: War Service Credits	(10,100)	
Add: Village District Commitment(s)	0	

Total Property Tax Commitment	1,534,114	
---- Proof of Rate ----		
Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
183,834,958	8.40	1,544,214

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

***** LEVIES OF *****

	1997 -----	1996 -----	1995 -----
UNCOLLECTED TAXES			
-BEG OF YEAR:			
Property Taxes	0	12,636.95	
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
 TAXES COMMITTED			
-THIS YEAR:			
Property Taxes	1,543,995.00		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
 OVERPAYMENT:			
Property Taxes	808.05		
Interest	66.53		
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
 ABATEMENTS BY CHECK			
	4,744.00	19,500.00	
 Interest Collected On Delinquent Tax			
	2,636.56	1,420.12	
 Costs Collected on Delinquent Taxes			
 Collected Resident Tax Penalties			
TOTAL DEBITS	----- 1,552,250.14 =====	----- 33,557.07 =====	----- 0.00 =====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

***** LEVIES OF *****

	1997 -----	1996 -----	1995 -----
REMITTED TO TREASURER DURING FISCAL YEAR:			
Property Taxes	1,527,445.15	12,636.95	
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Abatements Remitted	4,744.00		
Interest	2,636.56	1,420.12	
Penalties	66.53		
Overpayments	808.05		
 DISCOUNTS ALLOWED:			
ABATEMENTS MADE:			
Property Taxes	4,771.00	19,500.00	
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
Curr. Levy Deeded			
 UNCOLLECTED TAXES -END OF YEAR:			
Property Taxes	11,778.85		
Resident Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Yield Taxes			
Utilities			
	-----	-----	-----
 TOTAL CREDITS	 1,552,250.14 =====	 33,557.07 =====	 0.00 =====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

***** LEVIES OF *****

	1996 -----	1995 -----
DEBITS:		
Unredeemed Liens:		
Balance at Beg. of Fiscal Year	6,810.41	4,515.69
Liens Executed During Fiscal Yr	14,057.07	
Interest & Costs Coll. After Execution 1,606.07	889.24	1,841.05
TOTAL DEBITS 6,121.76	14,946.31 =====	8,651.46 =====
 CREDITS:		
REMITTANCE TO TREASURER:		
Redemptions	6,810.41	4,515.69
Int./Costs (After Lien Execution)	1,841.05	1,606.07
 ABATEMENTS OF UNREDEEMED TAXES		
 LIENS DEEDED TO MUNICIPALITIES		
UNREDEEMED LIENS BAL. END OF YEAR	3,436.64 -----	0 -----
TOTAL CREDITS	8,651.46 =====	6,121.76 =====

Pamela Cullen
Tax Collector

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
RECEIPTS OF THE TOWN CLERK
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

MOTOR VEHICLE	152,774.00
DOG LICENSES	790.00
DOG PENALTIES	102.00
MARRIAGE LICENSES	228.00
VITAL RECORDS	111.00
ALL OTHER SOURCES	1,234.25

TOTAL RECEIPTS	155,239.25
	=====
 PAYMENTS TO TOWN TREASURER	 155,239.25
	=====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TREASURER
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

The following is a balance of all accounts in the custody of the Treasurer as of June 30, 1997.

General Fund	
NOW Account	2,245.31
NH Public Deposit Investment Pool	372,830.94
Department of Public Works	
NOW Account	187.06
H Public Deposit Investment Pool	158,652.48

Respectfully submitted,

William B. Marshall, III
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Selectmen
Town of New Castle
New Castle, New Hampshire

I have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I 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 disclosure 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 financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In accordance with the practices followed by other municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the financial statements referred to above do not include financial statements of the General Fixed Asset Account Group, which should be included to conform with generally accepted accounting principles.

In my opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire, at June 30, 1997, and the results of its operations and the changes in financial position of its proprietary and non-expendable trust funds for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principals.

My audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary schedules on pages 14 and 15 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of New Castle, New Hampshire. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in my opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

R.R. Bergeron
August 28, 1997

The Complete Text of The Report is available at the Town Hall.

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
	-----	-----	-----
REVENUES:			
Taxes:			
Property Taxes	1,544,284	1,519,640	(24,644)
Boat Taxes	6,000	7,798	1,798
Int & Pen/Late Taxes	7,200	8,406	1,206
	-----	-----	-----
	1,557,484	1,535,844	(21,640)
Lic Permits & Fees:			
M.V. Permit Fees	105,000	152,477	47,477
Bldg Permits	4,000	4,962	962
Other Lic Permits & Fees	1,550	1,139	(411)
	-----	-----	-----
	110,550	158,578	48,028
Federal Government:			
Other Fed Grants	6,600	7,286	686
State of New Hampshire:			
Shared Revenue	42,974	42,974	0
Highway Block Grant	9,981	11,009	1,028
Water Pollution Subsidy	11,033	11,033	0
Other State Reimbursements	450	497	47
	-----	-----	-----
	64,438	65,513	1,075
Charges for services:			
Income from Dept	81,800	99,029	17,229
Miscellaneous sources:			
Emergency Management	23,505	12,709	(10,796)
Interest on Investments	15,000	26,032	11,032
Rental of Property	2,500	2,431	(69)
Fines & Forfeits	3,000	1,720	(1,280)
Insurance Dividends	7,500	24,290	16,790
Other Misc Sources	3,000	6,590	3,590
	-----	-----	-----
	54,505	73,772	19,267
Transfer in Trust Funds	160,000	160,000	0
TOTAL REVENUES	2,035,377	2,100,022	64,645

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
	-----	-----	-----
EXPENDITURES:			
General government:			
Executive	32,340	34,039	(1,699)
Elec, Reg, & Vital Stats	10,470	9,890	580
Financial Administration	45,440	47,751	(2,311)
Revaluation of Prop	18,500	23,097	(4,597)
Legal Expense	20,000	4,905	15,095
Planning & Zoning	4,518	6,660	(2,142)
Gen Gov Buildings	5,200	10,909	(5,709)
Cemeteries	8,900	9,106	(206)
Ins - Unallocated	1,000	571	429
Other Gen Gov	10,000	-0-	10,000
	-----	-----	-----
	156,368	146,928	31,196
Public Safety:			
Police	190,274	179,010	11,264
Ambulance	15,100	15,140	(40)
Fire	299,581	287,598	11,983
Emergency Medical Service	15,419	11,603	3,816
Building Inspection	34,941	34,535	406
Emergency Management	23,505	19,738	3,767
	-----	-----	-----
	578,820	547,624	9,440
Highways & Streets:			
Highways & Streets	49,247	44,711	4,536
Street Lighting	7,750	7,848	(98)
	-----	-----	-----
	56,997	52,559	4,438
Sanitation:			
Administration	502	403	99
Solid Waste Collection	30,000	27,785	2,215
Solid Waste Disposal	41,600	33,262	8,338
	-----	-----	-----
	72,102	61,450	10,652
Health:			
Pest Control	3,308	3,245	63
Health Agencies	10,000	9,660	340
	-----	-----	-----
	13,308	12,905	403

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
	-----	-----	-----
Welfare:			
Direct Assistance	5,000	0	5,000
	-----	-----	-----
	5,000	0	5,000
Culture and Recreation:			
Parks & Recreation	59,086	62,073	(2,987)
Library/Rec Building	28,150	28,008	142
Recreation Commission	10,600	11,989	(1,389)
Library	750	365	385
	-----	-----	-----
	98,586	102,435	(3,849)
Conservation:			
Other Conservation	600	150	450
Debt Service:			
Principal-Long Term	87,200	87,200	0
Interest-Long Term	46,928	46,928	0
	-----	-----	-----
	134,128	134,128	0
Interest on TAN:			
Interest on TAN	6,375	5,359	1,016
Capital Reserve:			
Transfer to Trust Funds	45,000	45,000	0
Payments to Other Gov:			
County Taxes	234,476	234,476	0
School District Taxes	719,957	719,957	0
	-----	-----	-----
	954,433	954,433	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,121,717	2,062,971	58,746
Excess of Revenue			
Over/(Under) Expenses	(86,340)	37,051	123,391

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
GENERAL FUND
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
	-----	-----	-----
Other Financing			
Sources (Uses)	55,000	0	(55,000)
	-----	-----	-----
Excess of Rev, & Other			
Sources Over/(Under)			
Exp & Other Uses	(31,340)	37,051	68,391
	-----	-----	-----
Fund Balance 7/01/96	318,558	318,558	0
	-----	-----	-----
Fund Balance 6/30/97	287,218	355,609	68,391
	=====	=====	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	6/30/96	6/30/97
	-----	-----
ASSETS:		
Cash & Equivalents	604,786	375,376
Taxes Receivable	12,637	11,779
Tax Liens Receivable	11,326	3,437
Accounts Receivable	32,384	34,554
Due From Other Governments	0	20,660
Due From Other Funds	18,878	65,196
	-----	-----
TOTAL ASSETS	680,011	511,002
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY:		
Tax Anticipation Notes		300,000
Warrants & Accounts Payable	61,453	155,393
Due To Other Funds	0	0
	-----	-----
TOTAL LIABILITIES		361,453
FUND EQUITY:		
Unreserved Fund Balance	318,558	355,609
	-----	-----
TOTAL LIAB & FUND EQUITY	680,011	511,002
	=====	=====

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENSES AND RETAINED EARNINGS
ENTERPRISE FUNDS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	WATER	SEWER	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----
REVENUES:			
User Sales	42,611	71,213	113,824
Other			
	-----	-----	-----
EXPENSES:			
Water Purchases	18,522		18,522
Sewerage Assessment		31,741	31,741
Personnel services	4,734	9,932	14,666
Non-personnel services	6,980	21,796	28,776
Depreciation	7,350		7,350
	-----	-----	-----
Total Expenses	37,586	63,469	101,055
Operating Income (Loss)	5,025	7,744	12,769
Non-Operating Income:			
Investment earnings	5,846	248	6,094
Net Income for the year	10,871	7,992	18,863
	=====	=====	=====
Retained earnings			
July 1, 1996	116,120	267,722	383,842
Retained earnings			
June 30, 1997	126,991	275,714	402,705
	=====	=====	=====

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ENTERPRISE FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

	WATER	SEWER	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----
ASSETS:			
Current Assets:			
Cash	137,474	21,365	158,839
Investments			
Accounts Receivable	376	3,762	4,138
	-----	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	137,850	25,127	162,977
Property, Plant & Equip.:			
Equipment	10,260	5,137	15,397
Service Lines & Stations	551,230	1,449,484	2,000,714
Less Accumulated Deprec. (82,904)	(82,904)	(2,054)	(84,958)
	-----	-----	-----
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	478,586	1,452,567	1,931,153
TOTAL ASSETS	616,436	1,477,694	2,094,130
	=====	=====	=====
LIABILITIES:			
Current Liabilities:			
Deposits & Accounts Pay	12,332	17,087	29,419
Due To General Fund	6,302	14,359	20,661
	-----	-----	-----
Total Liabilities	18,634	31,446	50,080
Equity:			
Contributed Capital*	470,811	1,170,534	1,641,345
Retained Earnings	126,991	275,714	402,705
	-----	-----	-----
Total Equity	597,802	1,446,248	2,044,050
TOTAL LIAB & EQUITY	616,436	1,477,694	2,094,130
	=====	=====	=====

* = Contributed by federal, state, and local governments, and by developers.

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
1998-1998 BUDGET PRESENTATION

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 1999

WARR #	1997-1998 ART APPROPRIATIONS PRIOR YEAR	1996-1997 ACTUAL EXP PRIOR YEAR	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COM# APPROPRIATIONS	
			ENSURING FISCAL YEAR RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	ENSURING FISCAL YEAR RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						
4130	34,880	34,039	35,898	35,898	35,898	35,898
4140	10,508	9,890	11,767	11,767	11,767	11,767
4150	46,859	47,751	51,307	51,307	51,307	51,307
4152	6,900	23,097	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
4153	13,800	4,905	13,800	13,800	13,800	13,800
4191	6,091	6,660	6,187	6,187	6,187	6,187
4194	9,200	10,909	19,630	19,630	19,630	19,630
4195	10,500	9,106	8,331	8,331	8,331	8,331
4196	1,300	571	750	750	750	750
4199	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
PUBLIC SAFETY						
4210	166,704	179,010	173,295	173,295	173,295	173,295
4215	15,100	15,140	15,140	15,140	15,140	15,140
4220	85,500	299,201	108,779	108,779	108,779	108,779
4240	37,218	34,535	73,811	73,811	73,811	73,811
4290	14,113	19,738	8,715	8,715	8,715	8,715
HIGHWAYS & STREETS						
4312	97,539	44,711	93,241	93,241	93,241	93,241
4316	7,800	7,848	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
SANITATION						
4321	1,258	403	1,425	1,425	1,425	1,425
4323	30,000	27,785	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
4324	40,160	33,262	42,800	42,800	42,800	42,800
HEALTH						
4414	3,308	3,245	3,435	3,435	3,435	3,435

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 1999

WARR #	1997-1998		1996-1997		SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COM4 APPROPRIATIONS	
	ART APPROPRIATIONS	PRIOR YEAR	ACTUAL EXP	PRIOR YEAR	ENDING FISCAL YEAR	ENDING FISCAL YEAR	RECOMMENDED	ENDING FISCAL YEAR
					RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
4415 HEALTH AGENCIES & HOSPITALS	10,000	9,660	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
WELFARE								
4442 DIRECT ASSISTANCE	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
CULTURE AND RECREATION								
4520 PARKS & RECREATION	72,596	74,427	78,490	78,490	78,490	78,490	78,490	78,490
4550 LIBRARY	29,990	28,008	34,864	34,864	34,864	34,864	34,864	34,864
455001 LIBRARY AUTOMATION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,000
VIII								
CONSERVATION								
4611 CONSERVATION COM4	600	150	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
DEBT SERVICE								
4711 PRINC. L-T BONDS	87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200	87,200
4721 INT. ON L-T BONDS	41,108	46,928	35,288	35,288	35,288	35,288	35,288	35,288
4723 INT. ON TAN	6,400	5,359	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT								
4914 ENTERPRISE FUNDS:								
WATER	49,300		51,290	51,290	51,290	51,290	51,290	51,290
SEWER	77,300		78,550	78,550	78,550	78,550	78,550	78,550
4915 TRANSFER TO CAP RESERVZ	50,000	45,000	47,500	47,500	47,500	47,500	47,500	47,500
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	1,078,232	1,108,538	1,160,093	1,168,093	1,168,093	1,168,093	1,168,093	1,168,093

..SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES..

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trusts funds; or 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

Acct#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3, V)	WET Art #	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved By SMA	Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATION ENDING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
SUBTOTAL 2 Recommended								

..INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES..

"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles". An example of an individual warrant article might be negotiated cost items for labor agreements or items of a one time nature you wish to address individually.

Acct#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3, VI)	WET Art #	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved By SMA	Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS ENDING FISCAL YEAR		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATION ENDING FISCAL YEAR	
					RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
455001	LIBRARY AUTOMATION	VIII				8,000		8,000
SUBTOTAL 3 Recommended								

	WARR	1997-1998	1996-1997	1998-1999
	ART	ESTIMATED REV	ACTUAL REVESTIMATED REV	
	#	PRIOR YEAR	PRIOR YEAR	ENSUING YEAR

TAXES				

3120		LAND USE CHANGE TAXES	0	0
3180		RESIDENT TAXES	0	0
3185		YIELD TAXES	0	0
3186		PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES	0	0
3189		OTHER TAXES - BOAT	7,000	7,799
3190		INT & PEN ON DEL TAXES	4,000	8,406
		INVENTORY PENALTIES	2,000	1,988
				1,750
LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES				

3210		BUS LICENSES AND PERMITS	0	0
3220		MOTOR VEHICLE PERMIT FEES	125,000	152,477
323001		BUILDING PERMITS	4,000	4,122
323002		OIL BURNER PERMITS	800	840
329001		PISTOL PERMITS	100	10
329002		DOG LICENSES	700	790
329003		VITAL STATISTICS	500	339
				350
FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT				

3319		OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS-FEMA	6,000	7,286
				0
FROM STATE				

3351		SHARED REVENUE	8,767	42,973
3352		MEALS & ROOM TAX DISTR	10,041	0
3353		HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT	11,706	11,009
3354		WATER POLLUTION GRANTS	10,671	11,033
3355		HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEV	0	0
3356		STATE&FED FOREST LAND REIMB	0	0
3357		FLOOD CONTROL REIMB	0	0
3359		OTHER - GAS TAX REFUND	500	497
3359		OTHER - CONSERVATION GRANT	0	0
				2,000
FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT				

3379		INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	0	0
				0
CHARGES FOR SERVICES				

INCOME FROM DEPARTMENTS				

340101		SPECIAL POLICE REIMB	4,000	4,725
340103		COMMON GATE RECEIPTS	45,000	51,483
340104		REIMB - CEMETERY TRUSTEE	4,500	4,936
340105		OFFICE INCOME	1,500	1,686
340106		PB/ZBA/HDC FEES	5,000	5,684
340107		REIMBURSEMENT-BUILD INSP	30,000	30,000
3409		OTHER CHARGES	200	515
				8,000
				45,000
				4,500
				1,500
				5,000
				60,000
				0

TOTAL RECOMMENDED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE		1,160,093
LESS EXCLUSIONS:		
PRINCIPLE LONG TERM BONDS & NOTES	(87,200)	
INTEREST LONG TERM BONDS & NOTES	(35,288)	
CAPITAL OUTLAYS FUNDED FROM L-T BONDS & NOTES	0	

TOTAL EXCLUSIONS		(122,488)

AMOUNT RECOMMENDED LESS EXCLUSIONS		1,037,605
LINE 6 X 10%		103,761

MAXIMUM BUDGET IS		<u>1,263,854</u>

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN OF NEW CASTLE
TOWN WARRANT FOR 1998**

ROCKINGHAM, SS

NEW CASTLE

To the inhabitants of the Town of New Castle, in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the New Castle Recreation Center, Great Island Common, in said New Castle, on Tuesday, the 12th of May, 1998, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon Articles I through III .

The business session of the Annual Town Meeting will commence at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to act upon Articles IV through XII. The polls for the election of Town Officers and Ballot Articles will open at ten o'clock in the forenoon and shall not be closed before seven o'clock in the afternoon.

ARTICLE I: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following year.

ARTICLE II: Building Code Amendment #1 - Section 1(b) Building Code

Are you in favor of the adoption of Building Code Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Planning Board, to delete Section 1(b) of the Building Code, and to redesignate the remainder of the section accordingly. (Section 1 (b) now establishes a standard for roofing material that differs from the 1993 BOCA Basic National Building Code, which New Castle has adopted; deletion will eliminate this different standard.)

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE III: Building Code Amendment #2 - Section 8 (b) Fees

Are you in favor of the adoption of Building Code Amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Planning Board, which amends Section 8 (b) of the Building Code as follows:

For a permit for the construction, installation, or alteration of a building or structure, the fee shall be at the rate of Five Dollars (\$5.00) per One Thousand Dollars (\$1000) of estimated cost for projects estimated above Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000); for projects with an estimated cost between Five Hundred One

Dollars (\$501.00) and Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$9,999). No fee shall be required when the estimated cost does not exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). In any and all cases a building permit is required regardless of the cost of the project.

(ON THE BALLOT)

ARTICLE IV: Are you in favor of authorizing the Selectmen to convey to WW Resort, LLC any and all interest which the Town may acquire as a result of the discontinuance of a portion of Route 1-B by the State of New Hampshire or by any other means, to the land underlying that portion of Route 1-B, as shown on Parcel A on the attached plan. Said conveyance to occur only after the relocated 1-B is opened and accepted by the State of New Hampshire.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE V: To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable trust fund to be known as the New Cemetery Trust Fund, for the purpose of the creation and development of a new cemetery at Great Island Common; said fund to be used exclusively for the engineering, clearing, filling, grading, landscaping, roadways, and general site development thereof; and to raise and appropriate the initial sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) therefor, in accordance with RSA 31:19-a; and to further authorize the selectmen of New Castle to accept and hold in trust gifts, legacies, and devices made to them for the aforesaid purpose, to be held indefinitely, in accordance with RSA 31:19-I, II, and III; and to authorize the withdrawal from these funds for the aforesaid purposes in amounts as necessary by the New Castle Cemetery Trustees with approval of the Selectmen.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

ARTICLE VI: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the Protective Equipment Trust Fund initially created by Town Meeting of May 1994, for the purchase of (SCBA) self contained breathing apparatus, and to authorize withdrawal from this fund at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

ARTICLE VII: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000) for the Town Vehicle and Equipment Trust Fund initially created by Town Meeting of May of 1997, and to authorize withdrawal from this fund at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

ARTICLE VIII: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) to complete the Library automation program, through the purchase of automation software, licensing, and equipment and, further, to authorize the Library Trustees to expend the appropriation.

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

ARTICLE IX: To modify the present authority of the selectmen to spend at discretion funds in the town's vehicle and equipment trust fund by requiring the selectmen to secure approval of the New Castle Budget Committee or consent of a town meeting before such funds may be encumbered or expended.

(Submitted by Ted Bedford and other residents.)

ARTICLE X: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray Town charges for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE XI: To hear the reports of agents, officers, committees, boards, and others heretofore chose and to pass any vote in relation thereto.

ARTICLE XII: To transact such business as may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hand and seals this 21nd day of April, in the year of our lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety Eight.

A true copy of warrant - attest

Gene F. Doherty, Chairman
Clinton H. Springer
Richard T. Cowern
Board of Selectmen

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT - ALL FUNDS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

	<u>Original Issue</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>
<u>BOND PRINCIPAL:</u>			
Sewer System	645,000	5.00%	1/15/2006
Recreation/Library Building	750,000	7.62%	1/15/2004
Main Street Water Line	150,000	6.40%	1/15/2002

	<u>Balance 7/1/96</u>	<u>Issued FY 97</u>	<u>Paid FY 97</u>	<u>Balance Due 6/30/97</u>	<u>Due FY 98</u>
<u>Subsequently</u>					
Sewer System	222,000	0	22,200	199,800 22,200	177,600
Recreation/Library Building	400,000	0	50,000	350,000 50,000	300,000
Main Street Water Line	90,000	0	15,000	75,000 15,000	60,000
TOTAL	712,000	0	87,200	624,800 87,200	537,600

BOND INTEREST:

Sewer System	11,100	9,990	39,960
Recreation/Library Building	30,150	26,400	79,500
Main Street Water Line	5,678	4,718	9,374
TOTAL	46,928	41,108	128,834

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

	BALANCE			BALANCE
PRINCIPAL:	<u>07/01/96</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>DISBURSED</u>	<u>6/30/97</u>
Library Funds	19,376	150	0	19,526
Marchand Fund	4,782	0	0	4,782
Amazeen Trust	2,504	0	0	2,504
BiCentennial Park	836	0	0	836
Cap Res - Land Cleanup	20,000	0	0	20,000
Cap Res - Fire Truck	105,000	20,000	95,000	30,000
Cap Res - Fire Equip	10,000	10,000	0	20,000
Cap Res - Town Vehicles	0	15,000	0	15,000
Cap Res - Dispatch	10,000	0	0	10,000
Rec Dept - Playground Equip	1,817	24,694	18,033	8,478
Sewer Depreciation Fund	275,000	0	0	275,000
Cemetery Maintenance	49,924	1,400	0	51,324
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Principal	499,239	71,244	113,033	457,450
INCOME:				
Library Funds	0	1,369	668	701
Marchand Fund	167	348	0	515
Amazeen Trust	1,881	308	0	2,189
BiCentennial Park	1,576	169	558	1,187
Cap Res - Land Cleanup	17,694	2,802	0	20,496
Cap Res - Fire Truck	37,880	3,911	0	41,791
Cap Res - Fire Equip	229	1,052	0	1,281
Cap Res - Town Vehicles	0	500	0	500
Cap Res - Dispatch	937	745	0	1,682
Rec Dept - Playground Equip	1,893	483	0	2,376
Sewer Depreciation Fund	5,373	19,693	3,756	21,310
Cemetery Maintenance	19,498	4,936	4,936	19,498
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Income	87,128	36,316	9,918	113,526

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
for fiscal year ended June 30, 1997**

CASH ON HAND 7/1/96:		
NOW Account	2,794.12	
Savings Account	931.45	
Petty Cash	100.00	
Funds in Trust	10,000.00	

TOTAL CASH ON HAND		13,825.57
RECEIPTS:		
Town Appropriations	27,700.00	
Interest-Trust Fund	667.98	
Now	131.83	
Savings	92.81	
Equipment Fund	3.52	
Donations-specified	2,113.24	
Non-spec.	1,815.00	
Non-Resident Fees	80.00	
Fines, Photocopies, etc.	155.00	

TOTAL RECEIPTS		32,759.38

TOTAL CASH AND RECEIPTS		46,584.95
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Printed Material		
Books	6,599.11	
Reference	1,259.36	
Periodicals	143.95	
Non-Printed Materials		
Audio	740.58	
Video	1,007.41	
Programs and Arts	58.13	
Salaries		
Director Salary	15,448.50	
Support Staff	405.00	
Tax Expense	619.00	
Insurance Expense	1,258.68	
Operating Expense		
Maintenance: Building	546.00	
Bldg Rpt	177.40	
Equipment	374.00	
Equipment Replacement	639.90	
Telephone	963.15	
Postage & Supply	1,268.58	
Professional Expense	20.00	

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		31,528.75

BALANCE		15,056.20
		=====
CASH ON HAND 6/30/97:		
NOW Account	1,873.42	
Savings Account	3,024.26	
Saving II	58.52	
Petty Cash	100.00	
Funds in Trust	10,000.00	

TOTAL		15,056.20
		=====

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the town meetings held in May, 1997, and February, 1998, an accounting of the Clerk's receipts for the fiscal year 1996-1997, and the annual compilation of vital statistics are printed elsewhere in this volume.

Although historical comparisons are ordinarily reserved to the town historian, my review of the town report for 1947 provided an opportunity to see both continuity and astonishing change in fifty years. In 1947, the receipts of the Town Clerk totaled less than \$1000, of which more than ten percent derived from licensing 48 dogs, all of whom were listed by name in the annual report of the town. In 1997, the tax on a single vehicle in several instances exceeded the entire annual revenue of my predecessor fifty years ago, and the total vehicle taxes for the island were more than \$150,000.

If the Clerk's financial reports show contrast across the years, the columns of vital statistics reveal the community's stability. There was one marriage in New Castle in 1947; the couple lived the rest of their lives in town. Of the fourteen children born in New Castle fifty years ago, at least three are still resident here.

There has been change in just one year in the Clerk's office. John Cowan, who served as deputy clerk for more than a year, made an extended trip to Europe and was replaced by Becky Wooley, whose family responsibilities forced her to resign after several months. Suzanne Shevenell became deputy clerk in September. I am grateful to all three for their assistance, and to the residents of the town for their patience and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry F. Bedford, Town Clerk

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Besides routine recreational issues, the Recreation Committee was responsible for conducting three events in 1997. The Easter Egg Hunt in the spring and the Halloween Trick or Treat in the fall were well attended by the children and parents of New Castle.

Much of our effort in 1997 went into conducting the fourth annual Great Island Road Race. 1030 people from throughout the Seacoast and beyond registered for the race with 70 hearty New Castle residents who ran or walked the 5K course. Once again we are thankful for those residents throughout town who were an integral part of the race through baking food, making a personal donation, and/or volunteering their time and resources.

\$17,000 was raised by the 1997 race bringing our four year total to \$60,000+. This money along with a number of island volunteers enabled us to install the third and final phase of the new playground at the Great Island Common in September of 1997. We can not thank enough of those who donated so much of their time to make each of the phases go so smoothly. By installing the playground ourselves, we save \$20,000!

The Recreation Committee also gave \$100 each to the Rye Little League and the Rye Recreation Youth Soccer programs. Many New Castle children participated in these two activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Stearns, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

“Every society gets the kind of criminal it deserves. What is equally true is that every community gets the kind of law enforcement it insists on.”

Robert F. Kennedy

With the ending of the first year as your police chief, I must say New Castle is truly a wonderful place to work. There is little not to appreciate here.

The New Castle Police Department is dedicated in making to quality of life in New Castle a part of our every day mission.

In the past year we have made adjustments in several areas:

Officer Donald White has restarted the D.A.R.E. program at the Maude H. Trefethen School. Officer White is putting on a strong program and is well supported.

All full time officers have been trained as either Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) or First Responders (FR) and will assist Fire/Rescue whenever possible.

We will continue to expand the Police Bicycle Patrol Program in the summer months.

The use of a lap top computer has allowed the officers to perform paper work and report writing “on the road” in an attempt to cut down on station time.

There are several areas that we have received a great deal of public comment on. They are traffic enforcement and the Wentworth Hotel.

We will be in the upcoming year changing patrol hours and patrol areas in order to expand traffic enforcement. This is a priority with the taxpayers and we hear you loud and clear.

There is no doubt that your police department will be effected by the hotel’s development. To what extent we feel that a “wait and see” attitude is practical. We will report to you after we have more information.

Requests for the budget are almost identical from last year. The only substantial increase is a one time supplication for computer/technology equipment and software. This will allow us to use our limited resources to their maximum capacity.

We wish to thank all who have supported our efforts to keep New Castle a safe and quality place to live, grow, raise children, and have grandchildren visit.

SYNOPSIS OF POLICE ACTIVITY OF 1997:

Suspicious Activity/Criminal Complaints:	325
Total Arrests:	49
Medical Emergency(s)/Assists:	37
Alarms:	89
Domestic Complaints:	15
Mutual Aid Calls:	73
Assist Other Town Agencies:	159
Building/Residences Checks:	1,983
Unsecured Buildings/Residences:	56
Assist Other Town Agencies:	360
Assist Citizens:	124
Motor Vehicle Activity:	
Warnings - speeding:	856
Warnings - other:	44
Motor Vehicle Summons:	271
Radar Patrols:	1,031
Parking Complaints:	194

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Murphy
Chief of Police

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

1997 was for all intents and purposes was an unremarkable year for Animal Control compared to that of 1996. Primarily the reason for this would be that our resident Bullwinkle the Moose didn't return. Though we have had several deer this year, and only seen by a few people, they didn't make as much news. We have received a lot of call in regards to the foxes presence this year.

There were approximately 130 dogs registered in the Town of New Castle in 1997. We are anticipating that we will see an increase in registration this year.

ANIMAL CONTROL STATISTICS:

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Occurrences</u>	<u>Fine Total</u>
Menace/Vicious	1	N/A
Unlicensed Dogs	8	\$200.00
Loose Dogs	3	\$30.00
Pooper-Scooper	<u>2</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
Totals	14	\$250.00

Several Warnings were issued to first time offenders. We are in the process of upgrading our program which will assist us in obtaining an accurate account of warnings.

All pet owners should ensure that their dog, cat, ferret, and/or other pets have had their rabies shot up to date as required by law. This requirement is in the interest of society as a whole to prevent the spread of Rabies and the injuries or deaths it could cause.

All pet owners may be held liable for all costs associated with any bites or non bite exposures to others, should their pets not be vaccinated.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Should you have a complaint or problem that needs immediate attention please contact the duty police officer by calling dispatch at 436-3113 and he/she will decide how to handle the call appropriately. I have updated and improved my site on the World Wide Web, where you can research and comment on Animal Control issues as well as other town information at:

<http://member.aol.com/nhdoug/newcastle.html>

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Douglas V. Cummings II
Animal Control Officer

BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT

There was a total of 68 Building Permits issued during calendar 1997 for various improvements, remodeling projects, additions, and 29 new homes. This is an increase of 16 permits from the previous year.

I continue to provide all inspection services throughout the Town with the exception of permission to install and final inspection of petroleum fired heating equipment, which is performed by the Fire Department. A separate permit is required for the state mandated inspection.

We have a simple guide available to assist those wishing to remodel, make additions, or build a new home. The guide lists the majority of the steps required to obtain and the documentation that is required for a Building Permit and is available at the Town Hall. The necessity for Historic District Commission permission, Zoning Board of Adjustment hearings, and applications to the New Hampshire Wetlands Board can be time consuming. I encourage you to start your building permit application early to avoid construction start delays. I am available 8am to 4pm daily to provide further assistance and perform various inspections.

A permit is not normally required for maintenance or repairs or for improvements valued at under \$500. However, I continue to encourage you or your contractor to contact me at the Town Office or at 431-5107 to alleviate some of the questions that are typically created by the observance of contractor vehicles in your driveway.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Petlick
Building Official

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

The responsibility of the Public Works Department is to manage all maintenance, administration, and capital expenditures relating to the water distribution system, as well as, the sewer collection system that are owned by the town. The City of Portsmouth owns part of the water system; from the Wentworth Hotel down the Wentworth Road to the corner of Main Street.

Since breaks in the water lines do occur from time to time we would appreciate notification by any walker or jogger, if you see any unusual bubbling of water along your route. This will save us time and unnecessary water loss.

A purchase was made of life saving equipment to help below grade rescue if any men need assistance in any of the three lift stations while performing their routine maintenance work. The department is also continuing the program of offering dye tablets to be used in residential toilets to detect water leakage. There are still tablets available at the Town Hall and we urge everyone who hasn't tested their toilets to do so. This could make a substantial savings on your water bill.

The department will continue to spot check various indoor residential meters to see if there are any problems which need to be corrected. We will also be checking to make sure that no sump pumps are discharging into the town sewer, as this is a violation of Section 5 Paragraph H of the Sewer and Water Ordinance of the Town of New Castle. We appreciate your cooperation in both these matters.

There were no increases in the water and sewer fees, so the minimum rates remain the same:

The minimum rate for water: \$34.80 per 15,000 gallons

The minimum rate for sewer: \$42.10 per 15,000 gallons

(Combination for sewer & water: \$76.90)

The water/sewer bills are issued three times a year. Your bill reflects usage for the four months prior to the billing date. Bills are sent around the first of April, August, and December. The minimum usage is 2,000 cubic feet or 15,000 gallons.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter H. Liff, Chairman
Public Works Board

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

At the last annual town meeting, the town voted to enlarge the Historic District by adding Oliver Street, Cape, River, and Riverview Roads. In addition, the District was extended to include Portsmouth Avenue from the cemetery to Oliver street and west along Cranfield as far as Neal's Lane. All boundaries are one lot deep to the south and west and to the river on the north and east.

If your property is within the Historic District and you are planning any external changes or additions to any of your structures or to your walls or fences, you will, with some exceptions, need HDC approval before you start. In order to minimize any delays or inconvenience due to the permitting process, we recommend that you contact the HDC early in your planning stage so that we may guide you through the process.

The Historic District ordinance charges the commission with reviewing all new construction within the district to "reflect and respect established architectural traditions". Recognizing the breadth of this criteria and in response to requests for more definitive criteria the commission spent several sessions this past year developing more specific guidelines. The resulting document "Review Criteria - New Castle Historic District" is available at the town office.

We on the HDC are keenly aware that our charge to review seemingly every new project in the district and sometimes impose our idea of correctness on a project, may be viewed by some as an imposition. It is our hope that others, in the light of history, will find that our efforts to preserve the architectural integrity of our town was worth the trouble.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce N. Smith, Chairman

LIBRARY TRUSTEE REPORT

This year the New Castle Public Library was visited by nearly 7,000 patrons who in turn took to the comfort of their own homes over 10,000 books. The circulation numbers continue to increase and are astounding for a town library servicing a population of under 900. In addition to our book circulation, we continue to offer to our patrons for their own use a fax machine, computer, audio and video tapes as well as inter library loans.

The New Castle Library is a joint effort of many dedicated people working together as a team. Our Librarian Jane Barrett Directs a Saturday Librarian, Alison Harville, and a host of fantastic volunteers including: Lois Sofarelli, Louise Aspen, Anna Ambrogi, Paula Carroll, Sally Fay, Patricia Hickey, Beth Hume, Ann Kern, Joan Lockhart, Bee Newman, Jenny Rosensen, Heather Thomsen, Susie Wilson, Carolann Ball, Jack Beard, Jim and Ruth Young (RSVP). These are the people who make it possible for your library to provide such outstanding service.

We would like again to express our appreciation and gratitude to Esther Roberts and The Friends of the Library. Without the work and caring of the Friends, the library would be without the many extras we enjoy.

The Trustees are highly committed to excellent library service for the town of New Castle. In 1998 we hope to initiate a technology plan which will include the full automation of cataloging and the circulation desk. We look forward to meeting and serving you in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Stearns, Chairman
John Walsh
Bee Newman
New Castle Public Library Trustees

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

Your Planning Board wrote and recommended to you the 13 revisions to our Zoning Ordinance to permit restoration of the Wentworth Hotel which were all approved by a wide margin. Currently we have meetings scheduled every other week with Ocean Properties to review all key aspects of the project, such as:

- Grading, drainage, and erosion control
- Utilities (water, sewer, etc.)
- Roadways, traffic, and parking
- Landscaping and site lighting
- Building restoration and construction

with a goal of overall site plan approval by late May or early June.

Many numbers were thrown around during the period leading up to the February vote. For the record, the original master plan approved in July, 1993 covered 151 residential units. As it looks now the final number will be 111. Conversely, the number of hotel rooms will increase the 106 approved in 1993 to 187.

At its February meeting the Board unanimously approved the following motion: "This Board wishes to recognize the many contributions made by Bart Carr during his 14 years of service as a member, two of which as its Chairman. We shall miss him and the leadership he provided."

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Beecher, Chairman

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The ZBA held 14 meetings in 1997, which represents a 100 percent increase over 1996. This was due in part to the large number of zoning issues involved in the proposal for the redevelopment of the Wentworth Hotel by Ocean Properties, to which the Board devoted three work sessions and two public hearings. However, there was also an increase in the number and complexity of requests from individual property owners for relief from provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, most frequently those related to setback and density requirements.

The board heard 7 applications for a Variance, of which 3 were approved, 1 was denied, 2 were approved with conditions, and 1 was held not to require a Variance. There were 2 applications for a Special Exception, both of which were approved, 1 with conditions. One Appeal from an Administrative Decision was heard, involving a decision by the Historic District Commission, which was remanded to the HDC with conditions stipulated for both the applicant and the HDC. The Board also held 1 business meeting at which no applications were heard.

Several hearings were continued to a subsequent meeting to allow time for the resolution of problems or to consider alternative solutions or, as in the case of Ocean Properties' proposal, because of the length of time required for adequate consideration of the issues.

The ZBA is a quasi-judicial body which is bound by the provisions of the New Castle Zoning Ordinance and by New Hampshire law. The Board cannot disregard or change the Zoning Ordinance, but may grant relief when the provisions of the ordinance are deemed unduly restrictive, and when such relief is considered to be reasonable and in the public interest. Each case is judged on an individual basis, regardless of personal feelings or preferences, and applicants must meet the specific conditions set forth in the Zoning Ordinance. The Board may withhold approval pending consideration of alternatives or compromises, or attach conditions when approval is granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Harrigan, Chairman

REPORT OF THE NEW CASTLE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION

Every spring begins the same way; as temperatures rise and the snow disappears, we begin to turn our attention to thoughts of barbecues, baseball, and pools. In mosquito control, we think of pools too. But the pools we are thinking of are the stagnant puddles of water in swamps and on roadsides and salt marshes. The breeding grounds for the mosquitoes that seem to exist only to spoil your fun. That's why we go to work as soon as they do. It is the mission of mosquito control to lessen the effects of these pests in the community, so that we all may enjoy the magnificent spring and summer on the Seacoast. We target nuisance mosquitoes, as well as mosquitoes that could potentially carry diseases, such as eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). This strain of encephalitis has been a growing cause for concern, as other states in New England have been reporting cases in recent years. In 1997, we began to send our collected samples of mosquitoes to be tested. Fortunately, none of the mosquitoes we collected were found to be carrying the disease.

The most notorious mosquito in the coastal area is the salt marsh mosquito, *Aedes sollicitans*. These mosquitoes breed five or more generations each season. Their larvae hatch after flood tides or heavy rains, and become airborne adults within a week. This means we have to work fast to stay ahead of their development. We venture out on the marshes with backpack sprayers which we use to disperse the *Bacillus* bacteria BTI into the breeding pools. This bacteria kills the larvae before they can develop into biting adults.

Residents who do not wish to have their property sprayed for mosquito larvae should contact the mosquito control department every spring. Call 778-3906 or write P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Please include your name, address, daytime phone number, size of property (especially road frontage), and a description of the boundaries (landmarks).

Another ongoing project on the salt marshes is greenhead fly control. The black boxes that are visible from the road are greenhead traps. Greenhead flies are attracted to the shade they provide and they work their way up into the opening on the underside of the box where they are left to die from dehydration, or end up as a spider's meal. Many birds, including gulls and hawks like to hang around these traps looking for an easy meal, and help us escape the pain of greenhead bites.

We encourage residents who seek additional information about the mosquito control program, diseases, insecticides, precautions, or any related concerns to call the mosquito control office May - September at 778-3906. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah T. MacGregor, Director,
Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc.
MZKETO@AOL.COM

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

The trust funds of the town include reserves for capital equipment for varied special purposes and permanent funds. Investments are merged and income is proportionately allocated to individual funds. Each fund has restrictions as to use, to the dispensing of income, and to the distribution of principal. The trustees meet several times during the year to review investments and expenditures.

At the beginning of the fiscal year the funds totalled about \$586,000; at the end of the year the total was about \$571,000. The major disbursement was in partial payment for the new fire truck for which funds had been accumulated for several years. Other expenditures paid for part of the construction of the playground at the Great Island common and for support of the library and cemetery maintenance. Funds have been invested in government securities and in certificates of deposit at local banks with maturities of less than five years. Average returns during fiscal 1997 was slightly in excess of six percent. As investments are typically held to maturity there are no capital gains; if valued at current market all funds currently would exceed initial investment cost.

An audited financial report is available at the town office; a simplified version is printed elsewhere in this book.

Respectfully submitted,

Trustees of the Trust Fund
Henry Bedford
Russell Cox
Peter Gil

CEMETERY TRUSTEES' REPORT

We continue to make-do with the limited burial space available at Riverside Cemetery where we are forced to continue the practice of using the walkways between established lots. This means that husbands and wives who used to be buried side-by-side must be buried head-to-foot, if even this kind of space can be found. Compounding the problem is the fact that often what appears to be available space contains ledge, or even worse, a previously buried body for which no record is found. The exception to the problem is the increasing practice of cremation. We have no trouble finding space for cremains which are buried in small, rectangular plots requiring little depth.

We are in the process of establishing a forty-foot strip along the water side of the cemetery for cremains. This strip has remained unused for many years because it lacks adequate depth for full sized burials. It is ideally suited for cremains, however.

The problem of road erosion at Riverside appears to have been solved with the repair of the roadway by employing a more durable material than the stone dust used in the past.

The sailors monument, so sadly neglected in previous years, has been moved to Great Island Common where it occupies a place of honor within view of the ocean. Though the ravages of time, weather, and atmospheric pollution have rendered some of its inscriptions barely legible, it is hoped that these may be restored at some future date.

Of concern to the trustees is the condition and maintenance of Marvin Cemetery located just west of Maude Trefethen School on Portsmouth Avenue, in back of the home of Bill and Betty Priestley. Several of the monuments there have collapsed, while others are in need of repair, and parts of the grounds are in need of filling and grading. The problem here is that this is a private cemetery, and as such is ineligible for use of tax funds for its maintenance. Some thirty-odd years ago, however, the selectmen signed an agreement with the Marvin heirs to maintain this cemetery upon receipt of \$1,500 which was deposited in the Town's trust funds for the purpose. At a later date an additional \$500 was added to the fund by another heir, bringing the total trust fund to \$2,000. At current interest rates this amount is barely adequate to cover the cost of grass cuttings. The trustees are trying to arrange with those heirs who can be reached to remedy the situation.

Our application for space at Great Island Common for use as a cemetery is still pending. Federal authorities had indicated that a plot of equal size and value, located elsewhere in town, and appropriate for recreational purposes, would be required as a substitute for land at the Common. To this end the selectmen have been successful in negotiating with the Coast Guard a thirty-year lease for a sizeable strip of land lying along Wentworth Road from the present town landing adjacent to Horner's, running southerly to Ocean Street. This land has been preferred as a substitute, but to date no decision has been received. We are still hopeful.

Restfully submitted,

William Lanham
David Merrill
Eugene Morrill
Cemetery Trustees

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Supervisors of the Checklist are in session prior to each election. The time, date, and place of these sessions are posted on the Post Office and Town Hall bulletin boards. Notifications of upcoming sessions are also published in the Portsmouth Herald.

New residents, or first time voters may also apply to the town clerk for a registration card during his office hours, and he will in turn put the card into the supervisor's file. The next time the supervisors are in session the name will be added to the checklist if the supervisors deem all qualifications are met. The supervisors have the final word as to whether the person's name will be added to the checklist.

The supervisors would like to thank Joann Ireland for her nine year tenure as a Supervisor of the Checklist. It was a pleasure to serve with Joann. Re Alessi and Marcia Whitehouse say a hearty, "Thanks". Ruth Lanham has been appointed to fill the vacancy until the next election.

Respectfully submitted,

Rowena Alessi, Chairman
Joanne Ireland
Marcia Whitehouse

ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION

The Rockingham Planning Commission, a public non profit agency, serves the Town of New Castle in an advisory role and provides a wide array of professional planning assistance.

This year for New Castle the Commission:

- Reviewed and prepared zoning and building code amendments for the Town Meeting Warrant and amendment summaries for the Ballot.
- Prepared GIS based zoning amendment map depicting proposed expansion of the Historic District and edited Historic District Boundary on the GIS.
- Added adopted zoning and building code amendments to the New Castle Zoning Ordinance and Building Code documents, and delivered Planning and Zoning RSA books for the respective Boards.
- Reformatted land use documents.
- Prepared a letter with Regional Impact Committee recommendations regarding the Wentworth Hotel for the Planning Board.
- Advised members of the Conservation Commission about land protection strategies and recommended further contacts for additional information.
- Attended Conservation Committee meeting with Cooperative Extension Specialist.
- Met with Town Officials to review results and recommendations of the Route 1A/1B Scenic Byways Management Plan.
- Provided guidance to the Building Inspector and information to the Planning Board regarding Special Town Meeting zoning amendment procedures.

In addition to the above listed assistance provided directly to New Castle, the Town benefited from regional planning activities and services carried out by the Commission on behalf of its member communities. During 1997 these included: Land Use Planning; Educational Programs; Transportation Planning; Economic Development and Solid Waste Management.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene F. Doherty
Raymond Ambrogi
New Castle Representatives
Rockingham Planning Commission

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

Once again, we should remind residents that practically all work within 100 feet of salt water or a salt marsh requires a permit from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Applications and other guidance are available at Town Hall. Lead time for a permit can be considerable depending upon the complexity of your project. There is also a Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act in effect which regulates among other things, the amount of tree cutting that can be done within 150 feet of the shore.

During 1997, the Conservation Commission received the following applications for comments to the Department of Environmental Services:

1. To construct a house - Ian C. Watters
2. To repair stone block wall - Nancy J. Seagren
3. To construct a landing with a seasonal ramp and float - Frances Mallon
4. To repair existing rip rap - Carlton Morin and Anne Hughes
5. To construct a stairway with ramp and float - Theodore & Mary Ann Robbins

This number of applications is down one from last year and down considerably from the 10 to 12 applications we were getting several years ago.

Late in 1997, three new members were added to the Commission. One objective of the expanded Commission is to attempt to preserve and protect remaining New Castle open spaces by looking into land trusts, easements, and other conservation devices. We are open to suggestions from interested residents. Why not attend one of our meetings. We generally meet at 9am the first Monday of each month at Town Hall but check with Town Hall for occasional variations.

Respectfully submitted,

William B. Marshall III, Chairman
Irene Crosby
Beth Hume
Carol Lincoln
Jim White
Charles Petlick
Brian Mack

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Within the next year, the Environmental Protection Agency will be in the New Hampshire Seacoast area working with local communities and industries to protect the seacoast estuaries. Each community will need to meet federal requirements of SARA Title III, perform a Hazardous Risk Assessments, establish Local Emergency Planning Committee, and provide a hazardous materials section in the Town's Emergency Management Plan. The federal government has established these needs to protect the citizens and communities we live in.

A grant application was written and submitted to the NH Office of Emergency Management and FEMA for the federally funded "Emergency Management Assistance" program. The Town of New Castle was awarded \$6,000 in this grant. These moneys will be dispersed to the Police, Public Works, and Fire Departments to continue Emergency Management preparedness.

Each year every household and business receives an Emergency Public Information Brochure for Seabrook Station by mail from the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management. Seabrook Station is required by law to provide this information to citizens around the Station. It gives you information on the following: 1) How You Would Learn of an Emergency; 2) Emergency Radio Stations; 3) How to Shelter; 4) How to Evacuate; 5) Schoolchildren, Hospital Patients, the Handicapped, Other Special Groups; 6) Reception Centers List; 7) Evacuation Routes; 8) Emergency Bus Routes. This is a good informational guide for all kinds of large-scale emergencies. Please keep the brochure, read it, and store it with your telephone book.

Inside this brochure is an "Emergency Help Survey" card. The survey card is part of an annual program to identify persons who may need individual help in the event of an emergency. If you or someone you know needs individual help, it is important for you to let us know. Just fill in the information and return the card. However, if you would like personalized help with the survey, please contact this office or the Police Department, so that we can meet your needs during the time of an emergency. Your Response Will Be Kept Strictly Confidential.

Should you have any questions or constructive suggestions the Office of Emergency Management is located at the Fire Department, 43 Main Street, and the business phone number of 436-1132.

This will be my last Town Report as Emergency Management Director for the Town of New Castle. I wish to congratulate all the Town departments and their members for the hard work and a good job done. I ask that you support the next Emergency Management Director as you have supported me.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White, Emergency Mgt Director

NEW CASTLE FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Department Membership

The 1997 recruiting drive has been a great success as we have increased the membership by 7! However, we cannot stop! The word is out that the Fire Department constantly needs new firefighters and emergency medical technicians. The following are my reasons why 1998 must have that continual success.

- 33 active Firefighters & EMTs
- 19 members live outside of town
- 5 EMT's with only 2 living in town
- Average in town member age is 47
- Short term memberships
- Retirement from the fire service
- Demand for professional services
- Higher Federal & State requirements

The Fire Department has enjoyed in the past a 2 to 1 ratio to adequately staff positions. Meaning for every position needed to meet the demands of the mission, the department had two members. The pace of our lives today demanding and most people have full schedules. Fire Department members are no different. This trend equates to less time available for training and responding to emergencies. This department is recruiting for a 3 to 1 ratio (45 members) to provide the citizens of New Castle a level of fire service that is has enjoyed over the past years.

The need for "in town" Emergency Medical Technicians is at a crisis situation. If you have the interest we will show you the way.

• Summary of Events

The Town of New Castle Fire Department took delivery of it's new 1997 Pierce Saber fire engine in July. This engine was placed into service after training and equipment mounting was complete in August. The engine is National Fire Protection Association compliant for the safety of the firefighters. This piece of apparatus will meet the 30-year life expectancy. I encourage visits to the Fire Station to see this new fire engine.

The Wentworth Marina has gifted the Fire Department a four-meter Avon boat with motor and trailer. This addition to the department will allow both Fire and Police Departments access to the eight islands in Little Harbor which the Town of New Castle has the responsibility for protection. The Coast Guard has been working with the Fire Department in repairing the boat, motor, and trailer along with providing training in the operation of the boat.

The Fire Department is a member of the Seacoast Chief Officer's Association who has put into place The Seacoast Technical Assistance Response Team, as know as S.T.A.R.T. The Seacoast Technical Assistance Response Team was established to provide a regional team to address hazardous materials and technical

rescue for participating communities. After three years of planning, establishing goals, procedures, funding, and personnel policies S.T.A.R.T. now has an operational hazardous materials response team. This is a regional approach to address these needs that no one Seacoast community could afford on their own.

During the year of 1997, your Fire Department responded to 115 incidents with 52 being medical emergencies. The listing of incidents below will show 29 requests for mutual aid to the City of Portsmouth. Portsmouth had an extremely busy year. Nationally, the fire service is changing its ways of operation to provide firefighter safety and protection for the citizens that they serve.

Most importantly, I need to express my thanks to the men and women of the New Castle Fire Department who give unselfishly of themselves. Their generosity, hard work, and time away from their families provides you and your families a high level of service. As I thank each and every one of you for the support of the Fire Department, I encourage you to just say thank you when you see one of New Castle's firefighters or emergency medical technicians.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White
Fire Chief

1997 Report of Incidents

Alarm Activation's	11
Arcing/Down Wires	3
Emergency Medical Aid Call	52
Hazardous Materials	1
Odor/Smoke Removal	3
Public Assistance	7
Structure Fires	1
Refuse Fires	2
Explosion	1
Grass Fires	1
Mutual Aid to Pease International Tradeport	1
Mutual Aid to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	1
Mutual Aid to Portsmouth	29
Mutual Aid to Rye	1
Mutual Aid to Newington	1
TOTAL ALARMS	115

REPORT OF TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FORESTRY RANGER

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and State Forest Ranger contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required to burn. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire, are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are 10 Forest Rangers who work for the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire in timber harvest laws, please call our office at 271-2217.

There are 2400 Forest Fire Wardens and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens throughout the state. Each town has a Forest Fire Warden and several Deputy Wardens who assist the Forest Rangers with force fire suppression, prevention, and law-enforcement. The 1997 fire season was a safe period for wildland firefighters with no major injuries reported. The drought conditions experienced during the early summer months was a significant factor resulting in the total number of fires reported during the season.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols, and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in the quick response from local fire departments. This is a critical factor in controlling the size of wildland fires and keeping the loss of property and suppression costs as low as possible.

Please note, due to the close proximity of our homes in New Castle burning permits are required at all times, even if it is raining or snow on the ground.

The following personnel have authorization to issue burning permits:

Richard Hopley	436-3694
Bill Kingston	431-7876
Carl Roediger	436-5939
Andrew Schulte	436-5071
Richard White	436-9025
Mark Wooley	430-2975

1997 NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STATISTICS

<u>FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY</u>		<u>CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED</u>	
Belknap	58	Smoking	54
Carroll	96	Debris Burning	261
Cheshire	63	Campfire	99
Coos	29	Power Line	33
Grafton	51	Railroad	3
Hillsborough	145	Equipment Use	23
Merrimack	148	Lighting	14
Rockingham	54	Children	60
Strafford	63	OHRV	0
Sullivan	19	Miscellaneous	130
		Incendiary	33
		Fireworks	16
TOTAL ACRES	177	TOTAL FIRES	726

“REMEMBER...ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.”

Respectfully submitted,

Richard H. White
Forest Fire Warden

John Dodge
State Forest Ranger

**BIRTHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1997 - DECEMBER 31, 1997**

<u>NAME OF CHILD</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u> <u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>PARENT'S</u>
Reed Keener Williamson	March 12, 1997 Portsmouth	J.T. Williamson J.A. Williamson
Michael Edward Stringham	April 2, 1997 Portsmouth	P.S. Stringham C.A. Stringham
Sophia Eleanor Frampton	May 27, 1997 Portsmouth	D.H. Frampton T.M. Frampton
Margaret Jensen Getman	July 5, 1997 Portsmouth	F.W. Getman I.M. Getman
Perry Ann McDonough	November 28, 1997 Portsmouth	J.C. McDonough S.C. McDonough

**DEATHS RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1997- DECEMBER 31, 1997**

<u>NAME OF DECEASED</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>
Carolyn B. Seybolt	April 23, 1997	Portsmouth
Alice E. Wright	July 17, 1997	Portsmouth
Miriam E. Groton	August 6, 1997	New Castle
Marie C-L York	August 25, 1997	New Castle
Michael C. Riffe	October 31, 1997	Portsmouth
Lois T. G. Page	November 2, 1997	Exeter
Carol B. Kennedy	November 14, 1997	Portsmouth

**MARRIAGES RECORDED IN NEW CASTLE
JANUARY 1, 1997 - DECEMBER 31, 1997**

<u>GROOM</u> <u>NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>BRIDE</u> <u>NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
James E. Sponsler, Jr. Kittery Point, ME	Holly Lynn Covell Kittery Point, ME	04/26/97	New Castle
Patrick W. Morgan New Castle, NH	Rebecca L. Coutermarsh New Castle, NH	05/31/97	New Castle
Jon G. Lentendre Denver, CO	Ellen M. Custer Denver, CO	06/21/97	New Castle
Michael A. Twidle New Castle, NH	Wendy M. Garland New Castle, NH	07/12/97	New Durham
Michael J. Gagne New Castle, NH	Tobi L. Evangelisti New Castle, NH	07/12/97	New Castle
Wayne E. Murray New Castle, NH	Jaclyn M. Adams New Castle, NH	07/14/97	New Castle
Michael W. Rademacher Boston, MA	Anne C. Schwab Boston, MA	09/06/97	New Castle
Daniel R. Ball Greenland, NH	Susan C. Mimmagh Greenland, NH	09/20/97	New Castle

NEW CASTLE TOWN OFFICES

Selectmen's Office	431-6710
Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.	8 to 2PM
Town Clerk	431-6710
Mon., Wed., Fri.	9 to 1PM
Tax Collector	431-6710
Wed., Thurs., Fri.	8 to 2PM
Library	431-6773
Monday	1 to 7PM
Wednesday	11 to 5PM
Thursday	11 to 5PM
Saturday (seasonal, closed June 15 to Sept. 15)	10 to 1PM
Fire/EMTs - Emergency	911
Business Line	436-1132
Ambulance	911
Police - Emergency	911 or 436-3113
Business Line	436-3800
Town Office Fax	436-7710

