THE TOWN OF
IPSWICH, MASSACHUSETTS

2007 ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Standing left to right – Patrick J. McNally, Elizabeth A. Kilcoyne, Chair, James W. Foley, Ingrid F. Miles, Edward B. Rauscher.

Cover photo copyright David McGahey, “Riverwalk at Night.”
Town Report compiled by Sarah Stanton.
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2007-2008 ROSTER OF TOWN OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES

Board of Selectmen

Edward B. Rauscher
Patrick J. McNally
James W. Foley
Elizabeth A. Kilcoyne, Ch.
Ingrid F. Miles

MANAGEMENT

Director of Finance & Accounting
Rita M. Negri

Assistant Town Accountant
Karen Repucci

MIS Director
Gregory Parachojuk

Assessor
Frank J. Ragonese

Town Clerk
Pamela Z. Carakatsane

Assistant Town Clerk
Kathleen A. Marini

Treasurer/Collector
Kevin A. Merz

Assistant Treasurer
Donald J. Carter

Deputy Tax Collector
Kelley & Ryan Associates, Inc.

Director of Code Enforcement
James A. Sperber

Local Building Inspector
Eric Colville

Health Agent
Colleen Fermon

Food Inspector
Allen R. Gromko

Plumbing & Gas Inspector
Robert R. Hyde

Sealer of Weights & Measures
Dwight Brothers

Fence Viewer
James A. Sperber

Fence Viewer
Steven McKay

Wiring Inspector
Donald Stone

Asst. Wiring Inspector
David Levesque, Sr.

Director of Plant & Facilities
William A. Hodge

Director of Public Works
Robert Gravino

Supt/Cemetery & Parks
James E. Graffum

Fire Chief
Arthur Howe
Police Chief
Deputy Police Chief (Acting)
Harbormaster
Assistant Harbormasters &
Deputy Shellfish Constables

Gavin Keenan
Gavin Keenan
Justin Daly
Daniel J. Kmiec
Jason R Sinclair
James Zabelski
Paul Nikas
Peter Nikas
Jonathan Hubbard
Jason Monteiro
Michael Tullercash
Edward F. Gallivan
Eric A. Copithorne
Matthew W. Bodwell
Thomas Colpitts

Shellfish Constable
Asst Shellfish Constable

Arnold Thistlewood
Scott LaPreste
Brenda Turner

Emergency Management Director
(1 year)
Assistant Emergency Mgt Director
(1 year)

Arthur Howe
Daniel Moriarty

Animal Control Officer
Assistant Animal Control Officer

Matthew Antczak
Girard Martin

Historian
Director of Human Services
Director of Council on Aging
Library Director

(vacant)
Elizabeth M. Dorman
Diane Mitchell
Victor E. Dyer

Dir/Planning & Development
Assistant Planner
Affordable Housing Coordinator
Open Space Program Manager

Glenn C. Gibbs
Kate Day
Thomas L. Bentley
Kristen Grubbs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Coordinator</td>
<td>Beth O'Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Agent</td>
<td>David P. Pancoast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Counsel</td>
<td>Brian Riley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Manager</td>
<td>Robert T. Markel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Assistant to the Town Manager</td>
<td>Sarah A. Stanton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adm. Asst. to Town Manager/BOS</td>
<td>Judith A. Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superintendent of Schools</td>
<td>Richard L. Korb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Utilities/ WTP Supt.</td>
<td>Tim Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Light Department Mgr.</td>
<td>Carl Lemiesz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater Treatment Plant Supt.</td>
<td>Patrick Brennan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager/Utilities</td>
<td>Mark Cousins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Treatment Plant Supt.</td>
<td>Joyce Kippen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Plant Superintendent</td>
<td>Jeffrey Turner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Power Plant Superintendent</td>
<td>Victoria Halmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Engineer</td>
<td>Terrance P. Hart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans District</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action, Inc.</td>
<td>Tone Kenney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td>Charlotte Dodge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board</td>
<td>Michael Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2 years)</td>
<td>Susan Monahan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James Warner, Ch. Glenn C. Gibbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James W. Foley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Commission</td>
<td>Donald Galicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td>Mike Victor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Marini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Royce Knowlton</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Caitlin Kenney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laura Russell, Ch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Kozazcki</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alternates
(3 years)

Mario Marini
Fred Winthrop

Athletic Playing Fields Study
Committee (1 year)

James W. Foley, Ch.
Beth O'Connor
Carl Nylen
Ken Taylor
James Graffum
Ken Swenson
Susan Markos
(vacant)
James Robertson
Tom Gallagher
Elizabeth Dorman
David M. Koonce

Bay Circuit
(1 year)

Lawrence G. Eliot

Board of Assessors
(3 years)

Frank J. Ragonese, Ch.
John Moberger
Karen L. Rassias

CATV
(1 year)

Robert T. Markel
Joseph W. Parks
Gregory Parachojuk
Thomas Lohnes
Edmund Traverso
Robert Ryan, Ch.
Robert White
Ann Savage
James Maloney
Robert Wicks
Ingrid F. Miles

Cemetery & Parks Commission
(3 years)

Nicholas Markos, Ch.
Harry Argeropoulos
Theodore Lemieux
Coastal Pollution Control Committee (1 Year)

Commission on Energy Use & Climate Protection (1 year)

Community Development Plan Implementation Task Force (1 year)

Commuter Rail Committee (1 year)

Conservation Commission

Robert Marcaurelle

William Bingham, Ch.
(vacant)
Robert Gravino
Edward Rauscher
Robert Markel
Tim Henry
Judy Sedgewick
Donald Bowen
Ken Savoie
Marc Simon
Heidi Paek
Michael Johnson
Laura Dietz
Harvey Schwartz
A Adam Devoe

Web Bingham, Ch.
Thomas Mayo
William Gallagher
Richard Kallman
(vacant)
(vacant)
(vacant)
(vacant - SC)
Ingrid F. Miles
Glenn Gibbs
Kate Day

Dorcas Rice, Ch.
Robert Waldner
Joseph Carlin
Chris Curry

Brian F. O'Neill
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee/Board</th>
<th>Member 1</th>
<th>Member 2</th>
<th>Member 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission Cont.</td>
<td>Glenn Wood</td>
<td>David Standley, Ch.</td>
<td>Jennifer Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barbara Beaman</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary &quot;sissy&quot; Folliott</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sharon Cushing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Members (1 year)</td>
<td>Karl Kastorf</td>
<td></td>
<td>(vacant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(vacant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constable</td>
<td>Peter Dziadosse</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council On Aging</td>
<td>Dorothy Chulyk-Butcher</td>
<td>Elizabeth Nelson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cheryl Ferris</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Poirier</td>
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<td>Carol Emerson-Owen, Ch.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Patricia A. Parady</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tone Kenney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Review Board</td>
<td>Maiya Dos</td>
<td>Dianna Pacella</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Saulnier</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>June S. Gahan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(vacant)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternate Members</td>
<td>Ken Savoie</td>
<td>Mary Kroesser</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight Towns &amp; the Bay Committee</td>
<td>Franz Ingelfinger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td>Glenn Wood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Housing</td>
<td>Tone Kenney</td>
<td>Sara O'Connor, Ch.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert T. Markel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feoffees Town Committee
(1 year)
Joan K. Arsenault, Ch.
Paul Surpitski
Robert K. Weatherall
Harvey Schwartz
Ingrid F. Miles
Robert White
Susan MacDonald

Finance Committee
(3 years)
Jamie Fay
Janice Clements-Skelton
Daniel E. Clasby, Ch.
Robert White
William M. Craft
Michael Schaaf
Marion Swan
Raymond K. Morley
Richard F. Howard

Secretary
Lynne Gibbs

Government Study Committee
(1 year)
Jeremy Hathaway
GerryAnne Brown, Ch.
David Standley
Laura Hamilton
Laura Dietz

Hall-Haskell Standing Committee
(1 year)
William Nelson
Theresa Stephens, Ch.
Helen M. (Peg) Burr
William L. Thoen
Stephanie Gaskins
Margaret E. Broekel
Ed Sukach  
James C. Lahar

Board of Health  
(3 years)
Board of Health Cont.

Charles Hill  
Spencer R. Amesbury, MD  
Susan C. Hubbard

Historical Commission  
(3 years)

John Moss  
Wilma S. Gooby  
Walter Pojasek
Peter Lampropoulos, Cn.  
June S. Gahan  
Marjorie H. Robie  
Nancy L. Thompson

Housing Authority  
(5 years)

Kenneth M. Blades  
Sara O'Connor  
Tone Kenney
Moriah K. Marsh, Ch.  
Edgar Turner (State Appt.)

Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee  
(1 year)

Lawrence G. Eliot, Ch.  
Barbara Ostberg  
Mary Cunningham  
Ralph Williams  
Norman Marsh  
James Clark  
Linda Coan  
Diane Young

Ipswich Cultural Council  
(3 years)  
Maximum (2) terms

Michelle Shibley-McGrath  
Sunny West  
Kathleen O'Reilly  
Rebecca Gayton  
Robin Silverman  
Terri Unger, Ch.  
Cynthia August
Marianne Cellucci
Sr. Patricia Rolinger
Blaze Johnson
William Skelton
Linda Laterowicz
Barta Hathaway

**Ipswich Cultural Council Cont.**

**Ipswich Housing Partnership**
(1 year)

Michael Schaaf, Ch.
James M. Warner
Michael Jones
Donald Greenough
Edward D. Dick
(vacant)
William "Jay" Gallagher
Donald Bowen

**Ipswich River Watershed**
District Advisory Board
(2 years)

David Standley

**Library Trustees**
(3 years)

Robert K Weatherall
Lawrence J. Pszenny
Marie Louise Scudder
Nancy L. Thompson
George R. Gray, Ch.
Judith L. Rusin
Helen Danforth
William Thoen
Marion Frost

**MAPC Representative**
(3 years)

Christine Sandulli

**Moderator**
(1 year)

A. James Grimes III

**Mosquito Control Advisory**

Lisa Galanis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Members</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Robert Gambale, Ch. Ed Ruta, Ernest Brockelbank, Anne Wallace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Space Committee</td>
<td>Ralph Williams, David Standley, Carl Nylen, Glenn Hazelton, Ch. Ruth Sherwood, Wayne Castonguay, Carolyn Britt, Ch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>Brian Hone, Timothy A. Purinton, Ch. Robert L. Weatherall, Michael Ryan, James A. Manzi, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5 years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Member (2 years)</td>
<td>Cathryn Chadwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Committee</td>
<td>Edith Cook, Ch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td>Christina Mercier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Josephson</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Kerrie Bates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adam Gray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation Committee Cont.</td>
<td>Kathryn Sheppard</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Dan McCormick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recycling Committee</td>
<td>Mark Avenmarg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Penny Devoe</td>
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<td>Joanne Delaney</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Kilcoyne</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Phillip Grenier</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Suzanne Benfield, Ch.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fiona Stewart</td>
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<td>Amy Whynott</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Judy Sedgewick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar of Voters</td>
<td>Elizabeth McCarthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td>Robert M. Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Ross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Point Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Joseph W. Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 year)</td>
<td>Stanley W. Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Committee</td>
<td>Norman Sheppard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3 years)</td>
<td>Barry Hopping</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Edmund Traverso</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hugh O'Flynn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dianne Ross</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jeffrey B. Loeb, Ch.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joan K. Arsenault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whittier Representative</td>
<td>Raymond K. Morley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade Tree &amp; Beautification Committee</td>
<td>Edward B. Rauscher, Ch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James W. Foley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Robert Gravino
Benjamin Staples
Armand Michaud
Daniel Morrow
Janet Craft

Shade Tree & Beautification Cont.
Nancy Thompson
Jennifer Tougas Rauscher
Martha Varrell
Martha Chase

Shellfish Advisory Board
John Pelletier, Ch.
Joseph D. Kmiec
Evan Parker
Paul Damon
Anthony Murawski
Frank B Michon
Joseph McCarthy

Trust Fund Commission
Walter J. Pojasek
Jean Emerson
Robert K. Weatherall, Ch.

Waterways Advisory Committee
Evan Parker
Ronald Cameron
Bill Callahan
Ken Spellman, Ch.
Jeffrey French
John Wigglesworth
Elton McCausland

Zoning Board of Appeals
Robert A. Gambale, Ch.
Benjamin Fierro
Kevin Lombard
Timothy S. Perkins
Roger LeBlanc

Alternate Members
Robert Bodwell
Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the legal voters of the Town of Ipswich met in the Ipswich High School/Middle School Performing Arts Center in said Town of Ipswich on Monday, April 2, 2007. A quorum being present (254 present – 200 required), the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Mr. A. James Grimes, III, at 7:43 p.m.

Non-registered persons were given permission to attend the meeting as spectators and were seated on the floor to the left of the stage.

ARTICLE 1 CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

(1) Fix the salary and compensation of all elected Town Officers as presented in the town and school operating budgets;

(2) Choose the following officers, viz: A Moderator for one [1] year; two [2] Selectmen for three [3] years; two [2] members of the School Committee for three [3] years; the above officers to be voted on one ballot at the YMCA Gymnasium, 110 County Road, on TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2007. The polls shall open at 7:00 a.m. and shall close at 8:00 p.m.;

(3) Transfer $275,000 from surplus funds in the Electric Division to the General Fund;

(4) Rescind the unexpended balance of $130,100 from the bond authorization approved under Article 19 of the April 5, 1999 Annual Town Meeting; and

(5) Authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint temporarily a member of said Board to Acting Town Manager for a limited period of time not to exceed the date of the 2008 Annual Town Meeting for purposes of vacation, leave, or absence in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A, sections 20 and 21A.

ARTICLE 2 FINANCE COMMITTEE ELECTION

On motion made by Mr. Daniel Clasby, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Elect Marion Swan to the Finance Committee for a term of three (3) years.
ARTICLE 3  
DATE OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded, it was

VOTED (90 YES – 72 NO) TO:

Amend the General By-Laws to change Chapter II, Section 1(a), “Annual Town Meeting” to replace the following language:

“The Annual Town Meeting of the Town shall be held on a date and at a time as specified by the Board of Selectmen in the warrant, within the first seven calendar days of the month of April; and all business, except the election of such officers and the determination of such matters as by law or by this chapter are required to be elected or determined by ballot, shall be considered at that meeting or at an adjournment thereof to another day. That part of the Annual Town Meeting devoted to the election of officers and the determination of such questions as by law or by this chapter are required to be elected or determined by ballot shall be held on a Tuesday in April not less than eight (8) nor more than fifteen (15) days after the first date of said meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.”

with:

“The Annual Town Meeting of the Town shall be held on the second Tuesday of the month of May and at a time as specified by the Board of Selectmen in the warrant; and all business, except the election of such officers and the determination of such matters as by law or by this chapter are required to be elected or determined by ballot, shall be considered at that meeting or at an adjournment thereof to another day. That part of the Annual Town Meeting devoted to the election of officers and the determination of such questions as by law or by this chapter are required to be elected or determined by ballot shall be held on a Tuesday in May not less than seven (7) nor more than fifteen (15) days after the first date of said meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.”

ARTICLE 4  
SPECIAL STABILIZATION FUND

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Establish under Chapter 40, Section 5B of the Massachusetts General laws, a Capital Improvements Stabilization Fund for the purpose of accepting funds from a variety of sources to be used exclusively for annual capital expenditures by Town departments; and further, to transfer $285,000 from the general fund and $15,000 from free cash into the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 5  
FY’07 TOWN BUDGET AMENDMENTS

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Amend its action taken under Article 5 of the April 3, 2006, Annual Town Meeting (the FY’07 Municipal Operating Budget), to transfer:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Acct. Number</th>
<th>Account</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town Clerk</td>
<td>11612-5306</td>
<td>Data Processing</td>
<td>(550.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11611-5131</td>
<td>Overtime</td>
<td>526.68</td>
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<td>11612-5423</td>
<td>Special Printing</td>
<td>(8.18)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11611-5141</td>
<td>Diff/Incentive</td>
<td>31.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Mgr</td>
<td>11232-5308</td>
<td>Labor Relations</td>
<td>(122.50)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11231-5121</td>
<td>Salaries-Temp PT</td>
<td>122.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPW-Sanitation</td>
<td>14312-5385</td>
<td>Sanitary Collection</td>
<td>(113,113.56)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14211-5115</td>
<td>Perm Wages</td>
<td>8,574.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPW- Admin.</td>
<td>14211-5126</td>
<td>Sick Leave Buyback</td>
<td>3,523.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPW - Equip. Maint.</td>
<td>14221-5126</td>
<td>Sick Leave Buyback</td>
<td>6,873.97</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14222-5483</td>
<td>Pts In House</td>
<td>5,171.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14222-5486</td>
<td>Sweeper Maint</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPW- Highway</td>
<td>14243-5818</td>
<td>Vehicles</td>
<td>21,829.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14242-5242</td>
<td>Road Treatment</td>
<td>49,645.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14242-5243</td>
<td>Drain Maint</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPW-Cemetery</td>
<td>14911-5114</td>
<td>Perm Other</td>
<td>4,496.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Bldg</td>
<td>14721-5115</td>
<td>Perm Wages</td>
<td>(3,000.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14722-5251</td>
<td>Bldg Maint</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Inspector</td>
<td>12512-5311</td>
<td>Other Consultants</td>
<td>(500.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12512-5511</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>(750.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12512-5733</td>
<td>Conf Registration</td>
<td>(115.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12511-5114</td>
<td>Salaries-Perm Other</td>
<td>1,365.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
So that total FY’07 municipal operating budget, as so amended and inclusive of override debt service, shall total $12,438,864, offset by revenues totaling $537,016 leaving an amount to be raised and assessed of $11,901,848.

AND AMENDED UNDER ARTICLE 29 RECONSIDERATION AS follows:

On motion of Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Amend Article 5 following “building repairs $41,000” to read:

So that total FY’07 municipal operating budget, as so amended and inclusive of override debt service, shall total $12,324,364, offset by revenues totaling $537,016 leaving an amount to be raised and assessed of $11,901,848 and an additional amount of $41,000 to be transferred from the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund authorized under Article 4, bringing the total FY’07 budget to $12,365,364.

(See attached letter dated April 26, 2007, from Brian W. Riley, Town Counsel; and memorandum dated April 20, 2007, from Finance Director, Rita Negri regarding Article 5.)

ARTICLE 4 PRIOR YEAR UNPAID BILLS

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Appropriate the sum of $17,623.08 to pay bills incurred in prior years and remaining unpaid:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Category &amp; Vendor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sewer</td>
<td>Electric &amp; Water Bills</td>
<td>$10,781.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Treatment Plant</td>
<td>Electric Bills</td>
<td>$6,841.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
And to meet this appropriation by transferring $17,623.08 from the Water and Sewer Department surpluses.

ARTICLE 5  
FY’08 MUNICIPAL OPERATING BUDGET

On motion made by Mr. Daniel Clasby, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

(1) Raise and appropriate the sum of $11,798,051 for the purposes indicated in the FY’08 Municipal Operating Budget as outlined in the Finance Committee Report, and that, in addition to the $11,798,051, the Town vote to raise and appropriate:

   for Excluded Debt Service............................................................ $ 1,006,935

   for a Total Appropriation of....................................................... $ 13,348,002; and

(2) Transfer from available funds:

   from Free Cash.................................................................................. $ 239,917

   from Free Cash (restricted revenue - Library)................................. $ 30,885

   from Plum Is. National Wildlife Refuge in Lieu of Taxes............. $ 19,224

   from 4% Tourism ............................................................................ $ 689

   from Open Space Recreation Fund (stewardship position).......... $ 26,746

   from Library Construction Grant................................................ $ 60,300

   from the overlay surplus................................................................ $ 104,000

Total Available Funds......................................................................... $ 481,761

Leaving a net to be raised and assessed of..................................... $12,866,241

AND AMENDED UNDER ARTICLE 29 RECONSIDERATION AS FOLLOWS:

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Delete $28,098 from the DPW, Highways Division, and Pavement Management Account #1424-5242.

(See attached letter dated April 26, 2007, from Brian W. Riley, Town Counsel; and memorandum dated April 20, 2007, from Finance Director, Rita Negri regarding Article 7.)
On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Amend its action taken under Article 7 of the April 2, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, (the FY’08 Municipal Operating Budget) by increasing the appropriation thereunder by transferring $177,830 from the Code Enforcement Revolving Fund to the following municipal departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept. #</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Object Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>242</td>
<td>Highways</td>
<td>5242</td>
<td>Road Treatment</td>
<td>$76,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>154</td>
<td>MIS</td>
<td>5816</td>
<td>Microsoft Exchange Server 2003 upgrade</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Five year PC Replacement Program (Year 2)</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>210</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>5818</td>
<td>Cruiser Replacement (1)</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Canon CD4070 Digital Document</td>
<td>$6,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>292</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>5818</td>
<td>Animal Control Truck</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>620</td>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>5816</td>
<td>Playground Equipment</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$177,830</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On motion made by Mr. Jeffrey Leob, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

(1) Raise and appropriate the sum of $18,058,816 for the School Department budget for FY’08, and for the FY’08 School Department budget of $18,058,816, transfer from available funds:

- Free Cash: $239,916
- Plum Island National Wildlife Refuge In Lieu of Taxes: $19,223
- Overlay Surplus: $104,000
- Total Available Funds: $363,139

Leaving a net to be raised and assessed of $17,695,677
ARTICLE 8  HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL DEBT SERVICE

On motion made by Ms. Dianne Ross, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Raise and appropriate the sum of $2,517,428 for FY’08 debt service payments related to the construction and furnishing of the new Middle School and High School including, without limitation, moving expenses and expenses necessary to secure the former Whipple Middle School.

ARTICLE 9  SCHOOL BUDGET AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. Jeffrey Leob, duly seconded, it was

VOTED (50 YES – 29 NO) TO:

Amend its action taken under Article 9 of the April 2, 2007, Annual Town Meeting; (the FY08 School Budget), by increasing the appropriation thereunder and by transferring the sum of $200,000 from free cash to the “Transportation account” account (S9-65-3309-6333) of the Ipswich Public Schools.

ARTICLE 10  WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL BUDGET

On motion made by Mr. Raymond Morley, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Raise and appropriate the sum of $539,935 for the Town's share of the FY’08 annual operating, capital and debt service expenses of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School District.

ARTICLE 11  FY’08 WATER & SEWER BUDGETS

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

(1) Raise and appropriate the sum of $2,398,921 for the FY’08 operating, debt service, and capital expenses of the Water Division, Department of Utilities, said sum to be offset in part by the water surplus of $92,888, the balance of said appropriation to be met by revenues of the Water Division during FY’08; and

(2) Raise and appropriate the sum of $1,549,000 for the FY’08 operating, debt service, and capital expenses of the Wastewater Division, Department of Utilities, said sum to be offset in part by the Wastewater surplus of $94,669, the balance of said appropriation to be met by revenues of the Wastewater Division during FY’08.
ARTICLE 12  

EQUIPMENT BOND

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY 2/3 VOTE (25 YES – 1 NO) TO:

(1) Appropriate the sum of $389,422 to purchase heavy equipment for the Department of Public Works and to fund replacement of the Town’s I-Net (data network); and (2) to raise this appropriation by authorizing the treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or serial notes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, as amended.

ARTICLE 13  

CHAPTER 90

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Appropriate the sum of $328,017 under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws to obtain any materiel, equipment and/or services incidental thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire easements in conjunction therewith by purchase, gift, lease, eminent domain or otherwise; and in furtherance of the project(s), to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend any federal, state and/or private grants without further appropriation; and to meet this appropriation by transferring an equal sum from Chapter 90 available funds.

ARTICLE 14  

CITIZEN PETITION: YOUTH DIRECTOR

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Dorman, duly seconded, it was

VOTED (189 YES – 75 NO) TO:

Appropriate the sum of $28,098 to maintain the position of Youth Director for the Recreation Department in order to continue offering current levels of indoor and outdoor programs for local children in need.

HARBORMASTER BOAT PURCHASE

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

(1) Appropriate the sum of $73,500 to fund the purchase of a new Harbormaster’s boat; and

(2) Transfer the sum of $73,500 from the Waterways Improvement Fund to reimburse the General Fund for the cost of the new Harbormaster’s boat.
ARTICLE 15  REVOLVING FUNDS: COUNCIL ON AGING; HISTORICAL COMMISSION; HEALTH DIVISION; SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Re-authorize for FY’08 the following revolving funds established under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½:

(1) A Council on Aging Revolving Fund, to be funded through activity fees. The COA Fund may be used to pay for special activities, expendable supplies and/or part-time wages. No more than $100,000 may be expended by the Council on Aging from monies transferred into said fund during FY’08; and

(2) An Historical Commission Revolving Fund, to pay for preservation of Town records and the purchase of expendable supplies. No more than $5,000 may be expended by the Historical Commission from monies transferred into said fund during FY’08. The source of funds shall be the sale of publications, such as replicas of the Declaration of Independence and other historical documents; and

(3) A Health Division Revolving Fund, the use of said fund to finance additional part-time help in the Health Division and to pay related expenditures. No more than $7,000 may be expended by the Health Division in FY’07 from such excess funds transferred into said fund during FY’08. The source of funds shall be housing code inspection fees; and

(4) A Shellfish Department Revolving Fund, to be funded through a surcharge of $50 on commercial shellfish licenses, the use of said fund to enhance the shellfish resources of the town under the guidance of the Shellfish Advisory Board and Town Manager. No more than $7,000 may be expended the Shellfish Department Revolving Fund during Fiscal 2008.

ARTICLE 16  COMMITTEE REPORTS

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY A MAJORITY TO:

Accept the reports of, and continue the following committees as standing committees of the Town: the Hall-Haskell Committee; the Athletic Playing Fields Study Committee; the Cable TV Advisory Board; the Commuter Rail Committee; the Community Development Plan Implementation Task Force; the Coastal Pollution Control Committee; the Eight Towns and the Bay Committee; the Government Study Committee; the Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee; the Mosquito Control Advisory Board; the Open Space & Recreation Committee; the Parking Committee; the Ad Hoc Committee examining the Feoffees of the Grammar School; the Ipswich Coalition for Youth; the Public Safety Facilities Study Committee; the Shade Tree and Beautification Committee; the Recreation Committee; the Sandy Point Advisory Committee; the Shellfish
Advisory Board; the Wind Power Committee; the Waterways Advisory Board and the Recycling Committee.

ARTICLE 17 SPECIAL ACT: POLICE CHIEF CIVIL SERVICE

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY A MAJORITY TO DEFEAT:

Authorizing the Board of Selectmen to request a special act of the legislature exempting the Town from Civil Service requirements in hiring a Police Chief subsequent to January 1, 2009.

ARTICLE 18 LIQUEURS AND CORDIALS

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY A MAJORITY TO:

Accept the provisions of Section 2 of Chapter 481 of the Acts of 1993 to permit a common victualer who holds a license to sell liqueurs and cordials in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 138, Section 12.

ARTICLE 19 HIGH STREET SEWER EXTENSION

On motion made by Mr. Daniel Clasby, duly seconded, it was

VOTED (64 YES - 138 NO) TO DEFEAT:

Indefinitely postponing this article.

AND

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY 2/3 VOTE (158 YES – 60 NO) TO:

Approve a sewer extension greater than 500 feet from 201 to 247 High Street consistent with the provisions of town bylaws; and to appropriate $710,000 to survey design and prepare bid documents for and to construct a sanitary sewer extension in the area from 201 to 247 High Street; and to determine that this project shall be subject to betterment assessment at a rate sufficient to recover 100% of said project costs, and the method of calculation shall be by dwelling unit, and to raise this appropriation by authorizing the treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or serial notes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, as amended.
ARTICLE 20 ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT SUB STATION PROJECT

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded, it was

VOTED BY 2/3 VOTE (55 YES – 15 NO) TO:

Appropriate $7 million to survey, design and undertake construction of a new sub station and associated distribution equipment at the Vermette Court Sub Station on property owned by the Electric Department, and to meet such appropriation, by authorizing the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 or any other enabling authority.

ARTICLE 21 WATER PROJECT BOND

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

INDEFINITELY POSTPONE appropriating $1.3 million to survey, design, and construct improvements to the Town’s water distribution system by extending the water main north on Route 1; and to raise this appropriation by authorizing the treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or serial notes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, as amended.

ARTICLE 22 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

To see if the Town will vote: to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55C, establishing a trust to be known as the Ipswich Affordable Housing Trust Fund whose purpose shall be to provide for the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the Town for the benefit of low and moderate income households, and in implementation thereof will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute a Declaration of Trust and Certificate of Trust for the Ipswich Affordable Housing Trust Fund; and to amend Chapter X of the General Bylaws of the Town as follows:

1) Amend “Section 1. Custody of Funds and Securities” by adding, after the words “Park Commissioners”, the following: “, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund trustees,”
2) Rename the paragraphs entitled “Section 1. Custody of Funds and Securities”, “Section 2. Investments and Expenditures of Trust Funds” and “Section 3. Annual Reports”, to “(a)”, “(b)”, and “(c)”, and place all three paragraphs under a new heading, “Section Two. Other Trust Funds”;

3) Add “Section 1. Affordable Housing Trust Fund”, to read as follows:

“Section 2. Affordable Housing Trust Fund

a) There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Ipswich Affordable Housing Trust Fund established by the vote under Article 26 of the Warrant for the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, in this section called “the board”, which shall include five (5) trustees. The trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, after consultation with the Ipswich Housing Partnership. The board shall consist of one member of the Board of Selectmen, at least two members of the Ipswich Housing Partnership, if in existence at the time of appointment, the Town Manager or his designee, and two other members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Trustees shall serve for a term of two years to be appointed for staggered terms.

b) The powers of the board, all of which shall be carried on in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 55C, shall include the following:

(1) to accept and receive property, whether real or personal, by gift, grant, devise, or transfer from any person, firm, corporation or other public or private entity, including without limitation grants of funds or other property tendered to the trust in connection with provisions of any zoning ordinance or by-law or any other ordinance or by-law;

(2) to purchase and retain real or personal property, including, without restriction, investments that yield a high rate of income or no income;

(3) to sell, lease, exchange, transfer or convey any personal, mixed, or real property at public auction or by private contract for such consideration and on such terms as to credit or otherwise, and to make such contracts and enter into such undertaking relative to trust property as the board deems advisable notwithstanding the length of any such lease or contract;

(4) to execute, acknowledge and deliver deeds, assignments, transfers, pledges, leases, covenants, contracts, promissory notes, releases and other instruments sealed or unsealed, necessary, proper or incident to any transaction in which the board engages for the accomplishment of the purposes of the trust;

(5) to employ advisors and agents, such as accountants, planners, appraisers and lawyers as the board deems necessary;

(6) to pay reasonable compensation and expenses to all advisors and agents and to apportion such compensation between income and principal as the board deems advisable;

(7) to apportion receipts and charges between incomes and principal as the board deems advisable, to amortize premiums and establish sinking funds for such purpose, and to create reserves for depreciation depletion or otherwise;
(8) to participate in any reorganization, recapitalization, merger or similar transactions; and to give proxies or
powers of attorney with or without power of substitution to vote any securities or certificates of interest; and to
consent to any contract, lease, mortgage, purchase or sale of property, by or between any corporation and any
other corporation or person;

(9) to deposit any security with any protective reorganization committee, and to delegate to such committee
such powers and authority with relation thereto as the board may deem proper and to pay, out of trust property,
such portion of expenses and compensation of such committee as the board may deem necessary and
appropriate;

(10) to carry property for accounting purposes other than acquisition date values;

(11) to borrow money on such terms and conditions and from such sources as the board deems advisable, to
mortgage and pledge trust assets as collateral;

(12) to make distributions or divisions of principal in kind;

(13) to comprise, attribute, defend, enforce, release, settle or otherwise adjust claims in favor or against the
trust, including claims for taxes, and to accept any property, either in total or partial satisfaction of any
indebtedness or other obligation, and subject to the provisions of this act, to continue to hold the same for such
period of time as the board may deem appropriate;

(14) to manage or improve real property; and to abandon any property which the board determined not to be
worth retaining;

(15) to hold all or part of the trust property uninvested for such purposes and for such time as the board may
deeem appropriate; and

(16) to extend the time for payment of any obligation to the trust.”;

ARTICLE 23

COMBINING AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUNDS

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation, as set forth in Article 26,
relating to transferring the funds and other property held by the Ipswich Affordable Housing Trust Fund,
established by special act in 2004, to the new Trust Fund established by vote of Town Meeting under Article 25
of this warrant.

ARTICLE 24

RIVERWALK BONDS

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:
INDEFINITELY POSTPONE that the Town vote to amend its actions taken under Article 24 of the Warrant for the April 7, 2003, Annual Town Meeting ("Riverwalk Bonds") and Article 22 of the Warrant for the April 5, 2004, Annual Town Meeting (Riverwalk Supplemental Funding) by changing the purpose for which the bonds were to be expended from: "...survey, design, and construct a pedestrian bridge across the Ipswich River, to be located in the area of South Main Street and Union Street, and to obtain any materiel and/or services incidental thereto", to: "...survey, design, and construct a pedestrian bridge across the Ipswich River, to be located in the area of South Main Street and Union Street, and to obtain any materiel and/or services incidental thereto, and further in conjunction with said project, to survey, design, and construct improvements such as crosswalks, landscaping, sidewalks, foot paths, and parking, in the general vicinity of the Riverwalk entrance on South Main Street, and to obtain any materiel and/or services incidental thereto.

ARTICLE 25  DRAINAGE EASEMENT OVER TOWN LAND

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Massachusetts General Court to authorize the Conservation Commission to grant a drainage easement over land owned by the Town at Hood Farm Road, as shown on a plan entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Land, Open Space Preservation (Cluster) for Winchester Commons", prepared by Meridian Engineering, Inc., dated November 17, 2000, revised January 9, and February 9, 2001.

ARTICLE 26  RECONSIDERATION

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded, it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

_Reconsider Article 7, the Municipal Operating Budget for Fiscal Year '08 AND to Reconsider Article 5, FY'07 Town Budget Amendments._

On motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 a.m. on April 3, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMC
Town Clerk
RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN AT THE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2007

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the legal voters of the Town of Ipswich met in the Ipswich High School/Middle School Performing Arts Center in said Town of Ipswich on Monday, October 15, 2007. A quorum being present (241 present – 200 required), the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Mr. A. James Grimes, III, at 7:55 p.m.

Non-registered persons were given permission to attend the meeting as spectators and were seated on the floor to the left of the stage.

ARTICLE 1
FY’07 UNPAID BILLS

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Appropriate the sum of **$53,806.86** to pay unpaid bills incurred in prior years and remaining unpaid:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>VENDOR</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Finance</td>
<td>The Ipswich Center</td>
<td>377.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Ipswich Center</td>
<td>385.91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Orthopedics</td>
<td>40.33</td>
<td>803.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated Maint.</td>
<td>Ipswich Electric</td>
<td>1,642.15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ipswich Water</td>
<td>44.56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ambient Temperature Corp</td>
<td>411.50</td>
<td>2,098.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>Kopelman &amp; Paige</td>
<td>18,719.38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kopelman &amp; Paige</td>
<td>6,896.52</td>
<td>25,615.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Dept.</td>
<td>Call Firefighter</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur Howe</td>
<td>850.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Dept.</td>
<td>Trustees of Reservation</td>
<td>800.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ipswich Electric</td>
<td>110.46</td>
<td>910.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Manager</td>
<td>REW Environmental</td>
<td>18,068.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community News</td>
<td>591.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>389.03</td>
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and to meet this appropriation by raising $50,174.58 from Fiscal 2008 taxes; $389.03 from the Water Division surplus and $3,243.25 from the Municipal Light Department surplus account.

ARTICLE 2

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend its action taken under Article 7 of the April 2, 2007, Annual Town Meeting (the FY’08 Municipal Operating Budget), as amended by Article 8 of the April 2, 2007 Annual Town Meeting, as follows:

1) appropriate $20,000 from the Waterways Improvement Fund to be added to the Harbormaster budget (12952-5432) to fund for the repair and reconstruction of the main platform area at the Town Wharf and the purchase of a gangway and float for the Town Wharf; and

2) appropriate $17,445 from Federal Emergency Management Agency payments to the Town (1110-45801) to be added to the Highway Department - Road Treatment Account (14242-5242) to reimburse the Department for expenses incurred during the April 2007 Nor’easter flood emergency; and

3) transfer $74,600 from Police Department, Ambulance Account (12102-5381) to the Fire Department Overtime account (12201-5131); and

4) transfer $6,000 from the DPW-Equipment Maintenance account (14222-5486) and $14,211 from the DPW-Equipment Maintenance account (14222-5483) to the DPW-Highway account (14243-5818) to fund the purchase of ancillary equipment for the sidewalk snow plow;

And further:

5) transfer $14,665 from the Police Department Ambulance Account (12102-5381) to the Consolidated
Buildings, Town Hall Maintenance Account (14722-5251) to pay for repairs and painting of the exterior woodwork at Town Hall; and

6) appropriate $68,000 to be raised by taxes into the Stabilization Fund.

so that the total Fiscal 2008 municipal operating budget of $13,348,002, as so amended and inclusive of override debt service, shall total $13,385,447.

(See attached memorandum dated October 18, 2007, from Finance Director, Rita Negri, regarding this article.)

ARTICLE 3  
FY’08 SCHOOL BUDGET AMENDMENTS

On motion made by Ms. Joan Arsenault, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend its action taken under Article 9 of the April 2, 2007, Annual Town Meeting (the FY’08 School Operating Budget) as follows:

1) appropriate $73,152 from free cash to the School Department for Medicaid funds deposited into the General Fund during Fiscal 2007; and

2) appropriate $117,675 from the School Insurance Recovery Fund (D-5) to reimburse the School Department for insurance payments for the flooding and ice damage incurred at the Middle School/High School complex and the Winthrop Elementary School in 2007; and

3) appropriate $60,000 from additional Chapter 70 funds added to the Cherry Sheet during the state budget process to the School Department.

so that the total appropriation under this article will increase from $18,058,816 to $18,309,643.

ARTICLE 4  
FY’08 WHITTIER BUDGET AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. Ray Morley, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend its action taken under Article 12 of the April 2, 2007, Annual Town Meeting (the FY’08 Whittier budget) by increasing the appropriation by $4,811 from $539,935 to $544,746 to meet the Fiscal 2008 assessment, said sum to be transferred from taxes.

ARTICLE 5  
FY’08 WATER BUDGET AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:
amend its action taken under Article 13 of the April 2, 2007, Annual Town Meeting (the FY’08 Water Division Operating Budget) by increasing the appropriation to be raised and assessed from $2,398,921 to $2,453,921, said sum to be offset by revenues from the Water Division during FY’08.

ARTICLE 6  CHAPTER 90

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Indefinitely postpone this article.

ARTICLE 7  TOWN CHARTER AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend Sec. 27 of the Town Charter, Estimates of Expenditures, by:

1) changing the date on which the Town Manager is required to submit a draft budget to the Board of Selectmen from “December 10” to “no later than 100 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting”;

and to amend Section 28 of the Town Charter, Annual Budgets, by:

2) changing the date on which the Selectmen are required to submit a proposed budget to the Finance Committee from “January 12” to “no later than 65 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting,” said amendments to the Town Charter to take effect only if they are approved for a second time by the Annual Town Meeting in May 2008.

ARTICLE 8  TOWN BYLAW AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend the Town Bylaws, Chapter V, Section 2a, Consideration of Budgets, from

“It shall be the duty of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to lay before the Finance Committee, on or before January 20th in each year, their budgets and projected expenses for the Town for the year, together with their recommendations for appropriations necessary to provide for the operation of the town government during the year. It shall be the duty of the Electric Commissioners to lay before the Finance Committee, on or before March 1st their projection of income and expenses for the Electric Department for the year…..”

to read:

“It shall be the duty of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to lay before the Finance Committee, no later than 65 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting, their budgets and projected expenses for the Town for
the year, together with their recommendations for appropriations necessary to provide for the operation of the
town government during the year. It shall be the duty of the Electric Commissioners to lay before the Finance
Committee, no later than 65 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, their projection of income and
expenses for the Electric Department for the year…..”;

ARTICLE 9

TOWN BYLAW AMENDMENT

On motion made by Mr. James Foley, duly seconded it was

VOTED BY A VOICE VOTE TO:

amend the Town Bylaws, Chapter II, Section 5, Adjournment, by inserting language at the beginning of the
section to establish an adjournment time for the Annual and Special Town meetings to read:

“Annual and Special Town Meetings shall adjourn normally at 11:00 p.m. A meeting can be extended beyond
11:00 p.m. only to complete action on an article already under consideration. No motion to consider a new
article may be admitted after 11:00 p.m. unless the Moderator secures a vote of the assembly to continue the
meeting to a specific time or to continue until all warrant articles are completed.”

ARTICLE 10

SPECIAL ACT ON SEWER EXTENSIONS

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded it was

VOTED (187 Yes – 102 No) TO:

authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation, as set forth below,
relating to amending Chapter 83 of the Acts of 1999 regarding the method of assessing sewer betterments upon
petition of abutters; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form
only to the bill, said petition to read as follows:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE OPERATION OF THE SEWER SYSTEM OF THE TOWN OF
IPSWICH

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of
the same, as follows:

Section 1. Section 2 of Chapter 83 of the Acts of 1999 is hereby rescinded.

Section 2. Section 7 of chapter 30 of the Acts of 1946 is hereby amended by adding the following sentence:
“Notwithstanding the provisions of the first sentence to the contrary, if the owners of not less than 66 2/3rds per
cent of the land abutting a proposed sewer project, calculated on a basis consistent with the determined method
of betterment of those lots to be served by said project, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws,
Chapter 83, Sec. 15, petition the sewer commissioners for construction of an extension of the sewer system
subject to betterment, the sewer commissioners may assess betterments up to 100 per cent of the cost of such
extension to the sewer system.”

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

ARTICLE 11

CITIZEN’S PETITION: SEWER EXTENSIONS
On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded it was

VOTED BY A MAJORITY TO:

Indefinitely postpone this article.

ARTICLE 12  
STORMWATER BYLAW

On motion made by Mr. Jamie Fay, duly seconded it was

VOTED (108 YES – 72 NO) TO:

Indefinitely postpone this article.

ARTICLE 13  
ENERGY EFFICIENT ZONING

On motion made by Mr. Timothy Purinton, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend the Protective Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Ipswich, as set forth in Article 13 of the warrant for the October 15, 2007 Special Town Meeting as follows:

1) Amend I. **Purpose**, first sentence, by adding, after “to protect, preserve and maintain the existing surface and groundwater supplies …. within the known aquifers of the Town;”, the words “to encourage efficient use and conservation of energy;”;

2) Amend III. **Definitions** by:

   a) Revising definition of “**BUILDING HEIGHT**” by inserting “solar energy collection apparatus” after “…bulkheads, cooling towers, ventilators…”; and

   b) Adding the following definitions in the correct alphabetical order:

   **“SOLAR ENERGY COLLECTION APPARATUS”** – A device or structural design feature, the primary purpose of which is to provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generating, or water heating.

   **WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS (WECS)** – All equipment, machinery and structures utilized in connection with wind-generated energy production and generation, including related transmission, distribution, collection, storage or supply systems whether underground, on the surface, or overhead and other equipment or byproducts in connection therewith and the sale of the energy produced thereby, including but not limited to, wind turbine (rotor, electrical generator and tower), anemometers (wind measuring equipment), transformers, substation, power lines, control and maintenance facilities, site access and service roads.

   **WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, COMMERCIAL** – WECS that are designed or operated to provide less than fifty percent (50%) of its electrical output for use on site.
WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, MUNICIPAL – WECS located on Town-owned or Town-controlled property without regard to the ownership of the structure or equipment.

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, NON-COMMERCIAL – WECS that are designed or operated to provide fifty percent (50%) or more of its electrical output for use on site.

3) Amend V. Use Regulations by:

   a) Revising D. Table of Use Regulations as follows:

      i. Under Principal Uses, Community Facilities, revise the use “Town power plant, wastewater treatment facilities…or waste related facility” by deleting the words “Town Power Plant”;

      ii. Under Principal Uses, Community Facilities, add a new principal use, “Town power plant, including a municipal wind energy conversion system” and insert “SPB17, 26” under each district column in that row;

      iii. Under Principal Uses, Commercial, add a new principal use, “Commercial wind energy conversion system” and insert “SPB17, 26” under each district column in that row;

      iv. Under Accessory Uses, add a new row, “Non-commercial wind energy conversion system”, and insert “SPB26” under each district column in that row;

   b) Add a Footnote “26.” to Footnotes to Table of Use Regulations, said footnote “26.” to read as follows: “26. Subject to the requirements of IX.M. of this zoning bylaw.”;

4) Amend VI. Dimensional and Density Regulations, G. Other General Dimensional and Density Requirements, 2. a. by deleting the word “windmill” and replacing it with the words “wind energy conversion systems”;

5) Amend IX. Special Regulations, by adding a new section, M. Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS), said section to read as follows:

   “M. Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS)

   “1. Purpose.

   The purpose of this section is to encourage the use of wind energy and to minimize the impacts of WECS on the character of neighborhoods, on property values, on the scenic, historic, and environmental resources of the Town; and to protect health and safety, while allowing wind energy technologies to be utilized.

   2. Applicability.

   Municipal and commercial WECS are permitted principal uses and non-commercial WECS are permitted accessory uses, whether they are freestanding or building mounted, provided that they receive a special permit from the Planning Board, and that they confirm to the standards listed below.

   3. Dimensional Requirements.
WECS shall comply with the following dimensional requirements:

a. Freestanding WECS shall not exceed seventy-five (75) feet in height, measured from the average grade to the highest point reached by the blade arc, unless the Planning Board, pursuant to VI.G.2.a. of this bylaw, finds that:

   (1) A greater height does not derogate from the purpose of this section as set forth in 1. above;

   (2) The project proponent has demonstrated that the additional height is needed; and

   (3) The additional benefits of a higher tower outweigh any increased adverse impacts.

b. The maximum blade elevation of a building-mounted WECS at the highest point of blade arc shall be no greater than twenty (20) feet above the existing building height.

c. The minimum blade elevation for all WECS shall be no less than fifteen (15) feet above the ground at the lowest point of blade arc.

d. All WECS shall be set back at a distance equal to not less than one (1) times the overall height of the WECS from the nearest property line or traveled way. The required setback may be reduced by the Planning Board if it determines that a lesser setback will not present a risk to the public welfare nor adversely affect any other purpose of this bylaw.

4. General Standards. The following standards shall apply to all WECS, except for paragraphs a., c., and h., which shall only apply to freestanding WECS:

a. The only type of freestanding commercial or municipal WECS allowed is monopole towers.

b. Climbing access to WECS shall be adequately secured.

c. WECS shall be lighted only if required by the Federal Aviation Administration. Lighting of other parts of WECS, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded from abutting properties.

d. The noise level of WECS and associated equipment, as measured at the property line and nearest residence, shall:

   (1) Be no greater than 10 dBA over the existing ambient noise levels; and

   (2) Conform to Massachusetts noise regulations (310 CMR 7.10). To facilitate the Planning Board’s determination of compliance with this standard, the Applicant shall be required to submit an analysis, prepared by a qualified engineer that demonstrates compliance with these noise standards, as well as consistency with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection guidance for noise measurement, unless the Planning Board finds the manufacturer’s data on noise sufficient to make this determination.
e. Electromagnetic Interference with radio frequency communication, traceable to the operation or location of WECS, shall be limited in accordance with all applicable sections of the Federal Communications Commission specifications.

f. WECS shall be inspected and serviced annually according to the manufacturer’s maintenance manual and will be considered abandoned if not properly maintained for a period of one year or if designated a safety hazard by the Building Inspector.

g. WECS shall be painted a non-reflective color designed to blend with the surrounding environment.

h. All wires associated with WECS shall be located underground.

5. Submission Requirements:

a. A plan indicating the proposed location of the proposed WECS, existing and proposed structures, aboveground utility lines and any other significant features or appurtenances;

b. Structural drawings of the WECS tower, including pad design and guy wire design, if applicable;

c. Drawings and specifications, including noise data, of the generator, hub and blades, electrical support facilities, including transformers, cables and control devices;

d. Drawings indicating method of making tower inaccessible to unauthorized personnel; and

e. An operating and maintenance manual.


a. A special permit shall be granted under this section if the Planning Board finds that each of the general standards set forth above have been met and that the location of the WECS is suitable and that the size, height and design are the minimum necessary for that purpose.

b. The Planning Board shall also impose, in addition to any applicable conditions specified in this section, such conditions as it finds reasonably appropriate to safeguard the neighborhood or otherwise serve the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to: screening, lighting, fences, modification of the exterior appearance of the structures, limitation upon size, method of access or traffic features, parking, removal upon cessation of use or other requirements. Such conditions shall be imposed in writing and the applicant may be required to post bond or other surety for compliance with said conditions in an amount satisfactory to the Planning Board.

c. The Planning Board may require the proponent to provide or pay for professional services to evaluate the proposal to determine the flexibility of geographic location, to analyze the loading capacities of the proposed structures, and to review camouflage and screening techniques.
d. The granting of a special permit for a commercial or municipal WECS shall be conditional upon a finding by the Planning Board that the proposal is in the public interest and provides substantial benefit to the community, the burden of proof which shall rest with the applicant.

e. Before it may approve the installation of a WECS, the Planning Board shall make a finding of fact that the locations of the facilities do not substantially adversely affect the surrounding area.”; and

4) Amend X. Site Plan Review by:

a) Revising C. General Standards by deleting the word “and” from “10.”; adding “; and” to the end of “11.”; and adding a new standard “12.”, to read as follows: “12. Energy, water and resource efficient design, through appropriate building orientation, landscaping and use of resource efficient materials and energy- and water-efficient systems.”;

b) Revising K. Lighting, second sentence, by adding the words “energy-efficient and”, after the words “Lighting shall be”;

c) Revising L. Site Landscaping by adding, at the end of the paragraph, the following unnumbered sentence: “To the extent feasible or practicable, landscaping should be designed in an environmentally sensitive manner with non-invasive drought tolerant plants, so as to reduce irrigation needs and heating and cooling needs.”

ARTICLE 14 EXPANSION OF IN-TOWN RESIDENCE ZONING

On motion made by Mr. Timothy Purinton, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Ipswich by rezoning the area shown on the attached map, which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk and the Department of Planning & Development, from Rural Residence A (RRA) to In-town Residence (IR) as follows:

An area along or near the northerly side of East Street, including lots on Highland Avenue and lower Spring Street, said area containing all or a portion of the following lots:

Assessor’s Map: 31C;

ARTICLE 15 PLANNED COMMERCIAL DISTRICT REVISIONS

On motion made by Mr. Michael Ryan, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:
to amend the Protective Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Ipswich as set forth in Article 15 of the warrant for the October 15, 2007 Special Town Meeting as follows:

(1) Amend “IV. ZONING DISTRICTS, B. Intent of Districts, 6.” by deleting the second and third sentences and substituting in lieu thereof the following sentence: Office and service uses are generally permitted; retail, research and development, enclosed manufacturing, warehousing and other commercial uses require a special permit.”; and

(2) Amend “V. USE REGULATIONS, B. Table of Use Regulations” as follows:

Modify the “PC” column by changing the following prohibitions and allowances: after “Retail establishment selling general merchandise…”, change “P” to “SPB”; after “Mini-storage warehouses”, change “P” to “SPB”; after “Processing and treating of raw materials not enclosed…”, change “SBA” to “-”; after “Enclosed manufacturing or processing”, change “-” to “SPB”; and

(3) Amend “VI. DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS” by:

a) Revising B. Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations, as follows:

• under “District”, within the Planned Commercial row, and after the words “Planned Commercial”, add footnote “31.”

• amend the assigned dimensional requirements shown for the uses within the PC District by deleting the percentage “40” under the Maximum Building Area column and substituting in lieu thereof the percentage “45”; and

b) Adding footnote “31.” to “FOOTNOTES TO TABLE OF DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS,” said footnote to read as follows:

“31. In the PC District, for the purpose of minimizing curb cuts along Route One, the following performance standards shall apply:

a. No new curb cut shall be allowed that is closer than 150 linear feet from any existing curb cut, except as provided in b. or d. below. In addition, new curb cuts on state and local roads shall be discouraged and developers shall be encouraged to seek access via a common driveway serving an adjacent lot or premises.

b. Additional curb cuts shall be prohibited as set forth above; however, in general, one driveway curb cut shall be allowed per business, except that, in the case of a project with multiple businesses on the same premises, two means of ingress and egress shall be allowed and they may be constructed to be less than 150 linear feet apart and separated by a median strip.

c. Curb cuts shall be limited to the minimum width for safe entering and exiting. The Mass Highway Department Project Development and Design Guide, current version, shall be used as a guide for determining adequate traffic design standards for any commercial project.

d. The Planning Board, by special permit, may waive or alter any of the above performance standards, subject to a finding that said changes do not derogate from the intent of the Planned Commercial District.”;
On motion made by Mr. James Manzi, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

amend the Protective Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Ipswich as set forth in Article 16 of the warrant for the October 15, 2007 Special Town Meeting, and amended as follows:

1) Amend “III. DEFINITIONS” as follows:

   a) Revise “MAXIMUM BUILDING AREA” by deleting current title and substituting in lieu thereof “BUILDING AREA”, to be listed in the proper alphabetical sequence, and by deleting the phrase “The sum of the horizontal projection(s) of all buildings or parts thereof on the lot” and substituting in lieu thereof the following: “The area of the footprint of all buildings on a lot, comprised of the sum of all horizontal projections as measured on a horizontal plane”;

   b) Revise the title of the definition “PRIVATE GUEST HOUSE” by deleting current title and substituting in lieu thereof “GUEST HOUSE, PRIVATE”, to be listed in the proper alphabetical sequence; and

(2) Amend “V. USE REGULATIONS”, as follows:

   a) Amend the “TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS” by adding, to the column headings “RRA”, “RRB”, “RRC”, and “IR”, the footnote “16.”; and by deleting the footnote “20.” from the four rows within the RRB District and under the maximum building area column, and adding footnote “20.” to the top of said column, as a footnote to “Maximum building area”;

   b) Amend “FOOTNOTES TO USE REGULATIONS” as follows:

      1. amend Footnote “13.”, first sentence, by deleting the words “five-foot high fence” and substitute in lieu there the words “four-foot high fence”;

      2. revise footnote “16.” by deleting the phrase: “In the Planned Commercial, General Business, Central Business, Highway Business, Industrial, and Limited Industrial Districts,”;

      3. delete footnote “19.” in its entirety, and substitute in lieu thereof the following: “19. Reserved.”; and

(3) Amend “VI. DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS, FOOTNOTES TO TABLE OF DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS” as follows:

   a) Amend Footnote “17.” by adding, at the end of the sentence, the following: “Fences or walls are also exempt from the setbacks established in this Section, subject to the following requirements:
a. For fences that extend beyond the required front yard setback (or the existing principal building, whichever is closer to the street), the building inspector shall have the authority to require that it be open and less than six feet in height. This requirement shall be based on a determination that the proposed fence would create an undue safety or traffic hazard by reason of impeding minimum sight distance requirements as established by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

b. All fences shall be installed so that the finished side faces the abutting properties.

c. A building permit shall be obtained for all fences over six feet in height and for installing any fence four feet in height or greater which extends beyond the required front yard setback (or the existing principal building, whichever is closer to the street).

d. All applications for fence installation shall include a plot plan showing the location of the proposed fencing.

b) Amend Footnote “20.” by deleting the current language in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following: “20. The calculation of building area shall not include temporary structures or buildings, such as temporary tents and screen houses.”

c) Amend Footnote “21.” by adding, prior to the existing sentence, the following:

“When calculating the maximum floor area, the following shall apply:

a. Open sun decks shall not be calculated towards floor area;
b.”; and

(4) Amend “VII. OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REGULATIONS” as follows:

a) Modify “B. Parking Requirements, Table of Minimum Parking Requirements”, by amending use “34. Shopping center” by deleting the words “Five (5) spaces for every 1000 square feet of gross leasable floor area” under the column heading “Required Parking Spaces” and substituting in lieu thereof the words “Four (4) spaces for every 1000 square feet of gross leasable floor area”;

b) Modify “O. Surface, Drainage and Curbing”, first sentence, by deleting the words “asphalt, concrete or similar,”;

(6) Amend “VIII. SIGNS, D. Sign Requirements per Zoning District”, paragraph “8.”, by deleting everything after “increased in size” and substituting in lieu thereof the following: “and number from the requirements of this subsection D., as follows: (a) permitted uses in the non-residential districts that contain only one use in a building may be allowed up to two wall signs, provided that the total square footage does not exceed what is otherwise permitted by more than twenty-five (25%) percent; (b) in no event may the allowable maximum sign sizes be increased by more than fifty (50%)”;

(7) Amend “IX. SPECIAL REGULATIONS, J. Accessory Apartment” as follows:

a) Revise “1. Purpose and Intent”, first sentence, by deleting the words “conforming and”;

b) Revise “2.b.” by deleting the phrase “; and shall be occupied by a maximum of two (2) persons”;

c) Revise “2.g.”, first sentence, by adding the words “, RRB” after the words “In the RRA”;

d) Delete the current language under “2.i.” in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following language: “The record owner of the lot shall reside on the property, in either the principal dwelling or the accessory apartment.”
ARTICLE 17                              STREET ACCEPTANCES

On motion made by Mr. Robert Weatherall, duly seconded it was

VOTED BY A VOICE VOTE TO:

(1) to accept Pitcairns Way as a town street as shown a plan entitled “Street Acceptance Plan Located in Ipswich, MA, Roadway Layout, Pitcairn’s Way,” dated February 23, 2006 and revised August 29, 2006, prepared for BGT Trust by Acres-Engineers, Surveyors, and stamped by Alexander Curcioli, Registered Professional Land Surveyor, on June 1, 2007, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk;

(2) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift an easement to use said street (Pitcairns Way) for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town;


(4) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift an easement to use said street (Cogswell Street Extension) for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town;

(5) to accept Ruth Way as a town street as shown on a plan entitled “Street Acceptance Plan Located in Ipswich, MA”, dated September 21, 2006, prepared for Habitat for Humanity by Meridian Associates, Inc., Donald E. Bowen, Registered Professional Land Surveyor, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk;

(6) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift an easement to use said street (Ruth Way) for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town;

(7) to accept Partridgeberry Place as a town street as shown on a plan entitled “Street Acceptance Plan Located in Ipswich, MA,” dated August 17, 2007, prepared for the Martins Companies by Meridian Associates, Inc., Donald E. Bowen, Registered Professional Land Surveyor, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and

(8) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift an easement to use said street (Partridgeberry Place) for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town.

ARTICLE 18                              PERSONAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

On motion made by Ms. Ingrid Miles, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Indefinitely postpone this article.
ARTICLE 19  
OPEN SPACE PROGRAM – ADDITIONAL PARCEL

On motion made by Mr. Patrick McNally, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

add the following parcel to the Open Space Parcels List (as referenced in Article 18 of the Warrant for the April 3, 2000, Annual Town Meeting) on file in the office of the Director of Planning and Development and in the Office of the Town Clerk, said changes having been placed on file in the office of the Director of Planning and Development and in the Office of the Town Clerk by October 1, 2007:

Land now/formerly of Carol A. Lopes, TE, and Peter Lopes, located at 300 High Street, also known as Assessor’s Map 20A, Parcel 033, consisting of approximately 2.05 acres.

ARTICLE 20  
ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT SUB STATION PROJECT

On motion made by Mr. Edward Rauscher, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

appropriate the sum of $7,500,000 to survey, design and undertake construction of a new sub station and associated distribution equipment at the Vermette Court Sub Station and other improvements to the Town’s electric system, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow $7,500,000 under G.L. c.44, §8 or any other enabling authority to meet this appropriation;

And further move that that the Town Meeting adjourn, after acting on all articles in the warrant, to vote by printed ballot on October 30, 2007, at the YMCA Hall, County Road, the polls being open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. on the following question:

“Shall the Town appropriate the sum of $7,500,000 to survey, design and undertake construction of a new sub station and associated distribution equipment at the Vermette Court Sub Station and other improvements to the Town’s electric system and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow $7,500,000 under G.L. c.44, §8 or any other enabling authority to meet this appropriation?”

ARTICLE 21  
SPECIAL ACT: INCURRING INDEBTEDNESS

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation, as set forth below, relating to amending Chapter II, Section 6 of the Town’s General Bylaws and superseding Chapter 324 of the Acts of 1994 which ratified the current bylaw; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, said petition to read as follows:
AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCURRING INDEBTEDNESS IN THE TOWN OF IPSWICH

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter three hundred twenty-four of the acts of 1994 is hereby rescinded.

Section 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, Section 6 of Chapter II of the Town of Ipswich general bylaws is hereby rescinded and the following provision is inserted in its place:

Section 6. Bond Appropriations

No appropriation to be raised by bonds of the Town of Ipswich, except for an appropriation of an amount of less than one tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the current total equalized valuation of the Town for any purpose, shall be adopted unless the article calling for such appropriation first shall have received a two-thirds majority vote by Town Meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended, after there has been full opportunity for debate on the merits of the said article, and second shall have received a majority vote on a printed ballot. If said article shall have received a two-thirds majority vote of Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen shall forthwith call for a special election for the purpose of voting on such appropriation, said election to be called in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Board of Selectmen may, but are not required to, vote to include a ballot question required by this section on the Town’s annual election ballot, which vote will only be effective if the corresponding Annual Town Meeting has approved the appropriation pursuant to this section. The statement of the purpose of the appropriation shall be substantially the same in the article as in the ballot question.

Section 3. Nothing in this special act shall preclude the right of the Town Meeting to modify Chapter 2, Section 6 of the Town Bylaws without seeking a special act of the General Court.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

ARTICLE 22 RECONSIDERATION

On motion made by Ms. Elizabeth Kilcoyne, duly seconded it was

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO:

Indefinitely postpone this article.

On motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMC
Town Clerk
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Elizabeth Kilcoyne, Chair

Two thousand seven has been a year of goal setting for the Board of Selectmen as well as an evaluation of Ipswich’s financial, organizational and conservation efficiencies. The year began by bringing together the chairs of the neighboring towns to review common needs and areas for potential savings. One outcome is an article on the annual town meeting warrant to initiate inter-municipal agreements for sharing large equipment. We hope that will lead to other collaboration to lighten the jurisdictional lines between towns and allow us to use our collective strength to increase pension fund investments and local revenue options, and decrease health care insurance premiums.

For the first time, the facilities of the town and the schools are being successfully managed by one department. My vision for the future is to have all buildings and land owned by Ipswich under one jurisdiction. This would allow the utilities and the schools to be free of matters outside their core mission. And, we have to continue to work towards eliminating the duplication of administrative functions.

Better communication of Selectmen business has resulted in:

- weekly notification of agendas to Finance Committee, School Committee, town department heads and committee chairs.
- regular communication with chairs of Finance Committee and School Committee to give input and prepare for budgets.
- department heads joining Selectmen during regular Monday meetings to give updates on their goals and to receive feedback from Selectmen.
- creation and monthly review of town expenditure reports at Selectmen meetings
- Department of Revenue reviewing and reporting on the town’s financial operations
- moving town meeting to the second week in May when more accurate financial information is available
• finalization of a Committee Handbook that gives guidance to the wonderful volunteers on the 50 committees that help support and guide our town.

• creation of an opportunity for residents to give feedback to the Selectmen on the town website. We invited residents to respond to specific issues such as the Municipal Partnership Act and affordable housing --and did they ever! There are few shy people in Ipswich.

This year we took major steps in recycling and conservation. I thank and applaud the residents of Ipswich for following the lead of the Recycling Committee and the DPW to save the town over $137,000 in FY’07 and approaching $150,000 in FY’08. The Selectmen have recently approved changes to the trash policy which reduces the number of trash barrels to 3, expands recycling opportunities for businesses and makes recycling mandatory at all public events. The Ipswich Municipal Light Department introduced a conservation program that has already reduced residential electricity use 2.1%. We were projected to increase usage by 7% over the next 10 years, so this is better than a respectable beginning. The program includes home energy audits, appliance rebates, compact fluorescent bulb giveaways as well as the very popular holiday light exchange. Check your monthly bills for conservation updates.

Speaking of bills, electric and water conservation is up, but the rates are not down. The concept of its costing more to conserve is counter-intuitive, but the issue is operational costs. The basic operational costs of the light department are the same whether a family of 4 uses 700 kw/month or 400 kw/month. The basic operational costs of the water department are the same whether an individual uses 65 gallons per day or 50 gallons per day. In addition, the light department is upgrading the substations and transmission lines to prevent the interruption of service, and the water department is replacing 100-year-old pipes downtown that were originally projected to last for 50 years.

Public Safety Departments statewide have been challenged with increasing overtime expenses. Our Police and Fire Chiefs successfully worked with the Selectmen and Town Manager to manage/reduce overtime and this effort will continue in FY’09, as each of their overtime budgets have been reduced by $20,000. Thank you.

We have a new ambulance company in town, Action Ambulance. By bidding this service, the town saved $180,000 and gained a full-time basic life-support ambulance at Linebrook Station. We have also reviewed the three-tier response by our public safety personnel and have an educational report for town meeting. At the fall town meeting, we voted to ask the state legislature to approve amendments to Ipswich’s sewer extension regulations. The percentage has been lowered from 75% to 66-2/3% and allows Ipswich to determine the betterment method.

The town purchased 85.5 acres of land on Great Neck to preserve the beauty of our coastal community. A walking path is being constructed for the adventurous.

The Feoffees of the Grammar School in Ipswich and the Ipswich Public Schools had a difficult year with negotiations about rental costs on Little Neck. As a result the schools, which are the beneficiaries of the Feoffees trust, received no funds in FY’07 after receiving $573,000 in FY’06.

During 2007, Ipswich reached its annual goal of approved affordable housing units in our state plan. This allows us to delay any unfriendly 40B project by one year. We also revisited the Powder House Village project, 48 units of affordable rental units and 3 commercial units in front of the YMCA. The town voted to identify an alternative solution to this development. An advisory group to the Selectmen met with the Y to encourage them to downsize the project. In the end, tax credits were such a large part of the financial model that fewer units would have made the project financially unachievable.
A huge debt of gratitude goes to our good neighbors EBSCO and Institution for Savings. EBSCO donated fiber optic cables to the town which saved us over $200,000. Ipswich finally has a modern communication system among all buildings in town, including the police, schools, and utilities. Institution for Savings donated $150,000 for an all purpose athletic playing field on Mile Lane. The field will be shared by both school and town leagues.

We celebrated the opening of the Riverwalk Bridge which has resulted in many opportunities for business and pleasure for both residents and visitors.

Ipswich is joining the growing alternative energy industry in MA. In a collaborative effort with the schools, the light department will lead the wind turbine effort at the Transfer Station. The town will vote on this project on May 20th.

We’ve had many retirements this year, and we thank these employees for their expertise and commitment to Ipswich. Employee retirements have also allowed new employees to join us and we wish them well. The Selectmen voted unanimously to reappointment Town Manager, Bob Markel, which assures continuity of goals and direction.

Finally, we said farewell to John “Jack” M. Pickard, a former Selectmen and Acting Town Manager. It has been a pleasure to work with Ingrid Miles as the Vice Chair this year and the other selectmen, Pat McNally, Jim Foley and Ed Rauscher. Working together has been positive, respectful, productive and open to rethinking business-as-usual.

I thank the residents of Ipswich for allowing me to lead the best town in the world.

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TOWN MANAGER
Robert T. Markel

The overarching challenge in Town government during 2007 was to maintain high quality services while coping with a declining revenue base. State aid constitutes 19% of the Town’s revenue, and both school aid and aid for general government from the Commonwealth are continuing the downward pattern of the last six years. The response of the Selectmen and Town Manager in 2007 was to continue implementing the recommendations of a comprehensive report of all Town departments and services adopted in October 2006. The report was focused on streamlining services and saving tax dollars. Recommendations included some reductions in personnel, restructuring of certain services, long term financial planning, energy conservation, increased use of technology and competitive bidding for all contracted services. The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager have adopted additional objectives since October 2006 to encourage regional cooperation and increased collaboration and consolidation among municipal departments and the public schools.

Long term financial planning was emphasized in 2007. The Town Manager prepared a long term financial trend analysis, a five year capital improvements plan and an update for the twenty year vehicle replacement schedule. A program for multi-year revenue forecasting will be completed in 2008.

Expanding the use of technology within town government fits with our goal of improving services and reducing costs. The Assessor’s office reduced a full time position to half time during the past year because residents and businesses are making greater use of technology to access information from the Assessors office. The ultimate goal for our technology program is to offer “24 hour government” where the citizen can have access to a broad range of information and services over the town website. All town departments are being encouraged to enable electronic permitting, registrations and bill paying.
During 2008, the Utilities Department will enable ACH and web-based payments for water, sewer and electric bills. Ipswich residents can obtain a beach sticker and pay real estate and auto excise taxes online. Online transactions are not only more convenient, the cost of electronic transactions is significantly lower than coming to Town Hall and conducting business at the counter.

The Town Manager and Selectmen have adopted a policy of regular competitive bidding for all contracted services. Bidding our building and liability insurance saved $176,000 in 2006. In ’07, the ambulance contract was competitively bid resulting in a savings of $180,000 in the budget. We are currently engaged in competitive bidding to provide legal services for the Town.

With energy costs rising steadily, the Selectmen and Town Manager have given priority to fuel and electricity saving measures. When possible, new vehicles purchased by Town departments will be either hybrids or fuel efficient. No large SUVs will be purchased, and existing SUVs will be traded for smaller vehicles as funding permits.

The Utilities Department purchased its second hybrid vehicle during 2007, and a car sharing arrangement was implemented for Town Hall departments. Energy savings improvements to Town and School buildings are continuing, and in 2008, a major program to replace the 72 year old windows at Town Hall will begin. Lastly, the Electric Light Department has adopted a program of “demand management” as an alternative to simply purchasing more electric power, and the Light Department is cooperating with the Ipswich Public Schools to construct a wind turbine electric generator (wind mill) at the end of Town Farm Road.

The recycling campaign was a solid success during 2007. The budget for collection and incineration of trash exceeds $900,000, making it the second most expensive item in the Town operating budget.

Recycling is far less costly than hauling trash to an incinerator and paying a “tipping fee,” so the Selectmen, Town Manager and the Department of Public Works joined together with a citizen-based Recycling Committee to promote awareness and increase the percentage of recycled materials in the Town’s solid waste stream. This initiative is a resounding success resulting in a reduction in the solid waste expenses of $137,000 during 2007.

Other activities and initiatives of the Town Manager during 2007 include: 1) monthly meetings with the downtown business community known as the Economic Roundtable; 2) work with the Cable Advisory Committee to expand and improve the quality of broadcasts of Town Meetings, the Selectmen’s meetings and to expand cable programming to include the Finance Committee, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission meetings; 3) continuing work with the Public Safety Facilities Committee to develop a plan to renovate and expand the Central Fire Station; and 4) working with the Ipswich School Department to identify areas where consolidation of functions can save taxpayer money. The consolidated Facilities Management Department was reinvented in 2007, and it has become a successful example of the advantages of School/Town cooperation. Efforts are currently underway to consolidate all purchasing town wide.

Lastly, some long term employees of the Town retired in 2007. Officer Charles Schwartz and administrative assistant Elise Graves retired from the Police Department. In the Selectmen/Town Manager office, Assistant Purchasing Agent, Jane Spellman retired after 25 years with the Town. Pat Ayers and John Messlar and retired from the Utilities Department.

William Hodge succeeded Joseph Lucido as Facilities Manger in August, 2007. Gavin Keenan was appointed Chief of Police in September, and Michael Tullercash, Mark Ruggiero and Patrick Carlin were sworn in as police officers. Sarah Stanton was appointed Assistant Purchasing Agent and Special Assistant to the Town Manager in October, and Karen Repucci began her duties as Assistant Town Accountant in November. Donald
Stone was appointed Wiring Inspector in the Code Enforcement Department, and Arnold Thistlewood replaced Phil Kent as Shellfish Constable in August.

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SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE TOWN MANAGER
ASST. PURCHASING DIRECTOR
RISK MANAGEMENT
Sarah A. Stanton, Special Assistant to the Town Manager

The Purchasing Office employee oversees and monitors all department procurements with the exception of the day to day expenditures of the Electric Department and School Department; puts out to bid expenditures in excess of $25,000 for goods and services for all departments except the School Department; and bids construction contracts for all departments except the School Department, all in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.

The Purchasing Office oversaw all Workers Compensation long-term cases and reported all Town and School employee injuries. All property and casualty insurance claims received were reported to the Town’s insurance carrier. Insurance renewals were processed, policies received, and vehicle, equipment and computer inventories maintained.

Safety Concern and Suggestion Forms are made available and are still occasionally used by employees and citizens. Each concern is addressed and responded to.

The Purchasing Office is also responsible for the compiling, editing, printing and distribution of this Annual Town Report.

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Chief of Police: Gavin J. Keenan

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year 2007 can best be characterized as a year of continued transition and change for the Police Department. Many thanks are due Acting Chief Daniel Moriarty who moved the Department forward and kept us focused throughout a very difficult period. Personnel changes included Officer Charles Schwartz and Department Secretary Elise Graves who both retired in October. Ms. Graves was replaced by Ms. Susan Burns, formerly of the Accounting Office. Following several years of the retirements of other veteran officers, efforts were made to properly train and deploy their replacements. In February Officers Daniel Kmiec, Joseph Perna, Eric Copithorne, Matthew Bodwell, and Edward Gallivan all graduated from the Basic Police Recruit Academy in Reading and joined the Department as permanent patrolmen. In July Mark Ruggiero joined the staff after several years of full time experience with the Rowley Police Department. In addition, both Michael Tullercash and Patrick Carlin entered the recruit academy in September. They joined the Department as permanent officers in February 2008. Ms. Cathy Hovey joined the communications staff and also serves as a Police Matron. Finally, a permanent Chief of Police was appointed, and the position of Deputy Chief was eliminated and replaced with a Civil Service Lieutenant.
As the statistics below indicate, the Police Department had a very active year. The Police log reflected a total of 12,933 calls for police services in 2007. Calls for service, medical aids, and alarm activations showed a noticeable increase over the previous year. In addition, reports of suspicious activity to the police rose by 11%, suggesting an increased willingness on the part of the citizenry to notify the Police Department of these incidents. This is a trend that we encourage, for the safety of our community cannot be maintained without the active participation of its members.

Equipment upgrades to the Department included a new Enhanced 911 phone system which allows the communications staff to pinpoint the approximate location of a cell phone caller as well as the exact location of a hard line call to our emergency lines. In addition the Department upgraded the in house computer system to allow for greater efficiency in report writing and record keeping. New cardiac defibrillators were added to the patrol fleet. Department personnel were also rearmed with Smith and Wesson pistols, replacing the aging Beretta side arms which were beginning to malfunction. The Departments web site has been upgraded and citizens are encouraged to visit at www.ipswichpolice.org.
In order to maintain a high level of skill and professional standards, the Department continued to provide training opportunities to the staff throughout the year. In addition to in-service and first aid training, officers were provided intensive training in the new firearms systems, as well as training in less-lethal defensive weapons and tactics. Detectives completed Fire and Criminal Investigation training. We continue our long standing relationship with the Ipswich Public Schools through deployment of a School Resource Officer and DARE Officer. As we look forward to 2008 the Department continues to work closely with other Town Departments and agencies in an effort to solve problems and better serve the citizenry.

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IPSWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Arthur Howe III
Fire Chief

2007 was another year of change and challenge for the Ipswich Fire Department highlighted by the change in ambulance service provided to the town and the devastating fire on Market Street in July. A number of the highlights for this year would include the following:

1) The change on July 1, 2007 from Lyons Ambulance to Action Ambulance as our ambulance provider following a bid process,

2) The two alarm fire on July 13 on Market Street that heavily destroyed the Ipswich News Company,

3) The appointment of the Fire Chief as the Town’s Emergency Management Director on March 1, 2007,

4) Adoption of a new emergency notification system for Ipswich residents and business’ through the ConnectCTY system,

5) Ipswich Firefighters received training in ice rescue, flashover, and trench rescue awareness through the MA Dept. of Fire Services,
6) Major Nor’easter storm in April involving coastal flooding that cut off Great Neck and Little Neck during flood tides over several days,

7) Firefighters Sean Cronin, Jeff Stone, Brett Emerson, and Dan Terry all became certified Emergency Medical Technicians.

8) Joint monthly meetings of fire and building departments started July 2007,

9) Monthly car seat inspections started in August by Firefighter Anne Kereghan,

10) During October, extensive upgrade work done at the Linebrook station through Facilities Services,

11) Numerous fire grants submitted for by Lt. Theriault, department approved for several, and fire prevention grant submitted for by FF. Carlson and approved.

The department will continue to progress in a dynamic, rapidly changing environment, one that continues to hold life safety as the highest priority, whether responding to medical emergencies or other emergency calls. We continue to be challenged in a society where firefighters are responsible for far more than firefighting and are handling more alarms than ever before, often with limited staffing. Slowly, we are seeing an increasing reliance on mutual aid to and from other communities, but they (or we) are often 5-15 minutes away, those first few minutes usually being the most critical.

With all that we do on behalf of the community, high standards of customer service will continue to be emphasized, both within the department and outside the department with the citizens, business community, and visitors. If we have provided excellent service, I would appreciate knowing that. If, for any reason, we have failed to provide excellent service, I would respectfully request your comments at firechief@town.ipswich.ma.us or 978-356-6627. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to raise the professional standards for this department. Most importantly, thank you to the men and women of the Ipswich Fire Department for the service they provide to our community.

Statistics: Calls for service: 1894, broken down as follows:

- Structure fires: 22
- Other fires: 23
- Medical/rescue: 715
- False alarm: 297
Mutual aid: 25  
Hazardous materials: 61  
Other hazardous responses: 155  
Miscellaneous responses: 596

Calls by district: Intown/downtown: 595  
Neck: 128  
High Street: 187  
Topsfield Road: 156  
County Road: 393  
Linebrook Road: 213

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ANIMAL CONTROL
Matt Antczak, Animal Control Officer  
Girard Martin, Assistant Animal Control Officer

In 2007, the new Ipswich T.N.R. (Tag, Neuter, and Release) Program caught 76 cats and kittens. Only (3) three of those cats had to be released due to their behavior, the rest were found happy homes. Our Safe cat program is still going strong, informing all about why it really is best to keep cats indoors. Animal Control articles are fewer but still appear in the Ipswich Chronicle. These articles contain useful information about wildlife, regulations, programs, and other information that the general public could find helpful.
The Ipswich Humane Group shares use of the animal shelter where all lost pets are kept for a period of ten days. After this period the humane group works to find them a new home. This is the great service to both the Town and the animal population.

The following is a list of the different calls this department responded to for the calendar year of 2007.

Calls on dogs:
82---picked up  
147----reported loose  
16—impounded  
5----adopted  
2----hit by cars  
87----barking complaints  
9-----dog bites  
9-----quarantine orders  
1-----dog euthanized for killing another dog, with a second dog given court ordered restrictions including banishment from Ipswich.

Calls on cats:
213—picked up  
17-----reported lost  
211----adopted  
28-----hit by car  
91-----reported stray or wandering  
39-----quarantines ordered
The Department issued 2135 dog licenses in 2007. We had 113 wild animals hit by cars with deer causing the most in property damage. Thirty cats or dogs were also hit by cars. There were 7 seal calls, 1 specimen sent to the rabies lab with a negative result, 98 barn inspections, and over 5980 calls to the Animal Control Office. We also released 3 T.N.R. cats back to their environments. Mr. Gary Martin began his first year as Assistant Animal Control Officer. The Ipswich Humane Group is noted for twenty-five years of service to the community. The Department received a new Animal Control vehicle in 2007 which was both needed and greatly appreciated.

HARBORS DEPARTMENT
Gavin Keenan, Chief of Police
Sgt. Thomas Colpitts, Harbors Supervisor
Officer James Zabelski, Assistant Harbormaster

The 2007 boating season began with the purchase of a new 23’ Parker Patrol Boat for the Harbor Patrol. This purchase was made possible through the efforts and generous support of the Waterways Advisory Committee. This boat replaced the aging 1991 Boston Whaler and went into service in July. The Department thanks the members of the Waterways Advisory Committee for their many years of continued support and wise counsel.

With a busy boating season, the Harbor Patrol Boat and Jet Ski Patrol responded to a number of calls for service. These included medical aids, reports of irresponsible operation, boats sinking, and one report of a person overboard. Valuable assistance in many of these matters was received by the Ipswich Fire Department Rescue Boat and Crane Beach personnel.

The pump out boat, completing its eight season, continues to be a valuable contribution to the cleanliness of our waterways. This service is free to all boaters, and works in conjunction with a similar service offered by the Town of Rowley. In 2007, the pump out boat removed a total of 3965 gallons of effluent from area watercraft.

Both long time Harbor Patrol Officers Charles Schwartz and Dock Master Phil Lycett retired at the end of the boating season. They will both be missed, and the Department thanks them for their many long years of dedicated service. Officer Schwartz will be replaced by veteran officer James Zabelski, who will bring his knowledge of the waterways to the service of the community.

704 Mooring Permits Issued
496 In State Daily Launch Permits
59 Out of State Daily Launch Permits
172 In State Seasonal Launch Permits
2 Out of State Seasonal Launch Permits
Total Launch fees Collected: $9,355
Mooring Permit Fees Collected: $47,572

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SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT
Arnold “Pick” Thistlewood – Shellfish Constable

In August of 2007 Phil Kent retired as Shellfish Constable following 24 years of dedicated service. In the course of his career, Phil has earned the respect and admiration of the community and shellfish industry, as well as that of his fellow Shellfish Constables and members of the State and Federal Agencies with whom he worked with so closely.

The trend of increasing clam harvests noted in recent years continued into 2007. This is due primarily to a favorable seeding of clams which occurred several years ago. This year’s summertime Red Tide closure was unusually short, lasting from June 20th through June 27th. Rainfall closures accounted for an additional 109 lost digging days. The Shellfish Department works in close association with neighboring Shellfish Constables, other Town Departments, and the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries in water quality and shellfish bed monitoring. This ensures that our shellfish remains safe for the consumer, and that this valuable resource will be preserved for the future.

**Licenses Issued:**

**Recreational**

Resident Family: 156
Non-Resident: 194
Residents: 95
Total: 445

**Commercial**

Commercial: 126
Over 70 (Free): 15
Total: 141

**Estimated Harvests:**

Individual Oysters: 5,122
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORATE
Robert C. Gravino, Director

The Public Works Department is a customer focused service organization, dedicated to maintaining and improving the town’s infrastructure through the efforts of a professional town work force, outsourced contracting, and engineering consultants. With that as our mission, Public Works incorporates an on-going review of what we do and how we do it, with the intent of delivering high quality service to our customers and enhancing the quality of life in our diverse community. Customer focus, continuous process improvement, human resource development, and resource management are the keys to our success.

Public Works accomplished or is working on the following items in support of our mission:

- Alignment of Public Works budgets, activity, and resources with the expectations and goals of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen.
- Provide technical input to Town boards and commissions on special permits, subdivisions, site plan reviews, and commercial and residential development that impact on Public Works’ Operations and Maintenance (O&M) responsibilities and budget.
- Implemented Year 4 of the Stormwater Management Plan to comply with the Phase II Stormwater Rule Regulations of the Federal Clean Water Act.
- Established a work order system for all Public Works Divisions.
- Developed and implemented Operation and Maintenance plans for existing water quality structures installed for storm water management.
- Establish a Federal Railroad Administration Quiet Zone to maintain a quiet zone designation for all public railroad crossings in Ipswich. Quiet zones are railroad crossings where trains will not blow warning horns upon approach.
- Use a pavement management plan to identify and schedule those roads most in need of roadway improvement and maintenance.

HIGHWAY DIVISION

During the warmer months, the focus is on outdoor construction projects, where personnel skills and heavy equipment produce significant infrastructure repairs and improvements to roads, sidewalks, public facilities, and storm water structures. A work order system was implemented in 2007 to prioritize, schedule, and track tasks.

FORESTRY DIVISION

The focus of the Forestry Division in 2007 was on the maintenance of town trees along public ways and in town cemeteries, parks, and open space. The Forestry budget is reimbursed by the Utilities Department for line clearing done for the Electric Light Division.

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE DIVISION
Closer inspection and additional preventive maintenance of vehicles extends the service life and reduces the maintenance costs of a public works fleet. The equipment maintenance facility at the Public Works Garage on County Road does not provide the level of maintenance required to adequately achieve this goal. Efforts are underway to fund a design for a replacement Public Works facility, including a vehicle maintenance and repair shop and indoor wash facility.

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TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station accepts yard waste, specifically grass clippings, leaves, brush, and small branches, and is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8:00 AM until 3:30 PM. A 30 cubic yard covered roll-off dumpster has been placed at the Transfer Station to accept cardboard and recyclable paper from residents and businesses. White goods, electrical appliances, and televisions and computer monitors are disposed of curbside by the Town’s trash contractor through the purchase of a $25 sticker, available at the Public Works office in Town Hall. The Transfer Station is operated by members of the Highway Division.

Public Works’ Special Collections are conducted twice yearly at the Transfer Station. We accept oil based paints and related products, car batteries, fluorescent bulbs, and tires. The fall collection is held in conjunction with the Health Department’s Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day to better serve residents.

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SANITATION

Each pound of recyclable material that is diverted from the trash stream results in a reduction of our trash costs, since the Town is charged a fixed fee for pickup of recyclables and a tipping fee for every pound of trash collected. The total tonnage of solid waste picked up in calendar year 2007 (4220 tons) decreased by 203 tons over that collected in 2006 (4423 tons), a decrease of 5% and a savings to the town of $18,700.

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SNOW AND ICE OPERATIONS

The winter of 2006/2007 was a challenge for both Town employees and contractors who worked to keep the roads, public sidewalks, schools, and town parking lots safe and passable. The cost for snow and ice operations exceeded the budgeted amount by $150,684.

Access for emergency response vehicles is the first priority for Town crews during snow and ice operations. Snow removal from sidewalks in close proximity to schools is also a high priority after roadways are cleared. students walking to school.

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PLANT & FACILITIES OPERATIONS

William A. Hodge, Sr., Director of Facilities

This report contains only the actions of the Facilities Department accomplished since my taking over at the end of August 2007.

In addition to the daily operations of the department in addressing the daily functions and problems of the Town’s physical plant, we have made several upgrades to the facilities. Electrical upgrades to provide more and safer power in addition to improving the energy efficiency has been completed in the Public Library, Linebrook Fire Station, Police Station, Cemetery office and the Pound.
A renovation of the Fire Station at Linebrook included installation of a shower and restroom for female occupants, rebuilding of the men’s room and shower on the first level, roof repairs, energy efficient lighting, new doors, carpeting, new ceilings and painting throughout. Plumbing and HVAC improvements have been completed in the Library, Town Hall and Police Station.

Town Hall was painted on the exterior and interior, the gym ceiling was replaced, minor electrical upgrades were made, storm windows repaired and closed, and HVAC upgrades occurred. Painting of the Town Hall, High School/Middle School, and Doyon School parking lots was completed.

In the coming year, the Facilities Department has plans to improve the appearance and working and living conditions of the buildings within the Municipal Complex, with main focus on the Police and Fire Departments.

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CEMETERIES/PARKS DEPARTMENT
James Graffum, Superintendent

We are responsible for the care and maintenance of nine cemeteries and seven parks, plus all town commons, the Ipswich resident side of Crane Beach and boardwalk, and Pavilion Beach. In addition, we maintain all town-owned open space, Strawberry Hill, and the Dow Brook Conservation area located on High Street near the Ipswich-Rowley line.

During the winter season, as weather permits, Bakers Pond and the rink at Bialek Park are plowed off to accommodate skaters.

We also assist civic groups in the many activities that take place throughout the year as well as supply aid to the Public Works Department in snow removal, sanding operations, and any other emergency situations as needed.

We also aid the Town Clerk in setting up voting equipment at the polls, and tables, etc for the semi-annual Town Meeting.

This past year a new ride-on tractor with attachments was purchased; new chain link fencing was installed at Locust Grove Cemetery along Town Farm Road; and the electrical service in the Cemetery Office and garage facilities was recently upgraded.

There were one hundred interments in 2007.

Revenue
Chapel Tent: 1575.
Foundations: 5834.
Openings: 37600.
Perpetual Care: 6750.
Sale of Lots: 8100.
TOTAL: $ 59859.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category / Construction</th>
<th># of Permits</th>
<th>Total Fees</th>
<th>Value of Work</th>
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<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>$41,416.00</td>
<td>$5,812,380.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attached Accessory</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>$15,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Occupancy</td>
<td>61</td>
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<td>$00.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial – New</td>
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<td>$2,060,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial – Alter.</td>
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<td>$20,210.00</td>
<td>$2,854,128.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decks &amp; Porches</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>$2,636.00</td>
<td>$238,225.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demo &amp; Reconstruct</td>
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<td>Demolition</td>
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<td>Fence</td>
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<td>$110.00</td>
<td>$11,300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-Family Dwelling</td>
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<td>$50,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remodel/Alteration</td>
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<td>$29,582.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repair</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$2,238.00</td>
<td>$190,940.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roofs, Siding, Windows</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>$19,191.25</td>
<td>$2,335,023.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Family Attached</td>
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<td>$10,625.00</td>
<td>$1,500,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Family Dwelling</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$8,630.00</td>
<td>$1,215,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sign</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$1,550.00</td>
<td>$44,675.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stove</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>$970.00</td>
<td>$37,354.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Pools</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$2,206.00</td>
<td>$242,893.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tents</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$170,687.59</strong></td>
<td><strong>$22,649,081.03</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Plumbing</th>
<th>Total Fees</th>
<th>Gas</th>
<th>Total Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>233</td>
<td>16,410.00</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>10,100.00</td>
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</table>

Please remember that building permits are required for not only new construction, but for repairs and replacement of existing structures, decks, sheds, signs, & fences also.

A new Massachusetts Building Code for 1 & 2 Family Dwellings (7th Edition) became effective 1/1/08 with many new and substantial changes and requirements. Some have vast impact on snow and wind loads and several new state licenses have been created.
If you have any question about whether your project may require a building permit, please call our office at 978-356-6605.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Colleen Fermon, Health Agent

Following is the yearly report of activities for 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licenses and Permits Issued</th>
<th>Health and Inspection Investigations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Service</td>
<td>Food Service Inspections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Food</td>
<td>Housing Inspections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterer</td>
<td>Percolation Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Food</td>
<td>Deep Hole Observations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Food</td>
<td>Septic System Inspections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen Desserts</td>
<td>Swimming Pool Inspections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal System Permits</td>
<td>Surface Water Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Haulers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Haulers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Septic Installers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic System Inspectors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Pools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Camps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Practitioners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Establishments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanning Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motels</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funeral Directors</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottling</td>
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Community Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immunization and Clinics</th>
<th>Public Health Follow-up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Influenza</td>
<td>Lyme Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia</td>
<td>Camphylobactor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetanus</td>
<td>Legionellosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Well Elderly Clinics</td>
<td>Salmonellosis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Babesiosis</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cryptosporidiosis</td>
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<td>LTBI</td>
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<td>TB</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Streptococcus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pertussis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Current Board of Health Members: Susan Hubbard, Chairperson, Spencer Amesbury and Charles Hill. Carl Hiltunen resigned from the Board of Health in September 2007 and Charles Hill was appointed to the Board in October 2007.

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Robert A. Gambale Chairman

In 2007, a total of thirty-four petitions were submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals; eighteen special permit requests, all were granted, but one withdrawn and one dismissed; fourteen variance requests, all but one were granted and one withdrawn; one appeal of the Building Inspector’s decision, was upheld.

One Comprehensive Permit was submitted under MGL Chapter 40B for KC, LLC Green Meadows at 15&31 Locust Road and 30&34 Town Farm Road for forty residential condominium townhouses, ten affordable units. The public hearing review process continues into 2008.

The Supreme Judicial Court dismissed litigation of the House Village under Chapter 40B, to develop forty-eight affordable residential rental units in two buildings at 108 and 112 County Road.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is five-member adjudicatory body appointed by the Board of Selectman. Member Roger LeBlanc and Alternate Member Robert Bodwell were re-appointed. Alternate member Timothy Perkins was appointed as a full member to fill the position vacated by Dana Jordan.

The Board extends its appreciation and thanks to Dana Jordan for his for many years of outstanding service to the town; he submitted his resignation in July.

The Board welcomes a new alternate member Robert L. Tragert who was appointed by the Selectman in September.

The Board extends appreciation to Jim Sperber, Code Enforcement Officer and his Assistant Eric Colville and Marie Rodgers, Administrative Assistant for their support.
The Department of Planning & Development is responsible for guiding the development and conservation of land in the Town of Ipswich, both through the regulatory process and through the development and implementation of long-range plans. It does this in part by providing support and guidance for each of the boards and commissions within its directorate: the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, and the Affordable Housing Partnership (reports on their activities are given below). The Department also provides support to the Open Space Committee, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, the Design Review Board and various ad hoc committees.

Listed below are some of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in 2007:

- In conjunction with the CDP Task Force, drafted a proposed amendment to the Community Development Plan (CDP) to provide a greater emphasis on sustainability, green design and resource efficiency. The proposed amendment encourages waste reduction, recycling and the development and use of renewable energy sources in the interest of making Ipswich a more ecologically sustainable community.

- Entered into a purchase and sale agreement with the Estate of Eugene Lynch for the acquisition of 19.2 acres of land on Linebrook Road, most of which is within the watershed of the Bull Brook Reservoir, and over a third of which is used for agricultural purposes. The closing is slated to occur in the winter of 2008. The purchase price will be $975,000, but by obtaining a state water supply protection grant the Department was able reduce the Town’s total cost by 50%, or $487,500;

- Under the direction of the Stewardship Coordinator, undertook a variety of stewardship efforts, including: organized spring clean up at three conservation properties as part of Town wide event; coordinated establishment of parking spaces, trail entrance and sign installation at Shady Creek Conservation area off Colonial Drive; and, with the involvement of the Athletic Fields Study Committee, coordinated the completion of new field construction at Mile Lane, made possible by a generous donation from the Institution for Savings;

- Drafted four zoning articles for fall town meeting, all of which were adopted (for more on these articles, see Planning Board report below);

- Through the efforts of a graduate student team, prepared an analysis of the state’s 40R housing program and its appropriateness for Ipswich. The analysis, which included an evaluation of various parcels in the downtown, concluded that 40R might indeed be an appropriate development approach for Ipswich, especially if developers take the lead on a specific project.
Assisted the recently-established Design Review Board with the development of draft design guidelines and with its review of the proposed expansion/renovation of the Ipswich Shopping Plaza on High Street.

In cooperation with the Riverwalk Committee, organized the June 16th dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the $1.5 million Riverwalk project.

This past summer the Department was fortunate to have the services of Tufts graduate student Erin Heacock, who in her role as summer intern provided valuable assistance on various planning initiatives, including the zoning article revisions and the Town’s submittal of the 2008 Commonwealth Capital Application. In December of this year the Department said farewell to David Koonce, who left after serving as the Open Space Program Manager for the past 2 ½ years. We wish David well in his future endeavors.

PLANNING BOARD
Tim Purinton, Chair
Jim Manzi, Co-Chair

Despite a slowdown in overall development applications, 2007 was another active year for the Planning Board. The Board’s membership continued to evolve. Members John Soininen and Emily Levin both left the Board to pursue new career opportunities. Their active service and valued contributions will be greatly missed. The Board welcomed new members Brian Hone and Cathy Chadwick (associate) upon their appointment by the Town Manager. In the fall, Jim Manzi assumed the role of Co-Chair, serving in this role with fellow Co-Chair Tim Purinton. Longstanding members Bob Weatherall and Mike Ryan continued their service as full Board members.

PLANNING MATTERS

The Board continues to promote appropriate and context-sensitive planning in an ongoing effort to enhance and preserve Ipswich’s unique community character. This was epitomized by the Board’s two major initiatives in 2007:

Community Development Plan Amendment. Held a public hearing in the fall on a draft amendment to the Town’s Community Development Plan (CDP) to address sustainability, resource efficiency, and green design principles. The process is in final stages of review, comment and revision by the Planning Board, Town departments and members of the public; adoption of the amendment is expected by March of 2008.

Zoning Changes. The Board sponsored four articles for the Fall Town Meeting, all of which were adopted. “Energy Efficient Zoning” established regulations for wind energy systems, added energy efficiency as a site plan review standard, and expanded the zoning purpose statement to include efficient use and conservation of energy. A second article
expanding the In-Town Residence Zoning District to include Highland Avenue and lower Spring Street.

A third modified the Planned Commercial Zoning District on Route One (mostly north of Linebrook Road) to facilitate redevelopment of that area, and to specifically allow light manufacturing uses. A fourth article addressed miscellaneous ambiguities, omissions or inadequacies of the bylaw, an annual housekeeping item in the zoning amendment process.

In addition to the above, the Planning Board worked with developers to bring four streets (Ruth Way, Pitcairns Way, Cogswell Street Extension, and Partridgeberry Place) to the Fall Town Meeting for acceptance as public ways. All four were accepted.

******

REGULATORY MATTERS

The Planning Board took the following regulatory actions in 2007:

Approved two one-lot definitive subdivision plans, one at 19 Plains Road and the other at 36 Newmarch Street

Issued special permit for conversion of accessory building into residence at 15 Spring St.

Approved special permit/site plan review application for the renovation and expansion of the Ipswich Shopping Plaza at 146 High Street

Approved scenic road application to allow alteration of stonewall at 439 Linebrook Road

The Board also reviewed and endorsed ten applications for ANR (Approval Not Required under Subdivision Control Law) plans.

******

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

David Standley, Chair
Jennifer Hughes, Vice Chair
David Pancoast, Conservation Agent
Frances I. Doyle, Recording Secretary

The Conservation Commission, which was the first Commission formed in the Commonwealth, dating back to 1958, is comprised of seven appointed residents who serve as unpaid volunteers. They are: David Standley (Chair), Jennifer Hughes (Vice-Chair), Glenn Wood, Barbara Beaman, Sissy Folliott, Brian O’Neill and Sharon Cushing, who replaced Ann McMenemy. Ann's term ended in May of 2007 and she did not seek reappointment. The Commission thanks her for six years of outstanding service to the Commission. In July 2007 Karl Kastorf was appointed as a new Associate Member.
The Commission is engaged in a variety of functions on behalf of the Town: wetlands regulation, land conservation and preservation activities in the community. Most of its time, however, is occupied with its formal role as the local environmental regulatory board under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Ipswich Wetlands Protection Bylaw, both of which focus on water resource regulations. The Commission's 2007 efforts in land acquisition and management of open space continued in concert with the Open Space Committee, the Board of Selectmen, the Open Space Bond Program Manager, and the Open Space Stewardship Coordinator. Management plans for the Great Neck (Proprietors) and Shady Creek (M&K Realty Trust) properties were completed in 2007. Also advanced was the permanent protection of a significant parcel of the Great Marsh at Rogers Island River.

Several conservation restrictions were either accepted directly by the Commission where it was grantee, or approved by it when other entities were designated as grantees. Public access to a significant parcel of public property adjoining Marini Farms was assured this year when the Ipswich Bay Circuit Trail Committee completed three approved bridges crossing resource areas that had limited public access previously.

The Commission continued regulatory oversight of several complex ongoing projects in 2007, including the Riverpoint (f/k/a Ipswich Pines) 40B Housing Development, and several other Chapter 40B affordable housing projects. Additionally, it successfully defended the WPA appeal of an abutter of a project consisting of stream culverting in an area prone to floodwaters. The Commission addressed myriad official filings, requests, emergencies, violations and citizen's queries, as shown in the table below, and numerous unofficial requests, submissions, inquiries, and related matters that are not tabulated. The list compares the 2007 permitting activities with the previous five calendar years, to indicate trends and changes in various categories, and shows the average number of permitting activities over the six-year period between 2002 and 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<td>Orders of Conditions/ Amendments</td>
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<td>61</td>
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<td>Determinations of Applicability</td>
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<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*"Other" includes various official filings not tabulated in categories, such as Emergency Certifications & Minor Modifications, as well as scheduled Citizens' Queries.

To accomplish the permitting process, Commission members attended 24 regularly scheduled evening meetings, visited numerous projects and fielded dozens of Citizens' Queries. Staff continues to respond to hundreds of routine queries, and to inspect all proposed project sites before hearings and during project activities.

In 2007 the Commission kept a watchful eye over the ongoing situation at the YMCA sites at 108-112 County Rd, where appeals have affected the project timeline for a Chapter 40B project approved by the Commission in 2004. It also participated in the ongoing assessment of the Miles River Restoration project, involving multiple communities along the entire length of that waterway, with a goal of restoring vigorous flows adversely affected by various factors and changes over the years. The Commission continues to deal with the complex issue of appropriate responses to environmental changes resulting from beaver activity. Although a satisfactory unified methodology of dealing with this beaver activity increase for the entire Town has not yet been achieved, the Commission remains committed to working with other Town boards to address the management of this increased activity. Renewed public interest in public land hunting policies and concerns has lead to the Commission revisiting its position on a case-by-case basis for the properties it administers.

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**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**
Peter J. Lampropoulos, Chairman

The Ipswich Historical Commission holds monthly meetings to meet its obligation to protect the historical assets of the town. One of its functions is to assist residents who want to make alterations to their historic homes. In 2007, the Commission reviewed renovation plans for historic buildings at the following locations: 232 Argilla Road, 187 County Road, 76 East Street, 70 Essex Road, 26 High Street, 2 Old Right Road, 44 Summer Street, 41 Turkey Shore Road, and 6 & 8 Water Street.

The replacement of the High Street Railroad Bridge by Mass Highway was a major issue addressed by the Commission this past year. The Commission held a public meeting with Mass Highway officials at town hall and invited owners of nearby historic homes to participate. The Commission sent a letter with its concerns to Mass Highway and sent a representative to a meeting in Boston. The Commission participated in the process to nominate Choate Bridge for designation as a National Civil Engineering Landmark.
One of the most important goals of the Commission is to recognize the historic preservation efforts of town residents. The Mary P. Conley Preservation Award is given by the Commission each year to support this objective. The 2007 award was presented to Bryan Townsend for his restoration of an historic home at 41 Candlewood Road. Mr. Townsend added modern conveniences while protecting the historical integrity of the home.

Another important goal of the Commission is to continue to add to the knowledge of the town's historical assets. Sue Nelson of Goodship Research was commissioned to do a study of eight commercial buildings on Market Street. This research was successfully completed.

On July 13th, fire damaged the Moses Lord building on Market Street. The Commission declared the building historically significant in December. The Commission continues to work with all parties involved.

A covenant was signed with members of the Goodale family to permanently protect architectural features of their residence at 153 Argilla Road. Covenants are a good tool for use by owners of historic homes to preserve them for future generations.

At the suggestion of Commission member Walter Pojasek, the Selectmen voted to name the Commission's meeting room after the late Mary P. Conley to acknowledge her work for historic preservation in Ipswich. A plaque was placed on the meeting room door, and, on October 1st, a dedication ceremony was held. Members of Mary's family and many of her friends were present, along with various town officials.

The Commission supported the Ipswich Historical Society’s successful effort to relocate Glover’s Mill from 80 East Street to the Society’s grounds at the Heard House. The Commission wholeheartedly endorses the Society’s efforts to restore this important part of Ipswich’s industrial history in the future.

Our sincere thanks go out to volunteers Fran Richards and Janet Trask and town hall maintenance mechanic Rick Dorr for their efforts in helping to organize the Commission's files and for helping to make a more pleasant atmosphere in the Commission's meeting room. Thanks to the assistance of MIS Director Greg Parachojuik, a computer and printer were acquired to research and catalog records. The work continues to make Commission records more readily accessible.

The Ipswich Historical Commission welcomes any assistance citizens can provide to add to historical knowledge of our town.

******
The mission of the Ipswich Housing Partnership is to promote and assist with the development and preservation of affordable housing in Ipswich which reflects the goals and character of the community.

The Partnership works closely with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, which was established in 2005 to oversee and expend funds paid to the Town by developers for affordable housing purposes. By its articles of incorporation, two of the Trust Fund Board members must be members of the Partnership, and the two groups often meet jointly.

The Trust Fund took in $52,300 in revenues in 2007, which came from three separate housing projects; expenses were just under $21,000. The year-end balance of the Trust Fund was $309,000. An additional $246,500 in revenues is committed to the Fund but not yet received.

The Trust Fund and the Housing Partnership are currently considering several potential projects that would, if pursued, likely require monies from the Trust Fund.

Initiatives undertaken and/or completed by the Partnership and Trust Fund Board in 2007 include:

In concert with the North Shore Housing Trust (NSHT) and the Planning Office, secured a grant of $221,650 in Housing Development Support Funds from the MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to complete the rehabilitation of a carriage house at 98 Central Street into a two-bedroom condominium to be sold to a first-time homebuyer whose income does not exceed 80% of the Area Median Income for Ipswich. NSHT will undertake the renovation and marketing of the unit.

Reconstituted the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board under new statutory authority established by the State two years ago. The Trust Fund Board now has the authority to purchase and hold property, which strengthens the Board’s capacity to preserve and create affordable housing.

Helped secure Ipswich’s status as one of only twelve DHCD “Certified Communities under Planned Production” in the state. Certification gives the Town authority to defer for a year any current or future affordable housing proposals submitted under the state's Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit process. Effective this past December 19th, the Certification was made possible by the State’s acceptance of the Town’s Affordable Housing Plan earlier in the year, and by its acknowledgement that at least 41 affordable were legally approved in 2007.

Assisted with the rent-up of 10 new affordable one-bedroom apartments in the Whipple Annex adjacent to Town Hall. These units, constructed by NSHT with the assistance of
$160,000 in Town-controlled funds, now house ten elderly, low-income residents, seven of whom are from Ipswich or have family roots in Ipswich.

With the addition of 62 units to the state’s Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) in 2007, the number of such affordable units in Ipswich is now 492, or 9.1% of the town’s housing stock. The 2006 Ipswich Affordable Housing Plan projected that the percentage of the town’s housing listed on the SHI could reach 10% (thus increasing local control over future affordable housing development) by the end of 2008, but with the current slowdown in the real estate market that goal is unlikely to be met.

The membership of the Partnership remained unchanged in 2007. Trust Board chair Elton McCausland left the Board in May after two years of strong leadership. He was replaced by Selectman Jim Foley; Susan Monahan took over as chair. Staff assistance in 2007 was provided primarily by Tom Bentley and Glenn Gibbs.

******

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Elizabeth M. Dorman, Director

The Recreation Department continued its mission to maintain a variety of programs, services, and activities to enhance the social, physical, and emotional well being of all our citizens. Our starfish logo seen on staff shirts and newsletters symbolizes our efforts to make a difference in the lives of local children and families.

Community events included the July 4th parade & field day, a Halloween parade & program, and parades on Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day organized by local veterans’ groups. Programs featured an outdoor concert by the West Newbury Volunteer Fire Association Band as well as two by the Ipswich Community Band, a UNH Caravan Show, a magic show by Rich Nunziato on our annual “Harry Potter’s Birthday” celebration, a Kids Dog Show with a demonstration by the Old Colony Obedience Club, and the annual “Foam Frolic” at Bialek Park.

Summer offerings included tennis lessons at the high school, golf lessons at Ipswich Country Club, Workreation job training and social events for young teens, Jr. Summer Fun weeks, new Rec Trek adventure weeks for middle schoolers, and several field trips for enrolled youngsters. Swim lessons were contracted at the YMCA, and resident lot parking attendants were funded at Crane’s Beach.

Winter programs included two ski programs for grades 3-5 and 6-8, and February vacation week featured “Mardi Gras Madness”, “Explorers Day”, an “Indoor Beach Party”, and our annual “Hogwarts School” Day. After school programs included homework and computer projects, crafts, adventure and sports activities, and cooking, quilting and knitting projects, and weekly off-site trips. April vacation activities included “Patriots Day & More”, “Treasure Hunting & Exploring;” “Entertainment Day” in Melrose. Children’s golf classes were offered at the Rowley Country Club and New Meadows Course in Topsfield during
springs and fall seasons, Friday Fun Nights continued for school aged children to enjoy crafts, gym games, and special events. Adult activities at Town Hall included volleyball, basketball, soccer, ping pong, and user funded sessions in bridge, sewing, and knitting.

Town Hall facilities including a program room, kitchen and snack bar area, cafeteria/lounge, crafts room, and gymnasium were scheduled by the Recreation Department so a number of local sports, scouts, and social service agencies could hold meetings and offer programs for residents of all ages. Gym space was shared by many youth basketball teams including the YMCA in the winter, wrestling during the summer, and cheerleading in the fall as well as adult ping pong, basketball, and soccer.

Another donation was received from the Friends of Ipswich Athletics to provide seed money for playground equipment to be designed and funded over the next several years for the Bialek Park site that was constructed in 1989. Other donations made it possible to install a new gym floor, and two grants from tennis associations subsidized our youth tennis programs.

********

YOUTH SERVICES 2007
Marcia Ford, Youth Director

Youth services in Ipswich are dedicated to improving the lives of Ipswich youth by offering a number of varied programs to meet recreational, academic, and social needs of this unique population. Our foundation continues to be community collaboration, and many programs were developed as joint ventures with other local agencies in direct response to community needs.

Community service projects were organized for volunteer teens, church and Scouts groups, and those referred through the local courts and Juvenile Diversion programs. They were involved in cleaning and painting projects at Town Hall and Bialek Park. Others provided help with our youth programs and some services for needy senior citizens.
After school clubs continued, and homework sessions led by staff and supportive volunteers were incorporated into the daily programs. Inter-generational experiences with senior citizens helped to teach knitting and quilting to interested youngsters. Thursday early release days provided opportunities for field trips to various educational and recreational sites.

Talk To A Friend, our peer leadership program for Ipswich Youth, met weekly to receive training on current youth issues and discuss relationships with peers and family members. Many of them helped chaperone activities for younger children, assumed some mentoring and mediation responsibilities, and organized intergeneration suppers with local senior citizens. Members help with set up and cleaning duties for weekly drop-in nights and receive training in sales procedures to operate an on-site snack bar that offers reasonably priced items to attendees. A web site for teens promoted current offerings and surveyed teens’ suggestions regarding new programs and activities.

Family advocacy services were provided on an as-needed basis to families in need who met with the youth director to determine their current needs and secure connections to available services. Regular meetings provided further monitoring and coordination of related services. In addition, the director was available for after-hours’ support and crisis intervention for at-risk families.

Regular training sessions were provided for summer and school year staff members to maintain their skills in safety practices, basic first aid, and motivation of students, conflict resolution, and group management. The outdoor project adventure site continued to serve as team building resource and field trip destination for many of our program group.
A wide variety of programs for senior citizens of Ipswich were provided under the umbrella of Council on Aging Services.

A senior center operated weekdays, 8:00-4:00, at the Town Hall. Three part-time receptionists welcomed guests, answered the phone, and assisted with the daily operation of the center.

Regular programs included the a book discussion group, bridge and card groups, knitting and quilting groups, art classes, a monthly lunch club and a single friends group. Health-related programs included monthly health screenings, weekly blood pressure clinics, a monthly nutrition program, massage, hearing clinics, Yoga, tennis, exercise, ballroom dancing, line dancing classes and a swimming group. The COA Travel Club attended two overseas trip sponsored by the Friends of the Ipswich Elderly and day trips to various locations were held throughout the year.

Special offerings included inter-generational programs, various dining program, an Elderlaw Education program, a summer picnic, a North Shore Youth Symphony recital, computer clinics, speakers on a variety of health, financial and legal issues, social gatherings for special observances and classes for a wide range of interests. A monthly newsletter written by the Director reached 2000 elder households through support of local advertisers and a grant for postage. A Caregivers Support Group helped those dealing with frail elders. The Director continued to coordinate the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Program. A seven-member TRIAD Council consisting of local law enforcement and seniors together offered safety awareness programs geared towards elders within our community.

A handicapped accessible, 12-passenger van provided local transportation to Ipswich seniors. Ipswich senior citizens were provided over 5000 one-way rides on the COA van, logging approximately 17,000 miles of service. The Friends group continued to raise funds and support projects that fell outside of the COA budget. The Friends also contributed to a Christmas party for 190 seniors held in the gymnasium of the town hall and purchased a new data collection software program. Grants from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Coburn Charitable Society provided a part-time administrative assistant, a part-time activities coordinator, and a volunteer recognition luncheon.

The Outreach program enlisted a corps of 33 volunteers who provided 1956 hours of volunteer service to local elders. This program also provided volunteers who drove senior citizens 17,387 miles to out-of-town medical appointments. Other services of the Outreach program included social visits, phone calls; help with chores, and guidance in making personal, medical, housing and financial decisions. Other assistance programs included Money Management and Bill Paying for elders and free income tax preparation provided by trained AARP volunteers.
EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS’ SERVICES
Terrance P. Hart, District Director

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing services to veterans, their survivors and dependents. Principal workload under state law includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently reimbursed at a rate of 75% the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need based program and the department is required to conduct periodic comprehensive review of the cases to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working with the veteran to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. During the calendar year 19 Ipswich veterans/widows were on this program for varying periods.

Under state law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain state annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans’ Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. The Veterans’ Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. The VA sent approximately $1.65 million to eligible recipients in Ipswich, of which the current staff is responsible for approximately $644,000 dollars paid to or saved by those assisted in Ipswich.

Additionally, the department interacts within the federal community to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled. The VSO provided information, advice or assistance to 99 of the town’s 1127 identified veterans and 15 of the 298 identified veterans’ widows during 2007. We also provide support and information assistance for National Guard and Reserves called up for service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director, Georgia Gadbois, advocate for veterans on issues at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. The department assisted the Ipswich War Memorial Committee in improving town memorials, and provided historical research for various individuals and organizations.

Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, Wenham and West Newbury. A Board of Directors consisting of one selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. James Foley is the Ipswich member and Chairman of the Board of Directors.
UTILITIES DEPARTMENT  
Tim Henry, Director

ELECTRIC DIVISION  
Carl Lemiesz - Operations Manager

In the spring of 2007 Rob Stone (Assistant Power Plant Superintendent) retired after 20 years of service to the town. The spring saw the retirement of Robert Stone as Power Plant Assistant Superintendent after 20 years of service to the Town.

The Light Department continues in the ISO (Independent System Operator) Forward Reserve Market with 8 MW’s of the power plant’s generation assets. Under this program the department is paid for being available for dispatch within 30 minutes of notification, Monday thru Friday.

The operation of the plant in this market is being overseen by Jeff Turner who assumed the duties of Assistant Power Plant Superintendent upon the retirement of Rob Stone.

kWh sales
2005 sales 106,427,000
2006 sales 106,744,000
2007 sales 108,622,446

At the annual spring and fall Town meetings members were asked to support articles that would allow the department to borrowing funds to undertake a system upgrade project. The project was the recommendation of an independent consultant’s study of how to improve the reliability of the town’s electric system. Both Town meetings approved the funding. At a special town ballot in October, voters approved the final $7.5 million bond issue. The proposed new substation is projected to be in-service by May 2009.

Following several public meetings, the department’s FY 08 budget was amended to include funding for conservation programs. Home energy audits will continue and industrial audits will be added. In addition, the department participated in CFL give-a-ways at both Town meetings and conducted a Christmas lighting exchange program in late November.

The project of converting the downtown area from 4 kV distributions to 13 kV distributions continued. Upon completion of the conversion work the substation at Elm Street will be removed from service.

In the Fall the department awarded a three year contract to a local tree contractor to conduct utility line clearing throughout the town. The tree contractor will be utilized to accomplish the required tree work within the distribution upgrade area first then move to other areas of the town.
WATER DIVISION
Vicki Halmen, Town Engineer

Total water pumping has remained at historic lows, the second lowest volume in 18 years. The department actively promotes water conservation measures and continued the seasonal rate structure, which was started in 2003 to curb excessive summer water use.

The Water Loss Prevention Grant which was awarded to the town by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection was completed in 2007. This grant was designed to help identify and reduce unaccounted for water loss within the water distribution system and promote water conservation. The results confirmed what the department records indicate, that our water system has very little unaccounted for water loss. Only 6% of total annual pumping is unaccounted for. DEP recommends that percentage not exceed 10%.

Design has begun on replacement of the water main along South Main and Central Streets. This 10-inch cast iron main is over 110 years old and will be replaced with a 12-inch ductile iron main. The department has retained Earth Tech engineers to complete the design. Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2008.

The Water Department purchased a new 2008 Ford Escape Hybrid in 2007 for use by the Town Engineer. This purchase strengthens the Town commitment to green power.

NEW MAINS
There were zero (0) extensions to the distribution system in 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Domestic Services</th>
<th>13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydrants Installed</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrants Replaced</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Water Mains Installed (ft)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Length of Mains (ft)</td>
<td>496,405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Water Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metered Services</th>
<th>4624</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmetered Services</td>
<td>97 Fire Lines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Water Usage (Million Gallons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservoirs (Dow and Bull Brook)</th>
<th>207</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown’s Well</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex Road Well</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellows Road Well</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mile Lane Well</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winthrop Wells</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Water Usage (MG) 38
*****

WATER TREATMENT PLANT
Joyce Kippin, Superintendent

Treatment Plant Operator Scott Trask, who has been on staff for three years, recently obtained his grade 4 T Drinking Water Operators License. This is the highest grade a Drinking Water Operator can obtain.

In 2007 the Granular Activated Carbon was replaced in both filters at a cost of $92,000.00. Carbon filters are superior for removing volatile and synthetic organics, chlorites and Total Organic Carbon.

A new chlorination system was installed at the Jeffrey’s Neck Booster Station, in order to maintain acceptable chlorine residuals in the “Neck” area. There was a total coliform violation in July that was quickly resolved and an order of non-compliance was issued for a report that was sent late by an independent laboratory contracted to perform tests for the facility. The reports were sent in and the notice violation was rescinded.

In 2008 the EPA and the Department of Environmental Protection have promulgated numerous regulations which will result in the testing of numerous new analytes. The projected cost will be $35,000.00 - $40,000.00.

Please remember to CONSERVE water.

*****

WASTEWATER DIVISION
Patrick J Brennan, Superintendent

For the second consecutive year we have lost (to retirement) a long term icon at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. On November 12, 2007 John Messelaar retired after thirty plus years of service to the Town of Ipswich. John was the Assistant Superintendent. We all wish John well as he enters his leisure years.

Ronald Chandler was selected to succeed John as Assistant Superintendent. Ron has been an operator at the facility for the past twelve years and has more than twenty two years experience in the wastewater treatment field. He has a Grade 6 Wastewater Treatment Certification.

Continuing with the plan of updating or replacing older equipment, a new generator for standby power was purchased for the Town Warf Pump Station. We plan to install the new unit in the spring.

Significant Data from 2007

- 330 Million Gallons of wastewater were treated at our facility.
• 7.1 Million Gallons of Septage were received and treated.
• 49.4 inches of rain was recorded.
• 2,832 cubic yards of Biosolids, removed from the wastewater stream, was dewatered and transported to the Agresource Compost Facility for beneficial reuse.

*******

FINANCE DIRECTORATE – Rita M. Negri, Finance Director

ACCOUNTING OFFICE
Rita M. Negri – Town Accountant

The Finance Director is the chief financial advisor to the Town Manager. She is responsible for the debt service, insurance, benefits, and other miscellaneous budgets. She submits revenue projections for budget purposes; meets with the Town Manager and department heads to review expenditure budgets; determines base budgets for the next budget cycle. She provides advice to the selectmen, finance committee, and school committee of any significant changes in the town’s financial condition and changes in legislation affecting municipal finance.

The Town Accountant’s Office consists of two full-time staff, a full-time Town Accountant who also serves as Finance Director, and an Assistant Town Accountant. The Accounting Department is responsible for processing the payroll for all employees, processing invoices for vendor payments, and preparing all W-2’s and 1099’s at year-end in accordance with IRS regulations.

The Town Accountant’s Office maintains all of the accounting records for the Town’s revenues and expenditures; ensures that reconciliations are performed between applicable Town departments; assists in providing information on benefits available to employees; and oversees the operation of the Town’s financial computer system.

The Town Accountant also coordinates the annual independent audit of the Town's financial statements that was last completed by September 10, 2007, for the year ended June 30, 2007. The financial results for fiscal year 2007 were good. This was due to good collections on receivables, and responsible spending of appropriations.

Free Cash for fiscal year 2007 was certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Division of Local Services on October 1, 2007 in the amount of $364,693.

*******
**TREASURER/COLLECTOR**
Kevin A. Merz

The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for the investment of all Town funds and the collection of real estate taxes, personal property taxes, motor vehicle and boat excise taxes. The Treasurer/Collector’s office is also responsible for all municipal borrowings, balancing cash and accounts receivable with the Town Accountant, selling beach stickers, accepting Passport applications, processing Municipal Lien Certificates and continuing collection efforts of properties in tax title. Currently, the Treasurer/Collector’s office is in the process of foreclosing on 17 parcels in Land Court.

The Treasurer/Collector’s office sold 5,532 beach stickers, 278 fishing stickers and 32 horse stickers.

In 2007, Treasurer Kevin Merz passed the MCTA Certification Board’s examination to become a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Treasurer.

Thanks goes out to Don Carter and Corinna Warner, the staff in the Treasurer/Collector’s office, for their dedication, hard work and great customer service in 2007.

*******

**ASSESSORS OFFICE**
Frank J. Ragonese, Chief Assessor

The total valuation of Real Estate and Personal Property January 1, 2007, was $2,694,169,183.

The valuation of the Town by Class is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class I</td>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>2,419,300,373</td>
<td>89.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class II</td>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class III</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>121,632,250</td>
<td>4.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class IV</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>135,307,030</td>
<td>5.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personal Property</td>
<td>17,929,530</td>
<td>0.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $2,694,169,183 100.00%

The Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2008 was $9.23 per thousand for all property classes.

*******
TOWN CLERK
Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMC
Town Clerk/Election Administrator

The Town Clerk’s office is the hub of activity in the Town Hall. Residents use the Town Clerk as a source of information and assistance for nearly all phases of Town business.

As the keeper of the records for the Town, the Town Clerk is accountable for the registration of all birth, marriage and death records. Town Meeting legislation and appropriations, recordings, filings and certification of all official actions are the responsibility of the Town Clerk.

Issuance of marriage, dog, raffle, shellfish and sporting licenses is another responsibility of the Town Clerk’s Office. The office processes alcoholic beverage, common victualler, Sunday entertainment, weekday entertainment and other licenses and permits approved by the Board of Selectmen.

As the Chief Election Official, the Town Clerk has full responsibility for the conduct of all elections. The Clerk sets up the election officers, polling places and reports official election results to the Secretary of State. Also, the Clerk serves as the Clerk on the Board of Registrars and is the supervisor of voter registration and absentee balloting.

Elected and appointed Town officials and board members are administered their oaths of office by the Town Clerk. The office also administers oaths of office, as Commissioners to Qualify for Public Office, to those appointed by the Governor as Notaries Public, Justices of the Peace and other public offices.

Thanks are extended to Kathy Marini, Assistant Town Clerk; volunteer Janet Trask who assists with census and indexing of vital records and; volunteer Isobel Coulombe who conducts genealogical research.

Population Statistics
As of June 30, 2007 – 13,782

Age Breakdown of Residents as of June 30, 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 5</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 11</td>
<td>878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 14</td>
<td>501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 18</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - 25</td>
<td>1,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 - 35</td>
<td>1,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 - 45</td>
<td>2,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 - 55</td>
<td>2,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 - 65</td>
<td>2,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66 - 75</td>
<td>1,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 - 100</td>
<td>1,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of households – 5,768</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparative Vital Statistics Recorded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Births</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriages</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shellfish Licenses and Permits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Yearly</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Family</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Commercial</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 70 Commercial</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60 Recreational</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident Yearly</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident Daily</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Hill Stickers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dog Licenses
During 2007 the Town Clerk’s Office registered dogs 1,973.

Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Licenses Sold – 174  Stamps Sold - 100

Elections and Registrations

I. The Board of Registrars

The Board of Registrars is comprised of the following members:
- Robert M. Stone, Chairman
- Elizabeth McCarthy
- Peter Ross
- Pamela Z. Carakatsane, CMMC, CMC

II. Town Meetings:

April 2, 2007 – The Annual Town Meeting covered 29 Articles.
There were 254 registered voters who attended.

October 15, 2007 – The Special Town Meeting covered 22 Articles.
There were 241 registered voters who attended.
III. Elections:
April 10, 2007 – Annual Town Election

Votes Cast: 1,854
Number of Registered Voters: 9,523
Turnout: 19.47%

October 30, 2007 – Special Town Election (Electric Light Substation)

Votes Cast: 476
Number of Registered Voters: 9,650
Turnout: 5%

Registered Voters by Precinct as of December 31, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precinct</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Unenrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>1297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>1571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>1582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>1534</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also, Precinct 1 had two Green-Rainbows, one Working Families, three Green Party USA, and one Libertarian registered; Precinct 2 had one Inter. 3rd Party registered; Precinct 3 had one Green-Rainbow and three Working Families registered and Precinct 4 had two Green-Rainbow and one Working Families registered as of December 31, 2007.

Thank you to the Board of Registrars; the Constables, Wardens, Clerks, Checkers, Provisional Ballot and Tally persons; James Graffum and his staff; Rick Dorr and John Leonard; the Ipswich Police Department; the YMCA staff; and the staff at the High School/Middle School who help set up for Town Meeting. Also, to volunteers Andrew Agapow, Ronald Graves, Robert Stone and my family members who spend many hours setting up the night before each election. They all have helped to make each Election and Town Meeting a success.
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Greg Parachojuk, MIS Director

The MIS department is charged with the ongoing mission to develop, enhance and support the Town’s computing and telecommunications infrastructure and, to provide the system and services necessary for the Town’s departments and users to fulfill their stated goals and objectives.

As a committee member of the Cable Commission my charter is to provide valuable input as to the needs of our community, educational, and government sectors in conjunction with cable broadcasting. In addition to Comcast, Verizon PEG cable channels were brought online to the public by the end of year.

Disaster Recovery planning and service was updated and is now active for the town’s financial system. A daily copy is sent off-site were available systems can be brought online with our information in case of disaster.

With the aid of a new PT Technician, we have replaced, re-deployed, and/or updated a significant number of workstations under our 5-Year replacement plan.

Work was started in the development of our new “MAN” Municipal Area Network which is based on fiber and will replace old unreliable copper connections which are now in place to interconnect municipal buildings as a network.

Although minor navigational changes to our website were made, a significant amount of content was changed and/or added. Please visit our website at http://www.town.ipswich.ma.us to access assessment data, tax maps, online payments, forms and other useful information.

IPSWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY
Victor Dyer, Director
Collections: New books added: 3,581 (Adult & Young Adult) 2,074 (Children). New media added: 694 (Adult & Young Adult) 275 (Children).

Technology: 11,200 (+) patrons signed up to use the Internet PCs while 18,200 (+) hits were recorded on the library’s web site in 2007. The library made available for use two new databases: Rosetta Stone (through MVLC) and EBSCO’S Literary Reference Center (through NMRLS).

Staff: Staffing remained constant in 2007. Michelle Guvendiren returned as Temporary Summer Assistant in the Children’s Room. Library Director Victor Dyer was elected President of MVLC.

Volunteers: This year Volunteers donated over 1474 hours of service. The library enjoys the services of a senior volunteer through R.S.V.P. of Gloucester. The library benefited from the hours of several community service high school students. Ipswich Garden Club decorated the library for the holidays, both inside and outside. Dorcas Rice decorated the mantel in the Rogers Room for the holidays.

Board of Trustees: Philip Kuhn resigned from the Board in January. Helen Danforth was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacated position. The Board paid for the installation of a railing along the new stairway from the staff parking lot from Operations, while the new exterior lighting was paid for from the Richards Fund. They also approved the purchase of a new PC for the Children’s Room & display panels for art exhibits from the St. John’s fund. LIG/MEG funds were applied to cost of the staff parking area.

The Trustees voted changes in the job description for the Library Assistant—Children’s Dept. position, while changing the title of the position from ‘Library Aid’ to ‘Library Assistant.

The Board received a donation of 32 shares of Johnson & Johnson stock which were sold, with the proceeds added to the Library Trust Funds, as well as the proceeds from 40 shares of Wyeth stock, which will be used to improve the library’s collection of DVDs. A $10,000 bequest was received from the estate of William Markos which was added to the Markos Fund.

Plan of Service: We continue to make progress on realizing the goals and objectives of our Plan of Service. Some of the activities accomplished in 2007 included: purchase of display panels for exhibit of art by local artists, review and replacement of textbooks, improvements in the YA section of library website; creation of new book club for 6th graders; identification and cataloguing of un-processed materials in Archives.

Public Relations: The library produced two issues of The Newsletter in 2007. The Ipswich Reads...One Book! Program continued into a third year with Jane Austen’s Pride & Prejudice. Staff member Betsy Johnson’s ‘Library Life’ column continued its occasional run in the Ipswich Chronicle.
Building: The staff parking lot project was completed with the installation of new exterior lights and a granite & cement staircase with railing. The major building project in 2007 was the replacement of the library’s slate roof, copper gutters and downspouts with grant money administered through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners supplemented by funding from Town Meeting. The project included brick repointing and cleaning as well as cleaning of the granite pillars and portico and replacement of asphalt shingles on the new reference room roof with slates. Replastering, reconstruction of decorative moldings in the Rogers Room and painting completed the project.

Friends: The Friends supported the library with funds for books, audio-visual materials, binding, supplies & children’s programs. The Friends also purchased an LCD projector for use in the Collins Room. In 2007 the Friends began selling books from a book cart at all times the library is open. The library received a matching grant of $522.42 from the MBLC through the Public Libraries Fund program based upon monies raised by the Friends for the benefit of the library.

Bequests & Gifts: Donations were received in memory of Margaret Andreozzi, Stephanie Marie Rose & Myron Taylor. Donations were received from Nathaniel & Hester Clap and Tammy Venn. Book donations were received in memory of Penny Leno, William Varrell & Peter Zaharis. Corliss Brothers Landscaping donated shrubs to finish off the new staff parking area.

Programs: The Children’s Dept. offered 175 programs with 3,612 children participating. There were 15 Adult/YA programs with 168 participants. The ESL program continues to match students with tutors. A second session of the Radical Readers club for 4th & 5th graders was added.

Circulation: Total circulation in 2007 was 129,239 items. The library borrowed monthly, on average, 897 items through interlibrary loan.

Grants: The library received a $2,000 grant from the Coburn Charitable Society for the purchase of large print and audiovisual materials and a $600 NMRLS Supplementary Deposit Collection grant which was used to develop a collection of audio-books in the new Playaway format.

Awards: The library received a Massachusetts Library Association PR Award (2nd Place) in the category of Community Reading Program.

Archives: Over 380 researchers & volunteers signed up to use the Archives in 2007. Volunteer Howard Fosdick completed the inventory of Archives Committee manuscripts.

Adult Services: The Adult & Young Adult Services Librarian began an adult Mystery Book Club in 2007. The library also hosted the Ipswich Charter Hangings exhibition in May-June.
On behalf of the Ipswich School Committee, I would like to commend the students, faculty and administration for the outstanding reputation, character, and culture of the Ipswich Public Schools. Our above average MCAS scores and outstanding academic, athletic and fine arts achievements speak to remarkable leadership, accountability, and setting of high academic and behavioral expectations for the entire school community. It is the dedication and commitment of the faculty to academic excellence, the outstanding achievements of the student body, and the support of the administration that is a direct reflection of the phenomenal accomplishments of the Ipswich Public Schools.

The Ipswich Schools continue to face severe fiscal challenges and an increasing structural deficit impacting class size, programs, technology, professional development and staffing levels. Limited state and local funding as well as loss of Feoffees funds continue to challenge our ability to maintain current staffing levels and programs for the next fiscal year, and to provide our children with the high quality education they deserve and that our community expects. The School Committee expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to those countless individuals, local businesses and organizations that have donated their time and resources, and given substantially in the form of gifts and monetary donations.

The expansion of our athletic fields, the completion of the Performing Arts Center’s fly loft, upgrading the accessibility and print media resources of our libraries, the ability for staff to attend state and national conferences in specific curriculum content areas, MCAS tutoring for students, support in the areas of math and science, purchasing text books, musical instruments and computer labs are but a few of the essential needs made possible by the direct support of our local businesses, organizations and individuals in our community. You are incredible and we cannot thank you enough for your generosity and dedication to our children and schools. As our children move forward to meet the growing challenges in the world, it is comforting to know that they move forward with a sound educational base that you have helped to provide.

In conclusion, the School Committee remains proud of the numerous accomplishments of our students, staff and administration of the Ipswich Public Schools. We will continue to work hard for the children of Ipswich and we look forward to your continued commitment and support.
The FY07 school year was once again filled with numerous challenges and rewards. We continue to face mounting fiscal problems impacting the school district’s ability to deliver the educational services this community has come to expect and deserve. Programs have been reduced and staff cut in order to balance the budget.

In spite of these financial challenges, our dedicated and talented staff continues to adopt the philosophy that we must always move forward as we look for ways to continue to improve.

Our Birth to Three Program is flourishing, now serving over 700 families in the community. This Program is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth.

This year we opened our “Tiger Tots Learning Center” day care program for school employees and citizens of the community. This program is self-supporting through fees, grants and gifts.

Our MCAS scores continue to place us far above the average for the Commonwealth in the majority of all categories. However, even with that success, we continue to strive to improve our scores and get better. Each year teams of teachers spend hours analyzing our test results and make the necessary adjustments in our curriculum to ensure that we are aligned with the State Frameworks.

The FY07 school year continued to see the School Committee and Administration working collaboratively on a number of subcommittees and related issues. Budget development, collective bargaining, policy development, technology, Feoffees and athletics were key areas of focus.

The FY07 school year also saw the continuation of our District-Wide Capital Improvements projects. An energy management system was installed in the Middle/High School and the result of this new system should be a reduction of our energy usage, providing much needed budgetary savings. We also upgraded the hot water heaters at both the Doyon School and the Middle/High School to increase the efficiency of those units. We continue to look for ways to reduce our energy costs and make improvements to our infrastructure.

In that same light, we were pleased to qualify for $1.6 million in grant funding through the Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs) from the federal government to help fund a possible wind turbine for the schools.
The Ipswich Public Schools continue to be recognized across the Commonwealth for our innovative educational initiatives, including the integration of technology into our curriculum. Decisions regarding curriculum development are made by our Subject Area Committees consisting of teachers and Administrators, thus keeping the decision making as close to the classroom as possible. High School, Middle School and elementary school staff met jointly to ensure that our curriculum is seamless, thus providing our students with a comprehensive K-12 curriculum.

The goal of the Ipswich Public Schools is to identify and access resources and implement strategies that improve teaching and learning, enrich programs and inspire students and teachers. It is through a very special internal culture within our school system that we are able to turn this goal into reality through a variety of building-based initiatives and programs. The ultimate goal of this special culture is to have students become self-directed learners who strive toward continuous improvement through reflection and self-assessment.

In conclusion, I want to express my sincere appreciation to the citizens of Ipswich who have given so generously to support quality education for all of our children. I also want to thank those local businesses and organizations that gave so generously this past year, through gifts and donations, which helped to offset some of the budget cuts that took place, as well as funding to expand our athletic fields and complete the Performing Arts Center fly loft project.

I continue to urge every citizen to join school officials in our continuing efforts to lobby for increased state funding for education.

Finally, I want to express my sincere appreciation to the staff of the Ipswich Public Schools, whose dedication and commitment to excellence is second to none.

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IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL
Barry Cahill, Principal

The year 2007 was a challenging and satisfying one for Ipswich High School. The year began with the celebration of our first Super Bowl victory in 15 years. The success of our athletic teams in general resulted in a second successive awarding of the Hyland Trophy, symbolic of having the best overall winning percentage among Cape Ann League Small Schools.

The month of March brought another strong tournament performance for both Boys and Girls Basketball teams. The Boys Team concluded a run of five years advancing to the North Finals or to the Boston Garden. The Girls Team has become perennial tourney threats.
April brought the excitement of a trip to England for over 100 of our very talented musicians under the direction of Mr. Dolan. The experience was tremendous for each participant. They impressed their hosts at every stop with the quality of their music. The community should be deservedly proud of what is certainly one of the top music programs in the state.

The Class of 2007 graduated with the success we have recently come to expect. An amazing 91% of our graduates went on to college, 76% of those to a four year college. We had 3 National Merit students in the class. Among the very top schools in the country, our 2007 graduates were accepted at Boston College, Bowdoin, Brown University, Harvard, Holy Cross, Johns Hopkins, and Swarthmore and at nearly 180 other colleges and universities.

MCAS results for 2007 continue to be impressive. In English Language Arts, 89% of our students scored at the Advanced or Proficient levels with only a 1% failure rate. In the re-test process, almost all of our students meet the passing standard.

“The Company”, our Drama group visited Scotland in August and participated in the American High School Theatre Festival. Mrs. Faust and her 30 student performers had a unique and exciting experience.

The Institution for Savings has been remarkable in donating funds to assist our school. A $50,000 donation will lead to a press box for our stadium. They made a huge donation of $170,000 to add a fall playing field to Mile Lane. Both soccer and lacrosse will benefit from this incredible upgrade. They are currently donating $65,000 to complete the Fly Loft portion of the Performing Arts Center, a cut that was made in the building project. Their funds combine with prior donations of nearly $100,000 that had been held by the 21st Century Foundation. Our thanks to CEO Mark Welch, President Mike Jones and the entire Institute for Savings Board for their tremendous gifts.

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IPSWICH MIDDLE SCHOOL
Cheryl Forster, Principal

I am pleased to be reporting to the citizens of Ipswich in my thirteenth year as principal of this dynamic and exciting school. We are now in the eighth year in this building enjoying the warm learning environment we have created here together. The school design has allowed us to get to know our students very quickly and each grade has developed its own culture creating three distinct neighborhoods. The facility has allowed students and teachers to access state of the art technology as well as world-class art, music, and drama programs. Our two gyms are never empty during the day or weekends. Our students continue to learn “new basics” along with the old ones, as we find that both are truly important in today’s world of work.

Educating students has never been more challenging with the added mandated testing we now administer in all grades. Test results we received validated the good work being
done in our classrooms by our teachers. MCAS testing is completed every spring and Ipswich continues to do very well.

This year the Intel Corporation selected the Middle School. We were the only school in the country to work with them. Students in Grade 7 were assigned a unit to use in school for science exploration and inquiry. Intel was very impressed with the professionalism of our teachers and the attitude and skills of our students. With our feedback, these units are now on the market for sale.

Ipswich Middle School also had a visitor from China. Mr. Ren is the Principal of the Tianjin Middle School and was my counterpart in a Principal Shadowing Project funded by the Freeman Foundation and the Chinese Exchange Initiative. I was honored to travel to China in April to exchange educational ideas from half way around the world.

Excellent middle schools strive to reach the all-important whole child. Each grade level specializes in exploratory and child centered topics that offer a variety of learning experiences and opportunities. At the Ipswich Middle School we work in a “team” approach. The schedule allows for teachers to meet daily to discuss students progress; technology is readily available and class size is limited for maximum skill building. It is a cooperative venture.

Middle School is a time of choices and contrasts. Whether it is the quiet solitude of our peaceful courtyard complete with koi fish, or the pandemonium in the gym created by middle school energy—there is something for everyone here at IMS.

Students in grade 6 spend an intensive and focused week in the spring at an environmental camp, Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine. All of our sixth grade staff attends to form close bonds with the students. The outdoor marine curriculum is high interest, and many new friends and relationships are forged.

Grade seven students learn first hand about the local ecology with a series of eight separate days in the woods, marshes and in canoes on the Ipswich River, seeing first hand where their river begins and ends. They canoe through miles of forest, wetlands and marsh, collecting data all the way and brainstorm ways to protect our precious environment and natural resources.

Grade eight students spend four days in early June in the Adirondacks in upper state New York. A geology focus helps prepare them for visits to chasms and caves and learn the difference first hand between stalactites and stalagmites in Howe Caverns. They cruise the glacial lakes and rivers and come to appreciate the power of erosion and glacial landforms. It is a wonderful culminating experience for them as they leave Middle School.

We continue to provide an after school homework program for all interested students and their families and we understand the need for students to be busy and supervised after the last school bell rings. We offer many enriching programs to meet the interests of all types
of children. Our drama, dance and music departments involve more than half of our student population. Student athletes participate in sports programs that teach skills, sportsmanship and wellness.

At the peak of intramural basketball season, more than 250 students are involved. We offer golf, tennis, soccer, ice hockey, softball, volleyball, field hockey, basketball, art club, outdoor club, music programs, drama and monthly dances. We teach a course called “People Smarts” which focuses on interpersonal skills and multiple intelligences. A monthly “service” component has taken the form of food pantry, shoe and coat drives, Rotaplast, soldier boxes and turkey dinners. We also participate in the annual “Walk for Hunger” where together we walk a 10-mile circuit around Great Neck and back to raise funds for the Ipswich Food Pantry.

We are proud to be part of such an innovative and exciting learning environment. Our outstanding professional faculty works diligently to clarify our vision for education—that every child can learn. We are constantly finding new ways to reach and teach all children who come to our school—they are after all, the future of Ipswich. It is an exciting time to be working with young people. Our slogan is “making a difference starts here.” We believe that, we love our work and we invite you to join us.

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PAUL F. DOYON MEMORIAL SCHOOL
Kenneth B. Cooper, Ph.D. Principal

This was an exciting year for education at the Doyon School. The adventure of preparing youth for an ever-evolving future continues to be a challenging one, requiring our best efforts and energies, especially in times when resources are tight. This past year the Doyon Team did another extraordinary job in meeting these challenges and in implementing a high quality, creative and stimulating educational program.

Our vision statement, "Preparing for Life Through Learning," underscores the importance we associate with relevancy: prior to lessons and activities, we ask ourselves, "when will our students actually utilize that which we are teaching." Our efforts in terms of academics this past year were highlighted by continuing initiatives in the area of Literacy. Once again we engaged in a joint initiative with Tufts University to bring the very best of professional development training to our classroom faculty.

Last year was the third and last year of our partnership with the Tufts "Center for Applied Child Development" and during several full days during the school year, many after-school meetings, and some additional time over the summer, each grade level team has developed and are presently implementing a year long course of study in reading comprehension strategies which spiral up through the grades from PreK to Grade Five. This professional development initiative was made possible by funds from the Elementary School Golf Tournament since no money has been available in our budget for professional development for some time.
We are also exceptionally grateful to the Doyon Friends of Ipswich Elementary School (F.R.I.E.S.) who once again made a substantial investment in the breath and scope of literacy instructional resources by funding teacher requests, as our resources for text materials has also been extremely limited.

On a more positive note, we have recently begun a study committee to explore linking our new reading comprehension approach to writing, and our 2007 MCAS scores in each of the grades tested (grades three, four and five) were gratifying strong, equal to or exceeding past year’s scores and way above state averages. Thanks to funding from grants and from Ipswich Citizens for Education (ICE), we were also able to provide support tutoring for students whose results fell below expectations.

This past year we continued our character development initiative, our "Stop and Think" program, and our Responsive Classroom training for new staff. We were fortunate to receive grant funding for the entire Second Step violence prevention program with instructional materials for every classroom. Our safety and character programs also benefited from several local agencies which provided programs for the children including H. A.W.C. (Help for Abused Women and Children) which presented an anti-bullying program at several grade levels, the Ipswich Police Department which continued their DARE program, the Ipswich Electric Department which funded an electrical safety program, and the Ipswich Fire Department which presented a program on fire safety.

Thanks to the Doyon F.R.I.E.S., we were once again able to fund our "Student Leadership Team," (SLT) with fifteen faculty and staff mentors working alongside more than 100 fourth and fifth grade students. Also thanks to the F.R.I.E.S., we were also able to continue our Rotary-linked Early Act program which last year organized a book drive on behalf of a school in Biloxi Mississippi which collected and sent more than 15,000 books to that school.

Our custodial crew continues to amaze: Doyon isn't a very "young" building chronologically (50th anniversary party planned for 2015!) but our superb custodial team keeps working hard to keep the building clean and in good repair, while refurbishing and upgrading as much as time and resources will allow. This past year we were able to re-carpet several rooms, and refinished existing tiles in several other rooms. We also added a hot-top gradient to our rear cafeteria entrance for safety sake

Funding continues to be a severe problem. I am told we are in the midst of a "structural deficit," which, given increases in mandated "fixed costs, (for example in insurance and energy) and the limits of local and state revenues and the proposition 2 1/2 cap, that we can expect to continue to have to cut discretionary funding. This has the potential to result in loss of staff, higher class sizes, a "compromising" of programs, and inadequate instruction and technological resources. I encourage all town residents to become "astute observers" of the budget process while monitoring the adequacy of funding for Ipswich's public schools.

On this, the occasion of my twenty-first annual report, I would like to extend a special thanks to all in the Ipswich Community who have become part of the extended Doyon Community
by contributing their time, efforts, expertise, energy and resources--we literally could not do this without you. I am of course very fortunate to be able to spend my working hours with a delightful and hard-working student body and with the very talented and dedicated faculty and staff of the Doyon School--it is a pleasure and an honor to work with them.

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WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Sheila Smith-McAdams, Winthrop School Principal

What a year of change it has been for the Winthrop School! From ballroom dance instruction to birthday parties, refined curriculum initiatives to retirements, is it any wonder that the theme for the 2007/2008 school year is CHANGE?

Carolyn Davis, Winthrop’s educational and cultural leader for 16 years, announced her retirement in the fall of 2006, setting tributes in action. The outpouring was astounding. Parents and students purchased books in Ms. Davis’ honor for the library. Through the incredible efforts of the Winthrop School Council and the 21st Century Foundation, The Carolyn Davis Endowment Fund for Professional Development was created in an effort to recognize Ms. Davis’ contribution while simultaneously seeking a more stable funding mechanism for professional development throughout the district. Ms. Davis understood that enhanced professional skills correlate directly with improved student performance. Her legacy, as did her career, focuses on student success.

Success is the only way to describe Winthrop School’s 50th birthday party! Students, parents and staff gathered on a Saturday to enjoy some old fashioned fun. Sack races, hula hoops, pony rides and marbles entertained young and old, alike. No party is quite the same without a bit of dancing! With the DJ spinning vinyl’s (well, all was not as authentic as it seemed!), students could be seen performing the swing, energizing the crowd. As people toured Winthrop, it was difficulty to believe that this
milestone had been reached. From the newly-laid carpet to the freshly painted walls, the custodial staff continues to take tremendous care of the building, retarding the effects of age. Upgrades to outer doors, electrical system improvements and final touches to the roof assure the school’s ability to meet the changing needs of our students. The school grounds are also a constantly changing landscape. Thanks to the Parks and Cemetery Department and the DPW, shrubs were removed and driveway repairs have been made. Student Leadership Council members, funded by our FRIES (Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools-Winthrop), under the tutelage of several staff members, continue to beautify the grounds by expanding their garden. Similarly, students have also created an area in which weather devices can be housed for further study.

Stewardship is just one of the many character education components addressed at Winthrop. Through the Respect and Responsibility Committee, comprised of Student Leadership Council members, staff and parents, the language used for character education is defined and integrated with a commercially-created program, realizing our own unique blend of social expectations and clarified responsibilities. The Ipswich Police DARE program, the Ipswich Fire Safety program, and the connection with the Council of Aging all promote this community-based ownership. Our local Rotarian extension, Early Act, is another example of students, parents and community members addressing local and global needs. These valuable connections between students, staff, parents and the community strengthen the bedrock of our learning community. Clearly, this strong community foundation is one aspect of Winthrop education that we would never want to change!

Within the building, a whirlwind of energy exists. This year, the talented, experienced and dedicated staff was able to continue to build and refine our PreK-Grade 5 reading comprehension strategies which were developed in conjunction with Tufts University. Additionally, staff members are reexamining the existing phonics and writing program all with an eye on improved student performance. Updates in the math program and discussions stimulated by the district Subject Area Committee have us critically examining effective instructional practices in math.

With limited resources for professional development but an eagerness to engage in continuous quality improvement, professional learning communities have arisen. Understanding by Design, a curriculum-development strategy, is currently being examined, discussed and analyzed. By establishing clear exit outcomes and benchmarks for student learning teachers can refine their instructional strategies for maximum student achievement. Once again, parent and community groups such as the FRIES and ICE are responsible for funding MCAS/skills tutoring, academic materials such as textbooks and technology tools. We are grateful for their never-ending energy. As those of us familiar with children know, change is the constant. What an outstanding community, providing such a safe and nurturing place to evolve!

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DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL SERVICES
Diana W. Minton, Director

The Ipswich Public Schools’ Department of Special Services has continued to provide services to our students with disabilities. We continue to work on aspects of our programming which were identified when the Massachusetts Department of Education did their Coordinated Program Review. This coming year the MA Department of Education returns to review our compliance.

Staff training has continued at a very much reduced level due to loss of funds; however, grant funding has assisted in spanning the gap created by minimal local funds. These grant funds have also been reduced, however we are still able to fund some minimal in-service.

The passage of the newest federal law (IDEA 2004) has established some targets for the coming years which will need to be incorporated into our practices here in Ipswich. One such area is Response to Intervention, which we are “piloting” at Doyon School.

My appreciation to all the unique and dedicated educators and citizens here in Ipswich grows yearly. All education in Ipswich is special.

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HALL HASKELL HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
Hall-Haskell House Committee Report 2007

The Hall Haskell House as its own entity continues to function from year to year. As committee members it has been wonderful to experience its growth.

The year was marked with sadness due to the death of Vivian Endicott, one of the original founders to save the Little Red House from demolition. She organized a grassroots committee that represented various organizations in town, reflecting Ipswich’s social and economic base, just like the people who had once lived within its doors. Through the ten plus years of advocacy she stayed determined and on task to get the job done. We thank her for her commitment to this project.

The Ipswich Visitor Center is open on weekends in early May and then opens its doors seven days a week from Memorial Day until the end of October. Its hours are 9 to 5 Monday thru Saturday and 9 to noon on Sunday.

Bill Nelson manages the Visitor Center with Louise Ciolek, Volunteer Coordinator. 44 volunteers ranging in age from 50 to 90 give their time, talent and share their knowledge and history of the town with visitors.
Thanks to Bill, Louise, and all our volunteers for the wonderful gift of friendliness and time that they give to the center. The camaraderie is wonderful.

The gallery at the Hall Haskell House continues to be a busy center with more than fifty-five artists exhibiting their work. A variety of mediums and art forms are represented. We thank Ed Sukach for doing a wonderful job in helping artist with their exhibit space and making sure everything is in working order. His contribution of time and energy has been enormous.

Thanks to the Ipswich community for your continued support and special thanks to a very special person Vivian Wood Endicott 1904-2007 for her vision to make things happen.

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OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
Glenn Hazelton and Carolyn Britt, Co-Chairs

The Open Space Committee (OSC) accomplished activities in 2007 in the areas of communication and coordination with other town committees, improvement in management and budgeting, and acquisition or properties.

The Open Space Committee met with the Agricultural Commission and with the Athletic Fields Study Committee. A subcommittee comprised of two members of Open Space and two of the Athletic Fields was appointed and has met to discuss appropriate open parcels that could be acquired for development of athletic fields. OSC members of the subcommittee prepared a base map showing soil and other site conditions to assist in the selection of potential parcels. This effort is ongoing.

The OSC, along with the Conservation Commission and staff of the Department of Planning and Development, developed a 5-year projected budget for the Open Space, Recreation, and Water Supply Protection Fund. The Committee also worked with the Commonwealth to correct the state’s remittance to the Fund from the Room Occupancy Excise Tax. The Commonwealth had not been sending the correct amount of funding to the Town.

Staff for the Bond Fund Program completed the purchases of land that were begun and reported on in the 2006 annual report. This consisted of three acquisitions totaling 152 acres – for a town cost per acre of $5,920. This year, the Town was successful in receiving a grant from the state’s Drinking Water Supply Protection Fund to protect 19.2 acres of land that is largely within 200’ of Bull Brook. That acquisition will completed during the 2008 reporting year.
IPSWICH BAY CIRCUIT TRAIL COMMITTEE

This year the Committee completed the construction of three bridges on the portion of the Bay Circuit Trail that borders the southern edge of the Country Club passes through Conservation land and Marini’s farm to connect with Willowdale State Forest. Tremendous help from volunteers working under guidance of Bob Weatherall made this possible. They used the trail that had been clearly marked by the Boy Scouts.

The Committee continues to cooperate with Turner Hill to insure that trails are open and are well marked. As land is proposed for development, the committee works with the Open Space Committee, Planning Board and Conservation Commission to see that trails are preserved and kept open for the enjoyment of residents.

Guided trail hikes are organized, advertised in the Chronicle and led by members of the Committee. This informal walking/hiking group meets at Town Wharf parking lot, East Street, on Wednesdays at 9:30 to explore local trails.

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GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
Gerry Brown, Chair

The Government Study committee is an advisory committee that makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen (BOS). We look to the BOS for direction to determine the agenda that the committee works on. We have a broad mission that includes making a more efficient, effective local government that benefits the citizens that it serves.

The committee met monthly throughout 2007 and assisted in the effort to move Town Meeting from the first Monday in April to the second week in May. We recommended and completed changes to the Town Charter and By-Laws to update other deadlines that were dependent on the date of town meeting. We will continue to meet on a monthly basis throughout 2008 and are looking for additional members.

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CABLE TV ADVISORY BOARD
Robert Ryan, Chairman

The CAB had a very busy and successful year, culminating in the signing of new 10 year licenses with both Verizon and Comcast to provide cable television services to Ipswich.
Our hope is that by bringing competition into play, it ultimately will benefit the consumer with lower prices.

Both companies have agreed to remit a portion of their revenues to the town for the purpose of supporting local cable broadcasting of Government, Public and Educational programming. Our task for the coming year is to set up an organization to build and operate our own local studio with these funds. By years end, we hope to be providing a much higher quality of programming to the town than we have had in the past. We would also like to thank the Board of Selectman for their patience and perseverance during the difficult and complex negotiations with Verizon and Comcast.

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COMMUTER RAIL COMMITTEE
Dorcas Rice, Chair

Once again the Commuter Rail Committee had a busy year saving the Town time and money. No meetings were held, saving midnight oil and electricity, and in our very long existence we have never taken one penny from the Town.

Why, do you ask do I feel the Committee needs to continue existing? There is always the possibility in this all too uncertain world that matters will arise that need our attention.

In the last report that I gave at Town meeting two years ago I mentioned the still deplorable conditions at North Station and doubted we would ever see improvement there. Much to my astonishment improvements began soon thereafter and is still continuing. The moral of the story? Never underestimate the power of your CRC! Unfortunately our powers have so far not been able to improve the parking situation

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IPSWICH RECYCLING COMMITTEE
Selectmen’s Advisory Committee on Recycling
Annual Town Report

The Selectmen’s Advisory Committee on Recycling (RAC) is charged with the two-prong task of decreasing solid waste costs and increasing recycling in Ipswich. The committee works to accomplish its mission by making policy recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and through educational efforts within the community. The RAC works closely with the town’s Department of Public Works.

In October 2007, the town received the “Green Binny” Award in the small municipality category from MassRecycle, a coalition organization, for a significant increase in its recycling rates. In November 2007, the Ipswich Democratic Committee awarded RAC its Citizen’s Action Award for outstanding service to the community.
From July to November 2007, the recycling rate rose from 20% to 29%; in that same period, solid waste tonnage decreased from 368 tons per month to 356 tons per month. The town realized a savings in its solid waste disposal costs during this period.

So far, in the current fiscal year, RAC hosted a recycling event for the collection of scrap metal and electronics, audio-visual material and confidential documents for shredding. A swap-shop was also run at this event. RAC hosted an information booth at Olde Ipswich Days. RAC worked with the Electric Light Department (ELD) to identify a vendor that would accept incandescent holiday lights for recycling as part of the ELD’s effort to swap incandescent for LED holiday light strings to reduce energy consumption in Ipswich. RAC has provided information to the Planning Board with regard to proposed amendments to the town’s Community Development Plan. RAC members have attended several informational workshops on recycling.

Current initiatives include the establishment of town-wide recycling by 2011; mandatory recycling at public events and reduction of acceptable barrel limits per week to 3 with an overthrow option for residences and businesses on municipal collection. In addition, the RAC is working with the schools to increase recycling rates and is working to encourage composting as a way to reduce solid waste disposal costs.

The RAC maintains a website with comprehensive information about how to reduce consumption, reuse items for alternative purposes, and recycle that which cannot be reused and compost yard and kitchen waste. The RAC actively monitors and responds to queries sent to its website www.ipswichrecycles.org

TRUST FUND COMMISSION

Robert K. Weatherall, Chair
Walter Pojasek, Vice Chair

The Town was the grateful recipient this year of two new trust funds. The late Richard Swain Horton, who graduated from Ipswich High School in 1938, bequeathed $50,000 to fund one or two college scholarships each year for “worthy students”. The late William G. Markos, also an Ipswich High School graduate and onetime chairman of this commission, bequeathed $10,000 to fund a college scholarship “for a needy senior who has exhibited academic and athletic excellence”. The bequests are especially welcome because they come at a time when the cost of going to college has been rising sharply, making it more and more of a stretch for students to get a college education.

The Commission met as usual in April with Barry Cahill, high school principal, and Justine May, guidance counselor, to review how much accumulated income there was in the Town’s existing scholarship funds to award to candidates for aid graduating in June. The Commission authorized the spending of $13,700 on scholarships for 13 students who met the donors’ specifications.
The Commission met again in May to award the scholarships where the donors have put
the choice in the Commission’s hands. It awarded $750 to Eva Piras from the Marion
Ross Humphrey fund, $750 to Kavornie Reid from the Pauline Ross Claxton fund, and
$1,000 to Evelyn Fowler and $500 to Elizabeth Boufford from the Cornelius Thibeault
fund.

At its April meeting the Commission also considered a request from the Ipswich
Historical Society and the Ipswich Historical Commission for a grant of $5,000 from the
Harold D. Bowen fund to help pay for the moving of a wood-framed structure on East
Street, originally a stocking mill, to the grounds of the Historical Society. The
Commission approved the grant.

At a meeting in September the Commission granted $500 to the Ipswich Historical
Commission from the Harold D. Bowen Fund to pay for a plaque to be awarded to the
2007 recipient of the Mary Conley Preservation Award.

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Congratulations to the Ipswich Recycling Committee for receiving the “Green Binny” award for outstanding innovation.