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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF

MASON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

For The Year Ending December 31

2005

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SELECTED REPORTS - 2005

To our special friend, "Twig", we dedicate
with great fondness and appreciation our
2005 Mason Town Report

Photo taken by David Evans

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT - 2005

Mason weathered another year in its 237 year history. There was little talk of dry wells and basements, this being one of the wettest years in New Hampshire history. The Town Clerk's office has undergone some extensive changes. Charlotte N. Hastings, Town Clerk/Tax Collector took the Town of Mason into the more legible "typewriter era" for registrations after her predecessor, Charlie Crathern's hand-written registrations. Susan Wagoner, newly elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector, has made the sizable transition to a computer-driven database look easy and has been recognized by state oversight offices as having done a commendable job. We thank Charlotte Hastings for her twenty-three years of service to the Town of Mason and wish her good health and travel in her retirement years. We'll all miss her great intercom call "**Ba-a-ar-bara!!!**"

The land bequeathed to the town by Bronson Potter still remains under the cloud of litigation. Land, especially the 25 square miles Mason occupies in the southern tier, has become very interesting to Mason residents as well as to those living outside the town limits. There have been a number of new faces appearing at the town offices as last year's record number of subdivisions come to fruition. The number of subdivisions have increased this year as well, keeping the Planning Board meetings on a rigorous schedule and spotlighting the need to update the Town's Master Plan. The Master Plan or town vision plan allows the management of growth. The Conservation Commission has been diligently working to preserve the natural resources of the town. Water quality and the preservation of open space are just two aspects affecting all who live in town. As taxable land is removed from the rolls, the town should look to develop revenue-producing mechanisms to defray the added tax burden.

The presence of detectable levels of MBTE, a gasoline additive, in two water sources has been a concern. The time has come to address the risks and benefits of underground petroleum storage tanks.

Planning for the new Police building continues. Preliminary draft plans are available for review at the town offices. This facility's time has come. The Police Department has seen a marked increase in arrests and requests for service over the past year. Unfortunately this is a trend being experienced in many of the smaller towns of the southern tier.

The withdrawal position from the Mascenic School District was strengthened by the introduction and passage of legislation enabling the filing of a minority withdrawal report to the State School Board. Through the concerted efforts of our district legislators and concerned townspeople, legislation was proposed, passed and enacted within nine months. This year, the third year of the current withdrawal effort, a warrant article will appear on the district ballot to see if Mason will be allowed to withdraw from the district.

Uncle Sam's house was purchased by the Mouraux Family of Sonoma, California. They intend to turn the New Hampshire landmark into a museum. Mason said goodbye to a name synonymous with Uncle Sam, Elizabeth Orton Jones. Known to us as "Twig", her research of the Uncle Sam Legend and her previous literary accomplishments earned her national recognition. At the time of her passing at the age of ninety-four, she was still in possession of her trademark energetic, generous and mischievous spirit. She will be missed. Take time to see one of her murals in Fellowship Hall at the Congregational Church or read one of her stories in the Mason Public Library. This Town Report is dedicated to her memory.

We appreciate all the Committees, Boards and employees for their service and hard work for the Town of Mason. Thank You!

Respectfully submitted,

C. Christopher Guiry D.M.D., Mark Richardson, Anne Richards

TOWN OFFICE HOURS AND MEETINGS

SELECTMEN

Office Hours: Mann House, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Meetings: Mann House, 7:30 PM
Second and Fourth Tuesday of the month.

Telephone: 878-2070 Fax: 878-4892

TOWN CLERK

Office Hours: Mann House, Tuesday 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
Last Saturday of the month 10:00 AM to Noon

Telephone: 878-2070 Fax: 878-4892

PLANNING BOARD

Meetings: Mann House, 7:30 PM
Last Wednesday of the month

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Office Hours: Mann House, 7:00 PM.
Tuesday, by appointment

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings: Mann House, 7:30 PM.
Third Monday of the month

WILTON RECYCLING CENTER HOURS

Hours: Tuesday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM to 11:45 AM

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR 2 yr term

Catherine Schwenk	March 2006
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TOWN CLERK 3 yr term

Susan J. Wagoner	March 2008
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DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Dorothy Mitchell, Appointed	March 2008
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TREASURER 3 yr term

Debra Morrison, Appointed	March 2006
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DEPUTY TREASURER

SELECTMEN 3 yr term

C. Christopher Guiry DMD, Chairman	March 2006
Mark Richardson	March 2007
Anne Richards	March 2008

TAX COLLECTOR 3 yr term

Susan J. Wagoner	March 2008
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DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR

Dorothy Mitchell, Appointed	March 2008
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SUPERVISORS OF CHECK LIST 6 yr term

Joan Losee, Chairman	March 2008
James DeMarco	March 2010
Sandra LeClair	March 2006

LIBRARY TRUSTEES 3 yr term

Jenny Scholl	March 2007
Lynn McCann	March 2006
Judith Forty	March 2008

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES 3 yr term

Robert Larochelle	March 2006
Wallace A. Brown	March 2007
Jeannine Phalon	March 2008

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS 3 yr term

George Schwenk	March 2006
Donald J. Hager III	March 2008
Mark Calderan	March 2007

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Irene Cook, Chairman	March 2008
Robert Larochelle	March 2008
Gretchen Brown	March 2006
David Profit	March 2008

PLANNING BOARD

Mark McDonald, Chairman	March 2008
Dorothy Millbrandt	March 2006
Bruce Mann	March 2007
Pamela Lassen	March 2006
Linda Cotter-Cranston, Alternate	March 2007
Joseph McGuire, Alternate	March 2006
C. Christopher Guiry, Ex-officio	

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Charles Moser, Chairman	March 2007
Michael Davieau	March 2007
Robert Bergeron	March 2007
Michael Dulong	March 2006
Timothy Kelly, Alternate	March 2007
Timothy Kicza, Alternate	March 2007
Patricia Letourneau, Alternate & Clerk	March 2007
Ulysses Shields, Alternate	March 2006
Anne Richards, Ex-officio	

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Board of Selectmen

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Robert Larochelle, Chairman	March 2006
Robert Dillberger	March 2008
Anna Faiello	March 2008
Elizabeth Fletcher	March 2008
Charles Lanni	March 2006
Florence Roberts	March 2008
Ann Moser	March 2007
Stuart Sherman	March 2006

FORESTRY COMMITTEE

Curtis Dunn	March 2006
Florence Roberts	March 2008
Eric Anderson	March 2008
William Downs, Town Forester	
C. Christopher Guiry, Ex officio	

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Wallace A. Brown, Chairman	March 2007
Paula Babel	March 2006
Elena Kolbenson	March 2006
Lynn McCann	March 2006
Robin Smith	March 2006

BALLOT CLERKS

Pauline Bergeron	March 2006
Rachel Petersen	March 2008
Teri Parker	March 2006
Florence Wilson	March 2007

POLICE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE

Wallace A. Brown, Chairman	March 2006
Police Chief Barry G. Hutchins	March 2006
Peter LeCount	March 2006
Robert Bergeron	March 2006
Robert Larochele	March 2006
Lynn McCann	March 2006
Barbara Milkovits	March 2006
Bernard O'Grady	March 2006
Jeannine Phalon	March 2006
Kenneth Spacht	March 2006
Kenneth B. Wilson, Building Inspector	
Mark A. Richardson, Ex-Officio	

POLICE OFFICERS

Barry G. Hutchins	Police Chief
Steven Duval	Patrolman
Steven Willette	Part Time Police Officer
John LeBlanc, Sr.	Part Time Police Officer

EMERGENCY SERVICES

David P. Cook	Fire Chief/Warden/EMT-D
David Baker	1 ST Asst.Chief/Deputy Warden/First Responder
Frederick W. Greenwood	2 nd Asst.Chief/Deputy Warden/First Responder
Robert Bergeron	Fire engineer/Emergency Man. Director
Roland Theriault	Captain/Deputy Warden
Philip Phalon Jr.	1 st Lieutenant/Deputy Warden/FirstResponder
Donna Richardson	2 nd Lieutenant/Deputy Warden/EMT-D
Anne Richards	Firefighter
Wallace Brown	Firefighter/Deputy Warden
Mark Richardson	Firefighter
Christopher Greenwood	Firefighter
Kerri Greenwood	Firefighter
Steve Tamulonis	Firefighter
Rick Griffith	Firefighter
Stephen Hoffman	Firefighter/EMT-I
Rodney Stedman	Firefighter
Jonathan Lavoie	Firefighter
Benjamin Harrington	Firefighter
James Deffely	Firefighter
Christopher Perry	Firefighter/EMT-B

Ken Spacht
John LeBlanc Sr.
Cindy Tibbetts
Jeff Partridge
Stuart Sherman
Jeannine Phalon
Kathy Chapman

Firefighter/EMT-B
EMT-D
EMT-I
EMT-D
EMT-I
First Responder
First Responder

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David P. Cook
Kenneth B. Wilson
Lynn McCann
Kenneth B. Wilson
Robert Bergeron
William Downs
Wallace Brown

ROAD AGENT
BUILDING INSPECTOR/DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER
HEALTH OFFICER
HOUSE NUMBERING AGENT
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
TOWN FORESTER
SEXTON

MASON TOWN WARRANT

The State of New Hampshire

The polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM at: Mason Town Hall.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Mason, in the County of Hillsborough, in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to come to the polling place at the Town Hall in Mason at 7:00 AM on Tuesday, the 14th day of March, 2006 for the election of Town officers pursuant to Article 1 of this Warrant, bringing in your ballots for the following:

Moderator	2 years
Selectman	3 years
Treasurer	2 years
Supervisor of the Checklist	6 years
Trustee of Cemeteries	3 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	3 years

The polls will be open continuously until 7:00 PM when they shall close. You are hereby notified also to meet at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, the 15th day of March, 2006, and at the same place to act upon Articles of this Warrant.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing terms.
2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to build, equip, and furnish a new police station for the Town of Mason and to authorize the issuance of not more than Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Budget Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to

determine the rate of interest thereon. Recommended by the Selectmen. (2/3-ballot vote required.)

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the gross sum of Two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to be used only for acquisition in the name of the town of the fee or lesser interest in Conservation land and other costs associated therewith for permanent conservation use, and further to authorize the Selectmen to accept private donations of land, interest in land, or money for purposes of contributing to the local matching portion required under the Federal USDA Northeastern Area Forest Legacy Program and further to authorize the Selectmen to apply for and accept the matching funds under the Forest Legacy Program in an amount up to One million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) (75% of the total) for the purposes of acquisition of the fee or lesser interest in Conservation land. This appropriation is contingent upon the receipt of Four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) in grant funds, private donations and other sources of funds. The portion of this appropriation to be raised by taxation, will be no more than One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). Said appropriated funds and the Forest Legacy Program matching funds and other funds raised for this Conservation land acquisition may be expended by majority vote of the Mason Conservation Commission. Recommended by the Selectmen.
4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One million two hundred sixty-seven thousand, three hundred eighty-three dollars (\$1,267,382) which represents the operating budget. Said sum is exclusive of all Special or Individual Articles addressed.
5. To see if the Town will vote to pave Hurricane Hill Road from Townsend Road to the intersection of Campbell Mill Road and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto. The following reasons should be considered: deteriorating road conditions from increased traffic, breathing in the road dust which could cause silicosis, slow response time from emergency vehicles, school bus being re-routed due to poor road conditions, maintenance issues. (By petition) Not recommended by Selectmen. Selectmen recommend Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for improvements.
6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty thousand three hundred dollars (\$20,300) for the proposal of the Southwest Region Planning Commission for their planning assistance to update the Town of Mason Master Plan, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
7. To see if the Town will vote to ratify and affirm the authority of the Selectmen to enter into that three year lease agreement for the purpose of leasing and equipping a new four-wheel drive vehicle for the Police Department, total cost of the new vehicle will be Thirty-one thousand dollars (\$31,000) and to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the first year's payment of the lease, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
8. To see if the Town will vote to establish a public kindergarten for the Town of Mason and to further authorize the Selectmen to appoint a school board, whose members will have staggered three year terms, to administer the kindergarten, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$7,450) for the purchase of a new gasoline pump at the Mason Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six thousand five hundred

dollars (\$6,500) for work on a drainage project on Greenville Road, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.

11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six thousand four hundred (\$6,400) for converting the electric heat at the Mason Highway Office to an alternate heating system, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Highway Construction Capital Reserve, previously established, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) to fund a sales analysis and to adjust inequitable property values, on a universal basis, as created/indicated by market data. The monies are to come from general taxation, or take any other action relative thereto. (Required by the Department of Revenue to maintain equitable property valuations and certification.) Recommended by the Selectmen.
14. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Library Building Capital Reserve Fund previously established, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for tape and compass surveys of the town forestlands, or take any other action relative thereto. Such funds will come from the Forest Maintenance Fund, previously established. Recommended by Selectmen.
16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for the maintenance of the Mason Railroad Trail as fire lane access to the Mason Town Forests, or take any other action relative thereto. Such funds will come from the Forest Maintenance Fund, previously established. Recommended by Selectmen.
17. Shall the town accept the provisions of RSA 31:19-I, II, III providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the Selectmen to accept and expend, without further action by the town meeting, from trust gifts and legacies for any other purpose that is not foreign to the town's institution or incompatible with objects of the town's organization? This authorization will remain, in effect, until rescinded by a vote at town meeting. Recommended by the Selectmen.
18. Shall the town authorize the Selectmen to lease town owned land for agricultural purposes? Such lease would be done on an annual basis. Recommended by the Selectmen.
19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and the Road Agent to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by Selectmen.
20. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and Police Chief to sell or dispose of surplus equipment form the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by the Selectmen.
21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and the Fire Chief to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto. Recommended by Selectmen.

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed Budget	Change 2006/2005
APPROPRIATIONS				
Town Officers' Salaries				
Selectmen	2,925	2,925	2,925	
Town Clerk	550	550	550	
Treasurer	550	550	550	
Auditor	300	0	10,000	
Moderator	200	200	500	
	4,525	4,225	14,525	220.99%
Fees in Lieu of Salaries				
Tax Collector	7,250	7,702	7,250	
Town Clerk	7,000	10,080	7,000	
	14,250	17,782	14,250	0.00%
Administration				
Administrative Ass't	27,450	27,318	28,902	
Part-time Assistant	3,000	1,171	3,000	
Payroll taxes	4,000	3,845	4,200	
Workers comp.	335	336	389	
Advertising	250	210	500	
Bank service charges	100	52	100	
Association dues	55	40	0	
State Dog Fees	0	598	0	
Conferences	600	1,082	750	
Computer services	3,000	3,328	3,100	
Mileage	200	523	200	
Contingency	200	755	200	
Postage	1,350	1,525	950	
Registry fees	350	377	300	
Repairs & maintenance	384	398	384	
Retirement Ins	1,600	1,527	1,680	
Office supplies	2,200	2,055	1,800	
Office equipment	1,000	680	700	
Software Maint./Update			1,300	
Telephone	950	870	950	
Town reports	1,325	1,305	1,350	
	48,349	47,994	50,755	4.98%
Town Clerk/Tax Collector				
Deputy			3,000	
Association dues			55	
State Dog Fees			0	
Conventions/Education			1,600	
Certification			400	
Mileage			500	
Office Supplies			1,200	
Postage			840	
Software Maint./Update			3,500	
Telephone			450	
			11,545	

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed Budget	Change 2006/2005
APPROPRIATIONS				
Cemetery Expenses				
Cemetery maintenance	1,500	2,087	1,500	
Cemetery salaries	9,000	6,693	9,000	
Payroll taxes	700	512	700	
Workers comp.	335	336	389	
	11,535	9,628	11,589	0.47%
Reappraisal of Property				
Assessing	5,000	5,838	5,000	
Tax map update	675	675	675	
	5,675	6,513	5,675	0.00%
Town Building Expenses				
Custodian salaries	6,660	6,630	6,660	
Supplies	270	306	300	
Heat	4,500	5,688	5,100	
Electricity	2,100	2,494	2,500	
Repairs & maintenance	7,500	9,216	10,000	
	21,030	24,334	24,560	16.79%
Employment/Insurance Expenses				
Short Term Disability & Life ins.	4,200	3,756	4,100	
Health & Dental ins.	108,604	107,345	125,564	
Unemployment taxes	184	183	30	
Property & Liability ins.	22,800	19,464	22,800	
	135,788	130,749	152,494	12.30%
Planning & Zoning				
Advertising	600	1,684	600	
Training	80	0	80	
Board of Adjustment	765	932	765	
Historic District Commission	110	145	110	
SW Reg. Planning/Consulting	4,818	5,756	4,860	
Supplies	50	211	50	
Postage	400	808	400	
	6,823	9,536	6,865	0.61%
Building Inspection				
Bldg inspector-fees	9,900	9,511	10,700	
Bldg inspector-mileage	850	708	850	
Payroll taxes	757	728	820	
Expenses	794	814	500	
	12,301	11,760	12,870	4.63%
Health & Welfare				
Health officer	25	0	25	
Animal control	1,000	1,095	1,000	
Town poor	2,000	1,689	2,000	
Visiting nurse	1,500	1,500	1,500	
	4,525	4,284	4,525	0.00%

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed Budget	Change 2006/2005
APPROPRIATIONS				
Ambulance				
Ambulance Service Fee	7,300	7,300	8,600	
Supplies	1,200	1,321	1,200	
Training	1,400	571	1,400	
	9,900	9,192	11,200	13.13%
Library				
Library salaries	27,315	26,328	31,404	
Payroll taxes	2,090	2,014	2,402	
Worker's Comp.	168	153	210	
Dues, fees & educ	1,150	933	1,150	
Postage	200	0	100	
Programming	200	199	200	
Supplies	450	455	500	
Telephone	850	738	900	
Technology	500	312	500	
Travel	250	198	250	
Books	2,900	2,898	3,100	
	36,073	34,230	40,716	12.87%
Parks & Recreation				
Parks Maintenance	2,165	2,603	2,165	
Electricity	120	115	120	
Toilet facilities	350	200	350	
Activities/Rec day	600	418	600	
Patriotic purposes	300	40	300	
	3,535	3,376	3,535	0.00%
Street lighting	1,000	891	1,000	0.00%
Town Common				
Town common	6,500	6,940	6,500	
Payroll taxes	345	314	500	
Worker's Comp	335	336	389	
	7,180	7,590	7,389	2.91%
Water Hole				
Water hole & dry hyd	500	0	500	
	500	0	500	0.00%
NHMA	835	835	868	3.91%
Wilton Recycling Center	37,836	37,940	45,926	21.38%
Communication Expenses	19,500	19,776	19,500	0.00%
Legal Expenses	4,000	5,104	4,700	17.50%
Civil Defense	100	0	100	0.00%
Conservation Commission	2,000	40,849	2,000	0.00%
Current Use Penalties paid to CC		53,565		
Election Expenses	780	823	2,200	182.05%
Town Forests	1	604	1	0.00%

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed Budget	Change 2006/2005
APPROPRIATIONS				
Highway Town Maintenance				
Road agent salary	46,330	46,166	48,840	
Asst road agent salary	36,404	36,510	38,522	
Equipment operator	34,834	35,273	36,837	
Equipment operator	31,049	21,622	32,822	
Other salaries	45,820	48,634	48,111	
FEMA Reimb. Other salaries		-2,000		
Overtime wages	14,199	11,616	19,499	
Payroll taxes	15,960	15,759	17,184	
Alcohol and drug testing	450	473	500	
Workers comp.	11,563	11,572	12,512	
Retirement	10,430	7,550	8,826	
Consulting engineer	100	900	100	
Reimbrs. For Consulting Engineer		-525		
Mileage	1,200	1,113	1,500	
Calcium chloride	14,500	7,170	16,020	
Culverts	1,500	1,545	3,000	
Paved road restoration	37,500	68,984	52,918	
Patch	2,000	2,124	3,000	
Salt	8,500	9,876	9,200	
Plowing	22,000	20,000	14,400	
Signs & Rewards	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	335,339	345,360	364,791	8.78%
Highway Dept. Expenses				
Building maintenance	5,500	5,636	5,500	
Chains	500	1,420	1,000	
Chainsaw repairs	300	26	300	
Dues, education and misc	2,000	303	2,000	
Edges for plows & graders	2,500	3,182	4,500	
Electricity	2,500	2,662	3,000	
Equipment maintenance	27,000	29,890	30,000	
FEMA Reimb. Equipment maintenance		-2,468		
Fuel	23,000	30,545	35,000	
Radios	1,400	1,610	1,400	
Telephone	1,200	1,080	1,500	
Tires	2,500	8,881	5,000	
FEMA Reimb. Tires		-5,254		
Safety equipment	1,700	1,719	1,700	
Tools	1,500	1,382	1,500	
Welding supplies	1,850	3,329	900	
FEMA Reimb. Welding Supplies		-1,000		
Plow Truck Lease 3rd & 4th p:	21,835	21,835	21,835	
Hwy. Veh. & Equip.		36,906		
Subtotal	95,285	141,683	115,135	20.83%
Less Capital Reserve		-71,006		
Total Highway Expenses	430,624	416,036	479,926	11.45%

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed	Change
APPROPRIATIONS			Budget	2006/2005
Police Department				
Full Time Salaries	115,914	115,937	143,593	
Part Time Officers	21,000	22,008	21,630	
Prosecutor	5,000	5,000	7,500	
Overtime	8,400	11,091	9,000	
Payroll taxes	3,410	2,959	3,880	
Detail expense	1	1,680	1	
Detail Payments		0		
OHRV Grant Detail		800		
OHRV Grant		0		
OHRV Fines Expense		1,358		
OHRV Fines Collected		-2,477		
Workers comp.	3,519	3,524	3,822	
Retirement	12,312	12,301	14,775	
Conventions & dues	150	125	500	
Cruiser lease	9,494	9,494	9,494	
Cruiser fuel	4,000	5,011	5,000	
Cruiser maintenance	4,000	4,244	4,000	
Office expenses	5,000	6,099	5,200	
Training	2,000	1,800	2,300	
Uniforms	2,500	2,294	2,500	
Equipment & maintenance	3,000	4,820	3,250	
Equipment Expense-Homeland Sec. Grant		-5,180		
Total Police Department	199,700	202,888	236,445	18.40%
Fire Department				
Fire Chief's salary	1,500	1,500	1,600	
Other Stipends	6,550	6,550	7,550	
Workers comp.	502	500	564	
Utilities	3,300	3,790	4,900	
Telephone	1,200	949	1,400	
Radio repair	1,800	3,280	1,800	
Fuel	850	1,600	1,700	
Code books	200	0	200	
Training	2,000	1,564	2,000	
Equipment & Maint	5,200	5,537	6,000	
Bld maintenance	3,000	2,602	4,000	
Officers expenses/Dues	1,700	1,347	2,000	
Insurance	250	0	250	
Vehicle maintenance	4,000	4,623	5,000	
Expendables	750	476	900	
Hepatitis Vaccine Program	300	160	300	
Fire Tanker Lease 2nd & 3rd p	27,510	27,510	27,510	
Subtotal	60,612	61,988	67,674	11.65%
Fire truck bond principal	20,000	20,000	20,000	
Fire truck bond interest	5,050	5,050	4,050	
Total Fire Dept.	85,662	87,038	91,724	7.08%
Interest Tax Notes	7,000	8,062	10,000	42.86%
Abatements & Refunds		2,675		
Total Appropriations	1,111,027	1,198,278	1,267,382	14.07%

2/23/2006	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Proposed Budget	Change 2006/2005
APPROPRIATIONS				
Warrant Articles '05				
Town Clerk/Tax Collector				
05#12 Computer & software	16,520	16,520		
05#16 Audit Tax collector's MS-	1,650	875		
Highway				
05#08 Highway Vehicle & Equip	30,000	30,000		
05#13 Highway Construction C	5,000	5,000		
05#09 Sale of dump truck to Ca	6,000	0		
Fire				
05#10 New roof for fire station	23,000	22,920		
Police				
05#11 Feasibility Study for New	20,000	20,000		
Forestry Committee				
05#14 Maintenance of Town Fc	3,500	3,500		
Recreation Committee				
05#15 Balance of new field wor	2,604	2,604		
Trustees of Trust Funds				
05#17 Sale of cemetery lots	133	0		
05#20 Playground Expendable	1,719	1,719		
	110,126	103,138		
Warrant Articles '06				
Selectmen				
06#2 Police Station - 10 Year Bond			300,000	
06#5 Pave Hurricane Hill Road (By Petition)			500,000	
06#6 Master Plan			20,300	
06#13 Sales Analysis & Equitable Adjustment			7,000	
Highway				
06#9 New Gasoline Pump			7,450	
06#10 Drainage Project - Greenville Rd			6,500	
06#11 Convert Highway Heat			6,400	
06#12 Highway Construction Cap. Reserve			5,000	
Police				
06#7 New Cruiser - 3 Year Lease			10,000	
Conservation				
06#3 Purchase Land	Offset by grants		2,000,000	
Forestry Commission				
06#15 Tape & Compass Survey	(4,000)	F.M.F.	4,000	
06#16 Maintenance Railroad Trail	(2,500)	F.M.F.	2,500	
Library				
06#14 Building Fund			5,000	
TOTAL			2,874,150	

TOWN OF MASON

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balance

For the year ended December 31, 2005

REVENUES:	2005	2004	2003
Highway Block Grant	64,974	60,458	60,403
Shared revenue	6,039	12,078	12,078
Other state grants	563	866	514
Property taxes	2,441,929	2,342,533	2,121,752
Yield taxes	14,074	21,882	28,602
Land use change taxes	42,270	130,400	0
Motor vehicle fees	245,902	237,083	200,773
Penalties and interest	23,262	13,054	7,978
Licenses and permits	13,666	17,105	11,140
Interest income	5,385	3,493	3,343
Dog licenses	2,619	2,677	2,887
Court ordered restitution	0	0	2,536
Detail Payments, Fines & Grants	2,255	2,302	1,413
Rooms & Meals Tax	51,946	40,744	35,405
Conservation Commission	38,785	14,256	12,117
Forestry Committee	0	0	2,610
FEMA Funds	10,722	5,855	5,944
Homeland Security Funds	5,180		
Donations (Memorial & Other)	1,719	0	0
Other	6,646	8,041	36,322
Total revenues	2,977,936	2,912,827	2,545,817
EXPENDITURES:			
General government	279,725	278,896	274,747
Cemeteries	9,628	10,913	9,084
Public safety	335,229	310,276	235,935
Highways	534,520	356,015	411,137
Sanitation	37,940	43,302	45,214
Health & Welfare	13,476	11,602	8,411
Education	1,557,259	1,491,321	1,288,326
Culture and recreation	148,036	158,493	157,148
Debt service	33,112	30,005	30,653
County taxes	157,840	146,945	129,586
Total expenditures	3,106,765	2,837,768	2,590,241
Excess (deficit) of revenues over expenditures	(128,829)	75,059	(44,424)
Other financing sources:			
Interfund transfers	72,006	11,975	10,300
Unexpended encumbrances	589	57,890	4,588
	72,595	69,865	14,888
Excess (deficit) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing	(56,234)	144,924	(29,536)
Fund balance beginning	544,344	399,420	428,956
Fund balance ending	488,110	544,344	399,420

TOWN OF MASON

Combined Balance Sheet

At December 31, 2005

ASSETS	General Fund	Capital Reserves	Trust Funds	Consrv Comm	Forestry Comittee	All Funds
Cash	\$978,493	\$60,510	\$160,903	\$138,174	\$66,291	\$1,404,371
Debit Memo	\$0					\$0
Deeded property	\$47,650					\$47,650
Unredeemed taxes	\$48,252					\$48,252
Uncollected taxes	\$238,817					\$238,817
Total assets	\$1,313,212	\$60,510	\$160,903	\$138,174	\$66,291	\$1,739,090

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accounts Payable	\$7,594					\$7,594
Escrow funds	\$0					\$0
Encumbrances	\$23,391					\$23,391
Payroll taxes payab	\$5					\$5
Due to schools	\$794,112					\$794,112
Total liabilities	\$825,102	0	0	0	0	\$825,102

Fund balances	\$488,110	\$60,510	\$160,903	\$138,174	\$66,291	\$913,988
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$1,313,212	\$60,510	\$160,903	\$138,174	\$66,291	\$1,739,090

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on hand, January 1, 2005	\$1,002,947
Cash receipts:	
Town Clerk	\$249,173
Tax Collector	\$2,469,136
Selectmen	\$438,315
Interest income Bank of NH	\$2,885
Interest income Fleet	\$18
Interest income NHPDIP	\$172
Interest income Bank of NH PoolPlus	\$2,310
Tax Anticipation Loans	\$940,000
Total cash available	\$5,104,957
Selectmen's orders paid	\$2,717,826
Payroll disbursements	\$460,576
Tax anticipation loans repaid	\$940,000
Interest on tax anticipation loan	\$8,062
Total monies paid out	\$4,126,464
Cash on hand, December 31, 2005	\$978,493

Debra Morrison

Treasurer

TOWN OF MASON BONDS

Principal Muni Bond Period	Outstanding	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Total Debt Service	Fiscal Debt Service
15-Feb-00			4.50%	\$5,458.21	\$5,458.21	
15-Aug-00	196,213	16,213	4.50%	\$4,839.70	\$21,052.79	\$26,511.00
15-Feb-01			4.50%	\$4,475.00	\$4,475.00	
15-Aug-01	180,000	20,000	4.50%	\$4,475.00	\$24,475.00	\$28,950.00
15-Feb-02			5.00%	\$4,025.00	\$4,025.00	
15-Aug-02	160,000	20,000	5.00%	\$4,025.00	\$24,025.00	\$28,050.00
15-Feb-03			5.00%	\$3,525.00	\$3,525.00	
15-Aug-03	140,000	20,000	5.00%	\$3,525.00	\$23,525.00	\$27,050.00
15-Feb-04			5.00%	\$3,025.00	\$3,025.00	
15-Aug-04	120,000	20,000	5.00%	\$3,025.00	\$23,025.00	\$26,050.00
15-Feb-05			5.00%	\$2,525.00	\$2,525.00	
15-Aug-05	100,000	20,000	5.00%	\$2,525.00	\$25,525.00	\$25,050.00
15-Feb-06			5.00%	\$2,025.00	\$2,025.00	
15-Aug-06	80,000	20,000	5.00%	\$2,025.00	\$22,525.00	\$24,050.00
15-Feb-07			5.00%	\$1,525.00	\$1,525.00	
15-Aug-07	60,000	20,000	5.00%	\$1,525.00	\$21,525.00	\$23,050.00
15-Feb-08			5.00%	\$1,025.00	\$1,025.00	
15-Aug-08	40,000	20,000	5.00%	\$1,025.00	\$21,025.00	\$22,050.00
15-Feb-09			5.00%	\$525.00	\$525.00	
15-Aug-09	20,000	20,000	5.25%	\$525.00	\$20,525.00	\$21,050.00
Totals		196,213		\$55,648.00	\$251,861.00	\$251,861.00

SUMMARY OF VALUATION

Improved & Unimproved Land	\$40,508,100.00
Assessed Value of Current Use Land	\$882,588.00
Conservation Restriction Assessment	\$21,215.00
Buildings (Mobile Homes Included)	\$96,047,000.00
Public Utilities (PSNH)	\$1,352,000.00
Valuations Before Exemptions	<u>\$138,810,903.00</u>

EXEMPTIONS

Elderly Exemptions	\$50,000.00
Solar Exemptions	<u>\$7,400.00</u>
	<u>\$57,400.00</u>

NET VALUE FOR TAX RATE	<u>\$138,753,503.00</u>
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NET VALUE FOR STATE EDUCATION TAX RATE (LESS UTILITIES)	\$137,401,503.00
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WAR SERVICE TAX CREDIT

Totally and permanently disabled veterans, their spouses or widows, and the widows of veterans who died or were killed in action.....	Limit	No.	Credits
	\$2,000	2	\$4,000
All Other Qualified Persons.....	\$500	59	\$29,500

2005 TAX RATE

Town	\$5.44
County	\$1.13
State Education	\$2.64
School	<u>\$8.61</u>
Total Rate	\$17.82

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY OF TAX ACCOUNTS

For the year ended December 31, 2005

	Levies of:	
	2005	Prior
Uncollected Taxes, Jan.1, 2005		
Property Taxes		\$180,973.11
Land Use Change Taxes		\$26,200.08
Yield Taxes		\$656.63
Taxes Committed to Collector:		
Property Taxes	\$2,441,929.00	\$116,052.46
Land Use Change Taxes	\$34,370.00	\$19,200.00
Yield Taxes	\$13,790.85	\$939.45
Interest & fees		
Returned Check Fees		
Overpayments:		
Property Taxes	\$377.77	
Yield Taxes		
Interest & fees		
Interest Collected On		
Delinquent Taxes	\$1,086.27	\$13,383.61
Costs Collected On		
Delinquent Taxes		
TOTAL DEBITS	\$2,491,553.89	\$357,405.34
Remitted To Treasurer During Year:		
Property Taxes	\$2,210,707.56	\$120,078.13
Land Use Change Taxes	\$25,264.64	\$20,400.00
Yield Taxes	\$10,892.62	\$939.45
Interest On Taxes	\$1,086.27	\$13,383.61
Costs		
Overpayments - Taxes	\$377.77	
Overpayments - Interest		
Conversion to Liens		\$66,006.20
Returned Check Fees		
Abatements Allowed:		
Property and Land Use Taxes	\$863.73	\$2,566.00
Yield Taxes	\$7.49	
Current Levy Deeded	\$4,226.00	
Uncollected Taxes, Dec. 31, 2005		
Property Taxes	\$226,137.07	\$114,175.24
Land Use Change Taxes	\$9,100.00	\$19,200.08
Yield Taxes	\$2,890.74	\$656.63
TOTAL CREDITS	\$2,491,553.89	\$357,405.34

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY OF TAX SALES ACCOUNTS

For the year ended December 31, 2005

Tax Sale on Account of Levies of:

	2004	2003	Prior
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes		\$67,954.50	\$20,989.12
Taxes Sold to Town			
Interest & Costs Coll:		\$6,034.47	\$2,996.27
Overpayment			
TOTAL DEBITS	\$0.00	\$73,988.97	\$23,985.39

Remittances to Treasurer:

Redemptions	\$30,318.62	\$13,325.61
Interest & Cost	\$6,034.47	\$2,996.27
Overpayment		
Abatements of Unre	\$3,033.91	
Deeded to Town	\$4,017.65	
Unredeemed Taxes	\$30,584.32	\$7,663.51

TOTAL CREDITS	\$0.00	\$73,988.97	\$23,985.39
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TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Cash on hand January 1, 2005	\$50
Cash received:	
Dog licenses	\$1,791
Mail In Fees	\$1,044
Automobile registrations	\$239,588
Title fees	\$772
Filing fees	\$13
Returned checks	\$125
Vital fees	\$347
State dog fees	\$828
Overpay	\$162
Municipal agent fees	\$4,503
Total cash received	\$249,173
Cash remitted to Treasurer	\$249,173
Cash on hand, December 31, 2005	\$50

Respectfully submitted,



Susan J. Wagoner

Town Clerk and Tax Collector

REPORT OF THE MASON TRUST FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	PRINCIPAL		INTEREST			TOTAL
	Beginning Balance	Fnds Created (Expended)	Ending Balance	Beginning Balance	Interest Earned (Disbursals)	Ending Balance
TRUST FUNDS						
Boynton School	\$11,063.07		\$11,063.07	\$13,251.19	\$418.90	\$13,670.09
Stearns School	\$10,469.36		\$10,469.36	\$14,745.56	\$505.47	\$15,251.03
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$24,778.67		\$24,778.67	\$2,216.37	\$457.01	\$1,673.38
Cemetery Land Improvement	\$3,809.87		\$3,809.87	\$2,386.89	\$93.02	\$2,479.91
Ellen Augusta Worcester Wilson	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00	\$21,412.17	\$838.37	\$22,250.54
Whitaker-Locke Library	\$10,808.07		\$10,808.07	\$129.58	\$166.18	\$170.76
Ephraim & Martha Lucindy Hildre	\$9,966.62		\$9,966.62	\$6,020.30	\$266.45	\$6,286.75
Steinberg/Budrewicz Recreation	\$1,407.00		\$1,407.00	\$53.45	\$22.56	\$53.45
Recreation-Playground		\$1,718.94	\$1,718.94		\$22.90	
TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	\$97,302.66	\$1,718.94	\$99,021.60	\$60,215.51	\$2,790.86	(\$1,125.00)
CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS						
Highway Capital Equipment	\$6,000.00	\$30,000.00 (\$36,000.00)		\$571.22	\$46.06 (\$6.13)	\$611.15
Fire Equipment				\$2,822.97	\$47.07	\$2,870.04
Library Building	\$32,000.00		\$32,000.00	\$13,052.26	\$777.31	\$13,829.57
Highway Construction	\$40,000.00	\$5,000.00 (\$35,000.00)	\$10,000.00	\$856.89	\$342.42	\$1,199.31
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE FUN	\$78,000.00	(\$36,000.00)	\$42,000.00	\$17,303.34	\$1,212.86	(\$6.13)
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$175,302.66	(\$34,281.06)	\$141,021.60	\$77,518.85	\$4,003.72	(\$1,131.13)
						\$80,391.44
						\$221,413.04

This is to certify that the information contained in this report is complete and correct, to the best of our knowledge and belief:

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Mark Calderan
Donald Hager III
George Schwenk

MASON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

During 2005 the department was able to purchase a 1997 heavy-duty dump truck with a built in sander, plow, and wing with the money voted at Town Meeting for this purpose. This truck is in great shape and suits our purposes very well. It replaces a 1984 medium duty truck that had rusted out and become unsafe to use.

During the spring and early summer, we were again drenched by heavy rain and had to deal with mud and washouts on most of our dirt roads. This also included some major culvert failures. These failures necessitated some emergency road closures and culvert replacements. The heavy rains that impacted the area made it hard to get materials such as culvert pipe for our routine maintenance. Another area impacted heavily by the weather was our calcium chloride program. Between the rain and mud making it impractical to apply, and the availability of the material, we were unable to complete all the application.

This year our paved road restoration project was Meetinghouse Hill Road. This road had two layers of asphalt sandwiching a layer of gravel. This configuration trapped water between the layers of asphalt, and the frost action was breaking up the road surface. The problem was addressed by reclaiming the road surface below the bottom layer of asphalt with a machine resembling a large roto-tiller. We added some crushed gravel, and calcium chloride to help stabilize the sub-grade. Brox then applied the base course of pavement. This year we are planning to apply the topcoat of pavement to complete the process.

As we went through the year, it became more difficult to purchase items that were needed, such as tires for our grader and loader, and cutting edges for plows and buckets. When these items became available, the price was much higher than planned.

We again were eligible for reimbursement from FEMA for two snowstorms that were declared by the Federal Government. This money helped to offset some of the higher costs encountered this year.

This year we will need to consider replacing our loader, as it has almost 9000 hours on it. We will present a plan at next year's budget process to replace it.

I would like to thank the members of the Highway Department for their hard work and their sacrifices to keep our town roads safe to travel on. I would also like to thank the Selectmen and the Administrative Assistant for their help and guidance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Cook

Road Agent

MASON POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2004 the Town of Mason saw an increase in drug related activities that included multiple items found on the sides of Mason roads (i.e.: hypodermic needles, plastic baggies, balloons, etc.). In

response to this increased drug activity the department adopted a strict zero tolerance enforcement policy that resulted in multiple arrests.

In 2005 the department had at least 6 felony arrests for possession of a controlled drug with the intent to distribute and numerous misdemeanor arrests for personal possession of controlled drugs. Most of these arrests were for marijuana, heroin and cocaine. The majority of these arrests are the result of proactive motor vehicle stops in all areas of the town, as this is our most effective manner in making contact with probable offenders. The department will continue to follow a zero tolerance enforcement policy on this issue as long as it exists. If a Mason officer stops you, your cooperation is greatly appreciated. On a brighter note crimes against persons and property (i.e.: burglaries, assaults) went down in 2005.

I appreciated the support for the Mason Police Department feasibility study in 2005. The committee was very diligent in their work to develop an effective building plan that will serve the town well for both the present and the future. I hope that you will continue with your support for the Police Department and our great need for additional space (in hopes to avoid any future injuries in the tax collector's office, which is located directly below the current Police Department).

In closing thank you as always for your support and recommendations that continue to make our job much easier.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry E. Hutchins

Police Chief

MASON FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Fire Department received the new tanker in January of 2005. The department mounted equipment on the truck, and completed training on the new truck on Saturday morning and was called to respond to a mutual aid structure fire that afternoon. The truck performed well and has continued to do so.

The new roof and siding have been installed on the Fire Station. This should protect the building for the foreseeable future, as well as keeping the building looking good. We have ordered a new sign for the front of the station to replace the sign that was built and donated by James Rowse. The sign was made out of wood and will be preserved inside the station as a bit of town history.

In November the members of the Fire Department were invited to Ashby, Massachusetts to participate in advanced training provided by the Massachusetts Fire Academy. This gave us a chance to get this training locally, as well as working together with a neighboring department.

A written permit is required to burn brush when the ground is not completely covered by snow. If you need a permit, or have any questions, please call the dispatch center, (Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department) @ 1-800-562-8201, and they will page the on-call Fire Officer to get in touch with you.

Many small repairs to the equipment were made by the department members to save the town money and keep the equipment in service.

We are always looking for new members for the Fire Department and First Responders. If you are interested, call the Dispatch Center or contact any member for info.
I would like to thank the department members for their hard work to keep the town residents safe. Thanks also to the Selectmen, and the Administrative Assistant for their help.

Alarms in the building	6	Auto accidents	14
CO detector activation	1	Auto vs. pedestrian	1
Chimney fires	2	Person fell off a roof	1
Person fell off a horse	1	Mutual aid given	20
Mutual aid received	4	Smoke investigation	1
Illegal burn	1	Structure fire	1
Lost person	1	Lift assists	2
Lightning strike	1	Tree and wires in road	1
Ambulance assist	1		
Total Calls	59		
Total Man hours	Fire Calls	1069	Training 1252

Respectfully submitted
David P. Cook Fire Chief

Mason First Responders

This was another busy year for the First Responders, with motor vehicle crashes being the leader in our call numbers. The First Responders continue to train with the Brookline Ambulance and the Mason Fire Department, to build teamwork between the departments. This year we hosted a training session given by the Johnson Transportation Company, on school bus emergencies. Members attended outside training seminars including, pediatric emergencies, water rescue, life flight operations, and wilderness rescue.

I would like to thank the Brookline Ambulance Service, and the Director for their assistance.

Motor Vehicle crashes	14	Dr. ordered transport	2
Falls	9	Fire standby	1
Diabetic Emergency	2	Lift assists	1
Horse accident	1	Attempted suicide	1
Chest pains	3	Difficulty breathing	6
Fainting	4	Hip pain	1
Home illness	5	Seizure	3
Back pain	3	Allergic reaction	1
Psychological emergency	1	Hospital transfer	1
Good intent	1	Medic intercept	1
Dizziness	1	Choking	1
Abdominal pain	1	Unresponsive person	2
Total 66 calls			

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The following summarizes the Mason Planning Board activities in 2005:

Subdivisions

Applicant	Lot	Number of Lots Proposed	Approved/Denied
Foster	B-12-2	2	Approved
Hurricane Hill Road	L-25-1	2	Pending
Tymar Land Development, LLC	A -22	10	Pending
Ela and Pelletier	A-26-2	2	Pending
Dancause	L-25-1	6	Denied
Dancause	L-25-1	2	Pending
Grant	B-2	2	Approved
Moran	H-32	5	Approved
Murto	J-76	4	Approved
Ruggiero	J-69-1	2	Approved
Net New Lots (Approved)		11	

Lot Line Adjustments

Lots

Applicant		Approved/Denied
Stauble	G-37	Approved
	A-21	Approved
Ela and Pelletier	A-26-2	Approved
	D-26	Pending
Tucker	D-27-2	Pending

Site Plan Reviews

Applicant	Business	Approved/Denied
Malouf	Dream Barns	Approved

Subdivision Regulation Amendments

- 1) Public Hearing, August 31, 2005: Subdivision regulations and Instructions for site plan review applications - Establish a fee

structure for consulting with the Southwest Regional Planning Commission on site plan review applications.

- 2) Public Hearing, May 25, 2005: Subdivision regulations and Instructions for subdivision applications - Establish a fee structure for consulting with the Southwest Regional Planning Commission on subdivision applications.
- 3) Public Hearing, June 29, 2005: Subdivision regulations and Instructions for subdivision applications - Improve clarity and adjust discrepancies between the Mason Subdivision Regulations and state requirements.
- 4) Public Hearing September 28, 2005: Correct discrepancies between the Mason Subdivision Regulations and the Instructions for Subdivision Application.

In addition to the above activities, we:

- Created the community input section of the Mason master plan
- Sent out a community survey
- Worked with the Southwest Regional Planning Commission to formulate a proposal for the completion of the Master Plan.

I want to thank all the members and alternates of the Mason Planning Board for their hard work and dedication. We have all worked very hard over the past year to balance the need to preserve the rural character and balance of our community with the need to support a sensible rate of growth.

Respectfully,

Mark McDonald
Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Income from land use change tax.....	\$46,065
Income from donations, etc.....	\$0
2005 Budget.....	\$2,000
Expenses	\$38,113

Interest	\$3,928
Funds on hand 12/31/05	\$6,796
Railroad Trail Maintenance Fund 12/31/05	\$138
Land Protection Fund 12/31/05	\$129,147
Stewardship Fund 12/31/05	\$2,093
Total All Funds	\$138,174

A frequent subject of our attention has been the lands willed to the town in 2004 by Mr. Bronson Potter. The disposition of these lands remains undecided because the will is being contested. Nevertheless, the Selectmen took the first step and voted to accept the gift (an action required by state law). The Commission wrote a letter of intent outlining our plans for the three structures on the property (the Potter residence - to be demolished, the A-frame on Old Ashby Road. - to be retained and rented, and the white house on Old Ashby Road – to be sold with proceeds used for other conservation projects) but nothing further can be done until the will is settled in probate court.

Work on the Fifield Tree Farm Conservation Easement continues to move forward, although at a slower pace due to the death of Woodie Fifield last year. We are very grateful to Woodie's family for carrying on with his plans for the conservation easement. Details of the easement document's wording are being worked out.

Later in the year, the Commission began talking with Mr. Steve. Moheban about acquiring (outright or via easement) his 283-acre property in the northeast corner of town. This property is very attractive from a conservation perspective because it abuts the newly formed Mile Slip Wilderness conservation lands in Milford. Because of the acreage involved, we've discussed funding options with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF) both of which offer financial support for protecting sufficiently large acreage. These discussions are ongoing.

In addition to these special accomplishments, we spent much of the year conducting business as usual. As is true every year, a portion of our time was spent monitoring existing conservation lands, particularly easements. We also identified and have ongoing participation in remediation for a few wetlands violations. Finally, we're involved in review of and consultation for new subdivisions, an increasingly important role.

Respectfully submitted,
Conservation Commission

MASON FORESTRY COMMITTEE

The Forestry Committee continues to encourage good land stewardship through best forestry practices. It is the goal to encourage healthy stands of trees throughout the town lands. These forested areas, in varying stages of accession, will be prime habitat for wild life as well as an esthetic environment for various outdoor recreational activities. The committee also feels that continued contributions to the maintenance of the Mason Railroad Trail would be in keeping with forest fire protection as well as recreation. The committee proposes to underwrite grading of one-third the Railroad Trail this year. There are a few parcels of town land that have ill defined or non-defined borders. In order to support future timber harvests, the committee has budgeted for tape

and compass surveys to preempt the possibility of trespass on abutter's property. Lastly, in an effort to support Mason's vision statement, the Master Plan. The committee proposes the transfer of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) as a contribution towards the total fee of twenty thousand three hundred dollars (\$20,300) the Southwest Region Planning Commission would charge to produce a master plan for the town. The committee feels the esthetic and habitat value of the forested areas in the town of Mason is one of the more important quality of life issues for the residents. Therefore it is appropriate this committee continues its stewardship work in preserving and protecting this precious town asset.

Respectfully submitted,
Mason Forestry Committee

HOME HEALTHCARE and COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
Report to the Town of Mason
January 1, 2005- December 31, 2005
Annual Report

In 2005, HCS - Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services continued to provide home care and community services to the residents of Mason. The following information represents a projection of HCS's activities in your community in 2005.

SERVICE REPORT

<u>Services Offered</u>	<u>Services Provided</u>
Nursing	84 Visits
Physical Therapy	38 Visits
Occupational Therapy	20 Visits
Home Health Aide	4 Hours
Total unduplicated residents served: 12	

Prenatal care, hospice services and regularly scheduled wellness clinics and child health clinics are also available to residents. Town funding partially supports these services.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The actual cost of all services provided in 2005 with all funding sources is \$18,652.00. These services have been supported to the greatest extent possible by Medicare, Medicaid, other insurances, grants, and patient fees. Your town has supported services that were not covered by other funding.



**Mason Public
Library**
16 Darling Hill Rd.
Mason NH 03048
878-3867 Telephone
878-6146 FAX
masonlib@monad.net

Hours
Tuesday 1-8P
Wednesday 9A-5P
Thursday 10A- 8P
Saturday 1-4P

<http://www.personal.monad.net/~masonlib>
Annual Report

The Mason Public Library continues to add new items to our collection. Many new titles have been added either by purchase or donation. Many videos and audios have also been donated by townspeople.

The videos and audios have been supplemented by our participation in the Hillstown Library Coop Video and Audio Collections rotations. The Video Collection includes videos and DVDs. The Audio Collection includes unabridged books on tape or CDs.

Programming included several popular activities for children. Several sessions of Story-times for preschoolers occurred in the Winter and Fall. Stories were read to some of the school classes. Eddie Raymond, magician, returned to entertain the school children at the Town Hall. The Summer Reading Program continued activities in July and August. The Children's Holiday Program on the first Saturday in December continues to be a popular way to begin the Holiday Season.

The annual Poetry Contest and Poetry Tea continue the tradition of the contest started over 10 years ago. Our annual Book Sale continues to attract many bargain hunters. The Noontime Book Club continues to flourish with avid adult readers.

On June 25th, (half-past Christmas) the Junior Room of the Library was dedicated to Elizabeth Orton Jones. Our resident children's author was known as Twig after one of her books entitled Twig. The room is now called "The Twig Room". It would have been her 95th Birthday. She was an avid supporter of the Library. We miss her visits to the Library.

Dedicated employees and many volunteers help keep the Library as a place for gathering information and as a site of many hours of fun. The many donations of books, videos, audios, money and materials are appreciated. With your support, we can continue the Mason Public Library as a great resource for the community.

Respectfully,
Lynn McCann
Judy Forby
Jenny Schell
Library Trustees

Mason Public Library Financial Report for 2005

Receipts

Town Appropriations	36073.00
Donations	750.00
Fundraising (Book Sales, Bake Sale, Raffle, Poetry Contest)	656.00
Whitacker-Locke Trust Fund Interest	125.00
Fees and Fines	267.70
PLA Scholarship	250.00
Checking Account Interest	5.54
TOTAL	38127.24

Expenditures

Salaries	26328.31
Payroll Tax	2014.08
Workers Comp	153.00
Dues and Fees (including Continuing Education)	933.00
Postage	0
Programming (\$199.32 from Town Budget + \$ 335.00 from Library Checking Account)	534.32
Supplies	455.45
Telephone	738.29
Travel	197.70
Technology	312.46
Books, Magazines and Software 2897.98	3133.09
TOTAL	34799.70

Return to Town General Fund – appropriations not used	(1843.41)
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Checking Account

Ocean Bank (formerly Granite Bank) - Beginning Balance - January 1, 2005	4903.52
Ending Balance - December 31, 2005	6387.65

Other Accounts held by the Library

Shields & Sons (formerly Barclay) Mutual Fund – December 31, 2005 value of fund	7215.21
Granite Bank – CD – In Memory of Pam Steinberg – (\$1000.00 principal) – Dec. 31, 2005	1091.44

Library Statistics 2005	Catalogued Books	Paperbacks	Audios	Video/DVD	Music Tape/CD
Added to Collection	479	110	16	39	1
Added by Donation	245	94	16	39	1
Added by Purchase	234	16	0	0	0
Lost or Withdrawn	470	135	55	84	0
Total Collection	9652	951	202	511	16

Total Patrons	903	Total Items Borrowed	9650
Programs	120	Inter Library Loan: Borrowed	346

REPORT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

There have been fifty-four (54) Building Permits issued during 2005. They were issued for the following (and the total valuation is also listed):

14	Permanent Dwellings	\$1,631,059
10	Additions to Home	311,406
8	Decks/Porches Additions to Home	56,504
2	Bathroom Additions	17,299
1	Kitchen Renovation	10,000
1	Finish Cellar	10,525
1	Chimney Addition	3,000
1	Electrical Service Update	3,000
7	Barns	197,983
3	Barn Additions	22,279
4	Septic Repair	12,000
1	Shed	5,054
1	Misc.	3,000
		\$2,283,109

Of the fourteen permanent dwellings, four were renewal permits. There have been (13) Oil Burner and/or Oil Storage Permits issued. A permit is required for installing and operating oil-burning equipment that includes replacement oil burners and/or oil storage tanks.

Some residents do not understand when a Building Permit is required. Please refer to the Town of Mason Planning Ordinance, Article VII. I will be happy to help with any questions.

The House and Waterhole Numbering System is continually being updated and new numbers issued. It would be beneficial if all residents would use their correct house numbers and post your numbers using three-inch high reflective numbers, facing both directions.

I hold Office Hours at the Mann House on Tuesday evenings by appointment only. Please call 878-2894 for your appointment or questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth B. Wilson
Building Inspector

REPORT OF BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Due to all the rain this past year I spent a lot more time mowing grass. I finally started painting the Mann House in September and was able to paint the east and front sides of the building. I would like to thank Arthur Rafter and Peter Lecount and the Mason Historical Society for the work they did on Captain Mann's store. A coat of primer and two coats of white were applied to

the store. Also a corner beam was replaced and some of the windows were fixed. The town supplied the materials and the labor was donated by the Mason Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted,
Wallace A. Brown

Buildings and Grounds Manager

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Our first meeting was in April and since then many hours have been sent putting together a proposal for a police station. The proposal calls for a cape-style building with a main floor for police business, a second floor for the officers and evidence room and a basement for the cruisers and holding cells.

The proposal also calls for a new well and septic system to be shared with the Mann House.

The two new small rooms that the Police now occupy on the second floor of the Mann House are very inadequate. There is a concern with too much weight on the second floor and also some electrical concerns. Also the public cannot meet with the Police in their office.

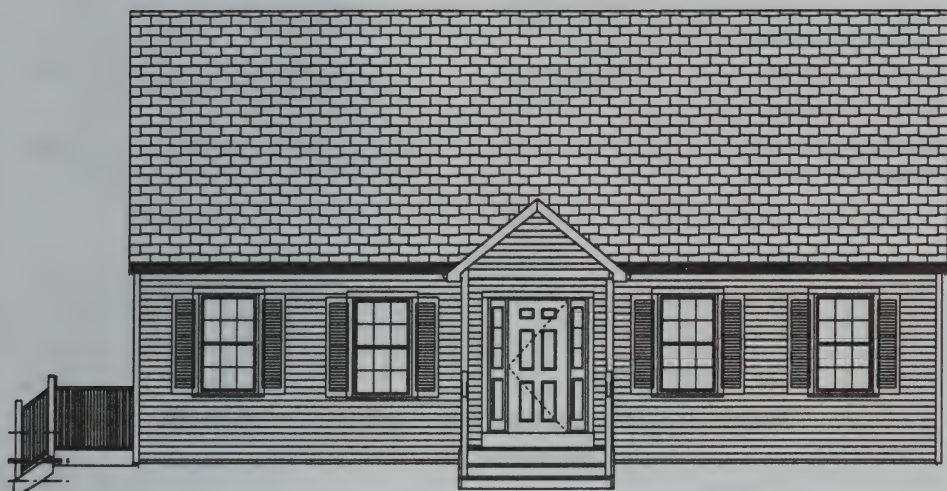
The Town of Mason is growing. The towns around us are growing and some of them use our roads to get to where they are going, which adds to the work load of our Police Department.

This coming March at Town Meeting, 2006, we will be voting on a warrant article to build a new police station. The Police Department needs our support.

Respectfully submitted,
Wallace A. Brown

Building Committee Chairman

PROPOSED POLICE STATION



REPORT OF THE CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Due to all of the rain that we had, the cemeteries were mowed once a week right up to Labor Day weekend. This didn't give us any time for other maintenance projects, which will wait until 2006.

All of the cemeteries now have new signs. The signs have the name of the cemetery and the year in which it was established.

Residents of Mason interested in purchasing cemetery lots at Prospect Hill Cemetery may contact Wallace Brown, Sexton, at 878-1481 for details.

Respectfully submitted,

Wallace Brown

Robert Larochelle

Jeannine Phalon

Cemetery Trustees



DEATHS and/or BURIALS in the TOWN of MASON for the year ending December 31, 2005

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>
Feb 8	Elizabeth Bedell	Merrimack NH
May 9	Roberta W. Chambers	Leominster MA
May 10	Elizabeth Jones	Peterborough NH
May 23	Rita Cecile Connell	Peterborough NH
Jun 10	Charles Louis Flagg Jr	Fitchburg MA
Sept 11	Elizabeth Patterson	Mason NH
Sept 16	Francis Holland	Mason NH
Oct 20	William Ingram	Mason NH

Oct 26 Charles Dennis Hutchins Fitchburg MA
MARRIAGES REGISTERED in the TOWN of MASON
for the year ending December 31, 2005

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Apr 30	Michael L. Harris Andrea L. Iodice	Fitchburg, MA Mason NH
May 17	Michael S. Woods Melissa K. Hoskiins	Amherst NH Mason
Jul 4	Richard E. Griffith Kerri A. Greenwood	Mason NH Mason NH
Jul 23	Neal T. Graves Sara C. Lewicke	Ashfield MA Mason NH
Sept 3	Daniel M. LeBaron Kris D. Bourgault	Brookline NH Mason NH
Sept 9	Richard E. Bravo Gabriel Maira Marchesse	Mason NH

BIRTHS in the TOWN of MASON
for the year ending December 31, 2005

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Feb 10	Steven Luke Sirois	Mason NH	Mark Sirois Kelly Sirois
Feb 14	Seth Brady Jalbert	Nashua NH	Timothy Jalbert Jennifer Jalbert
Apr 24	Liam Benjamin Harrington	Nashua NH	Benjamin Harrington Monica Harrington
Aug 25	Auburn Leigh Rafferty	Nashua NH	Benjamin Rafferty Kathleen Rafferty
Sept 4	Cameron Michael Harris	Concord MA	Michael Harris Andrea Harris
Sept 9	Camilla Campbell Alton	Nashua NH	Paul Alton Michelle Alton
Nov 7	Jewel Leigh Jones	Peterborough NH	Steven Jones Dawn Jones
Dec 2	Logan Russell Woods	Nashua NH	Michael Woods Melissa Woods



**TOWN ELECTION MARCH 8, 2005
TOWN MEETING MARCH 9, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Catherine Schwenk. Polls were declared open at 7:05 A.M. Checklist total was 933. Polls were closed at 7:17 PM after 399 had voted. This included 17 absentee voters. Checklist total was now 940.

Results of the election were as follows:

Selectman for 3 years: Anne Richards 308

Town Clerk for 3 years: Lucie F. Gauthier 84
Carolyn L. Place 97
Susan Wagoner 189

Tax Collector for 3 years: Lucie F. Gauthier 91
Carolyn L. Place 108
Susan Wagoner 170

Treasurer for 3 years: no one was elected.

Auditor for one year: no one elected

Trustee of Cemeteries for 3 years: Jeanine Phalon 10 write-ins

Library Trustee for 3 years: Judith Forty 21 write-ins

Trustee of Trust Funds for 3 years: Donald Hager III 257

Trustee of Trust Funds for 2 years: Mark Calderan 2 write-ins

The Town voted to amend the Town of Mason Planning and Zoning Ordinance, with the adoption of Amendment # 1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Wetlands Conservation District Ordinance of the Mason Zoning Ordinance. This was by ballot vote: Yes 307 No 63.

The Town voted to amend the Town of Mason Planning and Zoning Ordinance, with the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the Mason Zoning Ordinance. This was by ballot vote: Yes 310 No 73.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Mason Planning and Zoning Ordinance, with the adoption of Petitioned Amendment # 1 as proposed by legal voters of the Town of Mason to amend the Town of Mason Zoning Ordinance. This was by ballot vote: Yes 63 No 321.

The Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Catherine Schwenk at 7:50 P.M. She reviewed the procedure we would follow. Note was made of the fire and emergency exits. Thanks were expressed to all whom were involved in the election process. She introduced those who were sitting at the head table.

Mrs. Schwenk acknowledged the 22 years Charlotte N. Hastings had served as Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

Mrs. Hastings received a standing ovation and was presented some gifts by Selectman Chairman Anne Richards.

Colors were presented by Boy Scout Troop 264.

Corinne Babel led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Corinne is President of the Sophomore Class and excels in academics.

A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the Warrant.

A correction was made to the Town Report as follows:
Page 7. Robert Bergeron is the Emergency Management Director.

Article 5. The Town voted in favor of the withdrawal of the Town from the Mascenic Regional School District in accordance with RSA 195:25 or take any other action thereto. The authority granted to the Selectmen to act on behalf of the town shall remain in force and effect until such time as the earlier of a vote at subsequent town meeting rescinding the authority or the successful placement of a warrant article at the Annual or Special Meeting of the Mascenic Regional School District under the provisions of RSA Chapter 195, Section 29. The vote was unanimous.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One million one hundred thirteen thousand, three hundred twenty-seven dollars (\$1,113,327) which represents the operating budget. Said sum is exclusive of all Special or Individual Articles addressed.

The Town Budget was reviewed the budget by line item.

On page 12. A motion was made and seconded to reduce the \$13,300 for assessing to \$0:00. This motion failed to pass. A second motion was made and seconded to reduce the \$13,300 to \$5,000.

This motion passed.

Page 15 under Highway Town Maintenance.

A motion was made and seconded to increase the amount for salt from \$6500 to \$8500. This motion passed.

Page 16 Under Highway Dept. Expenses:

A motion was made and seconded to increase the fuel from \$19,000 to \$23,000.

This motion passed.

Article 6. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of One million one hundred eleven thousand, twenty-seven dollars (\$1,111,027) which represents the operating budget. This included a reduction in the assessing fund of \$8,300, an increase of \$2000 for salt and an increase of \$4,000 for fuel. Said sum is exclusive of all special and Individual Articles addressed.

Article 7. The Town voted to change the purpose of an existing Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to the Highway Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (2/3 vote required) and further to appoint the Board of Selectmen and the Road Agent as agents to expend from the Highway Vehicle and Equipment Fund. By hand vote: Yes 85 No 6.

Article 8. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be added to the newly created Highway Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 9. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Six thousand dollars (\$6,000) to be added to the newly created Highway Vehicle and Equipment Fund and to authorize the use/transfer from December 31, 2004 Fund Balance of that amount received from the 2004 sale of Highway Equipment for this purpose.

Article 10. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-three thousand dollars (\$23,000) to replace the roof on the fire station. The vote was unanimous.

Article 11. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the feasibility study for a new police station.

Article 12. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixteen thousand five hundred twenty dollars (\$16,520) for the purchase of a computer and accessories and software for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office. By ballot vote: Yes 67 No 21.

Article 13. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Highway Construction Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This vote was unanimous.

Article 14. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) for the maintenance of the town forestlands. Such funds will come from the Forest Maintenance Fund. This vote was unanimous.

Article 15. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of Two thousand six hundred four dollars (\$2,604) for the balance of the cost of the work on the new ball field. This vote was unanimous.

Article 16. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of One thousand six hundred fifty dollars (\$1,650) for the cost of the audit of the previous Tax Collector's MS-61, per RSA. This vote was unanimous.

Article 17. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of One hundred thirty-three dollars and thirty-four cents (\$133.34) to be added to the Cemetery Land Improvement Trust Fund previously established and to authorize the use/transfer from December 31, 2004 Fund balance of that amount received from the 2004 sale of cemetery lots for this purpose. This vote was unanimous.

Article 18. The Town voted to create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Town of Mason Playground Fund, for the purpose of establishing a playground for the Town and furthermore to appoint the Board of Selectmen and the Recreation Committee as agents to expend from the Town of Mason Playground Fund.

Article 19. The Town voted to accept a donation for the playground fund of One thousand seven hundred eighteen dollars and ninety-four cents (\$1,718.94) from the Mason MOMs group. This vote was unanimous.

Article 20. The Town voted to raise and appropriate the amount of one thousand seven hundred eighteen dollars and ninety-four cents (\$1,718.94) to be placed in the town of Mason Playground Expendable Trust Fund. This vote was unanimous.

Article 21. The Town voted to discontinue the Town of Mason Communications Fund created in 2000. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. This vote was unanimous.

Article 22. The Town voted to designate Darling Hill Road from the end of its paved portion at the Mason Elementary School to the Greenville town line as a Scenic Road under the provisions of RSA 231:157 and 158, for the purpose of protecting the scenic beauty of this road, considering that much of its frontage has been protected in its natural state through the D'Arbeloff family's conservation easement gifts to the Town, or take any other action relative thereto. The Board of Selectmen is designated as the official municipal body to implement the provisions of this Scenic Road.

Article 23. The Town voted to adopt the provisions of RSA 72.35, I-a, II and III for an optional tax credit for taxes due on residential property for service-connected total disability (total disability is defined as someone who has a permanent service-connected disability, or who is a double

amputee or paraplegic because of a service-connected injury). The yearly amount of the optional tax credit for service-connected total disability shall be \$2,000. (This raises the existing yearly optional tax credit for service-connected total disability from \$1,700 to \$2,000.)

Article 24. The Town voted to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, II, III, IV and V for an optional veterans' tax credit for taxes due on residential property. The yearly amount of the optional veterans' tax credit shall be \$500. (This raises the existing yearly optional veterans' tax credit from \$300 to \$500.)

Article 25. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen and the Road Agent to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Highway Department. This vote was unanimous.

Article 26. The Town voted to authorize the Selectmen and the Fire Chief to sell or dispose of surplus equipment from the Fire Department. This vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at Sine Dai at 10:32 PM

Charlotte N. Hastings, Town Clerk



1805 History Highlights

Moderator	Timothy Dakin
Town Clerk	John Blodgett
Selectmen	John Blodgett
	James Bucknam
	Samuel Smith Jr.
Representative:	Deacon R. Weston

Marriages:	Rev. Wm. Eliot	4
	Rev. Ebenzer Hill	7
Births:	29	
Deaths:	20	

March 12, 1805 Annual Meeting

After the choice of moderator, "Then chose Col. James Wood and Mr. Joseph Merriam, a committee to wait upon the Reverend Ebenezer Hill, in order to open the meeting with prayer. Then Voted, "That all voters should take the east side of the meeting house before they voted, and pass to the other side when they voted, so as to change sides when they carried in a vote." This extraordinary measure indicates that a fierce struggle for party ascendancy was impending. This year, for the first time, a democratic majority was found in the town. The votes for governor were, for Gilman, federalist, 64, for Langdon, republican, 64- a tie. For Senator, J.K.Smith, republican 64; for Frederic French, federalist, 63. For counselor, Benjamin Pierce, republican, 71; for Phillip Greeley, federalist, 54. "Voted, To add one hundred dollars to the Reverend Ebenzer Hill's salary, for this year only."

The above information came from **The History of the Town of Mason, N.H. from the First Grant in 1749, to the Year 1858** by John B. Hill

