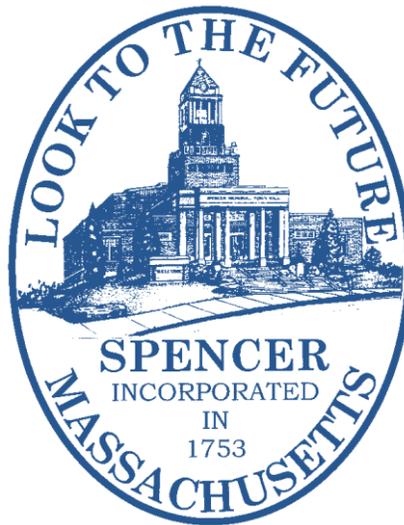


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF SPENCER



MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2023

MERITORIOUS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

The Meritorious Public Service Award was established in 2002 by the Board of Selectmen to honor members of the community who have demonstrated an unwavering and exemplary commitment to public service for the betterment of the Town of Spencer and its inhabitants. At the Annual Town Meeting, the award was proudly presented to:

Mary Baker-Wood



*2022 Meritorious Service Award Recipient for her faithful service to the Town of Spencer
Library Director for 28 Years & Faithful Member of Multiple Boards & Committee*

MERITORIOUS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

The Meritorious Public Service Award was established in 2002 by the Board of Selectmen to honor members of the community who have demonstrated an unwavering and exemplary commitment to public service for the betterment of the Town of Spencer and its inhabitants. At the Annual Town Meeting, the award was proudly presented to:

Alaine Boucher



*2022 Meritorious Service Award Recipient for her faithful service to the Town of Spencer
Town Accountant for 35 Years & Consultant for Accounting Services*

IN MEMORIAM

Carol A. Gaucher

1942 ~ 2023

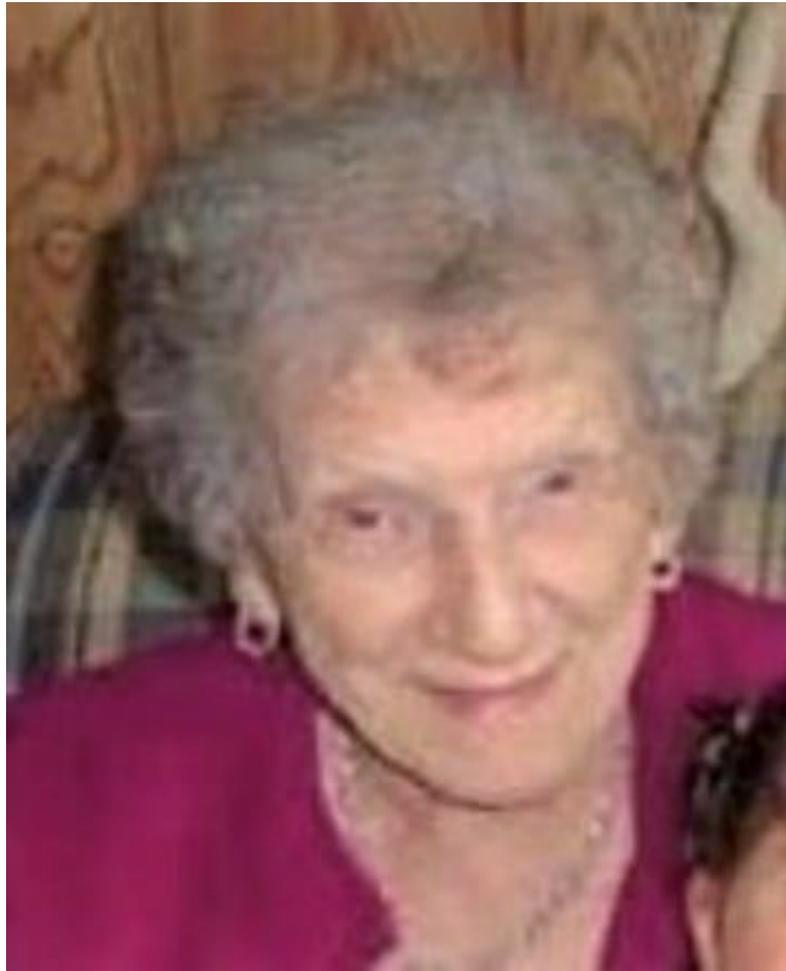


*In grateful appreciation for her Service
As Animal Inspector & Dog Officer
for the Town of Spencer*

IN MEMORIAM

Marguerite P. Hayes

1921 ~ 2023



*In grateful appreciation
To one of Spencer's Oldest Residents*



A BRIEF SKETCH OF SPENCER

Rich in history, Spencer is located in central Worcester County, twenty minutes west of Worcester via Route 9, and about forty-five minutes from Springfield via Routes 49, 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Largely residential, Spencer has been a supplier of workers for nearly every industry in the greater Worcester area. Ease of travel to all sections of the county makes Spencer a desirable area in which to live. Route 31 gives access in the north to Holden, Fitchburg, and Leominster; in the south to Charlton, Oxford, and Southbridge. Route 49 connects Route 9 with Route 20 which gives easy access to Sturbridge, Brimfield, Southbridge, the Mass. Turnpike, and Interstate 84 to Connecticut. Route 9 leads westerly through the Brookfields and Ware to the Amherst Campus of the University of Massachusetts, and easterly to Worcester, Shrewsbury, Northborough, and Westborough.

BACKGROUND

Settled in 1717 by Nathaniel Wood, Spencer was incorporated as a town in 1753, having been established as a district from a part of Leicester. Its name was assigned by Lieutenant Governor Spencer Phipps who signed the order establishing the district.

In 1784 Spencer was a major stopping place on the Old Boston Post Road's stage route between Boston and Hartford, and on to New York. Passengers changed stages in Spencer, as one coach would come from Boston and connect with one coming north from Hartford. Each stagecoach would turn around and return whence it came. Travelers often stopped off for the night at Jenk's Tavern in Spencer, as did George Washington in 1789.

The Howe family of Spencer did much to make the town famous in the annals of ingenious Americans. William Howe of Spencer developed a wooden truss bridge named for him, and his brother, Tyler Howe, patented a spring bed. Their nephew, Elias Howe, Jr., may well have eclipsed them when he invented the lockstitch sewing machine.



Town of Spencer
Office of the Board of Selectmen
&
Town Administrator

Board of Selectmen:
Jared J.B. Grigg
Ralph E. Hicks
John J. Howard
Anthony D. Pepe
Gary E. Woodbury

Town Administrator:
Jeffrey K. Bridges

December 31, 2023

Dear Citizens of Spencer:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I am pleased to present the Annual Town Report for the calendar year 2023. I would like to thank the residents of Spencer for supporting our Town and commend the many dedicated volunteers who take tremendous pride in striving to move the Town forward.

The entire town was saddened when we lost the historic First Congregational Church of Spencer after it was destroyed by fire on June 2, 2023 as a result of a lightning strike and had to be demolished. We lost more than a building on that day, as the Church was an important gathering place for so many in our community. Thankfully the building was vacant and no one was injured. We are grateful and appreciative to the entire Spencer Fire Department and all mutual aid departments who assisted in battling the five-alarm fire for several hours and into the following day.

In collaboration with Administrator Bridges, town staff, and various boards and committees, Town business was conducted on a several matters and numerous projects, activities, and accomplishments transpired throughout the past year with some of the more noteworthy initiatives highlighted in this report.

The Board approved the renewal of the Charter-Spectrum License based on the recommendation of the Spencer Cable Advisory Committee. Multiple public hearings were held to obtain feedback from our residents and a license agreement was negotiated and finalized. The new ten-year agreement is valuable considering many companies offer a much shorter term.

The Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) was established and charged with updating Spencer's 2003 Master Plan. The MPAC has been working to develop a Plan that reflects the desires of the community and serves as a tool to help guide the growth and development within the Town. Once finalized, the Plan will serve as a policy guide for the Town.

An ad-hoc Municipal Electricity Aggregation Committee was created and charged with exploring a community-wide municipal energy agreement. The goal is to develop a municipal aggregation plan and negotiate a long-term electricity supply contract to lower rates for the entire community.

A Citizens Petition in support of the Pine Grove Cemetery Corporation was approved by voters at the Annual Town Meeting in May and an agreement between the Board of Selectmen and the Pine Grove Cemetery Corporation was drafted and provides for oversight of the use of funds for the care and maintenance of the Cemetery.

We continue to work with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to secure Community Development Block Grants from the Department of Housing and Community Development. These funds have been instrumental in improving and replacing outdated infrastructure, including drainage, water line replacement, and street resurfacing.

Once again, Spencer was awarded a Green Communities Grant by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. This Grant has funded a range of projects from the installation of insulation and energy management systems to ventilation upgrades for municipal buildings resulting in significant savings in our energy expenditures.

The Board and Administrator Bridges continued with the process of allocating the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds awarded to municipalities to assist in the economic recovery resulting from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Two charitable donations totaling over \$47,000 were received from the Estate of Patricia M. Corson. In keeping with her desires, the generous donations will be used for improvements to the animal control facility to honor the wishes of Ms. Corson who was devoted animal lover.

The Board would like to express their appreciation to two long-term Police Department employees who retired this year: Police Chief David Darrin who retired after 25 years of dedicated service, and Police Dispatcher Laurie Zukowski who retired after 28 years serving the Town. We thank them for their service and wish them all the best in the exciting new chapter ahead!

As a result of the retirement of Police Chief Darrin, promotions were made from within the Department, including the promotion of Lieutenant Michael Befford to Police Chief, Sergeant Norman Hodgerney to Lieutenant, and Officer Valerie Morin to Sergeant. We congratulate them on their well-deserved promotions.

We hit many milestones this past year and expect 2024 to be another busy year with many endeavors on the horizon including the ongoing upgrades for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the addition and renovation project of the David Prouty High School.

The remainder of the year was business as usual with numerous meetings and public hearings held to approve Town-wide contracts and agreements, and issue licenses and permits for various events held throughout the year. Please refer to page 88 of this report for details on categories of licenses issued during 2023.

On behalf of a grateful Board, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges for his leadership and dedication throughout the year, to department heads and their staff for their commitment to outstanding service, and to our many generous and knowledgeable volunteers for their gifts of time and talent. You all make Spencer a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

The Board of Selectmen serves as the Chief Policy Maker and Licensing Authority of the Town. Meetings are typically held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M. in the McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall. I encourage you to visit the Town website at www.spencerma.gov where you will find the most current information including meeting agendas and the latest news and announcements.

Respectfully,



John J. Howard, Chairman

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FEDERAL, STATE & COUNTY OFFICIALS

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey of Malden
Elizabeth A. Warren of Cambridge

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

Second District
James P. McGovern of Worcester

COUNCILLOR

Seventh District
Paul DePalo

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire & Middlesex District
Anne M. Gobi of Spencer (resigned June, 2023)
Peter J. Durant

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Fifth Worcester District – Spencer - Pcts. 2, 3 & 4
Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. of Spencer

Sixth Worcester District – Spencer - Pct. 1
Peter J. Durant of Spencer (resigned June, 2023)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Middle District
Joseph D. Early, Jr. of Worcester

CLERK OF COURTS

Dennis P. McManus of Worcester

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Kathryn A. Toomey of Worcester

REGISTER OF PROBATE

Stephanie K. Fattman of Webster

SHERIFF

Lewis G. Evangelidis of Holden

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS & COMMISSIONERS

	Term Expires
MODERATOR	
William R. Shemeth, III	5/9/2025
SELECTMEN	
Anthony D. Pepe	2025
Gary E. Woodbury	2025
Jared B. Grigg	2024
Ralph E. Hicks	2026
John J. Howard	2026
TOWN CLERK	
Sandra J. Fritze	2024
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	
Rebecca M. Forand	2026
ASSESSORS	
Robert Ortiz	2025
Nancy E. Herholz	2024
Pamela A. Woodbury	2026

SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Spencer Representatives:

Jason P. Monette	2025
Robert Ortiz	2025
Jeffrey Sauvageau	2024
Christopher Woodbury	2026
Wendy Pelchat	2024

East Brookfield Representatives:

Pat Lacaire	2026
Heather Messier	2024

**SOUTHERN WORCESTER COUNTY REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

Jesselyn Gaucher	2025
Robert L. Zukowski	2026

WATER COMMISSIONERS

Steven J. Tyler (Resigned 4/01/2023)	2025
Stanley Davis (to fill term)	2025
Eben J. Butler	2024
Norman C. Letendre, Jr.	2026

PARK COMMISSIONERS

Martin A. German, Jr.	2025
Anthony F. Toscano	2024
William R. Shemeth, III	2026

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Stephen L. Prouty (resigned 6-22-2022)	2024
Mary Anne Slack	2025
Alyson Russo	2026
Marie Norcia	2024

BOARD OF HEALTH

Jesselyn Gaucher	2025
Jennifer Konisky	2024
Daniel C. Shields	2026

TREE WARDEN

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	2026
------------------------	------

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Donna M. Flannery	2026
Edward King	2026
Richard J. Leveillee	2024
Roger L. Gaudette (Resigned 7-27-2023)	2028
Charlene Kaiser	2028

SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Lawrence H. Dufault	2026
Francis X. White	2024
Francis X. White Jr.	2025

CONSTABLES

Arthur C. Butch Tatro	2025
James F. Cervi	2025
Patrick Sullivan	2025

**APPOINTED TOWN OFFICES
COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Jeffrey Bridges

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Brenda Savoie

ACCOUNTANT

Alaine Boucher – interim

Susan Maliff

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

Lynne Porretti

PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR

Linda V. Leblanc

TOWN COUNSEL

Janelle M. Austin

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION (5 Members 3yr term/ up to 3 alternates 1yr term)

Anthony Moschini 2024

Bonnie Booth 2026

Kurt Nordquist 2026

Douglas Paul (resigned 6/30/2023)

Matthew DeCiero 2025

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COORDINATOR

VACANT– Physical Plant

VACANT- Interim

Duane Amos – Building Inspector

**ANIMAL CONTROL
AND INSPECTION OFFICERS**

Lynne Porretti (Alternate) 2024

Douglas Blood (Alternate) 2024

ASSISTANT COLLECTOR

Jill S. Gallagher

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Marie DeCosta

ASSISTANT CONSTABLE (3yr term)

Richard A. Lapierre

2024

ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

Brynn L. Johnson

BUILDING COMMISSIONER/Zoning Enforcement Officer (1yr term)

Duane Amos (Local)

2024

BUILDING AND PROPERTY REUSE COMMITTEE

(2 Selectmen, 1 finance Committee Rep. 1 Planning Board Rep., Utilities & Facilities Supt., Fire Chief, Five Citizens at Large—no expiration date)

Corey Lacaire

Carl Kwiatkowski

Robert Parsons

Christopher Bowen

Jason Ferreira

Robert Ferreira

Jonathan Thibault

Gary Woodbury

Anthony Pepe

Eben Butler

Robert Cepi

Christopher Woodbury

BURNCOAT POND WATERSHED DISTRICT MANAGEMENT

SPENCER REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term)

Vacant

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (1yr term Selectboard Rep., Finance Committee Rep., Planning Board Rep.; citizens at large 3yr term)

Select Board - Anthony D. Pepe

2024

Planning Board -Shirley Shiver

2024

Finance Committee-Christopher Woodbury

2024

Citizen at Large-Robert Cirba

2025

Citizen at Large-Vacant

CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE (3yr term)

Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.

2025

Joyce Cycz

2026

CENTRAL MASS EMS CORP

Arnold Arsenault

Robert Parsons

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (1yr term)

Jared Grigg 2024
John Howard (*Board of Selectmen Alternate Delegate*) 2024
Robert Ceppi (*Planning Board Delegate*) 2024

CHARITABLE NEEDS (3yr term, 5 members)

Barbara E. Grusell 2024
Paul Lamontagne (resigned June 2023)
Lois Shorten 2024
Kurt Nordquist 2022
Elaine Vallee (to fill the remainder of a term) 2024

CHIEF OF POLICE

Michael Befford

COMMISSIONERS OF OLD CEMETERY (3yr term, 3 members)

Danielle Gebo (resigned Sept 2023)
Frank X. White 2024
Christopher L. Woodbury (resigned Oct 2023)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3yr term, 7 members)

Margaret Emerson 2024
Mary E. McLaughlin 2025
Warren B. Snow 2026
Charles Bellemer 2026
Dennis Shiver 2026

CONSERVATION AGENT

Lauren Vivier

CONTRACT COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Jeffrey Bridges

COUNCIL ON AGING (3yr term 7-11 members)

James W. Letendre 2024
Susan Arsenault 2026
Rachel Sugalski 2026
Lucinda Puchalski 2025
Scott Conner 2025
Sandra Fritze 2024
Margaret Letendre 2026
Frank White

CULTURAL COUNCIL (3yr term 9 members)

Diane Johnson (Resigned 06/30/2023)
Denise Farmosa 2024
Janice Peters 2025

Michael Roche (Resigned May 2023)	
Joyce Cycz	2024
Carol McPherson (Resigned 1/02/2024)	
Caryn Byrnes	2025
Barbara McGrail	2025
Mary Barrel	2026

DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND INSPECTIONAL SERVICES
VACANT

DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF FINANCE

DISABILITY COMMISSION (3yr term 5 members)
VACANT

DISASTER ANIMALS' RESPONSE TEAM
VACANT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(9 Residents: 2 Selectmen, 1 Planning Board Member, 6 Representatives from the Business Community-5-year Terms)

Joseph M. Smith	2026
C. Michael Toomey	2026
Christopher L. Woodbury	2027
Anthony D. Pepe, Jr.	2024
John F. Stevens	2024
Jared Grigg	2026

EEO OFFICER
Jeffrey Bridges

SPENCER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (SEMA)
Robert Parsons (Fire Chief), Director
Sandra Fritze, Director of Operations

FAIR HOUSING (1yr term 3 members 2 alternates)
3 Vacancies
2 Alt. Vacancies

FENCE VIEWER (1yr term)
Robert H. Dewan 2024

FINANCE COMMITTEE (3yr term 11 members)

Christopher P. Bowen	2024
Mary E. Braney	2024
Christopher L. Woodbury	2026
Edward Sproul	2024
Charles O'Connor	2024

Nancy Tame	2026
Jonathan Viner	2025
Michael Grames	2025
Janice Peters	2024
Talyor Wentworth	2026
David Zanauskas	2026
Virginia Davidson (Resigned 6/30/2023)	
Paul E. McLaughlin (Resigned 6/30/2023)	
William J. Wall, Jr. (Resigned 6/30/2023)	

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term, 5 members)

Anthony D. Pepe (Selectman)	2024
Paul McLaughlin (Finance Committee) (resigned 6/30/2023)	
Jared Grigg (Selectman)	2024
Christopher Woodbury (Capital Improvement Planning Committee)	2024
William Wall, Jr. (Finance Committee) (resigned 6/30/2023)	

FIRE CHIEF

Robert P. Parsons, Fire Chief	
Robert P. Parsons, Forest Fire Warden	
Corey H. Lacaire, Deputy Forest Fire Warden	2024

HARBORMASTER (1yr term)

Douglas Blood	2024
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HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Robert Parsons

HEALTH AGENT

Lisa Daoust

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE (1yr term)

William Cundiff (resigned 2023)	
Peter Boria	2024

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (3yr term 7 members)

Francis T. Lochner	2024
Kimberly A. Kates	2026
Mary Baker-Wood	2025
Virginia Davidson	2024

HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS COORDINATOR

Sarah Gruhin

INSECT AND PEST CONTROL INSPECTOR (1yr term)

Raymond I. Holmes, Jr.	2024
------------------------	------

INSPECTOR OF GAS PIPING & APPLIANCES (1yr term)

James R. Bergeron 2024
Robert F. Wall, Alt. 2024

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1yr term, representatives from each collective bargaining unit, retiree, personnel bylaw, contract and elected positions)

Mary Baker-Wood (retiree) 2024
Charles Nevue (highway/water/sewer)(resigned)
Lisa Daoust (personnel bylaw) 2024
Holly M. Collette (dispatchers) 2024
Kim Snyder (clerical) 2024
Rebecca Forand (elected) 2024
Duane Amos (Contract) 2024

LOCAL COMMUNITY ADDICTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (7 Members: Chief of Police/Designee, Fire Chief/Designee, EMS Medical Director/Designee, Board of Health Agent/Designee, Superintendent of Schools/Designee, One Member of the Board of Selectmen, One Citizen at Large no term expiration)

Therese Grogan (Citizen at Large)
Paul Haughey (Superintendent of Schools)
Robert Parsons (Fire Chief)
Gary Woodbury (Board of Selectmen)
Michael Befford (Chief of Police)

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (1yr term 10 members, all staff)

Michael Befford (Police)
Sandra Fritze (SEMA)
Lisa A. Daoust (Board of Health)
Robert P. Parsons (Fire)
James Laplante (Sewer)
Paul Haughey (Supt. of Schools)
Jeffrey Bridges (Town Administrator)
James Tessier (FlexCon)
William Cundiff (U&F)
Lauren Vivier (Conservation Agent/Town Planner)

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Jeffrey K. Bridges (Town Administrator)
Steven Carey (Community Member)
Jared Grigg (Selectman)
Howie Letendre (Community Member)
Carol McPherson (Community Member) (Resigned 1/2/2024)
Dennis Shiver (Community Member)
Vaughn Slack (Planning Board Member)
Lauren Vivier (Town Planner)
Taylor Wentworth (Community Member)

**MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER
PARKING CLERK (3yr term)**

Kurt A. Nordquist 2026

MUNICIPAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION COMMITTEE

Roger Foss
Richard Varney
Gary Herl
Michael Krochmalny
Jared Grigg

MUNICIPAL LIAISON TO STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Jeffrey Bridges

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (Appointed)
(3yr term 4 members)**

Corinne Kennedy 2025
Robert Churchey 2026
Lynne Porretti 2025
Jason Ferreira 2025

PLANNING BOARD (5yr term, 3 members 2 alternate)

Robert J. Ceppi 2027
Shirley Shiver 2026
Charles Bellemer 2026

PUBLIC WEIGHER (1yr term)

Karen Hubacz-Kiley 2024

PLUMBING INSPECTOR (1yr term)

Robert Wall 2024
James Bergeron, Alt. 2024

QUABOAG VALLEY BUS. ASST. COORD (1yr term)

Vacant

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (3yr term, 3 Registrars 1 Clerk)

Eleanor F. O'Connor (Resigned 3/31/2023)
Brenda L. Cloutier 3/31/2024
Patricia Woods 3/31/2025
Debra Orcutt 3/31/2026
Sandra J. Fritze 2024

SAFETY OFFICER

Michael Befford

SCM ELDERBUS REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term) April Caruso	2024
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (1yr term) John Biancheria	2024
SEMA Robert Parsons	
SEMA Director of Operations (1 yr term) Sandra Fritze	2024
SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM DIRECTOR/COORDINATOR April Caruso	
SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT OFFICER (1yr term) Jeffrey Bridges	
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS Dr. Paul Haughey	
TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN (1yr term) Rebecca M. Forand	2024
TOWN PLANNER Lauren Trifone	
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (1yr term) VACANT	
TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVE (1yr term) VACANT	
CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER Jeffrey Bridges	
UTILITIES & HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT William Cundiff (resigned 8/2023) Peter Boria (appointed 9/2023)	
VETERANS SERVICES DIRECTOR/AGENT & VETERANS GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER (1yr term) Scott Conner	2024
WIRING INSPECTOR (1yr term) Norman D. Bassett Michael H. Sweet, Alt.(retired 6/30/2023)	2024

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (3yr term 3 members 2 alternates)

Allan P. Collette	2024
Donna Parker	2024
Steven J. Tyler (resigned 04/01/2023)	
Gina Beford	2024
Vacant Alternate	
Vacant Alternate	

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

The Office of the Town Clerk serves as a direct link between the residents of Spencer and their local government. Not sure who to call? Contact the Town Clerk and you will be directed to the appropriate municipal office.

The Town Clerk is responsible for preparing for and presiding over all local and state elections serving as the Chief Elections Official. Voter registration records are maintained by the Town Clerk's Office and voter registration can be done at the Town Hall anytime during regular business hours, with special additional hours for registration held prior to elections and town meetings.

As the Official Certifier of Records, the Town Clerk records and certifies all official acts of the Town including Town Meeting actions and appropriations, as well as Planning and Zoning Board decisions. As Town Archivist, the maintenance, disposition, and preservation of municipal archival records (some of which are close to 300 years old) are in the custody of the Town Clerk. The Office also provides certified copies of vital records (births, marriages, deaths) and assists with genealogical research.

The Town Clerk's Office issues Dog Licenses, Underground Storage Licenses, Business Certificates, and Burial Permits as part of the Town's public health and safety requirements.

Each year the Town Clerk's Office conducts the Annual Census which not only provides important statistical and demographic information but is also used to maintain active voter and street lists and provides information to the State for the compilation of the Prospective Juror File Status Report which lists all potential jury candidates and is available at the Town Hall.

2023 brought us extra elections and both Vote-By-Mail and In -Person Early Voting took on a larger role during the last year keeping the office always on our toes as we navigated the ever-changing dictates from the State. We took on the Annual Town Election, Special State Primary, Special Town Election and the Special State Election this past year, each election saw a greater turnout of Vote-By-Mail and/or Early Voting participation which added to our ever-growing workload. The office will strive to uphold the poise and dignity of past town clerks knowing that it is an honor and privilege to be able to serve the Town of Spencer. We are busily preparing for 5 Elections in 2024 and 3 Town Meetings in 2024 and are anticipating major upgrades to Voter Registration System and out Vital Registration System.

The Town Clerk's Office runs smoothly because of a hardworking and dedicated support staff; Assistant Town Clerk Brynn Johnson, Clerks Diane Ledoux, Karen Gaucher and Nicole Morton, and Registrars Brenda Cloutier, Patricia Woods and Debra Orcutt.

Sandra J. Fritze
Town Clerk

Board of Registrars Report
Voter Total Sheet as of 12/31/2023

	Precinct	A	AA	CC	D	D D	G G	J	K	L	O	Q	R	S	T	U	X	Z	Grand Totals
	1	1	1	6	349	1	2	4		10		3	233		3	1556	1	1	2171
	2	1	2	9	354					8	3	1	228	1		1638			2245
	3	1		5	372			2	1	8	2	1	303	2		1665		1	2363
	4	3		7	393	1		1		9			272	2		1661		1	2350
Grand Totals		6	3	27	1468	2	2	7	1	35	5	5	1036	5	3	6520	1	3	9129

All Voters

A Conservative	H We the People	P Prohibition	W Veteran Party America
B Natural Law Party	J Green Rainbow	Q American Independent	X Pirate
C New World Council	K Constitution Party	R Republican	Y World Citizens Party
D Democrat	L Libertarian	S Socialist	Z Working Families
E Reform	M Time sizing Not Down	T Inter 3 rd Party	AA Pizza Party
F Rainbow Coalition	N New Alliance	U Unenrolled	BB American Term Limits
G Green Party USA	O MA Independent Party	V American First Party	CC United Independent Party
			DD Twelve Visions Party

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 4, 2023

Quorum was called at 7:07 pm

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm

Police Chief Michael Befford was called to lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Town Clerk Sandy Fritze was called to sing the National Anthem

Moderator William Shemeth III announced Promotions in the Police and Fire Departments, Retirements and Deaths of former Town employees.

Moderator William Shemeth III announced the list of Board & Committee Vacancies

Moderator William Shemeth III announced a list of goings on in the Town.

Gary Woodbury, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen introduced the Select Board

Mary Braney, Chairman of the Finance Committee introduced the members of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE 1

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer within the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget the amounts specified in the below chart; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

Amount	From Account	To Account
\$26,825.00	Snow & Ice Salaries and Wages (#11423-51000)	Snow & Ice Expenses (#11423-57000)
\$32,512.00	Highway Expenses (#11522-5700)	Snow & Ice Expenses (#11423-57000)
\$10,000.00	Employee Benefits (#11800-57000)	Fire Department Expenses (#11220-57000)
\$15,000.00	Employee Benefits (#11800-57000)	Town Counsel (#11151-57000)
\$4,300.00	Tree Warden Salaries and Wages (#11494-51000)	Tree Warden Expenses (#11494-57000)
	TOTAL	

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen approved**

ARTICLE 2

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$912.50) to the General Stabilization Account from previously certified and available free cash to reimburse the General Stabilization Fund from an appropriation made at the November 10, 2022, Special Town Meeting, or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen approves**

ARTICLE 3

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-One Dollars and Eighty-Nine Cents (\$1,221.89) to the General Stabilization Account from previously certified and available Free Cash to reimburse the General Stabilization Fund for an appropriation made at the November 10, 2022, Special Town Meeting to pay a bill from a prior fiscal year, or to take any action in relation thereto. (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*).

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen approves**

ARTICLE 4

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve a consent agenda consisting of the following actions or take any action in relation thereto. Such items may be voted as a block, or singly, or in any combination but however voted, will be treated for accounting and legislative purposes as if each item voted were voted as a separate article.

- A. Receive, in writing, the reports of the Town Officers and Committees.
- B. Appropriate the sum of money received or to be received from the Chapter 90 State Aid to Highways Program to be expended for construction and/or maintenance upon any state approved road, or for any other authorized purpose, for Fiscal Year 2024, with such funds to be reimbursed 100% from such Program.
- C. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend the following funds:
Community Development Block Grant funds;
Community Innovation Challenge Grant funds;
District Local Technical Assistance Grant funds; and
Other State and Federal grant-in-aid assistance, as appropriate and necessary.
- D. Appropriate the sum of 100% of all fines, penalties, and assessments received in Fiscal Year 2024 as payment under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 148A, as amended by Chapter 304 of the Acts of 2004, to an account entitled "Building and Fire Code Enforcement Fines."
- E. Appropriate the sum of 50% of all monies received in Fiscal Year 2024 as payment for the so-called "products," "conveyance," "roll-back" or other such tax or payment, other than real estate taxes and related payments-in-lieu-of-taxes, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter(s) 61, 61A, and 61B to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund and the sum of 100% of all monies received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as payments from the Forest Products Trust Fund to the Land Acquisition Stabilization Fund.
- F. Authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement(s) for Fiscal Year 2024 pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, and further vote to authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector to borrow such sums of money as he/she may deem necessary,

with the consent of the Finance Committee, in anticipation of revenue and/or reimbursements and to issue notes of the Town payable thereof in accordance with applicable law.

- G. Authorize the Board of Selectmen, in conformance with Section 11(m) of the Spencer Governmental Act and Chapter 40, Section 4 of Massachusetts General Laws, to enter into and negotiate the terms thereof, all contracts for the exercise of its corporate powers.
or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 5

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$150.00) to pay a prior fiscal year’s expense related to continuing disclosure services for the filing of the Fiscal Year 21 Final Audit and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 6

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, as most recently amended, to establish fiscal year limitations on expenditures from the revolving funds established by the Town of Spencer General Bylaws “Departmental Revolving Funds”, Article 2, Section 15, approved under Article 7 of the May 4, 2017 Annual Town Meeting, with such expenditure limitations for Fiscal Year 2024 as shown below:

Fund	Spending Limit
Planning Board	\$50,000
ODIS - Wiring Inspector	\$50,000
Parks & Recreation	\$100,000
Council on Aging	\$20,000
Celebrations Committee	\$50,000
Stormwater Management	\$100,000

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 7

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote, as a block, to fix or maintain the salaries of the elected officials for Fiscal Year 2024 as follows:

Board of Selectmen	\$ 0.00	Annually
Moderator	\$ 200.00	Annually
Board of Assessors	\$ 1,000.00	Annually
Town Treasurer/Collector	\$ 79,240.00	Annually
Town Clerk	\$ 76,930.00	Annually
Water Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Annually
Sewer Commissioners	\$ 725.00	Annually
Board of Health	\$ 725.00	Annually

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 8

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote, as a block, to amend the Personnel Bylaws by deleting Schedule A, Schedule B, and Schedule C, under “Section 2: Compensation” and substituting the following Schedule A, Schedule B and Schedule C;

(Informational Note: The rates in Schedule A are increased by 2.85% for FY 2024)

Schedule A

Schedule A

Administrative Clerk (part time)	\$18.05	hourly
Animal Control & Inspection Officer	\$40,501.30	yearly
Animal Control On-Call (per diem basis)	\$109.02	daily
Clerk-of-the-Works I	\$20.57	hourly
Clerk-of-the-Works II	\$22.52	hourly
Clerk-of-the-Works III	\$25.15	hourly
Clerk-of-the-Works IV	\$28.34	hourly
Clerk-of-the-Works V	\$33.48	hourly
COA Outreach Worker	\$20.26	hourly
Election Inspectors	\$15.43	hourly
Election Wardens / Clerks	\$15.94	hourly
Engineering Aide I	\$19.18	hourly
Engineering Aide II	\$21.70	hourly
Facilities Maintenance Worker	\$20.26	hourly
Gas Inspector	\$6,222.43	yearly
Harbormaster	\$1,134.44	yearly
Laborer (Seasonal)	\$16.46	hourly

Library Page	\$15.43	hourly
Parks & Rec Waterfront Director	\$23.66	hourly
Parks & Rec Water Safety Instructor	\$18.36	hourly
Parks & Rec Head Lifeguard	\$18.36	hourly
Parks & Rec Lifeguard	\$16.46	hourly
Parks & Rec Parking Attendant	\$15.43	hourly
Parks & Rec Coordinator/Clerk	\$19.70	hourly
Plumbing Inspector	\$6,222.43	yearly
Police Dispatcher	\$21.91	hourly
Recording Secretary (ODIS)	\$17.33	hourly
Registrars	\$1,497.50	yearly
Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$5,181.58	yearly
SEMA, Director of Operations	\$2,727.58	yearly
SFD Deputy Chief	\$10,490.70	yearly
SFD Captain - On-Call	\$22.47	hourly
SFD Lieutenant - On-Call	\$20.78	hourly
SFD Firefighter - On-Call	\$19.18	hourly
SFD Captain - Full Time	\$57,045.75	yearly
SFD Lieutenant - Full Time	\$55,926.74	yearly
SFD Firefighter - Full Time	\$54,829.34	yearly
Transfer Station Monitor	\$18.56	hourly
Transfer Station Senior Monitor	\$20.78	hourly

Schedule B

Compensation Grade	Job Title
Grade 1	Library Associate
Grade 1	Administration Clerk
Grade 2	Tree Warden
Grade 2	Planning Assistant
Grade 3	Fire Dept Office Manager
Grade 3	Conservation Agent
Grade 3	Reference/Circulation Librarian
Grade 4	Executive Assistant - TA/BoS Children's Librarian / Assistant
Grade 4	Director
Grade 4	Veteran Services Officer
Grade 5	Building Inspector / ZEO

Grade 5	Council on Aging Director
Grade 5	Health Agent
Grade 5	Town Planner
Grade 5	Chief Operator - Water Facility
Grade 6	ODIS Director / Town Planner
Grade 6	Library Director
Grade 6	Principal Assessor
Grade 6	Superintendent - WWTP
Grade 7	Town Accountant
Grade 7	Superintendent - Utilities & Facilities
Grade 8	Fire Chief
Grade 8	Police Chief
Elected	Town Clerk
Elected	Town Treasurer/Collector

Schedule C

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
1	20.08	20.48	20.89	21.51	22.16	22.82	23.75	24.92
2	22.07	22.51	22.97	23.66	24.38	25.10	26.11	27.40
3	24.30	24.79	25.26	26.03	26.80	27.63	28.73	30.16
4	26.72	27.28	27.80	28.62	29.49	30.38	31.60	33.18
5	29.40	29.98	30.58	31.50	32.43	33.41	34.74	36.49
6	35.27	35.98	36.70	37.80	38.93	40.09	41.70	43.78
7	42.33	43.18	44.04	45.35	46.71	48.11	50.05	52.54
8	50.79	51.81	52.83	54.44	56.06	57.74	60.05	63.06

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval; 6 in favor, 1 opposed. Board of Selectmen Approves

ARTICLE 9

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) to the fund known as the Post Employment Benefit Trust Fund (OPEB) and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 10

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Dollars and No Cents (\$10,280.00) from previously certified and available Free Cash for codification services of the Town General Bylaws, Zoning Bylaws, and other regulations, including all incidental and related expenses; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Spencer Town Clerk)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 11

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F³/₄, One Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars and Seventy-Eight Cents (\$121,296.78) as a grant to the Spencer Cable Access and PEG Channels; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval; 6 in favor, 1 abstention. Board of Selectmen Approves

ARTICLE 12

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$30,000.00) to the Sick Leave Buy Back Fund (Account #83000-39800) and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 13

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) to fund the FY2024 valuation update and certification, and to meet said appropriation by

transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator and the Board of Assessors)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 14

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote, as a block, provided that any amount stated herein shall be for the use of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2024 in accordance with any conditions stated herein and further provided that any stated amount shall be reduced to any lesser amount which shall subsequently be certified by the school committee and certified to the Town to raise and appropriate Ten Million Two Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Twenty Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$10,279,028.00) for Fiscal Year 2024 for the following purposes:

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Minimum Contribution Account #11300-56000	\$8,474,712.00
Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Additional Assessment Account #11300-56000	\$0.00
Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Transportation Assessment Account #11300-56000	\$1,380,299.00
Spencer-East Brookfield Regional High School Debt Service & Capital Assessment Account #11300-56010	\$424,017.00

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee voted to defer their recommendation. The Finance Committee will make a recommendation at a meeting prior to the Annual Town Meeting and announce the recommendation on the Town Meeting floor.

Finance Committee voted 7/1 to approve, Board of Selectmen Approves

ARTICLE 15

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate One Million Three Hundred Thirty-One Thousand One Hundred Forty Dollars and No Cents (\$1,331,140.00) for Fiscal Year 2024 for the following purposes:

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Minimum Contribution Account #11300-52000	\$1,190,547.00
Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Additional Assessment Account #11300-52000	\$0

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Transportation Assessment
Account #11300-52000 \$15,047.00

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Debt Serv. & Capital Assessment
Account #11300-52000 \$125,546.00

or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 16

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$75,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2024 for the following purposes:

Smith Vocational High School Non-Resident Tuition
Account #11300-52000 \$44,000.00

Smith Vocational High School Non-Resident Transportation
Account #11300-52100 \$31,000.00

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

**Spoke on Article: Gary Picard, Buteau Road
Jeffrey Bridges, Town Administrator**

ARTICLE 17

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Thirty-Four Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$34,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2024 for the following purposes:

Tantasqua Regional School District Non-Resident Tuition
Account #11300-52000 \$27,000.00

Tantasqua Regional School District Non-Resident Transportation
Account #11300-52100 \$7,000.00

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 18

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Thirteen Million Three Hundred Seventeen Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$13,317,345.00) to pay for the operations of the General Government expenses for Fiscal Year 2024; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 19

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote:

1. to appropriate One Million Seven Hundred Eighteen Thousand One Hundred Four Dollars and No Cents (\$1,718,104.00) for the use of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2024, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer from the receipts and revenue of the Water Enterprise Fund collected by the Water Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. to authorize Indirect Costs, from Fiscal Year 2024 revenues, for Fiscal Year 2024 One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$185,657.00); and,
3. to have the Board of Water Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2024 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs;

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Water Commissioners)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 20

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote:

1. to appropriate Two Million One Hundred Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$2,113,687.00) for the use of the Sewer Department for Fiscal Year 2024, and to fund said appropriation with the receipts and revenue of the Sewer Enterprise Fund collected by the Sewer Department for said Fiscal Year;
2. to authorize Indirect Costs, from Fiscal Year 2024 revenues Costs for Fiscal Year 2024 at One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Five Hundred Seventy-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$175,074.00); and,
3. to have the Board of Sewer Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2024 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs;

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Sewer Commissioners)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves
Jeffrey Bridges corrected a typo**

ARTICLE 21

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000.00) for the purpose of making repairs or improvements to the Sewer Department’s Collection System, including all incidental and related expenses; and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available retained earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee and the Board of Sewer Commissioners)*

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 22

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Eighty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$80,000.00) for the purchase of a front-end loader / tractor for the Spencer Sewer Department; and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Spencer Sewer Commissioners)*

Capital Improvement Advisory Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 23

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Four Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$457,000.00) to the Water Capital Efficiency Plan Program Account (#15000-58860) for the following capital projects, including all incidental and related expenses, as approved by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee; and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available retained earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund; or taken any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Water Commissioners)*

Improvement	Amount
Water Filtration Tank / Lining Design	\$250,000.00
SCADA Computer System Upgrade	\$21,000.00
Bemis St. Water Main Repair	\$100,000.00
2 WD Ford Ranger or Equal	\$36,000.00
System Operational Repairs	\$50,000.00

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 24

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into lease purchase financing agreements, pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 21C, for a period of up to or in excess of three years, for the acquisition of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Air Compressor for the Spencer Fire Department and other incidental and related expenses, and to raise and appropriate Twenty Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$28,000.00) for the first fiscal year of such agreements; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator)*

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval; Unanimous vote.

Board of Selectmen Approves

ARTICLE 25

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate One Million One Ninety Thousand Seven Hundred Ten Dollars and No Cents (\$1,090,710.00) for a capital program of equipment purchases and improvements, including equipping of vehicles, and all incidental and related expenses for all other purchases, as generally described below, and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash as shown in the chart below:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fire	Forestry 2	\$29,000.00
Fire	Second Floor Egress Design	\$75,000.00
Police	NexGen CAD /RMS	\$164,282.00
Police	Cruiser SUV - Hybrid	\$68,326.00
Police	4WS Drive Cruiser	\$64,192.00
Transfer Station	Waste Oil Storage	\$5,000.00
Transfer Station	Electric for Shelter Building	\$13,910.00
Transfer Station	Forklift	\$36,000.00
Transfer Station	Field Shelter Building	\$18,000.00
Highway	Salt Storage Shed	\$250,000.00
Highway	6-Wheel Dump Truck	\$66,000.00
Highway	Electric Panel Replacement	\$51,000.00
Parks and Rec.	O’Gara Grandstand Project	\$25,000.00
Parks and Rec.	O’Gara Field Lights	\$100,000.00
Library	Building Repairs	\$125,000.00

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Capital Improvements Planning Committee)*

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 26

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into lease purchase financing agreements, pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 21C, for a period of up to or in excess of three years, for the acquisition and equipping of a Forestry Truck for the Spencer Fire Department and Six Wheel Dump Truck for the Spencer Highway Department, including all other incidental and related expenses, and to transfer from available and previously certified Free Cash the sum of Ninety Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$95,000.00) said funds included in the amount transferred in Article 25, for the first fiscal year of such agreements; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator)*

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 27

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 27: To see if the Town vote to appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand One Hundred Thirty Three Dollars and No Cents (\$415,133.00) for renovation and rehabilitation including all incidental and related expenses to the Richard Sugden Library and to meet said appropriation by transferring the following sums from the following accounts: Two Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$257,878.00) from the Library HVAC Account (#60000-58006), One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$150,000.00) from the Library AC/Control Upgrade Account (#60000-59339), and Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Five Dollars and No Cents (\$7,255.00) from the Library HVAC Design Account (#60000-59315); or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee).*

Capital Improvement Advisory Committee Recommendation: The Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommends Approval.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

ARTICLE 28

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to:

1. Initiate a municipal aggregation program to aggregate the electrical load of interested consumers within the boundaries of the Town pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, or any other enabling legislation; and
2. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to (i) enter into one or more agreements with one or more consultants to assist the Town with the development, implementation and administration of such aggregation program for a term of 20 years or more, (ii) enter into one or more agreements with one or more electricity suppliers for terms of 20 years or more for the purchase of electricity for the aggregation program, and (ii) take any actions and execute any other documents and agreements necessary, convenient, or appropriate to accomplish the foregoing and to implement and administer the aggregation program and consultant/electricity supply agreements, which agreements and documents shall be on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interests of the Town; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval;
Board of Selectmen Approves**

**Spoke on Article: Jeffrey Bridges, Town Administrator
Ralph Hicks, Selectman
Susan Joritsma, 63 Northwest Road**

ARTICLE 29

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to adopt a new General Bylaw, Article 19, to establish flow neutral regulations applicable to present and future wastewater treatment systems and sewer service areas in the Town, as follows, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Flow Neutral Regulation for Present and Future Wastewater Treatment Systems/Sewer Service Areas

Section 1: Purpose

In order to manage present and future wastewater flows for the purposes of compliance with present and future water quality standards and regulatory permits and preserving the environmental qualities of the Town, the Town adopts this Flow Neutral Bylaw for Present and Future Wastewater Treatment Systems and Sewer Service Areas. This Bylaw shall be supplemental to any and all other applicable statutes, bylaws, rules, and regulations, including, without limitation, the requirements of 310 CMR 15.000: Septic Systems (Title 5), as such may be amended from time to time, or any orders or directives pursuant thereto, and nothing herein shall exempt the Owner of any property in the Town therefrom.

Section 2. Applicability

This Article shall apply to all property located in the Town which is, or shall in the future be, serviced by an onsite sewage disposal system pursuant to Title 5 or connected to a private sewage disposal/sewer system. The present and future wastewater connections shall be limited to within the Town's existing Sewer Service Area as defined on Figure 3-1 on page 3-3 in the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP),

Phase 1, published in September 2019 and as adopted by the Sewer Commission on April 4, 2023, at 4:00 PM. The present and future expansion of new wastewater flows to the existing collection system shall be limited to a reserve capacity of 145,400 gallons as defined in Table 3-1 on page 3-10 of Phase 2 of the CWMP. Re-allocation of flow within the existing sewer service area will be permitted as long as the result does not exceed the 145,400-gallon threshold or threshold value at the time of connection or reallocation.

Section 3. Determination of Wastewater Flow

For purposes of this Article, wastewater flow to onsite sewage disposal systems and to private/public sewage disposal systems shall be determined in accordance with either: 1) the provisions set forth in 310 CMR 15 (Title 5); or 2) water meter data provided by the Spencer Water Department, as adjusted for seasonal occupancy; or 3) any other method acceptable to the Department of Environmental Protection, the Town of Spencer, and the Spencer Sewer Commission. Any structure, legally in existence as of July 1, 2023, regardless of its flow, may by right maintain that flow or number of bedrooms. “Bedroom” is defined in 310 CMR 15.002. The number of bedrooms in the Assessor’s records as of September 1, 2019, are presumed to be accurate.

Section 4. Allocation of Reserve Capacity for Expansion of Existing Facilities

The Town may by majority vote of the Board of Sewer Commissioners, subject to available reserve capacity based on the 145,000-gallon reserve, allow the expansion of existing facilities within the Sewer Service Area that will result in increased sewage flow for that facility. The design flow for the expansion of the existing facilities shall be calculated in accordance with the determination of wastewater flow set forth above. The 145,400-gallon reserve capacity shall be reduced by a like amount.

Section 5. Allocation of Reserve Capacity for Change in Use of Existing Facilities

The Town may by majority vote of the Board of Sewer Commissioners, subject to available reserve capacity, allow the change in use of existing facilities within the Sewer Service Area that will result in increased sewage flow for that facility. The design flow for the change in use of the existing facility shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Flow} = \text{New Design Flow} - \text{Existing Flow}$$

The existing flow is the average daily water consumption for the facility as recorded by the Spencer Water Department for the prior full calendar year or another acceptable method as outlined in 310 CMR 15.000: Septic Systems (Title 5) and the New Design Flow is the Sewage Flow calculated in accordance with this bylaw. The reserve capacity shall be reduced by a like amount.

The Owner of the facility shall reimburse the Town for the expense of maintaining the portion of the reserve capacity that has been allocated to them as set forth in this bylaw. No rebates shall be granted for change of use which reduces water consumption.

Section 6. Reserve Capacity

The Town owns any and all sewer system capacity not otherwise allocated specifically to an individual, corporation or other entity.

Section 7: Severability

If any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid or unenforceable, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby but shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 8: Violations and Penalties; Enforcement

- A. Any person found in violation of any provision of this Article shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and a reasonable time to correct said violation.
- B. Any person that continues to be in violation after the time set forth in subsection A shall be subject to a fine in an amount not exceeding fifty dollars for each violation. Each day shall constitute a separate offense.
- C. The Board of Health and the Sewer Commissions, and their duly authorized agents, shall have the power and authority to enforce this Bylaw. This Bylaw shall in no way limit the Town’s authority to invoke any other remedies at law to ensure compliance with this Bylaw.

or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Sewer Commission).*

Note: This article will adopt a General Bylaw to establish flow neutral regulations applicable to present and future wastewater treatment systems and sewer service areas in the Town of Spencer. Adoption of this bylaw enables the Town to qualify for 0% financing from the State Clean Water Trust for the current \$46 million dollar upgrade to the wastewater treatment facility and future nutrient removal projects for the facility.

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval; 5 in favor, 3 opposed.

Board of Selectman Approves

Spoke on Article: Sewer Commissioners: Frank White, Larry Dufault and Sewer Superintendent James LaPlante

David Cole, 8 Nottingham Circle

Jared Grigg, Selectman

ARTICLE 30

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Spencer Zoning Bylaws by deleting the test shown in ~~strike through~~ and inserting the underlined text, as follows:

3.4.2. Floodplain District (Added 11/8/93 Art. 25) (Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22)

A. Purpose. The purposes of the Floodplain District are to protect the public health, safety, and general welfare, to protect human life and property from the hazards of periodic flooding, to preserve the natural flood control characteristics, and the flood storage capacity of the flood-plain, and to preserve and maintain the ground water table and water recharge areas within the floodplain.

B. Definitions. These definitions shall only apply to this Floodplain District section of the zoning bylaw.

AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, V1-30, or VE or V.

BASE FLOOD means the flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

DEVELOPMENT means any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

DISTRICT means floodplain district.

EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

EXPANSION TO AN EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION means the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA provides a nationwide flood hazard area mapping study program for communities as well as regulatory standards for development in the flood hazard areas.

~~FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOODWAY MAP means an official map of a community issued by FEMA that depicts, based on detailed analyses, the boundaries of the 100-year and 500-year floods and the 100-year floodway. (For maps done in 1987 and later, the floodway designation is included on the FIRM.)~~

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM) means an official map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY means an examination, evaluation, and determination of flood hazards, and if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

FLOODWAY means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height.

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities.

HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE means any structure that is:

(a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;

(b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;

(c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or

(d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:

(1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or

(2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

LOWEST FLOOR means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor, PROVIDED that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of NFIP Regulations 60.3.

MANUFACTURED HOME means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. For floodplain management purposes the term "manufactured home" also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles placed on a site for greater than 180 consecutive days. For insurance purposes, the term "manufactured home" does not include park trailers, travel trailers, and other similar vehicles.

MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION means a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

~~NEW CONSTRUCTION means, for floodplain management purposes, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community. For the purpose of determining insurance rates, NEW CONSTRUCTION means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974,~~

~~whichever is later.~~ Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, bylaw, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement.

NEW MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

ONE-HUNDRED YEAR FLOOD see BASE FLOOD

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE means a vehicle which is:

- (a) Built on a single chassis;
- (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
- (c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

REGULATORY FLOODWAY see FLOODWAY

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA means an area having special flood and/or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on an FHBM or FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, A99, AR, AH, V, VO, V1-30, VE. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

~~START OF CONSTRUCTION includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, or floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.~~

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of

the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual “start of construction” means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

STRUCTURE means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. Structure, for insurance coverage purposes, means a walled and roofed building, other than a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site, as well as a manufactured home on foundation. For the latter purpose, the term includes a building while in the course of construction, alteration, or repair, but does not include building materials or supplies intended for use in such construction, alteration, or repair, unless such materials or supplies are within an enclosed building on the premises.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT means any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the “start of construction” of the improvement. This term includes structures which have incurred “substantial damage,” regardless of the actual repair work performed.

SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF A FOUNDATION. When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR.

VARIANCE means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation.

VIOLATION means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

ZONE A means the 100-year floodplain area where the base flood elevation (BFE) has not been determined. To determine the BFE, use the best available federal, state, local or other data.

ZONE A1 – A30 AND ZONE AE (for new and revised maps) means the 100-year floodplain where the base flood elevation has been determined.

ZONES B, C and X are areas identified in the community Flood Insurance Study as areas of moderate or minimal flood hazard. Zone X replaces Zones B and C on new and revised maps.

C. District Delineation (~~Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22~~)

1. The Floodplain District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Spencer designated as Zone A and AE on the Worcester County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. ~~The map panels of the Worcester County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Spencer are panel numbers 25027C0566E, 25027C0567E, 25027C0568E, 25027C0569E, 25027C0590E, 25027C0757E, 25027C0759E, 25027C0767E, 25027C0780E, 25027C0786E and 25027C0787E dated July 4, 2011.~~ The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM dated June 21, 2023 and further defined by the Worcester County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated July 4, 2011 June 21, 2023. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk and the Office of Development and Inspectional Services.

2. ~~Within Zone A, where the 100-year flood elevation is not provided on the FIRM, the developer/applicant shall obtain any existing flood elevation data and it shall be reviewed by the Building Inspector. If the data is sufficiently detailed and accurate it shall be relied upon to require compliance with this bylaw.~~

In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A and as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.

D. Base Flood Elevation and Floodway Data (~~Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22~~)

1. Floodway Data. In Zone A, and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available Federal, State, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Town's FIRM encroachments are prohibited, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway

unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

E. Notification Of Watercourse Alteration. The following entities are to be notified of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse in a riverine situation: (Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22)

1. Adjacent Communities
2. NFIP State Coordinator
3. NFIP Program Specialist

F. Use Regulations

~~1. Reference to Existing Regulations. The Floodplain District is established as an overlay district to all other districts. All development in the district, including structural and non-structural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit must be in compliance with Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and with the following:~~

- ~~a) Section of the Massachusetts State Building Code which addresses floodplain and coastal high hazard areas. (currently 780 CMR 120.G, "Flood Resistant Construction in Coastal Dunes);~~
- ~~b) Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) (currently 310 CMR 13.00);~~
- ~~c) Inland Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 302 CMR 6.00); (Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22)~~
- ~~d) Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, DEP (currently 310 CMR 15, Title 5);~~
- ~~e) Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.~~

(Reserved for Future Use.)

2. Other Use Regulations

- a) In Zones A and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated in the Town Of Spencer on the Worcester County FIRM, encroachments are prohibited in the regulator floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the

~~community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. (Amended 5/5/11 Art. 22)~~

a) Review all subdivision proposals to assure that:

- 1) such proposals minimize flood damage;
- 2) all public utilities and facilities are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage; and
- 3) adequate drainage is provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.

G. Permitted Uses. The following uses of low flood-damage potential and causing no obstructions to flood flows shall be permitted provided they do not require structures, fill, or storage of materials or equipment:

1. Agricultural uses such as farming, grazing, truck farming, horticulture, etc.
2. Forestry and nursery uses.
3. Outdoor recreational uses, including fishing, boating, play areas, etc.
4. Conservation of water, plants, wildlife
5. Wildlife management areas, foot, bicycle, and/or horse paths
6. Temporary non-residential structures used in connection with fishing, growing, harvesting, storage, or sale of crops raised on the premises
7. Buildings lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.

H. Special Permits. No structure or building shall be erected, constructed, substantially improved, reconstructed (except as provided in Paragraph G above), or otherwise created or moved; no earth or other materials dumped, filled, excavated, or transferred, unless a special permit is granted. All Special Permits required under this section shall be issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals except that the Planning Board shall issue them in cases where Site Plan Review and/or a Planning Board Special Permit in Section 4.2 Use Table, Principal Uses is required. Said Board may issue a special permit hereunder (subject to other provisions of this bylaw) if the application is compliant with the following provisions (Amended 11/17/16 Art. 14):

1. The proposed use shall comply in all respect to the provisions of the underlying District in which the land is located.

2. Within 10 days of the receipt of the application, the Board shall transmit one copy of the development plan to the Conservation Commission, and Board of Health. Final action shall not be taken until reports have been received from the above Boards or until 35 days have elapsed.

~~3. All encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements to existing structures, and other development are prohibited in the floodway unless certification by a registered professional engineer is provided by the applicant demonstrating that such encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the 100 year flood.~~

4. The Board may specify such additional requirements and conditions as it finds necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and occupants of the proposed use.

I. Designation of community Floodplain Administrator

The Town of Spencer hereby designates the position of the Town Planner/Conservation Agent to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town.

J. Permits are required for all proposed development in the Floodplain Overlay District. The Town of Spencer requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties.

K. Assure that all necessary permits are obtained. The town's permit review process includes the requirement that the proponent obtain all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district. The proponent must acquire all necessary permits, and must demonstrate that all necessary permits have been acquired.

M. Base flood elevation data for subdivision proposals. When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.

N. Recreational vehicles. In A1-30, AH, and AE Zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.

O. Requirement to submit new technical data. If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within 6 months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s.) Notification shall be submitted to:

- NFIP State Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- NFIP Program Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I

P. Variances to building code floodplain standards. If the State issues variances to the flood-resistant standards as found in the state building code, the community will use this text for local adoption:

The Town will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.

The Town shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that (i) the issuance of a variance to construct a structure

below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the floodplain overlay district.

Q. Variances to local Zoning Bylaws related to community compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). A variance from these floodplain bylaws must meet the requirements set out by State law and may only be granted if: 1) Good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist; 2) the variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and 3) the variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

R. Abrogation and greater restriction section. The floodplain management regulations found in this Floodplain Overlay District section shall take precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local laws, bylaws or codes.

S. Disclaimer of liability. The degree of flood protection required by this bylaw is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

T. Severability section. If any section, provision or portion of this bylaw is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the bylaw shall be effective;

or take any action in relation thereto. (Sponsored by the Spencer Planning Board)

Spencer Planning Board Recommendation:

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Finance Committee recommends approval

Board of Selectmen Approves

Spoke on Article: Lauren Vivier, Town Planner

Jeffrey Bridges Town Administrator

ARTICLE 31

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to accept the layouts of Deer Run Road, Thornberry Circle, and Briarwood Lane as public town ways, as ordered by the Board of Selectman and depicted on plans placed on file with the Town Clerk as required by law; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase or eminent domain, such interests in land as are necessary to allow for the use and maintenance of said ways for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Spencer; or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

Planning Board Recommendation: The Planning Board Recommends Approval.

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee Recommends Approval; 7 in favor, 1 opposed. Board of Selectmen Approves

ARTICLE 32
ASSISTANCE TO PINE GROVE CEMETERY

Moderator declared the motion carried

Article 32: To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$40,000.00) to partially fund operation of the property known as Pine Grove Cemetery. The Cemetery Commissioners of Pine Grove Cemetery shall be responsible to submit a detailed report to the town on the expenditure of such funds, however that said appropriation is contingent upon an election approval for a so-called Proposition 2 ½ Override; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by Carol McPherson and eighteen (18) other interested citizens).*

Finance Committee Recommendation: The Finance Committee does not recommend approval; 2 in favor of approval, 4 opposed.

Board of Selectmen

Meeting was Adjourned at 8:48 pm

**Annual Town Election Report for
May 9, 2023 Election**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for **Precinct #1**

Warden: Diane Ledoux
Clerk: Mary Baker-Wood
Inspectors: Janice Peters, Patricia Monfette, Ronald Fortin, Lucinda Puchalski,
Irene Gadbois & Linda Wozniak

Ballots Cast in Precinct One:

1 Absentee Ballot
78 Early Ballots
209 In-Person Voters

The ballot box registered 284 at the close of Polls. 4 Ballots were in the hand counted by the inspectors.
For a Total of 288 Ballots Cast in Precinct One

The following were appointed election officers for **Precinct #2**

Warden: Peter McGinn
Clerk: Mary Braney
Inspectors: Karen Hackett, Bruce Herholz, Barbara White, John Wilson
Linda Mandella, Beth Plante & Barbara White

Ballots Cast in Precinct Two:

6 Absentee Ballot
95 Early Ballots
177 In-Person Voters

The ballot box registered 271 at the close of Polls. 7 Ballots were in the hand counted by the inspectors.
For a Total of 278 Ballots Cast in Precinct Two

The following were appointed election officers for **Precinct #3**

Warden: William Lehtola
Clerk: Judith Fortin
Inspectors: Kathleen Beford, Nancy Herholz, Nancy Fredette, Mary McLaughlin,
Winnie Bouley & Barbara Braney

Ballots Cast in Precinct #3:

5 Absentee Ballot
83 Early Ballots
269 In-Person Voters

The ballot box registered 350 at the close of Polls. 6 ballots and 1 Overseas UOCAVA special qualified ballot was hand counted by the tabulators.

For a Total of 357 Ballots Cast in Precinct Three

The following were appointed elections officers for **Precinct #4**

Warden: Diane Scanlon

Clerk: Louise Small

Inspectors: Gail McInnes, Karen Gaucher, Kimberly Durant, Donna Parker & Linda Wozniak

Ballots Cast in Precinct Four:

6 Absentee Ballot

87 Early Ballots

257 In-Person Voters

The ballot box registered 339 at the close of Polls. 11 Ballots were in the hand counted by the inspectors.

For a Total of 350 Ballots Cast in Precinct Four

Tabulators: Brynn Johnson and Casey Lacaire

The counting and tabulation was completed by 10:15 p.m. May 9th 2023

Sandra J. Fritze

Town Clerk

**Special Town Election
September 12, 2023**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #1

Warden: Diane Ledoux
Clerk: Mary Baker-Wood
Inspectors: Ronald Fortin, Patricia Monfette
Deputy Inspector: Donna Parker

Two absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **Ninety-two** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred Twenty-four** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **Two Hundred and Seventeen** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred Fifteen** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **Two** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #2

Warden: Peter McGinn
Clerk: Mary Braney
Inspectors: Kimberly Durant, John Wilson
Deputy Inspector: Nancy Fredette

Seven absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Seven** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **Ninety-eight** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **Two Hundred and Eleven** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Six** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **Five** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #3

Warden: William Lehtola
Clerk: Judith Fortin
Inspectors: Nancy Herholz, Kathleen Beford
Deputy Inspector: Donna Parker

Seven absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **Eighty-five** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Forty-three** were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **zero** were spoiled, making a total of **Two Hundred and Thirty-five** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Thirty** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **Three** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment. **Two** ballots were cast and counted in Precinct 4.

The following were appointed elections officers for Precinct #4

Warden: Dianne Scanlon
Clerk: Karen Hackett
Inspectors: Gail McInnes, Karen Gaucher
Deputy Inspector: Nancy Fredette

One absentee ballot was cast in this precinct. **One hundred and three** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Thirteen** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **three** were spoiled, making a total of **Two Hundred and fourteen** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Sixteen** ballots at the closing of the polls. **Two** Ballots were cast and counted from Precinct 3. **Four Ballots** were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

Tabulator: Brynn Johnson

The counting and tabulation were completed by 7:50 pm

Sandra J. Fritze
Town Clerk

**Special State Primary
October 10, 2023**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #1

Warden: Diane Ledoux
Clerk: Mary Baker-Wood
Inspectors: Ronald Fortin, Patricia Monfette, Janice Peters, Elizabeth Plante
Deputy Inspector: Donna Parker

Two absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **Seventy-five** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Fifty-four** were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **Two** were spoiled, making a total of **One Hundred and Fifty-two** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Twenty-Nine** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **One** ballot was hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #2

Warden: Peter McGinn
Clerk: Mary Braney
Inspectors: Bruce Herholz, Linda Mandella, Mary McLaughlin, John Wilson
Deputy Inspector: Patricia Monfette

Six absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **Seventy-eight** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **Ninety-three** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **One Hundred and Seventy-five** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **One Hundred and Seventy-four** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **2** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #3

Warden: William Lehtola
Clerk: Judith Fortin
Inspectors: Paul McLaughlin, Kathleen Beford, Nancy Fredette, Barbara White
Deputy Inspector: Winnefred Bouley

Five absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **Sixty-four** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Eighty-nine** were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **zero** were spoiled, making a total of **Two Hundred and Fifty-eight** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Fifty-eight** cast at the closing of the polls. **Two** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed elections officers for Precinct #4

Warden: Casey Lacaire
Clerk: Karen Hackett
Inspectors: Kimberley Durant, Louise Small, Gail McInnes, Karen Gaucher
Deputy Inspector: Paul Gleason

Nine absentee ballot was cast in this precinct. **Sixty-five** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Thirty-nine** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **three** were spoiled, making a total of **One Hundred and Thirty-Six** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Two Hundred and Seven** ballots at the closing of the polls. **One Ballot** was hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

Tabulator: Brynn Johnson

The counting and tabulation were completed by 9:15 pm

Sandra J. Fritze
Town Clerk

**Special State Election
November 7, 2023**

In accordance with the warrant, the polls opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #1

Warden: Diane Ledoux
Clerk: Mary Baker-Wood
Inspectors: Ronald Fortin, Patricia Monfette, Janice Peters, Shirley Standing
Deputy Inspector: Irene Gadbois

Five absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Thirty-three** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **Two Hundred and Ninety-eight** were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **Three** were spoiled, making a total of **Four Hundred and Thirty-three** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Four Hundred and Thirty-three** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **Zero** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #2

Warden: Peter McGinn
Clerk: Mary Braney
Inspectors: Bruce Herholz, Donna Parker, Paul McLaughlin, John Wilson
Deputy Inspector: Paul Gleason

Six absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Twenty-one** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **Two Hundred and Fifty-five** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **Three Hundred and Eighty-one** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Three Hundred and Eighty** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. 1 ballot was hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed election officers for Precinct #3

Warden: William Lehtola
Clerk: Judith Fortin
Inspectors: Nancy Herholz, Kathleen Beford, Linda Wozniak, Mary McLaughlin
Deputy Inspector: Barbara White

Nine absentee ballots were cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Eighteen** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **One** UOACAVA ballot was cast in this precinct. **Three Hundred and Seventy-eight** were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **Five Hundred and five** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Five Hundred and Three** ballots cast at the closing of the polls. **Two** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

The following were appointed elections officers for Precinct #4

Warden: Casey Lacaire
Clerk: Karen Hackett
Inspectors: Kimberley Durant, Barbara Braney, Gail McInnes, Karen Gaucher
Deputy Inspector: Anne Jette

Nine absentee ballot was cast in this precinct. **One Hundred and Twenty-three** vote by mail early ballots were cast in this precinct. **Three Hundred and Sixty-two** ballots were handed out by the inspectors. Of these, **One** was spoiled, making a total of **Four Hundred and Ninety-three** ballots cast. The ballot box registered **Four Hundred and Ninety-three** ballots at the closing of the polls. **Zero** ballots were hand counted from the auxiliary compartment.

Tabulator: Brynn Johnson, Casey Lacaire

The counting and tabulation were completed by 9:00 pm

Sandra J. Fritze
Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

November 9, 2023

WORCESTER, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Spencer in the County of Worcester, Greeting.

IN THE NAME OF THE Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs; to meet at the Spencer Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562 on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

A quorum was reached at 7:00 pm final check in 66
Meeting was called to order by Moderator William Shemeth III at 7:20pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges
The Nation Anthem was sung by Town Clerk Sandra Fritze

Moderator Shemeth call for a moment of silence for those who had passed away and had served the town since the Annual Town Meeting in May. Cynthia Marchall, Carol Gaucher and Delores Kresco.
Marguerite Hayes had also passed and was remember as one of our oldest residents.
A moment of silence for all that is happening in the World, especially for Israel the hostages and the innocent civilians.
All Veterans, past and present were asked to stand as we thanked them for their service.

Moderator Shemeth mentioned:

- The Veterans Day Parade 11/11/23
- Transfer Station closed 11/11/23
- Thank you to Spencer Parks and Recreation and the Spencer Police Association for the Halloween Party and related activities
- Thank you to the Master Plan Committee for Public input work in developing the Master Plan
- Holiday Craft Fair 11/18/2023 Sr. Center
- Christmas Parade of Lights 12/9/2023 7:00 pm
- Public Hearing on Tax Classification 11/13/2023 6:00 pm
- ARPA Grant deadline to apply is 11/30/2023

Article 1:

Moderator declared the motion carried

INCREASE APPROPRIATION FOR FY 2024 SMITH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 16 of the May 4, 2023 Annual Town Meeting warrant increasing the amount to be raised and appropriated in the amount of an additional Three

Thousand Two Hundred Forty Dollars and No Cents (\$3,240.00) for the Transportation Assessment Account (#11300-52100) for Fiscal Year 2024, and, in turn, to increase by said sum the total appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024 for the total appropriation of Thirty-Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Dollars and No Cents (\$34,240.00); or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

The Town received notice of the increase in the annual cost after the adoption of the budget at the May Town Meeting. The cost increased \$17.00 per day. This additional \$3,240.00 represents the increase in the transportation contract. Said amount is included in the budget adjustments contained in Article 3.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval.
Jennifer Nolin 26 Lincoln Street Spoke.**

Article 2:

Moderator declared the motion carried

INCREASE THE FY 2024 APPROPRIATION FOR TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 17 from the May 4, 2023 Annual Town Meeting warrant by increasing the amount to be raised and appropriated by Four Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$400.00) to increase the total amount needed for Tantasqua Regional High School Transportation Assessment (\$7,400.00 Account # 11300-52100) for Fiscal Year 2024; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

The estimated expenses for transportation for attendance at Tantasqua Regional School District are less than estimated in the adopted FY 2024 Town Budget. The amounts in the budget are being increased accordingly. Said amount is included in the budget adjustments contain in Article 3.

**Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval.
Jennifer Nolin 26 Lincoln Street Spoke.**

Article 3:

Moderator declared the motion carried

INCREASE APPROPRIATION FOR FY 2024 GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 18 of the May 4, 2023 Annual Town Meeting warrant to increase the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget by raising and appropriating an additional One Hundred Seven Thousand Eighty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$107,083.00) to the following accounts and reducing appropriations for other accounts in the amounts and for the purposes specified below; or take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Original Appropriation</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Total Appropriation</u>
Town Counsel General Expenses	11151-57000	\$ 60,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Town Clerk Salaries and Wages	11161-51000	\$157,884.00	\$ 187.00	\$158,072.00
Town Clerk General Expenses	11161-57000	\$ 35,700.00	\$ 770.00	\$ 36,470.00
Elections and Registrars Salaries & Wages	11162-51000	\$ 18,142.00	\$ 4,446.00	\$ 22,588.00
Elections and Registrars General Expenses	11162-57000	\$ 20,600.00	\$ 2,779.00	\$ 23,379.00
Fire Department General Expenses	11220-57000	\$634,525.00	\$44,460.00	\$678,985.00
ODIS Salaries & Wages	11250-51000	\$283,367.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$288,367.00
Utilities and Facilities Salaries & Wages	11405-51000	\$109,750.00	\$13,801.00	\$123,551.00
Utilities and Facilities General Expenses	11405-57000	\$ 71,120.00	\$12,000.00	\$ 83,120.00
Snow and Ice General Expenses	11423-57000	\$252,148.00	\$10,000.00	\$262,148.00
Vocational School Transportation	11300-52100	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 3,640.00	\$ 41,640.00

**Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommend approval**

Article 4:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILL OF A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Five Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and No Cents (\$5,162.00) to the Town Hall Maintenance General Expense Account (#11192-57000) to pay a prior fiscal year's expense related to a repair to the Town Hall boiler from May of 2022, and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available free cash; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommend approval**

Article 5:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILL OF A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$1,367.75) to the Spencer Police Department General Expense Account (#11210-57000) to pay a prior fiscal year's expenses related to feeding of prisoners in the custody of the Town in Fiscal Year 2023, and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

**Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommend approval**

Article 6:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILL OF A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to the Town Clerk's General Expense Account (#11161-57000) the sum of Two Hundred Forty Dollars and No Cents (\$240.00) to pay a prior fiscal year's expense for

the purchase of preprinted forms for the Town Clerk’s Office; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Clerk)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval

Article 7:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILL OF A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate to the Employee Benefits General Expense Account (#11800-57000) the sum of Ninety-Seven Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$97,000.00) to pay a prior fiscal year’s expense for the payment of unemployment benefits to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval

ARTICLE 8

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE TOWN’S GENERAL BYLAWS ARTICLE 2, SECTION 15 REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 2, Section 15 of the Town’s General Bylaws, entitled Departmental Revolving Funds, with deletions in strikethrough and additions in bold underline all as set forth below; and further that any amounts in said funds to remain therein until expended consistent with the Bylaw;

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to the Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Cap of Fund	Fiscal Years
Planning Board	Planning Board	ANR, Subdivision, Site Plan, Special Permit	Administrative Costs, other Expense	\$50,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
ODIS – Wiring Inspections	ODIS Director	Depository of 80% of electrical permit fees collected	Compensate the Wiring Inspector	\$50,000 <u>\$80,000</u>	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Parks & Recreation	Parks & Recreation Commission	Park rentals, sticker fees, program fees	Program costs such as personnel, utilities,	\$100,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years

			supplies, and other expenses		
Celebrations Committee	Town Administrator	Fees collected	Program Expenses	\$50,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Fees collected	Program Expenses	\$20,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years
Stormwater Management	Town Administrator	Stormwater Fees and fines collected	Stormwater Management Activities such as programs or projects	\$100,000	FY 2018 and subsequent years

And further, to see if the Town will vote to confirm the increase in the amount permitted to be expended from the Town’s ODIS-Wiring Inspections Revolving Fund from \$50,000.00 to \$80,000.00, as previously approved by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 53E1/2; or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Article 9:

Moderator declared the motion carried

To see if the Town will vote, to amend portions of the Personnel Bylaws identified below by amending Schedule A as approved by the May 4, 2023, Town Meeting, under “Section 2: Compensation” and substituting the following updated salaries in Schedule A only for the positions identified below; or to take any action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Commission)*

Position	Approved May 4, 2023 (Per Hour)	Requested Amendment, November 9, 2023 (Per Hour)
Waterfront Director	\$23.66	\$24.50
Instructor	\$18.66	\$22.00
Head Lifeguard	\$18.36	\$22.00
Lifeguard	\$16.46	\$19.50
Parking Attendant	\$15.43	\$16.50
Clerk	\$19.70	\$20.00

Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation: approve the article as written.

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Article 10:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO THE OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT (OPEB) TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) to the Other Post Employment Benefit Trust Account (#83000-39825) and to meet said appropriation by transferring from previously certified and available Free Cash; or take any action relating thereto. (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*).

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Article 11:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONIES TO THE SENIOR CENTER IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

To see if the Town vote to appropriate the amount of One Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Eight Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$138,408.13) to the Senior Center Capital Improvement Account (#60000-59358) and to meet said appropriation transfer said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash; or to take any other in relation thereto. (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*)

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Roger Foss, Gold Nugget Rd spoke. Ralph Hicks and Jeff Bridges also spoke

Article 12:

Moderator declared the motion carried

TRANSFER A SUM OF MONEY TO THE GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) to the General Stabilization Account (#83000-39900) for reimbursement to the fund from the Water Department; and, to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Retained Earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund; or take any action in relation thereto. (*Sponsored by the Town Administrator*)

Board of Water Commissioners Recommendation: approve article as written, unanimous vote.

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommend approval

Article 13:

Moderator declared the motion carried

TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 19 of the May 4, 2023, Annual Town Meeting warrant to:

increase the appropriation to the Water Department to the total amount of One Million Seven Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Nine Dollars and No Cents (\$1,728,909.00) for the use of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2024, and to fund said appropriation with a transfer from the receipts and revenue of the Water Enterprise Fund collected by the Water Department for said Fiscal Year;

to authorize Indirect Costs, from Fiscal Year 2024 revenues, for Fiscal Year 2024 of One Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars and No Cents (\$188,472.00); and,

to have the Board of Water Commissioners set the Fiscal Year 2024 rates and fees to meet said appropriation and level of Indirect Costs;

or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Town Administrator)*

Board of Water Commissioners Recommendation: approve article as written, unanimous Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Article 14:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AMEND THE TOWN’S ZONING BYLAWS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaw by deleting in its entirety the text of Article 4.8.10: Temporary Moratorium on the Construction of Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations, and insert new text in its place, as follows:

ARTICLE 4.8.10: Temporary Moratorium on the Construction of Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations

A. Authority and Purpose

The Town of Spencer currently has twenty-one (21) approved large-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations, commonly referred to as “solar farms”, completed or under construction, and another two (2) that are in the permitting process. Pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw, large scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations are allowed pursuant to site plan review and special permit in all zoning districts in the Town except the Town Center Mixed Use district. The emphasis being placed on the development of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, coupled with the potential availability of large areas of open space in the Town, indicates that applications to site large scale solar

facilities in the Town will continue unabated. The high demand for large scale solar facilities has demonstrated the potential for rapidly changing the face of the Town, thereby raising novel legal, planning, and economic issues and creating an urgent need to regulate the use.

Together with the increase in demand, the law concerning the ability of municipalities to regulate solar energy facilities through its zoning bylaws has evolved substantially by way of recent court decisions and Attorney General review of proposed amendments to those bylaws. The Town's recent attempts to address the impact of large-scale solar facilities through amendments to its Zoning Bylaw have been only partially successful, due in large part to the changes in the law. The Town needs time to study the impact of this evolution on its current regulation of solar facilities and adjust that regulation as necessary to ensure that it conforms to legal requirements while adequately addressing the impact of large-scale solar facilities on the Town and its planning goals. Imposition of a temporary moratorium on the Construction of Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations will allow sufficient time to assess these issues and amend the Zoning Bylaw to conform to legal requirements and address the impact of these facilities on the Town's environmental resources and its planning goals.

B. Temporary Moratorium.

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations. The moratorium shall be in effect through May 3, 2024, or the date on which the Town adopts amendments to the Zoning Bylaw concerning Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations and Energy Storage Systems, whichever occurs earlier. A solar project must be in existence or have a building permit or special permit in hand before November 9, 2023, in order to be exempt from the moratorium. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to study, review, analyze and address what revisions to the Zoning Bylaw relative to Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations are needed or desirable to allow for and regulate such use consistent with applicable law while protecting the Town's environmental resources and furthering its planning goals. No applications for large scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic generating installations will be accepted by the Town of Spencer during the duration of the moratorium.

or take any other action in relation thereto. (*Sponsored by the Planning Board*).

The Planning Board is recommending a temporary moratorium on further development of large scale commercial solar facilities. Several of the amendments adopted at the November 10, 2022, were rejected by the Attorney General due to conflicts with the laws of the Commonwealth regarding regulation of solar facilities and the most recent court case (Tracer Lane II, 489 Mass. at 781). This moratorium will allow the Planning Board to review the existing Bylaw and address concerns such as concentration of solar facilities in certain zoning districts, loss of prime agricultural land, decommissioning costs, loss of open space, visual impacts, deforestation, among other concerns.

Planning Board Recommendation: approve the article as written, unanimous vote.

Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.

BOS recommends approval

Lauren Vivier Town Planner Spoke

ARTICLE 15:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE TOWN’S ZONING BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaw to insert a new section, Article 4.8.11, as follows:

ARTICLE 4.8.11: Temporary Moratorium on the Construction of Energy Storage Systems as a Principal Use

A. Authority and Purpose

The Town of Spencer currently has twenty-one (21) approved large-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations, commonly referred to as “solar farms”, completed or under construction, and another two (2) that are in the permitting process. Pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw, large scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations are allowed pursuant to site plan review and special permit in all zoning districts in the Town except the Town Center Mixed Use district. Many of these installations now rely or intend to rely on the use of independent Energy Storage Systems, as that term is currently defined in the Zoning Bylaw, to store energy produced by the solar facilities.

The use of independent Energy Storage Systems to store energy produced by solar facilities, which must be located near large scale solar facilities, has recently expanded beyond expectations, and the Town’s current bylaw contains no regulation of such facilities when those facilities are not accessory to a permitted solar photovoltaic generating installation. These systems raise significant and evolving environmental and planning issues for the Town, thereby creating an urgent need to adopt regulations addressing this use. In addition, the law concerning the ability of municipalities to regulate energy storage systems serving solar energy facilities is rapidly evolving. The Town needs time to consider and study the future implications and impact of these facilities upon the Town as a whole, and on the Town’s current and future planning goals. Imposition of a temporary moratorium on Energy Storage Systems as a principal use will allow sufficient time to assess these issues and amend the Zoning Bylaw to address the impact of these facilities on the Town’s environmental resources and its planning goals.

B. Temporary Moratorium.

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for Energy Storage Systems as a principal use. The moratorium shall be in effect through May 3, 2024, or the date on which the Town adopts amendments to the Zoning Bylaw concerning Energy Storage Systems as a principal use, whichever occurs earlier. An independent energy storage system project must be in existence or have a building permit or special permit in hand before November 9, 2023, in order to be exempt from the moratorium. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to study, review, analyze and address what revisions to the Zoning Bylaw relative to Energy Storage Systems as a principal use are needed or desirable to allow for and regulate such use consistent with protecting the Town’s environmental resources and furthering its planning goals. No applications for an independent energy storage system project will be accepted by the Town of Spencer during the duration of the moratorium.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

The Planning Board is recommending a temporary moratorium on the installation of commercial energy storage systems to develop Zoning Bylaws to provide regulations on these systems. The Attorney General has rejected the outright ban on these stand-alone energy storage systems as inconsistent with Commonwealth Law supporting the development of solar energy and finds that these large-scale energy storage systems are integral elements to the solar energy systems in the Commonwealth. The Planning Board has concerns regarding thermal overload, leak containment, fire suppression, and appropriate zoning district among other concerns. The Attorney General has stated that various codes will be amended to provide for an pre-empt local regulations on such facilities. However, those codes have not been adopted at the Commonwealth level yet.

Planning Board Recommendation: approve the article as written unanimous vote.
Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval

Lauren Vivier, Town Planner spoke

ARTICLE 16:

Moderator declared the motion carried

AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE EASEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, permanent and temporary easements in certain parcels of land within, adjacent to and/or contiguous to the Route 31 Bridge, Bridge No. S-23-012 in the locations more or less depicted on a plan entitled “Plan and Profile of St 31 (North Spencer Road) Bridge No. S-23-012 in the Town of Spencer, Worcester County, Preliminary Right of Way Plans,” prepared by Bayside Engineering, last rev. June 6, 2023 (the “Plan”), as it may be amended, a copy of which has been placed on file with the Town Clerk, and permanent and temporary easements in parcels of land located within 200 feet of said parcels, as such additional areas may be shown on said Plan, as hereinafter revised, for public way and public way construction purposes and otherwise for general municipal purposes sufficient to carry out the Route 31 Bridge Replacement Project as depicted on the Plan, which purposes shall include, without limitation, grading, sloping, drainage, installation and relocation of utilities, landscaping, and other roadway improvements, and, further, to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of providing for such acquisition and paying all costs and expenses associated therewith, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend any grants or loans in connection herewith, enter into all agreements, execute any and all documents, and take all action necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder, or take any other action in relation thereto. *(Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen)*

Finance Committee Recommendation:
Planning Board Recommendation: approve the article as written unanimous vote.
Finance Committee Recommendation: approve article as written, voted unanimously.
BOS recommends approval

Motion to Adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm

Motion made by Hicks

Motion Seconded by Braney

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Susan Maliff

Town of Spencer Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups as of June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types		Proprietary Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups	Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Trust and Agency	Long-term Debt	Memorandum Only)
ASSETS							
		4,364,685.69					
Cash and cash equivalents	2,592,158.45		5,127,814.89	4,438,936.64		1,970,065.41	18,493,661.08
Investments							0.00
Receivables:							
Personal property taxes		44,031.24					44,031.24
Real estate taxes		170,694.45					170,694.45
Allowance for abatements and exemptions	(378,068.06)						(378,068.06)
Tax liens		333,415.57		2,802.18			336,217.75
Deferred taxes							0.00
Motor vehicle excise		366,276.77					366,276.77
Other excises		9,169.04					9,169.04
User fees				38,667.01			38,667.01
Utility liens added to taxes				270.81			270.81
Departmental			35,016.70	69,930.00			104,946.70
Special assessments		40,923.88					40,923.88
Due from other governments			501,433.69				501,433.69
Other receivables		97,233.68					97,233.68
Foreclosures/Possessions		80,684.47					80,684.47
Prepays							0.00
Due to/from other funds				(11,000.00)			(11,000.00)
Working deposit							0.00
							70

Inventory									0.00
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation									0.00
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds				1,765,000.00		5,967,089.00		13,945,000.00	21,677,089.00
Amounts to be provided - vacation/sick leave									0.00
Total Assets	3,356,519.49	4,901,136.08	-	6,892,814.89	10,506,695.64	0.00	1,970,065.41	13,945,000.00	41,572,231.51

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities:

Warrants payable	(1,503.64)								(1,503.64)
Accounts payable									0.00
Accrued payroll									0.00
Withholdings	11,277.74								11,277.74
Accrued claims payable									0.00
Due to/from other funds									0.00
Due to other governments									0.00
Other liabilities									0.00
Deferred revenue:									
Real and personal property taxes	(163,342.37)								(163,342.37)
Tax liens	333,415.57					2,802.18			336,217.75
Deferred taxes									0.00
Foreclosures/Possessions	80,684.47								80,684.47
Motor vehicle excise	366,276.97								366,276.97
Other excises	9,169.04								9,169.04
User fees									0.00
Utility liens added to taxes						38,937.82			38,937.82
Departmental	1,748.48	35,016.70				69,930.00			106,695.18
Special assessments	40,923.88								40,923.88
Due from other governments		501,433.69							501,433.69
Other receivables	85,664.49								85,664.49
Deposits receivable									0.00
Prepaid taxes/fees									0.00
Tailings									0.00
IBNR									0.00
Agency Funds									0.00
Notes payable								13,945,000.00	13,945,000.00
Bonds payable				1,765,000.00		5,967,089.00			7,732,089.00

									0
	Vacation and sick leave liability								0.00
	Total Liabilities	<u>764,314.63</u>	536,450.39	1,765,000.00	6,078,759.00	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	13,945,000.00	23,089,524.02
Fund Equity:									
	Reserved for encumbrances	423,699.61			4,931.02				428,630.63
	Reserved for expenditures			2,817,499.82					2,817,499.82
	Reserved for continuing appropriations		1,783,726.51		2,315,445.74				4,099,172.25
	Reserved for petty cash								0.00
	Reserved for appropriation deficit								0.00
	Reserved for snow and ice deficit								0.00
	Reserved for COVID-19 deficit								0.00
	Reserved for debt service	19,375.16							19,375.16
	Reserved for premiums								0.00
	Reserved for working deposit								0.00
	Undesignated fund balance	2,149,130.09	2,580,959.18	2,310,315.07	2,107,559.88		1,970,065.41		11,118,029.63
	Unreserved retained earnings								0.00
	Investment in capital assets								0.00
	Total Fund Equity	<u>2,592,204.86</u>	<u>4,364,685.69</u>	<u>5,127,814.89</u>	<u>4,427,936.64</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,970,065.41</u>	<u>0.00</u>	18,482,707.49
	Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u>3,356,519.49</u>	<u>4,901,136.08</u>	<u>6,892,814.89</u>	<u>10,506,695.64</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,970,065.41</u>	<u>13,945,000.00</u>	41,572,231.51

PROOF BALANCE SHEET IS IN BALANCE	0.00								
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PROOF FUND BALANCE DETAIL AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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PROOF RECEIVABLES DETAIL AGREES TO THE BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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SPENCER
Special Revenue Fund Balance Detail
as of June 30, 2023 (Unaudited)

Fund Number	Fund Name	Accounts	Deferred	Fund Balance	Receipts thru	BAN's	Remainin
		Receivable	Revenue	6/30/2023	9/30/23		g Deficit
24000-24323	RIDE SHARE ASSESSMENT			2,325.60			0.00
24000-24327	HASTINGS RD BRIDGE DAMAGES			4,135.32			0.00
24000-24329	FLOWER DONATION			100.00			0.00
24000-24331	LAKE STREET RFP STORMWATER			5,000.00			0.00
24000-24339	COALITION			295,212.03	96,000.00		0.00
24000-24341	DEER RUN PHASE I			158.94	16.23		0.00
24000-24342	DEER RUN PHASE II			205,514.16	349.09		0.00
24000-24343	SPENCER STREET PARTY			584.58			0.00
24000-24344	DRIVEWAY						
24000-24344	PERMITS			75,600.00	12,000.00		0.00
24000-24345	BOND PREMIUM			21,206.00			0.00
24000-24346	COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS			256.84			0.00
24000-24347	VETERANS DONATION			704.44			0.00
24000-24348	BUILDING & FIRE CODE FINES			2,952.50			0.00
24000-24349	VETERANS MEMORIAL			3,000.00			0.00
24000-24350	WETLANDS PROTECTION FUND			27,656.28	1,912.50		0.00
24000-24363	CONSERVATION- WILSON ST SOLAR			2,000.00			0.00
24000-24365	CONSERVATION- CHARLIE DINER CLOCK			770.00			0.00
24000-24370	RESTORATION FUND			5,270.39			0.00
24000-24393	STONEWATER BOND MEADOW SOLAR			60,338.72	5.12		0.00
24000-24396	STORM WATER REVOLVING			2,445.20	150.00		0.00
24000-24397	CONSERVATION- 9 DEBBIE DR			360.00			0.00
24000-24398	CONSERVATION -			573.00			0.00

24000-24401	13 DEBBIE DR 93/97 HASTING RD SHAW POND	1,850.00		0.00
24000-24480	FORESTRY GRANT UNRESERVED	800.11		0.00
24000-35900	FUND BALANCE FY22 GREEN	3,344.41		0.00
24000-57154	COMM LIGHTING IMPR FY21 GREEN COMM	(8,046.00)		(8,046.00)
24000-57159	DESIGNATION GR CONSERVATION-	50,386.39		0.00
24000-57228	MECHANIC FINES-	1,075.75		0.00
24000-57780	HANDICAPPED RES FOR APPROP-	5,604.21		0.00
24000-57787	PEG ACCESS/CABL ACCESS TRAINING	0.01		0.00
24000-57867	SEMINAR DEP ELEC	0.13		0.00
24000-57868	VEHICLE GRANT KENNEL EXP	1,490.00		0.00
24000-57872	DONATIONS C. FIBER NET	37,288.81	333.00	0.00
24000-57875	FUND STORMWATER REVIEW 56	12,382.48		0.00
24000-57877	NORTHWEST STORMWATER/7 MILE RIVER	86.48		0.00
24000-59280	WTRSHD CC 133 ASH ST	52,961.90	12,256.51	0.00
24000-59415	SOLAR ANIMAL STERILIZATION	7,189.08		0.00
24001-48500	REVEN FY23 ELECTION EXTENDED	5,622.80		0.00
24162-57792	POLLING CC CHARLTON/BACO	(878.32)		(878.32)
24171-57887	N HILL SOLAR CONCOM 10	1,480.23		0.00
24171-57889	MEADOW RD PEER CONCOM CHARLTON RD	1,911.80		0.00
24171-57892	SUBDIV	1,953.45		0.00
24199-48400	PLANNING BOARD	63,352.71	2,324.60	0.00
24199-48450	MTC GRANT 2010	702.00		0.00
24199-57134	PLANNING BD.LAURELDALE	(1,790.00)		(1,790.00)
24199-57167	PLANNING BOARD - SULLIVAN ESTA	1,265.00		0.00

24199-57171	PLANNING BOARD- DEER RUN	390.56		0.00
24199-57176	PLANNING BOARD-ROLLING RIDGE	1,400.00		0.00
24199-57178	SULLIVAN ST. SURETY	31,430.98	53.47	0.00
24199-57180	BIXBY TRAIL ESTATES	193.14	1.55	0.00
24199-57186	PINE CLIFF CONDOS	240.00		0.00
24199-57226	TREADWELL SURITY	134,564.00		0.00
24199-57270	PLANNING BOARD- CHARLES DINER	100.00		0.00
24199-57275	PLANNING BD CEDAR WOODS ORDS	1,120.00		0.00
24199-57284	PL PB GH WILSON SOLAR PEER REV	2,505.20		0.00
24199-57298	133 ASH ST SOLAR DPHS SITE	1,154.40		0.00
24199-57367	PLAN/SP/SW REVIEW PB NO.BROOKFIELD	92.29		0.00
24199-57368	SOLAR FARM SPR/S	3,238.22	3,700.00	0.00
24199-57369	PB 472 E MAIN ST SOLAR PEER RE	11,800.00		0.00
24199-57371	PB - DPHS/INSPECTION S PAYMENTS	5,000.00		0.00
24210-57210	FIREARMS RECORD KEEPING DRUG	2,962.50	3,962.50	0.00
24210-57225	ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNT PD STANTON K-9	9,152.61		0.00
24210-57320	GRANT FIRE DEPT	9,216.93		0.00
24220-57225	DONATIONS	2,518.74		0.00
24220-57325	FY21 EMPG GRANT	(3,492.00)		(3,492.00)
24220-57340	2018 EMPG GRANT	716.00		0.00
24220-57344	FY19 HSGP-CCP GRANT	1.00		0.00
24220-57345	SAFE GRANT FY2019	86.97		0.00
24220-57350	SENIOR SAFE GRANT FY19	114.21		0.00
24220-57356	FY21 FIRE EDU S.A.F.E GRANT	(130.37)		(130.37)
24220-57357	FY21 FIRE EQUIP GRANT	35.00		0.00

24220-57361	FY22 SAFE GRANT	1,546.34		0.00
24220-57362	FY22 SENIOR SAFE GRANT	301.56		0.00
24220-57363	FY22 CCC IT GRANT	250,000.00		0.00
24220-57364	FY 23 MEMA GRANT	(3,500.00)	3,500.00	0.00
24220-57365	FY2023 SAFE GRANT	3,781.00		0.00
24220-57391	COVID-19 280	(207,377.46)		(207,377.46)
24245-51700	Wire Inspector Salary	12,912.00	13,871.20	0.00
24422-57419	FY22 EARMARK - WOODCHIPPER	56,942.80		0.00
24422-57423	FY23 BROWNING POND BOAT RAMP	1,351.35		0.00
24422-57592	FY21 MAPC LED STREETLIGHT GRAN	54,692.58		0.00
24422-57593	RECYCLING DIVIDENDS PROGR	4,072.91		0.00
24422-57599	FY23 WRAP BROWNING POND	25,378.10		0.00
24422-57601	RD ACCESS	242.89		0.00
24510-52000	WE CARE BOND	5,729.39		0.00
24510-57532	BD OF HEALTH SITE CLEANUP	153.73		0.00
24510-57533	FY22 MHOA COVID-19 SUPP GRANT	341.50		0.00
24510-57540	EMERGANCY PREPARE	530.04		0.00
24510-57541	EDS VOLUNTERS GRANT	0.20		0.00
24510-57544	REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT	(1,918.30)		(1,918.30)
24510-57550	FLEXCON CONTRIBUTION	1,998.26		0.00
24510-57555	PHER Grant	4,689.00		0.00
24510-57562	EQUIPMENT GRANT	8,210.80		0.00
24541-57560	COA REVOLVING ACCOUNT	18,042.02	4,820.00	0.00
24541-57585	COA BARNSTORM DONATIONS	1,483.50		0.00
24541-57645	COA DONATIONS	493.88	100.00	0.00
24541-57677	COA FORMULA GRANT FY20	2.46		0.00
24541-57679	FY22 COA FORMULA GRANT	(601.15)		(601.15)
24541-57681	FY23COA FORMULA GRANT	32,217.68		0.00
24542-57622	YOUTH COUNCIL DONATIONS	3,870.69		0.00
24610-57661	RICHARD SUGDEN	884.49		0.00

24610-57685	DONATION GIFT TO LIBRARY- GREEN			15,996.63		0.00
24610-57919	LIG GRANT FY 2020			44,143.92		0.00
24610-57920	MEG GRANT FY 2020			40,424.97		0.00
24610-57921	NRC GRANT FY 2020			2,271.53		0.00
24630-57635	RECREATION REVOLVING ACCOUNT			21,896.58	434.60	0.00
24650-57623	LUTHER HILL DONATION ACCT			28,565.76		0.00
24650-57625	POWDER MILL PARK DONATIONS			4,264.37		0.00
24650-57629	OGARA PARK DONATIONS			2,420.00		0.00
24691-57691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION DONATION			819.10 (165,899.53		0.00
23000-35900	Chapter 90)	112,437.99	(53,461.54)
25000-35900	MSCP			2,150.11		0.00
26000-35900	ARPA Funds			2,558,595.55		0.00
27000-35900	Cultural Council			19,577.65		0.00
28000-35900	Septic Title V			135,627.86		0.00
89000-10520	A/R Off Duty Detail	35,016.70	35,016.70			0.00
89000-35900	Off Duty Detail			44,429.25		0.00
40000-35900	Betterment Fund			162,321.87		0.00
23000-17220	State Aid Chp 90	501,433.69	501,433.69			0.00
						0.00
						0.00
Total Special Revenue Fund						
Balance		536,450.39	536,450.39	4,364,685.69	268,228.36	0.00 (277,695.14)

**Combining Balance Sheet - Enterprise Funds
as of June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)**

	Water Enterprise Fund	Sewer Enterprise Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,263,022.73	3,175,913.91	4,438,936.64
Investments			0.00
Receivables:			
User Fees	13,542.49	25,124.52	38,667.01
Special assessments			0.00
Utility liens added to taxes		270.81	270.81
Tax foreclosures	1,509.26	1,292.92	2,802.18
Departmental		69,930.00	69,930.00
Other receivables			0.00
Due from other governments			0.00
Due to/from other funds		(11,000.00)	(11,000.00)
Prepays			0.00
Inventory			0.00
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation			0.00
Amounts to be provided - payment of bonds	5,342,089.00	625,000.00	5,967,089.00
Amounts to be provided - vacation and sick leave			0.00
Total Assets	<u>6,620,163.48</u>	<u>3,886,532.16</u>	<u>10,506,695.64</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY</u>			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable			0.00
Warrants payable			0.00
Accrued payroll and withholdings			0.00
Other liabilities			0.00
Deferred revenue:			
User Charges	13,542.49	25,124.52	38,667.01
Special assessments			0.00
Utility liens added to taxes		270.81	270.81
Tax foreclosures	1,509.26	1,292.92	2,802.18
Departmental		69,930.00	69,930.00
Other receivables			0.00

Due from other governments			0.00
Due to other governments			0.00
Due to/from other funds			0.00
Notes payable			0.00
Bonds payable	5,342,089.00	625,000.00	5,967,089.00
Vacation and sick leave liability			0.00
Total Liabilities	<u>5,357,140.75</u>	<u>721,618.25</u>	<u>6,078,759.00</u>
Fund Equity:			
Reserved for encumbrances	4,931.02		4,931.02
Reserved for expenditures			0.00
Reserved for continuing appropriations	872,363.11	1,443,082.63	2,315,445.74
Reserved for petty cash			0.00
Reserved for appropriation deficit			0.00
Reserved for debt service			0.00
Unreserved retained earnings	385,728.60	1,721,831.28	2,107,559.88
Investment in capital assets			0.00
Total Fund Equity	<u>1,263,022.73</u>	<u>3,164,913.91</u>	<u>4,427,936.64</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u>6,620,163.48</u>	<u>3,886,532.16</u>	<u>10,506,695.64</u>
PROOF	0.00	0.00	0.00

SPENCER
Trust Fund Balance Detail
as of June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

Fund Number	Fund Name	Accounts Receivable	Deferred Revenue	Fund Balance 6/30/2023	Receipts thru 9/30/2023	BAN's	Remaining Deficit 6/30/2023
83000-39000	Waterways Improvement Philip Quinn Mem'l			48,713.52	186.72		0.00
83000-39100	Schola			13,831.93	57.73		0.00
83000-39150	Silvas Grout Decoration			6,065.35	25.31		0.00
83000-39200	War Veterans			557.48	2.31		0.00
83000-39250	Benjamin Drury Fund Richard Sudgen Park			3,770.79	15.74		0.00
83000-39300	Fund Issac Lothrop Prouty			7,120.39	29.72		0.00
83000-39350	Fund Old Cenetry Perpetual			12,873.50	53.73		0.00
83000-39400	Care			2,415.91	10.09		0.00
83000-39425	Friends of Old Cemetery Old Cenetry General			665.62	2.78		0.00
83000-39450	Care			68.25	0.29		0.00
83000-39500	W. Curtis Perpetual Care George S. Wilson Gen, L			17.67	0.08		0.00
83000-39550	Car			1,583.22	6.62		0.00
83000-39600	Howe Memorial Fund			10,476.54	43.71		0.00
83000-39650	G. Henry Wilson Fund Buy Back Sick Leave			26.73	0.12		0.00
83000-39800	Fund Retiree Health Liability			37,278.61	30.19		0.00
83000-39825	Fund			345,699.58	6,325.46		0.00
83000-39850	Unemployment Fund			25,541.49	106.76		0.00
83000-39900	Stabilization Operation			1,442,487.80	6,860.85		0.00

	Reserve						
83000-39910	Stabilization Capital Reserve			502.86	2.11		0.00
83000-39920	Stabilization Land Acquisition			2,173.55	9.08		0.00
83000-39930	Stabilization Building Fund			441.42	1.85		0.00
83000-39950	Police Equipment Fund			7,753.20	248.64		0.00
Total Expendable Trust Fund Balance		0.00	0.00	1,970,065.41	14,019.89	0.00	0.00

Town of Spencer
Revenues - June 30, 2023

Account	FY 2023 Budget	FY 2023 Actual
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 1,644,074.00	\$ 1,495,919.19
Boat Excise	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,011.59
Meals	\$ 153,365.00	\$ 203,837.83
Penalty/Interest:		
Property Tax	\$ 35,180.00	\$ 33,957.44
MV Excise	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 55,707.68
Tax Lien	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 43,539.98
Total	\$ 104,180.00	\$ 133,205.10
Fees:		
Mark Fees	\$ 18,680.00	\$ 21,460.00
Transf. Sta. Stickers	\$ 85,105.00	\$ 85,200.00
Transf.Sta. Bag Fees	\$ 188,915.00	\$ 182,500.00
Transf. Sta. Flexcon	\$ 11,672.00	\$ 9,334.90
Transf. Sta. Recycle	\$ 15,708.00	\$ 18,787.07
Transf.Sta. Other	\$ 17,100.00	\$ 31,799.55
SPD Lock-up	\$ 7,268.00	\$ 3,600.00
Municipal Liens	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 19,550.00
ODIS	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 200,847.24
Town Clerk	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16,231.00
Police Dept.	\$ 612.00	\$ 285.00
Fire Dept. 21E	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,600.59
Highway Gas	\$ 13,689.00	\$ 26,285.09
Highway Dept.	\$ 11,748.00	\$ 15,340.00
Rental Selectmen	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Solar	\$ 198,940.00	\$ 202,681.34
Total	\$ 780,637.00	\$ 838,001.78

Lic/Permits:			
Alcoholic	\$	17,322.00	\$ 20,175.00
Selectmen	\$	5,000.00	\$ 5,710.00
Dogs	\$	26,500.00	\$ 27,645.05
Board of Health	\$	60,000.00	\$ 60,592.50
Fire Dept	\$	18,000.00	\$ 21,254.96
Police Dept	\$	9,308.00	\$ 8,055.00
Total	\$	136,130.00	\$ 143,432.51
Fines:			
DMV	\$	16,563.00	\$ 13,163.42
Court	\$	408.17	\$ 247.50
Parking	\$	3,897.00	\$ 4,781.50
Police	\$	3,947.00	\$ 4,480.00
Police-Dogs	\$	2,173.00	\$ 800.00
Board of Health	\$	100.00	\$ 250.00
Total	\$	27,088.17	\$ 23,722.42
Earnings:			
Investments	\$	10,256.00	\$ 141,257.76
Total	\$	10,256.00	\$ 141,257.76
Grand Total	\$	2,859,730.17	\$ 2,983,388.18

TOWN TREASURER

Report of the Treasurer, Rebeca Forand
December 31, 2023

Interest Bearing Checking Accounts:

Eastern Bank-Vendor Account	192.06
Country Bank - Escrow We Care	5,743.06
Country Bank - Sullivan Estates	31,793.16
Eastern Bank Deer Run phase II	207,602.31
Unibank Lock Box	243.32
Unibank-Payroll	1,349.62
Eastern lockbox	6,080.04
Cornerstone Bixby Trail Estates	36,557.36
Cornerstone Storm Water Bond	60,358.81
Total	349,919.74

Liquid Investments:

Eastern Bank- Money Market	14,345.30
Country Bank - Treasurer Account	76,507.83
Country Bank - Collector Account	94,107.98
Hometown - ARPA	2,525,756.61
Hometown Bank money Market	336,062.17
Honetown- CD	719,995.94
Hometown- Trainor Bond	10,045.65
Hometown Bank MM - Roads	3,099,755.13
Eastern money market -74	552,422.40
Bartholomew-Title V	121,963.77
Bartholomew-general cash	187,246.19
Unibank-Money Market	1,991,257.68
Total	9,729,466.65

Trust Funds:

	Principal	Interest	
Bartholomew-Benjamin Drury	500.00	3,394.80	3,894.80
Bartholomew-George S Wilson Cemetery	259.07	1,376.22	1,635.29
Batholomew-Howe Memorial	500.00	10,321.02	10,821.02
Bartholomew-Isaac Lothrop Prouty	5,063.75	8,233.09	13,296.84
Bartholomew-old Cemetery G Henry Wilson			27.62
Bartholomew-Old Cemetery General Care	5,923.00	-5,852.50	70.50

Bartholomew-Old Cemetery perpetual Care	11,975.00	-9,479.64	2,495.36
Bartholomew-old Cemetery perpetual W Curtis	1,000.00	-981.76	18.24
Bartholomew-Quinn Scholarship	3,500.00	10,786.75	14,286.75
Bartholomew-Richard Sugden public park	1,000.00	6,354.54	7,354.54
Bartholomew-Silas Grout Decoration	1,200.00	5,064.80	6,264.80
Bartholomew-Buy Back Sick leave Fund			38,404.85
Bartholomew-Friends of old Cemetary			687.51
Bartholomew-Police Equipment Fund			6,028.16
Bartholomew-Unemployment			26,381.20
Bartholomew-War Veterans Account			575.79
Bartholomew-Waterways improvement			50,303.53
Bartholomew-Community Development			2,223.85
Bartholomew-Cultural Council			12,286.10
Bartholomew-Betterment Fund			167,659.46
Bartholomew-Capital Stabilization			519.42
Bartholomew-land Acquistion Stabilization			2,245.02
Bartholomew Building Stabilization			455.94
Bartholomew General Stabilization			1,694,052.40
Bartholomew OPEB Trust			412,604.73
Eastern Bank-Sewer Enterprise Fund			373,571.22
Eastern Bank-Water Enterprise Fund			1,175,414.36
Total			4,023,579.30

Total All Cash and Investments

14,102,965.69

TOWN COLLECTOR

Report of the Collector, Rebecca Forand
December 31, 2023

Personal Property and Real Estate	18,424,392.33
Betterments	13,642.08
Motor Vehicle & Boat Excise	1,620,246.08
Water and Water Fees	1,677,157.90
Sewer and Sewer Fees	2,038,020.78
Interest & Fees & Demands	147,087.17
Certificate of Municipal Liens	25,250.00
Tax Title and Fees	145,655.98
Transfer Station - Trash Bags	182,187.50
Highway - Fuel	27,514.80
Septic	560,346.00
Off Duty	318,133.03
Total Turned Over to Treasurer	25,179,633.65

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board meets every month on a Monday at 4:00 P.M. in the Assessor's Office of the Town Hall located at 157 Main Street. The Board of Assessors is available by appointment to discuss values.

In fiscal year 2024 an interim year adjustment was conducted as mandated by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Market sales are the indicator of what values should be and analysis is done to determine updated values that are certified by the State Department of Revenue.

LOCAL EXPENDITURES

Appropriations	\$31,980,165.05
Offsets	\$32,489.00
State & County Charges	\$129,389.00
Overlay	\$75,077.62
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	\$32,217,120.67

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$2,995,702.00
Local Estimated Receipts	\$2,926,505.16
Enterprise Funds	\$5,079,596.00
Other Available Funds	\$625,066.78
Free Cash	\$1,495,212.27
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	\$13,122,082.21
NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED	\$19,095,038.46

CLASSIFIED PERCENTAGES

	LEVY PERCENTAGE	LEVY BY CLASS
RESIDENTIAL	89.0116%	\$1,485,733,660
OPEN SPACE	0	
COMMERCIAL	4.3305%	\$72,281,970
INDUSTRIAL	2.9158%	\$48,670,100
PERSONAL PROPERTY	3.7421%	\$62,460,989
	100.00%	\$1,669,146,719

NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED / TOTAL VALUATION = TAX RATE FY2024
\$19,095,038.46 / \$1,514,520,476.00 = \$11.44

Respectfully submitted,



Linda LeBlanc, Assessor
 Nancy Herholz,
 Robert Ortiz,
 Pamela Woodbury,
 Board of Assessor

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - LICENSING

The following categories of licenses were issued by the Office of the Board of Selectmen during 2023:

❖ Alcohol	19
❖ Alcohol – One-Day	14
❖ Automatic Amusement	40
❖ Common Victualler	32
❖ Entertainment	12
❖ Gravel Licenses	5
❖ Junk Dealer	3
❖ Lodging House	1
❖ Inn Holder	2
❖ Class I (Motor Vehicles)	5
❖ Class II (Motor Vehicles)	11
❖ Class III (Motor Vehicles)	1
Total Licenses issued in 2023:	145
Total License fees collected in 2023:	<u>\$24,425.00</u>

SPENCER CABLE ACCESS

Public access television plays a pivotal role in community engagement by providing a platform for local content that includes educational programming, government meetings, and community events. Spencer Cable Access (SCA) is at the forefront of this initiative, offering residents a variety of channels to stay informed and connected. Viewers can watch SCA on Spectrum channels 191, featuring the community bulletin board, 192 for public interest programming, and 194 dedicated to government and education coverage. Additionally, programming is accessible online via our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/spencercableaccess](https://www.facebook.com/spencercableaccess) and our YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/spencercableaccess](https://www.youtube.com/spencercableaccess), ensuring the community of Spencer stays well-informed and engaged.

Enhanced coverage of school sports

This year, we continued to expand our offerings and engage with the community through a variety of initiatives. In May, we held a successful photography class that not only enriched our community's skills but also brought a new talent to our team, Mark Shea. Mark has been an invaluable addition, covering various sporting events throughout the year alongside Jackie Mushinsky. Jackie also covered several community programs at the library, schools, and town hall, showcasing the vibrant activities and educational opportunities available in our community.

DPHS partnership

Our collaboration with the DPHS marketing students has flourished, making significant use of our podcast studio. This partnership has resulted in the launch of 5 episodes of their podcast, providing them with a practical outlet to apply their learning and share it with the community.

The news is back in Spencer with the Spencer Journal

A notable highlight of the year was the launch of the Spencer Journal, an online news platform dedicated to covering news and events in the Town of Spencer. This initiative represents our biggest accomplishment, extending our reach and providing an essential resource for local news and information. The Spencer Journal can be found online at [SpencerJournal.com](https://www.SpencerJournal.com).

New program: *Bring it to the Table*

We introduced "Bring it to the Table," a new program produced by Jackie Mushinsky in collaboration with local alpaca farmer Allison Smith. This engaging show features various makers and craftspeople who bring their creations and unique work into the studio to discuss their processes and inspirations. Additionally, we film on location to capture how these creations come together, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the craftsmanship and dedication involved. Jackie's production brings a unique perspective to the program, highlighting the diverse talents within our community.

Local government meeting coverage

We have continued our commitment to transparency and civic engagement by covering meetings of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, school committee, and DPHS building committee, as well as annual and special Town Meetings. These efforts ensure that the community remains informed about local government decisions and community initiatives.

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud of the progress we have made and the impact we have had on the Spencer community. We look forward to continuing to serve our community, expand our programming, and enhance our platforms to meet the evolving needs of our audience. Thank you to all who have supported Spencer Cable Access, making these accomplishments possible.

Those interested in getting involved with Spencer Cable Access should reach out to Aaron Keyes, general manager, by email at akeyes@scatv.org. There are plenty of opportunities to cover more sports, events, and news in Spencer, and we'd love for you to be part of it.

Aaron Keyes, Station Manager

CHARITABLE NEEDS COMMISSION

The Spencer Charitable Needs Commission is a self-funded agency of the Town of Spencer. It was established by Florence Harrington in memory of Melinda A. Prouty. The specific purpose of the commission is “to be devoted to the relief of poor and needy residents of Spencer Massachusetts”.

This year one of our long-time members, Paul Lamontagne, moved to the Carolinas to be with his granddaughter and warmer weather. Best wishes Paul.

Our new member is Ed Bemis of Bemis Nurseries. I am sure he will be a very valuable member.

The commission is composed of five diverse residents of Spencer. We are able to help many people in many different situations and meet regularly with clients in the Town Hall. We helped 71 residents of Spencer and paid 82 bills in 2023, which included assistance with rent, gas, electric, food, taxes, repairs, and water/sewer bills. We believe in giving a “hand up” not a “hand out” to those in need. It has been our joy to help the citizens of Spencer.

Sincerely,
Barbara Grusell, Chairman

Members:
Lois Shorten
Kurt Nordquist
Elaine Vallee
Ed Bemis

COUNCIL ON AGING

The mission of the Spencer Council on Aging is to seek to enrich the lives of the community's senior population by providing educational programs, recreational activities, referrals, social service assistance and to advocate for the seniors while educating the community of the needs of its elders.

The Council on Aging Board is a 9-member advisory board for the Senior Center. The purpose of the Council is to identify the needs of the elderly population, educate and enlist support and participation from all citizens, and promote services to fill those needs. The COA has volunteered for all events at the Senior Center and continue to assist whenever needed.

The Senior Center offers a variety of programs. Listed below are the classes and activities that we host at the senior center daily. All instructors are certified.

- Monday: 9-12 Cribbage
9-3:00 Quilting (every other Monday)
12-2:00 Movie Matinee (Second Monday each month)
1-2:00 Low-Impact Exercise
1-3:00 Sewing Group

- Tuesday: 9:30-10:30 Yoga
9:30-3 SHINE (third Tuesday each month)
10:30-11:30 Aerobics
11:30 Lunch
1:00 Bingo

- Wednesday: 9-11:00 Coffee Social
11-12:00 Tai-Chi
12:30-1:30 Advanced Line Dancing
1-2:00 Cardio Aerobic Drumming
1:30-2:30 Intermediate Line Dancing
2:30-3:30 Beginner Line Dancing
6:00 Pitch

- Thursday: 9:30-10:30 Yoga
 - 10-12:00 Nails by Candy (first Thursday each month)10:30-11:30 Aerobics
11:30 Lunch
1-3:00 Memory Café (third Thursday each month)
1-3:00 Bingo
5-9:00 Knight of Columbus Bingo

Other events that are offered through the year include: Podiatrist every other month, Spotlight on Spencer (monthly), Senior Pantry (Mondays), and every month we try to host a big event and those are as followed, Ice Cream Social (September & January) Sweetheart Dance (February) St. Patrick's Day lunch w/ live entertainment (March) Annual Open House (April) Tina Bemis Classes (May) Kickoff to Summer Cookout w/ live entertainment (June) Chicken BBQ w/ live entertainment (July) End of Summer Cookout w/ live entertainment (August) Halloween Dance (October) Annual Craft Fair (November) Christmas Party (December). Every month there are also Community Education Programs / Presentations that we schedule and post in our Newsletter from providers such as Summit Eldercare, Eternal Health, Tri-Valley, Vibra Health, The District Attorney's Office & Judicial Outreach to name a few.

The Friends of The Spencer Seniors: A group of seniors that host events, plan trips, and arrange fundraisers to raise money for many events at the Senior Center. The Friends Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 at the Senior Center. The Friends Group has a thrift store on the first floor of the Senior Center where they sell used clothes, household items and miscellaneous treasures. If you would like to be a member of the Friends Group, please call the Senior Center, or stop in.

Outreach: The Outreach services provided are as follows, Worcester Community Action Council W.C.A.C. (Fuel Assistance) is help with heating, RAFT helps with shutoff notices, evictions, and water bills. RCAP Solutions help w/ housing vouchers & bill pay, SHINE helps with Medicare. Also provided is Application help such as Housing, food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Tri-Valley Elder Services, SCM Elder bus, HIPPA release forms, Healthcare proxy, File of Life, Prescription Advantage, MassHealth Buy In & MassHealth Information, and forms.

Another year has passed and what a wonderful year it has been. I would like to thank all our volunteers for their dedication to the Senior Center. You have gone above and beyond for all our events. The social activities, and wellness and fitness programs have been well attended. If there is a new program or class that you think would generate enough interest, please bring it to the attention of the Director; as the Senior Center grows, your interest and participation are appreciated.

If you know of a senior who is in crisis, please get in touch with this office. The Director and Outreach Coordinator are mandated reporters and always available to help.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Caruso, Director

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The mission of the Spencer Cultural Council [SCC] is to promote the arts, sciences and humanities with the purpose of providing enhanced opportunities for the citizens of Spencer. All ages and backgrounds are encouraged to participate in creative and educational experiences. We are able to accomplish this through a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council

The SCC received \$11,900.00 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) for distribution in 2023. Thirty-four grant applications were submitted and SCC members reviewed each application, prioritizing proposals that reach a wide audience and enrich diverse populations in the community. Deliberations resulted in twenty-four full or partial awards funding programs for all ages, such as concerts, theater, community drumming circles, Knox Trail field trip to the Worcester Art Museum, magicians, crafts, and lots more.

The SCC also supported a Spencer Volunteer Appreciation Day that included live music from Chuck and Mudd and a Hole in the Damn Band. Door prizes, consisting of beautiful Christmas ornaments from the Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn in Spencer were given to attendees. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon. The Spencer Cultural Council was grateful to be able to celebrate the volunteers that make our community a better place to live.

Applying for a Local Cultural Grant is extremely easy. It is completed online and open to individuals and organizations from Massachusetts. If you are interested in applying, the grant applications become available in August and must be submitted by October 15. We welcome all to apply. Help us enrich our town and encourage people you know to apply for this grant. Visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-process/> to learn about the grants.

We are always interested in adding board members. We meet between one to three times each year and have fun awarding money!

Denise Famosa, Chairperson
Caryn Byrnes, Treasurer
Barbara McGrail, Secretary
Joyce Mulherin Member
Carol McPherson Member
Mary Barrell, Member

**OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT & INSPECTIONAL SERVICES
TOWN PLANNER/PLANNING BOARD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
BOARD of HEALTH & BUILDING INSPECTOR**

The Office of Development & Inspectional Services (ODIS) is comprised of the Board of Health and its Agent, the Building Inspector, the Town Planner/Economic Development Officer, the Conservation Commission and its Agent, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board; Gas, Plumbing & Electrical Inspectors and the Sealer of Weights & Measures.

Major projects require a technical review with ODIS, Police, Fire, Water, Sewer, and the Utilities & Facilities Department, who work together to streamline applications and to clarify the requirements.

The following are the reports from the individual departments in ODIS:

TOWN PLANNER

TOWN PLANNER:

2023 highlights included the following:

- Reviewed and prepared decisions for all Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Conservation applications.
- Updated the Solar Photovoltaic Generating Installations Bylaw, along with additional related sections of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw.
- Updates to Housing Production Plan. Received letter of approval from the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities on December 26, 2023.
- Awarded Community One Stop for Growth grant in the amount of \$130,000 to update the town's Master Plan.
- Awarded \$50,000 through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs to conduct a thorough review of the Town's Zoning Bylaw and Subdivision Regulations.
- Updated the Planning Board's Policies and Procedures.
- Established Tree Removal Policy for Conservation Commission.

Lauren Vivier

Town Planner/Conservation Agent

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board held meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month during 2023.

The Planning Board received one complete Site Plan Review applications in 2023.

Location	Applicant	Type (Major/Minor)	Project
Meadow Rd	Steven Turner, <i>Spooky Realty Trust</i>	Major	Drive-thru restaurant and building addition

The Planning Board received two complete Definitive Subdivision applications in 2023.

Location	Applicant	# of Lots	Project
Ash St	Colin Derhammer, <i>Spencer Solar, LLC</i> (Melink Solar Development)	2	Subdivision with paved road no structures
Charlton Rd/Bacon Hill	Colin Derhammer, <i>Spencer Solar II, LLC</i> (Melink Solar Development)	2	Subdivision with paved road no structures

The Planning Board received two complete Special Permit applications in 2023.

Issue Date	Location	Applicant	Owner	Project
9/19/2023	Candlewood Drive	Jesse Jady	JC Kady Realty	Rear Lot Subdivision
12/19/2023	26 High Street	Ryan Walker	Ryan Walker	Add 1 unit to a 3 family

Additionally, 15 new ANR Plans were submitted and endorsed, resulting in 13 new lots.

2023 ANR Approvals

Approval Date	Property Owner	Location	# of Lots Created	Description
1/17/2023	Cedarwoods Estates	Donna Drive		Boundary Line Adjustment
1/17/2023	James Sielis	Brooks Pond Road	3	Create lots
1/17/2023	Jeff Zukas	Woodside Road	2	Create lots
2/7/2023	Donna Flannery	18 Laurel Lane		Boundary Line Adjustment
2/7/2023	Matt Sicard	Paxton Road & Lambs Grove	3	Create lots
6/20/2023	Erickson	49 Chickering Road		Boundary Line Adjustment
6/20/2023	David Harris	61 Chickering Road		Boundary Line Adjustment
8/1/2023	Diana Andrews	155 Paxton Road	2	Create lots
8/15/2023	Deborah Robertson	3 Sherman Grove		Boundary Line Adjustments
8/15/2023	Cornerstone Bank	186 Main Street	2	Create lots
11/21/2023	Clyde Ames	Hastings Road	2	Create lots
12/5/2023	Anthony Moschini	30 Howe Road	2	Create lots
12/5/2023	James Sielis	Brooks Pond Road	3	Create lots
12/12/2023	Harold Ormsbee	78 So Spencer Road	2	Create lots
12/19/2023	Kevin Huard	39 Lincoln Street	2	Create lots

The Planning Board extends its thanks to the other Boards and Commissions and Town staff and officials who have provided assistance and support in planning issues this past year.

Planning Board Members:

Robert Ceppi, Chair
 Shirley Shiver
 Charlie Bellemer
 Vaughn Slack

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals held meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month during 2023. 13 Special Permit/Variance applications were received in 2023:

10 Approved ZBA Applications (Special Permit/ Variance)

Location	Owner/Applicant	Purpose	Zoning Code Reference
20 GH Wilson Road	David Caputo	16 x 24 addition	4.9.2.2
401 Main Street	Adrian Kase	Dog grooming/ Daycare	4.3.13
7 Terkanian Drive	Julie Peloquin	In home occupation/ message therapy	4.8.3.A.2
42 R Jones Road	Adrian Kase	Dog grooming/ Daycare	4.3.13
87 Hastings Road	Franciso Turcois	Accessory Apt.	4.8.1
89 Cranberry Meadow Road	Leo Aucoin	Gravel pit renewal	4.2.H.1 & 4.8.6
Woodside Drive	Jeffery Zukas	Contractor Yard- Storage and process loam and gravel	4.8.3.E
Cranberry Meadow Road	Bond Construction	Gravel pit renewal	4.2.H.1
30 Howe Road	Anthony Moschini	Gravel pit renewal	4.2.H.1
16 Candlewood Drive	Jesse Jady	In-law apartment	4.8.1
5 R Jones Road	Kenneth Keyes	8x12 Farmers Porch addition	4.9.2.2
17 Lake Street & 42 Highland	New Cingular Wireless	Wireless Data Facility	4.8.5
16 Wall Street	Rebecca Fournier	Tattoo Parlor	4.3.2.

The Zoning Board of Appeals extends its thanks to the other Boards and Commissions and Town staff and officials who have provided assistance and support in planning issues this past year.

Zoning Board of Appeals Members:

Allan Collette, Chair
 Steven Tyler (resigned)
 Gina Beford
 Donna Parker

BOARD OF HEALTH

Lisa Daoust, Health Agent
Board of Health Members- Dan Shields, Jesselyn Gaucher, Jennifer Konisky

2023 BOARD OF HEALTH	
ANNUAL REPORT	
Food Service Inspections	74
Retail Food Inspections	20
Food Related Complaints	4
Housing Inspections	15
Compliance Letters	18
Percolation Tests Witnessed	29
Septic Inspections	67
Septic Plan Reviews	30
Title 5 Report Reviews	49
Bathing Beach Inspection report reviews	39
Beach Inspections	7
Beaver Permits Issued	9
Nuisance Complaints	22
Tobacco Compliance Inspections	20
Gym Inspections	2
Tattoo Parlor Inspections	5
Pet Store Inspections	2
Rabies Investigations	2
Camp Inspections	4
Flu Clinic	1
Well Permits Issued	9
As-Built Reviews	19
Special Event Inspections and food trucks (Food Truck Festival, TerpTown)	3
Spencer Fair Food trucks - 25 (2 Inspections each x 4 days)	200
Region 2 meetings – zoom	9

Tech Review Meetings	2
BOH Meetings	9
Emergency response to fires/Police Calls	2
Public Records Requests	2
EDS Drill	3
Revenue generated	\$57,651.00

<u>Public Health Nurse</u>	
Hepatitis	8
Tuberculosis	11
Influenza	94
COVID-19	218
Other Reportable Diseases	35
TOTAL CASES	366

<u>Sealer of Weights & Measures</u>	
Scales, scanners, gas meters	135 devices
Revenue generated	\$ 4,311.00

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY – 2023 Duane Amos, Building Inspector

Building permit activity 2022	Totals
Single Family Dwellings	13
Multi-Family Buildings	0
Commercial	59
Additions	11
Renovations/Alterations/Remodel	51
Sheet Metal	34
Insulation/Weatherization	79
Garages/Barns/Sheds/ Carport	9
Decks/Porches/ Stairs & Egress	23
Roofing/Siding	118
Above Ground Pools	5
In Ground Pools	1
Signs	20
Solid Fuel Appliances	25
Windows/Doors	58
Demolitions	6
Temporary Trailers	0
Foundations	2
Certificate of Inspections	71
Solar Panels (rooftop)	131
Solar Panels (ground-Residential)	1
Miscellaneous	14
Total permits issued	731
Inspections	951
Fees Collected	\$268,132.50

<u>Gas (James Bergeron)</u>	
Permits issued	108
Gas Inspections	84
Plumbing Inspections	10
Fees Collected	\$8,027.50

<u>Wiring (Norman Bassett)</u>	
Permits issued	445
Inspections	412
Fire Calls	5
Fees Collected	\$66,377.02

<u>Plumbing (Bob Wall)</u>	
Permits issued	155
Inspections Plumbing	156
Inspections Gas	10
Fees Collected	\$13,688.50

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission held meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month during 2023. There were 61 Site Inspections in 2023.

The Conservation Commission reviewed the following applications in 2023.

Received Notice of Intent (NOI) applications	23
Order of Conditions (OOC) issued from previously approved NOIs	22
Received applications for Request of Determination of Applicability (RDA)	31
Certificate of Compliance (CofC) issued for completed projects	21
Stormwater Application	2
Amended OOC	1
Request for Extension of OOC	1

Additionally, the Conservation Commission issued the following:

Notices of Violation	13
Stop Word Orders or Enforcement Orders	0
Emergency Orders or Administrative Approval	2

Revenue Collected in 2023

RDA Applications	\$4,650.00
NOI Applications	\$7,843.25
Stormwater Permit Applications	\$200
CofCs	\$1,050.00
OOC Amendments	\$100.00
Permit Extension	\$50.00
Total	\$13,893.25

The Conservation Commission extends its thanks to the other Boards and Commissions and Town staff and officials who have provided assistance and support in conservation issues this past year.

Conservation Commission Members: Mary McLaughlin (Chair), Charlie Bellemer, Margaret Emerson Shannon Housh, Dennis Shiver, Warren Snow

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Report of the Spencer Fire and Emergency Services Department 2023

Again, I must thank the tireless dedication of all our firefighters and members of Emergency Management. Without them we are empty and cannot perform the tasks which we are expected. They put in a great deal of volunteer hours to train and better themselves and to lessen the financial burden on the community. A lot of volunteer hours are the basis of the Fire Department and Emergency Management since the inception of each organization. We do need people since without people we are an empty Department. If you think you can help the community, we would love to at least come see us and talk to us and see what it entails and how much of a second family we can become.

This past year we also saw Benjamin Seymour who replaced Autumn Ballard as a career firefighter move to New Mexico. We wish him the best. He was replaced by Alexander Swan. We also received another SAFER grant for four new career firefighters who will start February 3, 2024. They will work with the other career firefighters and when ready will be placed onto other groups so we will always have 24hr coverage with two firefighters in the station. A huge step forward for the community. In future I would be remiss to discuss, if we continue to see the decline in call firefighters not only here in Spencer but across the country regionalization will need to be discussed within the next 15-20 years.

Grants are something we strive for and apply for every grant we can. We received a SAFE (\$3,781.00) and Senior SAFE grant (\$2,077.00) again this past year. Another EMPG grant (\$3,500.00). Again, we were successful with our application for the SAFER grant to be paid over three years totaling \$902,828.00. Again, we tried to replace our Self-contained breathing apparatus with a fire act grant without success. We will try again this coming year.

The upstairs bathroom project was completed and we now have female facilities. We completed another renovation of our kitchen with new countertops and painted the cabinets and walls for less than \$1000.00 all in house.

We conducted our second recruit class for our area with perspective firefighters from North Brookfield's, Oakham, Paxton and Spencer graduating 9 people for their Firefighter I/II certification. We encourage anyone willing to help out the town to please come down and see what the fire department of emergency management is all about. We have our Open House each year during fire prevention week that you can learn more.

While SEMA has not been extremely active they still train and meet monthly at the fire station ready to respond where and when needed. A valuable resource for our community.

Current Roster:

Fire Chief: Robert Parsons
Deputy Chief: Corey Lacaire
SEMA Director of Operations: Sandra Fritze
Chaplain: Rev. Ted MacNeil
Clerk: Johnny Miller

Ladder 1: Captain Robert Churchey, Lt Patrick Murray, Firefighter Brian Barber, Firefighter Adam German, Firefighter Travis Reilly, Firefighter Ryan Morton, Firefighter Henry Skiba, Firefighter Jesse Crockett-Sears, Firefighter Noland Courtney.

Engine 2: Captain Jonathan Thibault, Lt. Thomas Parsons, Firefighter Thomas Da Silva, Firefighter Connor Donohue, Firefighter Koury McDowell, Firefighter Patrick Shea, Firefighter Patrick Entwistle, Firefighter Cayla Hurley.

Engine 3: Captain Joshua Gaucher, Lt. Aaron Palmer, Firefighter David Daoust, Firefighter Joseph Brodmerkle, Firefighter Joshua Prater, Firefighter Robyn Da Silva, Firefighter Mark Holmes, Firefighter Alex Swan, Firefighter Autumn Ballard.

Engine 4: Captain Jason Ferreria, Lt/Clerk Johnny Miller, Firefighter Ralph Kirouac, Firefighter Corey Phoenix, Firefighter David Leite, Firefighter Michael Navickas, Firefighter Johnathan Ferreria, Firefighter Kately Entwistle.

Per Diem Firefighters: Benjamin Locke, Andrew Bellizzi, William Locke, Benjamin Seymour, Halie Smith, Christopher Wyman

Spencer Emergency Management: Christine Gagne, John Gagne, Michael Hilow, Michael Natale, Sheri Kaiser, Suzanne Lavallee, Megan Mathon, Sheila Phoenix, Kathi Pratt, Al Roussin, Gary McComas, Arico Bellizzi

The following left the Department through resignation or retirement. Benjamin Locke, Andrew Bellizzi, Benjamin Seymour, Halie Smith, Captain Brian Mathon, Lt Joseph Nanigian, Nicole Thebeau, Johnathon Crago and Donald Churchey the custodian.

We are always looking for call firefighters to join our ranks, the academy is tough to get into right now but please come down or go online and fill out an application to join a grant department.

Apparatus:

Name	Year	Condition
Ladder 1	2010 Smeal	Excellent
Engine 1	1994 Pierce	Excellent
Engine 2	2014 Smeal	Excellent
Engine 3	2021 Pierce	Excellent
Engine 4	1995 E-One/International	Fair
Tanker 1	2005 4-Guys/International	Good

Rescue 1	2000 Piece Rescue	Good
Forestry 1	2005 Ford F-350	Good
Forestry 2	1984 GMC K30	Poor
Forestry 3	1986 AM General	Good
Car 1	2020 Chevrolet Tahoe	Excellent
Car 2	2017 Ford Expedition	Excellent
CD1 SEMA	2004 Ford E-450	Good
Squad 1	2005 Ford F-450	Fair

In closing I would like to thank all the town officials for their support and assistance throughout the year especially our Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges and the Selectboard. Without their support we would not be able to continue to provide the outstanding quality of assistance to the community that we can provide. We work tirelessly with all the other Town Departments and have a great working relationship.

Robert Parsons, Fire Chief

Fire and Emergency services
Annual Report
January 1, 2023-December 31, 2023
Total alarms for service **1588**

FIRES

Brush or grass fires	12
Building fires	27
Chimney fires	5
Fires on a stove	4
Dumpster or trash fires	5
Fire other than	1
Oil burner malfunction	1
Outside equipment fire	2
Vehicle fires	3
Transport vehicle fires	<u>1</u>
	61

RESCUE, EMS ASSIST

Medical assist EMS crew	1074
Vehicle accident with injuries	35
Vehicle accident with no injuries	30
High angle rescue	1
Extrications	4
Removal from an elevator	2
Water/Ice Incident	1
Other Rescues	<u>1</u>
	1148

HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

Gas/Flammable liquids spills	7
Natural/LP gas leak	10

Accident cleanup	3
Power lines down	15
Arcing/shorted electrical equipment	5
Electrical/wiring problem	8
Carbon monoxide incidents	7
Chemical Spills	2
Building Collapse	<u>1</u>
	58
SERVICE CALLS	
Water Problems	19
Smoke/odor removal	5
Public Service Assistance	31
Unauthorized burning	18
Animal Rescue	<u>3</u>
	84
GOOD INTENT CALLS	
Controlled burning authorized	2
Smoke scare/odor	14
Dispatched/Cancelled	42
No incident found	3
Other good intent calls	<u>8</u>
	69
FALSE ALARM AND FALSE CALLS	
System malfunction	40
Sprinkler activation	4
Smoke detector activation	71
Alarm sounded/malfunction	20
CO detector activations	27
Other false alarms	<u>8</u>
	188
SEVERE WEATHER STAND BY/COMPLAINTS	
Complaints	5
Severe weather or natural disaster	<u>1</u>
	5
PERMITS/INSPECTIONS	883
Mutual Aid to other Communities:	39
Auburn	5
Brookfield	2
Charlton	2
Douglas	1
East Brookfield	1
Leicester	2
North Brookfield	1

Oxford	6
Paxton	6
D7 FIU	6
Southbridge	5
Sutton	1
Wales	1

Mutual Aid from other Communities: 19

Barre	1
Brookfield	3
Charlton	2
East Brookfield	4
Leicester	6
New Braintree	2
North Brookfield	2
Oakham	2
Oxford	1
Paxton	4
Rutland	2
Southbridge	2
Sterling	1
Sturbridge	2
Warren	1
Webster	1
West Brookfield	1

HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Spencer Housing Authority manages Projects 667-1 and 667-2 known as “Howe Village”. Our eighty-four 667-1 units were built in 1970 and 667-2 was added in 1975 providing an additional sixty units for a total of one hundred and forty-four one-bedroom units for the elderly and handicapped. Included in the 667-2 Project were four units especially designed for handicapped tenants. Also included is space for noontime meals and “meals on wheels” delivery provided by Tri-Valley Elder Services.

On December 1, 2014, a contract with Tri-Valley Elder Services for a Supportive Housing Program was signed. The program will provide Howe village residents with 24-hour homemaker/personal care staffing, thereby allowing them to live independently while having access to the support they need. The program has been in place five years now and doing well.

The Housing Authority opened Project 667-3 on 4/1/1989 known as “Depot Village” which is located at 40 Wall Street. The Project consists of twenty-four one-bedroom elderly and handicapped units; two separate congregate housing units, one six-bedroom unit and one four-bedroom unit. The congregate units include private bedrooms and shared facilities for kitchen and living room use and is overseen by Tri-Valley Elder Services.

Project 689-1 was opened in January 1988 at 77 Maple Street. There are (2) two separate buildings with (4) four bedrooms in each unit. The buildings are currently leased and operated by the Glavin Center to provide housing & services for handicapped individuals. Project 705-1 was opened on 4/1/1989 on Lloyd Dyer Drive. There are (4) four duplexes for (8) eight families, including one handicapped unit.

The Housing Authority administers two rental assistance programs: the (MRVP) Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program) formerly known as the 707 Program for low-income families currently has 5 units leased in the Spencer area. The other Program known as the (AHVP) Alternative Housing Voucher Program for non-elderly disabled applicants currently has 75 one-bedroom units leased in the state of Massachusetts.

The Housing Authority congratulates our former Executive Director Michelle Sweeney on her retirement. Kimberly Hurlbrink is the newly appointed Interim Executive Director.

Kimberly Hurlbrink,
Interim Executive Director

PARKING CLERK

Please be advised that the annual Town-wide Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1st at 12:01 a.m. and continues through April 15th at 6:00 a.m. Violators of the winter parking ban are subject to a \$20.00 fine.

Kurt Nordquist, Parking Clerk

If you have questions, please call 413-414-7762

NO PARKING ON EITHER SIDE OF THE STREET:

Adams Street	Ash Street	Briarwood Lane	Bellflower Lane
Clark Street	Chestnut Street	Church Street* (between Maple & Mechanic)	
Collier Circle	Deer Run	Duggan Street	Elm Street
Hastings Road	High Street	Highland Street	Lake Whittemore Drive
Main Street	Maple Street	Mechanic Street	Sampson Street
Smithville Road	Spinnaker Drive	Water Street	Route 31 North & South

PARKING ALLOWED ON ODD NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:

Bell Street	Brown Street	Grant Street	McDonald Street
Summit Street (#17 to #27)	Franklin Street	Lincoln Street	

PARKING ALLOWED ON EVEN NUMBERED SIDE OF THE STREET ONLY:

Dustin Street North Street* (between Main & Powers) South Street Summit Street (Main to #6)

STREETS WITH SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:

- Cherry Street: Parking is allowed on the even numbered side of the street from Mechanic to Maple Street; no parking allowed from Maple to Greenville Street
- Parking is allowed on the even numbered side of the street from Mechanic to Maple Street
- Earley Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street
- School Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the Street, except that, there is no parking from the intersection with Main Street to #3 School Street
- Temple Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Chestnut to Church Street
- Wall Street: Parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street from Mechanic to the beginning of the FlexCon Building

ALL OTHER STREETS:

No parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street, except for those streets specifically named above where parking is allowed on the odd numbered side of the street.
No parking is allowed on sidewalks.

Please note: Violations of the Winter Parking Barn are subject to a \$20.00 fine

PARKS & RECREATION

The beach at Luther Hill Park opened for the sixth consecutive summer season. Swimming lessons were well attended. These sessions were well received and fulfilled a key public safety purpose. The community spirit shown by those who volunteered time, effort, money, and resources to get the beach ready to reopen displays the best of Spencer. We extend our thanks to the Spencer Highway Department for the outstanding job they did helping the keep the park clean for our upcoming season. We thank the Spencer Fire Department for using their boat to help put out the buoys and docks for the summer season. We thank Young's Tree Service for their support. We thank our staff for the great work they did during these trying times keeping our residents safe. New playground equipment has been installed through the generosity of the town voters and the Spencer Fire Association. We will be doing some extensive tree management work through the generosity of the town voters. Future upgrades to the playground area and a performance area at the beach are in the planning stages. Future improvements will also be made to the boat ramp area. Security camera systems are being installed and maintained at both the beach and skateboard park areas.

The annual Summer Concert series at Powder Mill Park was a major success with a wide variety of high-quality entertainment. The concerts were well planned, promoted, and attended by some of the largest crowds we have had to date. We extend our continued deep appreciation and thanks to Pat George for his outstanding leadership and efforts in organizing and promoting the Concert Series. We also extend our thanks to Cornerstone Bank for their continued sponsorship of the series. We also extend our thanks to the Spencer Exchange Club for their support in upgrading the Powdermill Park facilities. We look forward to expanding our offerings to include more family centered performances and activities at a variety of our park facilities. We have also received a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, which will be available for expanded programming next season. We thank them for their support. The Park Commission will also look to expand concert offerings at Luther Hill Park.

Various groups were able to use O'Gara Park over the past year. These include dog trainers, youth football, and women's softball. We extend our thanks to John Horeau for all his efforts to upkeep and make small improvements to O'Gara Park. We look forward to various events such as a family movie night, tournaments, and playoff games that were very well received in the past. Improvements were made including removal of viewing obstacles to enable the creation of a viewing area with picnic tables, demolishing of old unusable bathroom building, installation of a maintenance building to improve our ability to maintain both O'Gara Park and the Rail Trail, and seating off the Rail Trail to allow a great view of the activities at the O'Gara Park field. The area underneath the grandstand was fenced off to reduce the opportunity for vandalism. Security cameras were installed at the Park. Future plans include restoration of the grandstand, updating of the field lighting system, connecting O'Gara Park to the Rail Trail, updating restroom, concession, and meeting space facilities, and enhancing the viewing area above the field near the Rail Trail with various amenities such as stretching stations. We look forward to continuing to improve the facilities and usage of O'Gara Park.

The Commission is in the process of refining and implementing a 10-year plan to improve and upgrade the playground and other facilities at Powdermill Park. New lighting and security camera systems were installed. We wish to extend our deep appreciation to the Spencer Exchange Club. Through their efforts, funds were raised which have greatly enhanced the playground areas and other portions of Powdermill Park. Children are now enjoying the new playground equipment. The Spencer Exchange Club also sponsored clean-up days down at the park. The Cole William Victor Memorial Pavilion was refurbished and renovated through the 106

efforts of George Victor and Victor Contracting. Several local businesses, volunteers, and the Spencer Exchange Club supported this effort. This project celebrates the life of Cole Victor while improving Powdermill Park. The Victor family has further extended their support by hosting a Christmas Tree Lighting at the Park. Special thanks to A. Arsenault and Sons Landscaping for their support of the holiday lights. This event was well received, and the hope is for it to continue in the future. The pavilion shined as the venue for the various bands which entertained crowds during the Summer Concert Series. We also extend our thanks to Morrison Fencing for their donation of fencing repairs. With support from the town, we were able to take advantage of grant opportunities to upgrade the toddler play area. We are currently implementing another grant to update the older child play area. Future plans include installation of parking curbs to preserve the park fencing, upgrading various amenities, and bringing varied family programming to Powdermill Park.

We extend our thanks to the Spencer Exchange Club and the Spencer American Legion post for their continued efforts to upkeep and upgrade Isaac Prouty Park in honor of our veterans and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense our of nation and freedoms. A new Korean War Memorial, World War II Memorial, and Vietnam War Memorial were dedicated during Veterans Day services in November.

Phase 3 of the grant funded work on the Rail Trail was completed in 2020. This included upgrading and adding amenities to improve the visitor experience along the trail. We will be preparing a phase 4 grant to connect O’Gara and the Rail Trail and provide sufficient parking to access the Rail Trail. In fiscally challenging times, we continue to explore various means to seek additional consistent funding to improve the conditions of our existing park facilities and create new programming opportunities. We thank the Spencer Abbey, Morrison Fence, the Spencer Exchange Club, the Cutler Association, Barnstorm Cycles, A. Arsenault and Sons Landscaping, John Young, and the Spencer Fire Association for their past and continued support. Donations can be made to the Luther Hill Park Donation Account, O’Gara Park Donation Account, and for general park needs for use in any park to the Youth Commission Donation Account. We extend our continued thanks to the Spencer Police, Fire, and Highway Departments for their continued support of our parks and programs. We welcome any assistance from the public in gaining support to help us maintain and restore our recreational parks, facilities, and programming. Strong and vibrant parks and recreation programming and facilities are key to improving the quality of life for all Spencer residents and families.

Robert Churchey, Chairman
Jason Ferreira
Martin German, Jr.
Lynne Porretti
William Shemeth III
Anthony Toscano

POLICE DEPARTMENT

**By Chief Michael L. Befford
2023**

This year brought change to the organization with the retirement of long term Chief David Darrin. I want to thank Chief Darrin for his commitment to the employees of the Spencer Police Department and to the community and all the best in retirement. I am honored to have been chosen to succeed him as police chief. I am honored to serve in this capacity and look forward to serving our community.

The Spencer Police Department continues to conduct policing on a proactive basis. In today's society, Police Officers can no longer just react to crime. They must instead, respond to the wide variety of issues and problems impacting the fear of crime and quality of life in our community.

The Spencer Police Department continues to participate in the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (CEMLEC), which allows access to specialized assets including a SWAT Team along with K9, Motorcycle, Drone and Collision Reconstruction Units. The Spencer Police Department currently has one Officer assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Team and, considering involvement in additional disciplines.

The Spencer Police Department conducts a variety of community outreach programs, including but not limited to: the deployment of our speed radar dolly and trailer; the collection of unwanted pharmaceuticals and syringes through our lobby kiosk; the installation and inspection of child safety seats (179 installs were completed in 2023); participation in the annual "Goods for Guns Buyback" and "National Drug Take Back" events; providing "Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events" (CRASE) Instruction to local businesses; having Officers certified in "Crisis Intervention Team" (CIT) training; The Department employs the Crisis Intervention Management System (CIMS) to track overdoses and other mental health crisis and schedule visits from a recovery coach and lastly the use of social media, Instagram, Facebook & Twitter to keep the public informed.

The Spencer Police Department maintains affiliations with the following organizations to further our effort to fight crime: Worcester County Detectives; Worcester County Fraudulent Check Association; Street Violence Prevention Group; Tri-Valley Elder Task Force; District Attorney's Opioid Task Force; Worcester County Anti-Crime Task Force, and the Massachusetts Financial Crimes Task Force.

Continued and comprehensive training of all Spencer Police Department personnel is of paramount importance in the areas of law enforcement and public safety. Officers attend firearms qualification and Proficiency training in the use of the semiautomatic pistol, semi-automatic rifle and shotgun. In addition Officers attend annual in-service training as provided by the Massachusetts Police Training Committee (MPTC), while Dispatchers also train in the same manner, attending in-service by taking classes in accordance with standards promulgated by the State 911 Department.

In addition to the School Resource Officer Program, we offer a variety of programs to help our students navigate the complexities of staying safe - including but not limited to the following: Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate (ALICE) Active Shooter Program.

What was new in 2023?: after a troubling yearly homeless census by Open Sky in January 2023, we took an active role in helping this population. With the leadership of Lt. Hodgerney, we partnered with Open Sky and Central Mass Housing Alliance (CMHA) to provide services and housing for some of our homeless population. Lt. Hodgerney leads monthly homeless meeting involving Open Sky, CMHA and representatives from Office of Inspectional Services and the Senior Center. We also have a seat at the table with Southern Worcester County Homeless Task Force that holds quarterly meetings. We have been able to reduce our homeless population from 18 in January of 2023 to 5 in December 2023.

This year we also partnered with Leicester High School, Anna Maria College and Fitchburg State University to host student interns. Students were partnered with officers to learn about various aspects of policing to help their decisions in becoming involved in the criminal justice system. They participated in patrol observations, observing the 911 dispatch center, observing and working with the detective as well a role playing at recruit academies.

Whenever possible the Spencer Police Department makes application for Federal and State grants. Grants are important, as they allow a community to address issues that may be beyond their financial resources. This year the Spencer Police Department was awarded a variety of grants, including: \$5,490 from the State 911 Department for Dispatch training; \$67,176 from the State 911 Department for Dispatch overtime; Executive Office of Public Safety and Security provided a surplus of child safety seats for distribution; \$10,000 from the Department of Mental Health for Crisis Intervention training; \$1,300 from the Med Project for our Drug Collection Program; \$54,672.

There were several personnel changes in 2023 starting with of the retirement of Chief Darrin in March 2023. With my promotion; Sergeant Norman Hodgerney was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Officer Valerie Morin was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Officer Nicholas Tessier was hired in January to replace a resignation from 2022. Officer Cameron Caldwell was hired to replace Officer Paul Magierowski who moved on to take a sergeant’s position with the East Brookfield Police. Officer Kyle Lareau was hired to fill the vacancy from the retirement of Chief Darrin. Dispatcher Kim Thebeau resigned as a fulltime dispatcher. Lastly, Paul Magierowski, Thomas Moughan and Sean Baxter were appointed as Auxiliary Officers II.

In closing, I wish to thank the members of the Spencer Police Department for their dedication and support. I also wish to thank the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, along with all other Town Officials, Boards and Departments for their assistance in providing the citizens of Spencer with exceptional public services.

ARREST & COMPLAINTS:		209A/HPO Violation	29
Murder	0	Misdemeanor – Miscellaneous	38
Rape	0	Felony – Miscellaneous	14
Armed Robbery	0	Motor Vehicle – Miscellaneous	86
Unarmed Robbery	2	Minor in Possession of Alcohol	1
Assault & Battery	41	Possession of Drugs	17
Assault w/Dangerous Weapon	22	Distribution of Drugs	5
Burglary	9	Disorderly Conduct	27
Larceny	28	Protective Custody	28
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	OUI – Alcohol/Drugs	17
Vandalism	15	Mental Health 123-12	85
Arson	0	Total arrest & complaints	508
Warrants	44		

OFFENSES:

Murder	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Assault	34
Burglary	18
Larceny	210
Motor Vehicle Theft	6
Vandalism	51
Total Offenses	319

CALLS BY SHIFT:

11pm-7am	8,575
7am-3pm	8,821
3pm-11am	7,064
Total	22,460

SELECT CALLS:

Accidents	313
911 Calls	3,301
Medical Calls	1,771
Fire Assists	244
Alarm Response	480
Detain Prisoners – Other	76
Disturbances – General	387
Disturbances – Domestic	135

ANIMAL CONTROL:

Calls	638
Impounds	21
Transfers	8
Bylaw Violations	48

CITATIONS:

Motor Vehicle Stops	729
Civil Infractions	74
Criminal	56
Warning	261
Arrest	24
Parking	430
Bylaw – Police	47
TOTAL	892

RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY

Beginning in December of 2022, architects made observations of the building and conducted a drone study. Continuing throughout most of 2023, many professionals assessed our library. Engineers, inspectors, consultants, excavators, roofers and masons were on site to determine priorities of work needed to ensure preservation of the Richard Sugden Library. LiRo Corporation completed their evaluation in the summer. Town officials and committees were presented with documentation in report form outlining solutions. We hope to move forward in the coming year with necessary construction and repairs which will preserve the library building for the future. A positive step in this direction was taken during the fall with several days of exterior masonry work. Tearing the place down is not an option.

Richard Sugden Library plays an invaluable role in our community. Over ten thousand people visited in 2023, staff answered more than eight thousand questions and close to fifty thousand items were checked out. The library held three hundred programs where four thousand participants of all ages attended. Along with the continuation of popular programs offered in past years, innovative programming was added in 2023. Successful new series included Monday morning chats with Spencer historian Mary Baker-Wood, Spanish language club for teens, electronics programming with Bill Belisle featuring “Arduino” for middle grade kids, adult knitting group with Katie Smith, sewing for children with Cindy Buffone and watercolor classes led by local artist, Deb Kirk. The importance of art was fostered in the library through a month-long high school art show, showcasing DPHS students’ works. Art teacher Annalisa Battles arranged the exhibition and a reception held in the reading room was well attended. Hundreds came to the library to admire and celebrate the young artists. A collection of watercolor paintings was loaned by Vern McClish for an exhibition in February. Our mission to inspire is evident in the library providing access to local art for our patrons at no cost.

On December 27th the Worcester Telegram & Gazette printed an article from USA Today about the nation’s loneliness epidemic. “One in two adults is living with measurable levels of loneliness.” There are fewer opportunities for people to interact in person. The library encourages genuine connectedness in a variety of ways. We host book groups for both adults and children where participants engage in thoughtful exploration and discussion. Spencer resident Colonel Leanne Chabior shared stories with an enthusiastic audience about her time in Iraq as a wartime nurse. I was pleased to accompany Mary Baker-Wood to Howe Village for her fascinating presentation on Spencer native Elias Howe, inventor of the sewing machine. “Writers Unite” is a gathering of writers who support each other, getting together on the third Monday of every month. Meaningful conversation connects people and promotes personal growth.

In pursuit of building a better community, we willingly venture outside library walls. Programs held around the community included Japanese drumming at town hall, a drumming series at Powder Mill Park, a jazz performance at the American Legion and an assortment of offerings for families at Spencer Fish & Game Club and local parks. Thanks to the generosity of the Cultural Council we provided story walks and gave away free books at the Spencer Fair, Wire Village School, Thibault’s Country Store and Powder Mill Park. Library staff go out into the community regularly: delivering books and movies to patrons’ homes, bringing fun programs to Lincoln Hill Manor Rest Home, visiting the Senior Center to participate in happenings like the Memory Café, ice cream social, holiday luncheon or as a guest speaker to talk about library services. I had the pleasure of spending a morning at DPHS as a volunteer for the Exchange Club’s financial literacy event

for juniors and seniors. I also represented the library at Wire Village School's kindergarten open house; giving away stickers, bookmarks and new books to students and their families. Children's staff participated in kindergarten bus safety program at summer's end. In May members of the library staff attended the town's planning board workshop at the Fish & Game Club.

Another important goal is supporting life-long learning. We supply puzzles, circulating games, steam kits and take-home projects. The children's room serves as a learning center with a marble run, manipulatives, building blocks, magformers (magnetic construction toys), matching/sorting activities and a new light table. Richard Sugden Library is a safe space to learn and explore. Wire Village campers from Alpha Best Education had a wonderful experience at the library in the summer and a daycare group from Dipody Doo Childcare Learning & Development was thrilled with our library; staying for hours after riding the bus here from East Brookfield.

State funding was used to purchase new computers in 2023. Many people regularly access the internet at the library. Patrons are also able to check out Wi-Fi hotspots for home use. Staff often assist users with technology, ensuring that no one is left behind in the digital world.

Knowledge comes from both printed and spoken words. In 2023 we presented programs on fire safety, poetry, the importance of bees, wildlife rehabilitation featuring bats and several local author visits. We collaborated with area library partners to provide virtual programming on Zoom. Our walking group learned about alpacas at a local farm where animals provide therapy for guests.

Caring about our neighbors and looking out for one another are demonstrated by initiatives like "Operation Undercover". The library was a collection site, proudly donating around one hundred pairs of socks, underwear and articles of clothing. On a Saturday in May Worcester County Youth Advisory Board distributed goods and helpful information to unhoused teens. We provided free Covid tests throughout the year, courtesy of Spencer Board of Health. The desire to help our neighbors in need inspired staff to create our own community cupboard. Shelving in the hallway serves as a place to go for nonperishable, unopened, unexpired food and personal hygiene items.

The Richard Sugden Library has something in common with Time's Person of the Year, Taylor Swift. In a divided world, where too many institutions are failing, we each found a way to be a source of light. To quote one of our patrons, Leo, "The library is my sanctuary."

We thank our steadfast supporters as well as library staff, town leaders, committees, department heads, community partners, volunteers and our board of trustees: Chair Mary Anne Slack, Alyson Russo and Marie Norcia.

Cheryl Donahue
Director

SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Spencer Wastewater Treatment Plant is permitted for 1,080,000 gallons per day, but also has an annual average maximum influent flow of 860,000 gallons per day. Exceeding the maximum influent flow can trigger treatment plant expansion and/or collection system inflow & infiltration repairs.

As we enter the calendar year 2024, we have also entered year two of the Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. While we have been met with some hurdles, we have made great progress toward completion, the Spencer Board of Sewer Commissioners, Consulting Engineers Wright Pierce, Design & Construction firm of Tighe and Bond, Staff, and I continue to work with officials from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Environmental Protection Agency on the completion of the project and although we do anticipate the projects extension due to some supply chain issues we anticipate meeting the permit compliance schedule of 12/31/24.

The EPA and DEP have issued a new General Permit which also contains new limits on Nitrogen, and new testing on PFAS chemicals. Thanks to the forethought of the Department, and the Commissioners we are prepared to meet these new Nitrogen limits, as well as the Phosphorous compliance in the present upgrade design.

The Department has completed and/or are presently working on the following programs:

CWMP (Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan) was conducted with an agreement with Wright Pierce Engineering. The CWMP is a complete review of the Treatment Facility, and Collection System. This study will identify aging and outdated treatment processes, equipment, and infrastructure this study is complete

I&I Study the Sewer Department completed a State mandated Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) study as well as a flow assessment study of cross-country lines.

SSES (Sewer System Evaluation Study) The Sewer Department completed this study which included Dry and Wet weather flow monitoring throughout all sub sections of the collection system. The study also included day and night flow isolations, smoke testing, manhole evaluations, property inspections and video inspections. The SSES was intended to expand on the I&I study to locate, identify, and correct collections system.

Sewer Rate Study

The Board of Sewer Commissioners, with assistance from Tighe & Bond's rate study team have completed a Rate Study which reviews, and recommends the necessary budgetary steps that must be taken to ensure the Department is fiscally stable and assist and minimize the impact these projects have on the rate payers.

Collections System (I&I)

The Spencer Sewer Department has completed the following work to reduce the impact of Inflow and Infiltration.

- Pleasant & Smithville Repair and replacement of 650' sewer lines, as well as the CIPP (Cured In Place Pipe) relining of 1,720' pipe.

- Valley & Mill 500' feet of new sewer lines as well as 2 new precast sewer manholes. Phase II will commence this summer with the Sewer Department committed to the completion of the project.

I would also like to add that we were able to secure a \$250,000 grant through Senator Gobi's office to assist in rehabilitation of the Clark St. area. The Department has already completed point repairs and a complete CIPP lining of the area to commence in the spring of 2024.

Also, the Department is expecting a grant from Congressman Neal estimated at \$950,000 to help facilitate more I&I work and infrastructure improvements.

The Spencer Sewer Department continues to work with the Utilities and Facilities Department on all Roads projects such as the Mill/ Valley and Pearl St CBDG. Rte. 9 East, and Meadow Rd., projects.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners, facility staff and I wish to thank the residents for their continued support and understanding. Also, I would like to thank all Town Departments, Boards, and Committees for their assistance and cooperation during the past year. We look forward to our continued service to the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

James T. LaPlante Jr.
Superintendent

TREE WARDEN

I hereby submit my Annual Report for 2023

A total of 39 dead/hazardous trees were removed. Three of which required the use of a crane.

Two maple trees were planted in honor of Arbor Day.

Tree work continues as the budget allows.

National Grid continues to assist when needed.

Ray Holmes,
Tree Warden

VETERANS SERVICES

The Spencer Veterans Services Office is in the Town Hall at 157 Main Street. Office hours are Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:00 am to 2: 00 pm, Tuesdays 9:00 am to noon. Applications are being done remotely, and in person, the office has been able to provide services for Veterans and their families throughout the year.

The Spencer Veterans Department works with both the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services and the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs, (VA) in assisting all eligible Veterans and their families who find themselves in need of services, e.g. VA disability applications financial, housing, medical access, employment or help with funeral expenses. As of December 2023, which is the most recent numbers available, a total of \$325,753.79 was paid out to date, 2023, in Federal Veterans Administration disability benefits to Veterans, or their surviving families in Spencer.

This office executes the Department of Veterans Services, Chapter 115 program, which provides aid to Veterans, Spouses of deceased Veterans. Currently twenty individuals/families are enrolled in the program. With an annual budget of \$201,597.00, this office has shown fiscal responsibility, and is constantly helping beneficiaries to diminish their dependency on Chapter 115 support while pursuing more long-term programs provided by the Federal and State Governments. The Veteran's Office has transferred approximately \$20k in benefits from the Town Chapter 115 account to Mass Health Buy-In program, thusly saving Spencer \$20k/year.

Additionally, the Veteran's Service Office has been working with the local American Legion, Gaudette-Kirk Post 138, to assist in tending to the local needs of our local Veterans and their families. The Veterans Office coordinates the materials (flags and markers) for the cemeteries located in the community. The Town of Spencer has a large Veteran population representing conflicts covering the history of our Nation. The Rotunda in Town Hall contains the names of many of these Veterans. On Veterans Day 2016, a new portion of the Rotunda was dedicated honoring service men and women from the Gulf War and post 911 Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Spencer Veterans from these conflicts will continue to be added to this memorial as they return home, this ongoing project is currently in review for completeness.

Eligible veterans should contact this office with appropriate documentation in order that they may be added to this memorial. The residents of Spencer have always honored the sacrifices of our Veterans who have served in the military and have been generous in both word and deed in the assistance they have provided. The gratitude and appreciation felt by our Veterans for this assistance is expressed by them to me every day. As their Veterans Services Officer and on behalf of the people of Spencer, I try always to express the collective gratitude to them for their honorable service. Veterans of families seeking to contact this office can reach me at 508-885-7500 x115, or email to: SConner@spencerma.gov

Scott M. Conner
Veterans Services Officer

**UTILITIES & FACILITIES
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
WATER DEPARTMENT
TRANSFER STATION**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Department (website: http://www.spencerma.gov/Pages/SpencerMA_Highway/index)

The Highway Department is responsible for many duties within the Town of Spencer, foremost among which is maintenance and upkeep of the Town's 125 miles of roadways. Given the current staffing levels, this equates to approximately 28 lane miles per highway staff person. In addition to caring for and maintaining the roads within the Town, the Highway Department also manages and maintains properties and facilities which include Town-owned buildings and properties; parks and recreational facilities; and cemeteries, and is frequently called upon to support other town departments and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District on individual projects. Depending upon the roadway, facility, or property this normal care may include grounds/landscape maintenance, plowing, roadside mowing and brush cutting, tree and limb removal and cleanup, patching, routine maintenance and repairs, annual and season traffic markings and line painting, street sweeping, catch basin and drainage system maintenance, repairs and cleaning. The Highway Department is also responsible for the maintenance of all dams owned by or under the responsibility of the Town, weekly trash pickup from all Town Buildings and public parks, routine site and facility maintenance at the transfer station, elections/voting/meeting setup and oversight of contractors working on Town projects. Your Highway staff is heavily involved in constructing and upgrading closed and open country drainage systems, replacing failed culverts, aging and damaged bridge repairs, emergency storm response/cleanup and addressing numerous other infrastructure needs.

The Highway Department now maintains 9 full-time dedicated highway positions that service and maintain all the above-described infrastructure and more. To meet the needs of the Town, it is important that the Town restore staffing to the Highway and other departments. It is just as important to fill much-needed modernized equipment purchases and finance necessary capital expenditures so that we can increase productivity and not struggle to get by with limited resources, which is counterproductive. Keeping aged and deteriorated infrastructure (i.e., roads, buildings, utilities, vehicles, and equipment) in a reasonable state of good repair is not sustainable and will cost each taxpayer much more in both the short and the long term for necessary maintenance, repairs, and reconstruction. It is imperative that future budgets include an increase to restore at least two Highway Department full-time positions. We must also cover the cost of inflation and include capital expenditures for new equipment, refurbishments, and regular annual maintenance.

The great news is Spencer Highway Department employees are dedicated and experienced employees committed to getting the job done. Their expertise and skills have ensured the residents of Spencer have safe

roads to travel to but also ensure that stormwater quality is improved by proper maintenance and upkeep of the stormwater system. The Highway Department projects this year have included extensive brush mowing and patch paving. The staff continues to do their best to keep up with increasing responsibilities and appreciates your understanding and patience with inevitable delays and the amount of time needed to complete lengthened plow routes.

Noteworthy Projects in 2023

- Completed the Hastings Road Bridge Project.
- Completed Valley St and Mill St Phase 1.
- All underground work was completed on the Pleasant St and Smithville Road Project. Paving will take place in 2024.
- The MA DOT Meadow Road project began. This will improve Meadow Road by replacing and increasing the drainage, increasing the sidewalks, and adding a bike lane.
- Continued work on the 319b Grant to install Rain Gardens on Pleasant Street and North Spencer Road.
- Continued work on the Main St and Ash St sidewalk project.
- Continued work on the MA DOT North Spencer Road Bridge Project.
- Funding for Valley St and Mill St Phase 2 was awarded.

Driveway Drainage Maintenance Reminder

In order to prevent roadway flooding, homeowners should clean out their driveway culvert pipe openings at least twice annually, in the spring and fall. Branches, leaves, and other debris block pipe inlets and cause rainwater to build up and flood the road. Keeping that pipe cleared of debris will go a long way in ensuring proper stormwater conveyance away from roads and into rivers, streams, and wetlands. Remember that a pipe crossing your driveway is your responsibility to maintain so please do your part and remove all debris and do not dump any leaves or lawn clippings into gutters.

Snow & Ice Reminders

A reminder to homeowners that the Town of Spencer General By-Laws, (Article 6, section 3), Obstruction of Streets and Sidewalks states, “No person shall place or cause to place in any of the public streets, sidewalks, or squares, any dirt, rubbish, wood, timber, snow or other material of any kind tending to obstruct the streets or sidewalks without written permission from the Highway Superintendent.” Please keep in mind that our average snow plow route takes approximately 5 hours to complete in one direction only (up to 10 hours per route both directions/sides). Also, initial snow clearing operations focus on principal arterials and anti-slip treatments. A little bit of kindness, understanding and safe driving goes a long way. Help your neighbors and leave plenty of time to get to your destination. Please drive safely, fasten safety belts, stay alert and cautious at all times. Please limit your driving during snow and ice events.

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Spencer Water Department continues to improve its operations and infrastructure to comply with ever-growing regulations and permitting requirements. The water treatment and supply industry is one of the most regulated public service industries. Led by an outstanding Chief Water Operator and supported by two equally exceptional and dedicated licensed water treatment plant operators the Spencer Water Department is a model water treatment plant with exceptional operations and QA/QC capabilities for a facility of its size or even many times larger. Potable drinking water from the Spencer Water Department to the customer tap costs only \$0.01 per gallon (yes, just one penny per gallon) and is therefore still one of the absolute best deals in Town. The Water Department is refocusing efforts on the existing infrastructure with other planned system maintenance and upgrades such as replacing or upgrading aged or deficient water mains in advance of other planned roadway or development projects. The water utility infrastructure is literally a living system in its own way and must be maintained and cared for accordingly. The Spencer Water Department will continue to manage itself in the best interests of the Town and its water customers.

Water System-wide Leak Detection

In an effort to keep our costs of annual unaccounted-for water down (primarily attributed to unknown system leaks) we have instituted an annual system-wide leak detection program. Undetected leaks in our water system are very expensive. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) quotes that the national average cost for pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water per year is \$1,767. Following is a list of results from our most recently conducted system-wide leak detections:

2010 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Estimated leakage – 11.40 (MGY) million gallons per year AWWA estimated annual savings – \$20,485

2011-12 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Results - No leaks Found.

2014 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Estimated leakage – 7.36 (MGY) million gallons per year AWWA estimated annual savings – \$15,014

2015 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water Conservation Systems:

Results - No leaks Found.

2019 Leak Detection performed by HydraTech

Estimated Leakage – 1.57 (MGY) million gallons per year AWWA estimated annual savings – \$2,800

2022 Leak Detection performed by Prowler Water

Estimated Leakage – 5.2 (MGY) million gallons per year AWWA estimated annual savings - \$11,810

Standard practice for our Water Department is to repair all leaks found during the leak detection program. As you can see we have had significantly less leakage over subsequent years resulting in significant annual savings (primarily in unrealized costs). The above savings includes only leaks found during the leak

inspection programs. Other leaks encountered or reported throughout the year were also repaired immediately, however, their respective savings are not factored into the above leak detection program savings. Our next system-wide leak detection survey will be completed in 2024.

Water Department Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP)

The Water Department's Capital Efficiency Plan (CEP) is what we use to plan for necessary infrastructure improvements in the years ahead. The CEP identifies the condition of our water distribution system and outlines a methodical prioritization plan for investing in future replacements based on sound evaluation criteria to maximize the efficient use of the rate payer's dollars.

Meadow Well Cleaning: The Meadow Road well is constantly monitored for iron and manganese buildup in the gravel. The rate at which water can be pumped out of the Meadow Road Well is a key indicator of Iron and Manganese accumulation. If production slows in the well, the Water Department stands ready to treat the well and remove excess Iron, Manganese, and non-harmful bacteria that clog the gravel pack.

Completed Work in 2022

- Abandoned and replaced 8" water main and services on Meadow Road with 12" water main as part of the Meadow Road Project.
- Performed general maintenance and repairs.
- Performed 3 emergency repairs for water main breaks.

TRANSFER STATION

The Spencer Transfer Station is the best value in Town for your waste disposal and recycling needs. Now, thanks to funding provided in part by a grant from the MassDEP, our single-stream recycling compactors have been up and running for over seven years allowing you to put accepted recyclables into one compactor.

Trash and recyclable separation and management is a whole lot easier. It is imperative to the present and future for everyone to understand and practice recycling and solid waste reduction to the greatest extent possible. Recycle Spencer! It is important for the environment and the future.

Landfill Solar Project - the Town contracted with Citizens Energy to lease unusable land at the Transfer Station for the purpose of installing a photovoltaic array (Solar Panels) for a renewable energy project which was completed in 2020 and is now online.

The Town has approved funding for the following equipment at the Transfer Station:

- New Fork Truck – Delivered November 2023
- New storage container for waste oil container – Delivered November 2023
- New Transfer Station Trailer – Request for bids have been completed. The award should be made in 2024.

The day-to-day maintenance of the Utilities and Facilities infrastructure requires a significant amount of work being accomplished by each member of staff from the Water, Highway, Sewer and Transfer Station Departments.

Respectfully submitted:

Peter Boria

Utilities & Facilities Superintendent

**BAY PATH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUBURN/CHARLTON/DUDLEY
NORTH BROOKFIELD/OXFORD
PAXTON/RUTLAND/SOUTHBRIDGE/SPENCER/WEBSTER**

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School graduated a class of 268 students on June 2, 2023. Graduation was held at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. The ceremony was very well received by students, families and staff. During the ceremony, we honored long-time Principal Cliff Cloutier, who retired after 43 years of service with the school. We thank Mr. Cloutier for his many years of dedicated commitment to our students and community! Upon a thorough search, Bay Path selected Mr. Dean Packard as the new Principal. Mr. Packard brings to Bay Path nearly 30 years of educational experience with the last 20 in administration in the Dudley-Charlton Public School system. As the principal, he is committed to work collaboratively with administration, teachers, support staff, students and all members of the Bay Path learning community. We welcome and look forward to working with Mr. Packard!

Bay Path accepted a class of 314 freshmen in September 2023. There are 29 grade 9 students from Spencer. Our current enrollment has reached an all-time high of 1,196 students.

Of the 35 Spencer seniors who graduated, 11 are now gainfully employed in an occupation related to their training, 15 are attending an institute of higher education and 2 joined the military. Currently, 108 students from Spencer are enrolled in one of the 23 vocational technical programs for the 2023-2024 school year.

Fourteen Spencer students are receiving extra services from our Special Education Department. Of the 182 total cooperative education students, 18 are Spencer students taking advantage of our cooperative education program and will be earning while learning at one of the 153 different participating businesses and industries of which 92 are located in one of our ten communities. Currently, we have students in cooperative education programs at 8 businesses located in Spencer.

Whenever possible, we have continued our practice of utilizing our occupational programs to provide requested services to municipalities, non-profits and residents from any of our ten district towns. During the 2022-2023 school year, our 23 programs completed 533 work orders, of which, 77 were for residents of the Town of Spencer. We completed our 2022-2023 House Building Project located on Crowl Hill Road in the Town of Auburn. Our current House Build Project is in the Town of Spencer.

Our Minuteman Shoppe, and Cosmetology program are open to the general public. Our Hilltop Restaurant is open to provide delicious meals to the public along with the continuation of a modified Curb-Side Pick-Up. These learning opportunities benefit not only the students but provide useful services at reasonable costs.

Our Evening Adult Education Program continues to serve the adult needs of our 10-town district, as well as the additional surrounding towns. Our Spring and Fall 2023 program offerings have steadily increased. The Bay Path Adult Evening School courses are developed to offer valuable opportunities to students for personal and professional growth. Instructors are chosen based on their knowledge and enthusiasm in the subject to be taught as well as their belief in life-long learning. The Bay Path Adult Evening School program is offered two times a year. The Spring Semester registration begins in January with classes starting in March and the Fall semester registration begins in August with classes starting in September. Approximately 68, 000 catalogs are mailed out to surrounding communities.

We had a combined enrollment of 1,473 students (946 in district and 527 out of district) in 206 evening classes of which 72 were residents of Spencer. The program also continues to offer a wide variety of over 500 online courses, including career certificate programs and courses to satisfy professional development requirements for teachers and an array of day and week long trips (12 scheduled trips with 44 total travelers).

This fall Bay Path welcomed 36 adult learners to the first cohort of the Career Technical Initiative (CTI) Grant program funded by Commonwealth Corporation. Twelve students joined us in each of the following training programs: Culinary Arts, Advanced Manufacturing, and Heating Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC). This 200 hour tuition free program will provide students with the skills and competencies to earn Industry Recognized Credentials (IRC's) which will give them a head start on their journey seeking employment in one of these high demand careers.

During their time at Bay Path, students will not only learn their trade but will work with Career Counselors from Mass Hire to ensure their resumes and cover letters meet industry standards. Students will also be coached on interview skills and networking. This winter they will have the opportunity to meet with grant employer partners All Points HVAC, ckSmithSuperior, General Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Dexter, FLEXcon, A&M Tool & Design, Primetals Technologies, Pine Ridge Country Club, Niche Hospitality Group, The Overlook, and UMass Memorial Health during our CTI Job Fair.

Registration for next fall's CTI program will open in June of 2024. To learn more or to find out if you qualify, please visit [Bay Path at Night | Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School](#).

Our Practical Nursing (PN) Program continues to provide an excellent opportunity to adults in our surrounding communities. For the 2023-2024 class we have 40 students from nineteen municipalities and two states.

This year, the only "Out of District" students that have been accepted are students who began their high school education at Bay Path while residing in one of the District's ten member communities and subsequently moved out of district before completing their high school education. It is important to note that the town where these students now reside must pay an out of district tuition cost for each student ranging in cost between \$17,969 and \$20,143. These towns also pay the transportation costs for those students.

The Spencer-East Brookfield School District continues to provide excellent cooperation for our recruiting program and we are thankful for their efforts. I believe they share our feeling that all students must be given the right, the information, and the opportunity to make an informed school choice.

At Bay Path, we will continue to serve Spencer with the finest career vocational technical education programs available for the high school students and adults, and will, when possible, use our skills and facilities to further town projects as they add to our students' education.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyle J. Brenner
Superintendent-Directo

SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear Spencer Community,

The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District graduated a class of 63 students on Friday, June 2nd; and began the new school year with over 87 freshmen in August of 2023. Our current enrollment as a regional school district is over 1436 total students with 320 enrolled at David Prouty High School; 390 enrolled at Knox Trail Middle School; 450 enrolled at Wire Village School; and 254 enrolled at East Brookfield Elementary School – including more than 113 students in our “Cubs Corner” Preschool program. These enrollment numbers are a testament to the due diligence and stability that has been established and continues to permeate throughout our schools within the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District.

The reason for this continued stability and growth as mentioned in prior town reports is simple: The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District has been and continues to be more than just four schools but one learning community - dedicated to teaching and learning with purpose. And thanks to our communities continuing to invest and support us in our work with your children, we were able to achieve some really great things in the process....

First, the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District continued to support an approach to teaching and learning that is responsive to each student’s academic, social and emotional needs by making sure we review and realign PK-12 curriculum to ensure ALL students have access to high quality materials and instruction. A few key highlights from the 2022-2023 school year include but are not limited to: Beyond comprehensive course offerings we also offer Career Technical Education courses of study in Early Education and Care; Marketing; Criminal Justice; and Environmental Science and Technology to the students of not only Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District but Southern Worcester County, as well. We have also enhanced Early College learning opportunities for David Prouty High School students through our partnership with Worcester State; and diversified Advanced Placement course offerings while expanding our post-graduate transition program to connect 18-22-year-old students to interest-based work and community resources...

Second, the district remained committed to sustaining the high quality of our teachers and administrators by maximizing opportunities for professional development and collaboration, while also increasing diversity by: utilizing instructional teams to implement, monitor, and support the principles of accelerated learning; providing staff high quality professional development to enhance their practice and support their continuous learning and create and implement an enhanced educator evaluation system that promotes reflective practices and use of learning walks and lesson studies as tools for improvement.

Third, the district has enhanced the curriculum by strengthening and expanding district science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics (STEAM), college, career, and community offerings. To these ends, we have worked diligently to address capital improvement needs by partnering with our parents/families, the Massachusetts School Building Authority, and our communities to pass the David Prouty High School “Addition/Renovation” Building Project - so that all of our facilities are innovative, responsive and able to meet the needs of 21st century teaching and learning; allow for 21st century instructional technology integration; and provide students with experiential learning at every grade level – including service learning.

None of these highlights I just mentioned above would have been possible with you... As such, on behalf of all of us within the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, I want you to know that we truly value and appreciate your ongoing investment and support of our municipalities and our regional school district; it is invaluable. Thanks to you and the consistent work of our District School Committee, Leadership Team, as well as our SEBRSD Faculty/Staff, our students continue to experience a comprehensive public education like no other as they *look to the future* and work toward it...

In closing, we thank you for your continued support and partnership with each and every one of us within the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District.

Respectfully Yours,

Paul S. Haughey, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District

DAVID PROUTY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2023

First Name	Last Name	Title
William	Anderson	
Yashira	Ayala	
Thomas	Bain	
Tyla	Barry	
Olivia	Bostwick	
Hayle	Bove	Historian
Emily	Brown	Secretary
Paige	Burke	
Caleb	Carr	
Coby	Carr	
Connor	Caseday	
Braeden	Cashman	
Olivia	Charette	
Cody	Chen	
Marcus	Chesna	
Kyra	Coffey	
Daniel	Conklin	
Anthony	Costello	
Myka	Daniels	
Connor	Domey	
Marlee	Domey	
Jessica	Duda	Vice President
Avani	Edmonds	
Owen	Forand	
Brandon	Gibeault	
Noel	Gomez	
Brielle	Hart	
Tiana	Hinson	
Cameron	Hoekstra	
Amberlynn	Humphrey	
Jorge	Ignacio	
Emanuel	Iraola	
David	Johnson	
Denaysha	Kinsey	
Julian	Kondratowicz	
Faith	LaMonda	
Jocelyn	LaMonda	
Jillianne	Lampron	
Charlie	Lascom	President
Keira	Laverty	
Daniel	Londono	

Austin	Lund	
Denise	Maldonado Caceres	
Karla	Martinez Hernandez	
Michael	Mason	
Gianna	Mattei	
Ayden	McKeon	
Poker	Meas	
Kodin	Medina	
Adriana	Mullins	
Gabriella	Nokeo	Historian
Kaitlyn	O'Neill	
Timothy	Paine	
Colby	Paradis	
Paige	Parenteau	Historian
Shaeleigh	Parkin	
Olivia	Pepin	
Brodey	Perchak	
Marcos	Pereira	
Axel	Power	
Ivelisse	Rodriguez	
Davoni	Rowe	
Kassidy	Smith	
Emily	Soter	Treasurer
Lindsey	Soter	
Dylan	Stanley	
Khishia	Stevens	
Frander	Sucup Carrillo	
Thomas	Torres	
Braeden	White	
	<i>Class Advisors:</i>	
	<i>Sandra Soter & Lindsay Wilk</i>	

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Meetings listed below are typically held as indicated. **For the most current information, please consult the website calendar** at www.spencerma.gov for official postings.

Annual Town Meeting	1 st Thursday in May
Annual Town Election	2 nd Tuesday in May
Selectmen's Meetings	Mondays as posted at www.spencerma.gov
Assessor's Meetings	2 nd Monday of month
Charitable Needs Commission	1 st Monday of month Sept. - June
Conservation Commission	2 nd & 4 th Wednesday of month
Council on Aging	2 nd Tuesday of month
Finance Committee	4 th Tuesday of month
Board of Health	1 st Monday of month
Historical Commission	3 rd Tuesday of month
Housing Authority	2 nd Thursday of month
Library Trustees	2 nd Tuesday of month
Parks & Recreation Committee	As posted at www.spencerma.gov
Planning Board	As posted at www.spencerma.gov
Regional School Committee	See School District website
Sewer Commission	2 nd Wednesday of month
Veteran's Agent	Monday & Tuesday 9-2, Thursday 9-12, or by appointment
Water Commission	1 st Wednesday of month
ZBA	As posted at www.spencerma.gov

Town Offices are closed for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

TRANSFER STATIONS HOURS: Wednesday & Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

RICHARD SUGDEN LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday & Thursday:	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

DUE DATES:

The following bills are paid at the Town Collector's Office:

Real Estate & Personal Property Taxes	Due Quarterly
Excise Taxes	Due 30 days after issuance
Water/Sewer Bills	Due Quarterly

The following bills are paid at the Town Clerk's Office:

Dog Licenses	Due June 30 th (late fee applies on July 1 st)
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Population: 11,059

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

POLICE – AMBULANCE – FIRE EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

NON-EMERGENCY INFORMATION

POLICE 885-6333

AMBULANCE 885-4476

FIRE 885-3555

TOWN DIRECTORY:

Department/Office:	Services:	Telephone Number:
Administration	Administrator	508 885-7500 x132
	Board of Selectmen	508 885-7500 x155
Town Clerk	Vital Records	508 885-7500 x150
	Dog Licenses	508 885-7500 x150
	Notary Public/Justice of the Peace	508 885-7500 x150
	Elections, Voter Registration	508 885-7500 x150
Town Accountant	Accounting	508 885-7500 x135
Town Assessors	Assessment & House Numbering	508 885-7500 x165
	House Numbering	508 885-7500 x165
Town Treasurer/Collector	Tax & Utility Collections	508 885-7500 x170
	Treasurer	508 885-7500 x170
Inspectional & Development Services	Building Inspector	508 885-7500 x180
	Building Permits	508 885-7500 x180
	Conservation	508 885-7500 x180
	Health Matters	508 885-7500 x180
	Inspections: Plumbing, Sanitary, Wiring, Zoning	508 885-7500 x180
	Planning Board	508 885-7500 x180
	Zoning Board	508 885-7500 x180
Veteran's Agent		508 885-7500 x115
Cultural Office		508 885-7500 x187
Historical Commission		508 885-7500 x186
Parks & Recreation		508 885-7500 x118
Fire Department	Fire Chief	508 885-3555
	Burning Permits	508 885-3555
	Oil Burner Permits	508 885-3555
	Civil Defense	508 885-3555
Library (Richard Sugden Library)		508 885-7513
Police	Police Chief	508 885-6333
	Dog Complaints	508 885-6333
Transfer Station		508 885-7539

Utilities & Facilities:	Drainage	508 885-7525
	Highway	508 885-7525
	Street Maintenance, Snow Removal	508 885-7525
	Sewer	508 885-7525
	Water	508 885-7525
Council on Aging	Drop-in Center	508 885-7546
	Senior Citizens Matters	508 885-7546
Spencer Public Health Nurse		508 885-7500 x180
Fuel Assistance	Worcester Community Action Council	508 754-1176 x110
Housing Authority		508 885-3904
Post Office		800 275-8777
School Department	Superintendent of Schools	508 885-8500
Van Dispatcher	Elder Bus	508 867-9941

TTY Phone Numbers in the Town of Spencer:

Town Hall: 508 885-7503
Police Department: 508 885-2399
Fire Department: 508 885-2732
Utilities & Facilities: 508 885-7527

Schools:

District Office: 508 885-8500
David Prouty High: 508 885-8505
Knox Trail: 508 885-8550
Wire Village: 508 885-8524

2023 POPULATION:

Population: 11,059