

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2011

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

Present: Randy Crochier, Ann Banash, and John Ward, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Rick James, Geoff Rogers

Hampshire Power: Electricity that is purchased by the Town of Gill is delivered by WMECO, and is supplied through a contract with Hampshire Power. Geoff Rogers, a representative of Hampshire Power, met with the Selectboard to discuss the need for the Town to switch from the Profit Sharing Rate Plan to the Real-Time Rate Plan. He explained that the Profit Sharing plan, which Gill has subscribed to since 2006, is being phased out as it places all risk on Hampshire Power and passes no risk on to their customers. A Fixed Price Rate Plan is also available, but it is not competitively priced.

Under the Real-Time plan, the Town is billed at the wholesale market spot price for electricity (price is driven by regional demand), plus an "adder" (an administrative fee for Hampshire Power). Since 2006, Hampshire Power has saved its customers a total of \$1.4 million, of which \$1.1 million is attributable to the Real-Time plan. Geoff shared a chart that shows a cumulative Profit Sharing rebate of \$1,934.64 for Gill, versus what could have been \$6,490 in savings if we had enrolled in the Real-Time plan in 2006. It was pointed out that the Town consciously chose the no-risk Profit Sharing plan because in 2006 the Real-Time plan was untested. Once the Town switches to the Real-Time plan, we will receive the usual number of bills from WMECO for delivery charges (5 building accounts, 2 lighting accounts), and a single supply bill from Hampshire Power.

Another chart was shared which shows that the Real-Time plan's price per kilowatt-hour is much more variable from month to month, but generally runs less than WMECO's standard price. Real-Time prices can and do spike higher than WMECO's rate that is fixed for 6-month intervals. Usually the spikes are attributable to a specific cause, such as the 2008 stock market crash, the cold winter of 2010/11, and the hot July in 2011. Geoff also noted that the Town should NOT include street lighting in the new Real-time plan with Hampshire Power. He feels that electricity costs for street lighting are more favorable directly through WMECO.

Hampshire Power has supplied a new Electrical Supply Contract, which Ray is in the process of reviewing with Town Counsel. Once that is complete, the contract will be brought back to the Selectboard for a final review and approval. Geoff left the meeting at 3:25pm.

The Board also received a draft of an Electricity Aggregation Agreement (related to the Town Meeting vote in May on municipal aggregation), but the document was not discussed.

Four Winds School: Steve Hussey joined the meeting (at 3:25pm) to discuss with the Selectboard his plans/hopes for the Four Winds School at the Riverside Municipal Building, and to review terms of a renewed lease for the 2011/12 school year. He described this as a "make or break" year for the school – that if efforts fail to increase enrollment and return the program to full-time operation, it is uncertain if the school will continue another year. The school is also seeking a CDC loan to help stabilize operating funds and to pay for some development and marketing.

Steve explained that directly tying monthly rent to enrollment figures does not work anymore, as the school has 1-, 2-, and 3-days a week students. Additionally, as part of the effort to boost enrollment, the school is now offering tuition scholarships, which means that some students contribute very little revenue to the school's budget. The

\$575/month rent that was discussed in May is still a workable number for the school, and Steve was willing to commit to that amount.

When asked about space needs, and if he could sacrifice half of a classroom in exchange for lower rent, Steve agreed that 1 ½ rooms could work this year, but would not work if enrollment grows and there is a "next year". The suggestion was made with an eye toward walling off half of the classroom adjacent to the Historical Museum, and using that space for museum storage and for the Riverside Water District offices. The existing RWD office could then be rented. The Board felt that it did not make sense to construct walls at this time, given the uncertain future plans of Four Winds School.

Steve asked for permission to do some basic maintenance upgrades to the building, such as repairing the wall behind the toilet, tacking down a new vinyl floor in the bathroom, and perhaps some painting and plaster repair. John Ward offered to donate an almost-new low-flush toilet, if Steve could install it. Other capital improvements by Four Winds School, like new carpeting for the classrooms and hallway, were discouraged due to the uncertain future plans.

Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to renew the lease with Four Winds School for a term of September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 with a monthly rent of \$575.00, and with the existing fuel escalation clause to remain in the lease; and to authorize Ray to sign the lease on behalf of the Selectboard. The motion was unanimous in the affirmative. The Board also granted permission for Steve to do the improvements to the bathroom floor, wall, and toilet. Steve left the meeting at 3:40pm.

Highway Dept. Updates: Mick LaClaire, Highway Superintendent joined the meeting to provide updates to the Selectboard on a variety of activities for his department. He reported that the groundwater/basement flooding problem at the elementary school has been corrected. A piece of 4" PVC pipe runs from the boiler room sump pump, picks up building sub-drains, and then runs beneath the playground and under the softball field before terminating in the woods. A 6-foot section of that pipe, roughly 20 feet from the tree line, was found to be completely plugged by tree roots. That section was replaced, and the drains seem to be functioning properly, as evidenced by no new basement flooding during the latest batch of rain. There is still some stonework at the discharge point that needs to be finished once the ground dries out.

Mick also presented FRCOG's bids for winter sand and salt. Eastern Minerals (Lowell, MA) was the low bidder for salt at \$57.36/ton delivered, the same price as last year. Lane Construction (Northfield, MA) was the low bidder for sand at \$5.25/ton picked up, which is up from \$4.50 last year. Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to accept and award the sand and salt bids as presented. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Ed, John, and Mick will be working on installing a new catch basin near Parzych's on Main Road, and installing drainpipe along Route 142 near Cook's barn. They will be removing some large tree stumps from Mount Hermon Road, which hopefully FirstLight will be able to use on their riverbank restoration project. Mick asked for and received permission for all three employees to attend Mass Highway's annual trade show later in the week.

Mick reported on new state or federal highway transportation rules that will mandate larger street name signs be installed (as replacements are needed), as well as regulations for the reflectivity of our traffic signs (speed limit, stop, curve, etc.). It was estimated that new street signs alone would cost in excess of \$3,000. There may be a bill introduced in the House to delay or abolish the new rules -- Mick will find out the bill number in case anyone wants to call our legislators and ask for their support.

On the matter of the new boiler for the Public Safety Complex, Mick explained that an engineer for a local supply house has examined the current setup and is recommending we convert from a steam/forced hot water system to solely forced hot water. In addition, the single boiler should be replaced with two smaller boilers, which will reduce fuel consumption (one smaller boiler can handle the heating loads during the early and later parts of winter and on mild days) and provide redundancy (if one boiler fails, the other will still be able to keep the building from freezing). It was estimated that the new system could reduce fuel consumption by as much as 50%.

There will be 8 heating zones, and the system will use a "smart" control that monitors outdoor and indoor temperatures. The five heating units mounted on the garage ceilings can be reduced to three. An initial estimate for the project is \$40,000 -- double what has been budgeted for the work. When details of the proposal are received, Ray or Mick will forward them to the Board, and Ray will begin researching options for funding the higher priced work, and looking at dates for a Special Town Meeting.

Appointment: Amy Gordon, who lives at 8 Setback Lane, has volunteered to serve on the Conservation Commission, and has been recommended by the ConCom for that appointment. Amy met with the Selectboard, introduced herself, and commented on how impressed she is by the knowledge and commitment of the current members of the ConCom. The Board thanked her for attending, noting how nice it is to meet the person they are appointing. Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to appoint Amy Gordon to the Conservation Commission for a term ending June 30, 2014. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Minutes: John made a motion, seconded by Ann, to approve the minutes of 8/15, 8/29, and 9/12. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Siemens Project Update: Ray reported that the new hot water heater for Gill Elementary had arrived today at the supplier's, and would be installed next week. The chimney was found to have an existing clay liner, which will be cleaned and inspected this week. If it checks out okay, then Siemens will not install a stack liner. The combustion air fan, which supplies air for the boiler, is on site and will be installed this week. In general, Siemens feels the project is in good shape for a boiler start up at the end of the week, subject to the availability of an H.B. Smith factory rep to do the start up. The materials for the lighting upgrades are ready, but the work is waiting on the contractor.

Custodian Position: Ray announced that the advertisement for the part-time custodian position was in the Recorder and Montague Reporter, and that applications would be accepted until October 3rd. The Board authorized Ray to select and interview applicants, and bring a recommendation to them for review and appointment.

CDBG/CDS: The Board reviewed a draft of this year's Community Development Strategy, which will be part of Gill's application for a 2012 allotment of housing rehab funds. No changes to the CDS were suggested. The CDS and the CDBG application will be the focus of an informational meeting tonight at 5:30pm. A final version of the CDS will be brought to the Selectboard for approval on October 11th. Ray also noted that as part of the multi-town CDBG application (Gill, Deerfield, Erving, Ashfield), there would also be a project involving the Meals on Wheels program. An informational meeting about this part of the application will be held on October 5th at 11AM at the Gill-Montague Senior Center.

Town Hall Office Walls: Ray reported that he recently confirmed that the office walls project is still on the work list for the Franklin County Technical School's community outreach program. The director of that program thought work might begin in late fall/early winter. An instructor for the program will visit Town Hall in the next few weeks to get familiar with the scope of work, and provide a better estimate of when the work might happen. (The visit happened on 10/4 – start date now looks like Spring 2012, best case.)

Accuvote Voting Machine: The Town Clerk has requested a vote by the Selectboard to allow the use of the Accuvote scan voting system for the March 6, 2012 Presidential Primary election. This vote is needed to satisfy the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office. Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to allow said use. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Sewer: Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to grant an abatement of \$93.23 to Jeff Suprenant on bill number 5100 for metered water used to fill a swimming pool and spa. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Ray also presented a request from the Tax Collector and Accountant to issue a revised sewer commitment for September 14, 2010. The original commitment from that date included \$270.04 that was duplicated from another commitment. Ann made a motion, seconded by John, to issue a revised sewer commitment for 9/14/10 to the Tax Collector in the amount of \$15,684.00. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

FEMA/Hurricane Irene: A "kickoff" meeting with a FEMA Project Specialist is being scheduled. Ray and the three public safety department heads will meet to discuss Gill's Irene-related expenses, and learn more about submitting for reimbursement. Also, the Northwest Mass. Incident Management Team has scheduled an "after action review" meeting on September 28th to discuss the collective response to Irene, and what could be improved on in the future.

MMA Essay Contest: By consensus, the Selectboard agreed to allow Gill 6th grade students to participate in this year's essay contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

MMA Legislative Breakfast: In preparation for the October 7th MMA-sponsored Legislative Breakfast in Sunderland, Ray asked the Board if there were any topics that should be raised to area legislators. It was suggested that Hurricane Irene and casinos will probably dominate the discussion, if last week's meeting between the Selectmen's Association and legislators is any indication. The issue of street signs and road sign reflectivity (see

page 2) was suggested, as was the excessive cost and energy use for the new lighting on the Gill-Montague Bridge. John will send Ray a copy of a Mass DOT response to concerns that John had raised to them.

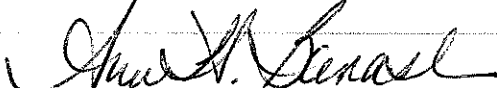
Warrant: The Board reviewed and signed FY 2012 warrant #7. Randy abstained from signing the payroll warrant.

5:00pm Tupper Brown joined the meeting to discuss tomorrow night's G-M School Committee Meeting. The agenda includes a discussion of the selection process and timeline for hiring a permanent superintendent. There was consensus from the Selectboard that it is important the School Committee have a process and follow it.

Randy left the meeting at 5:10pm.

Adjournment: The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

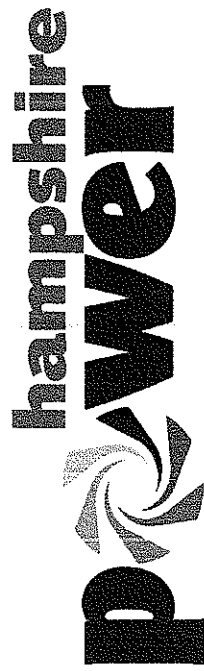
Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann H. Banash", is written over a horizontal line.

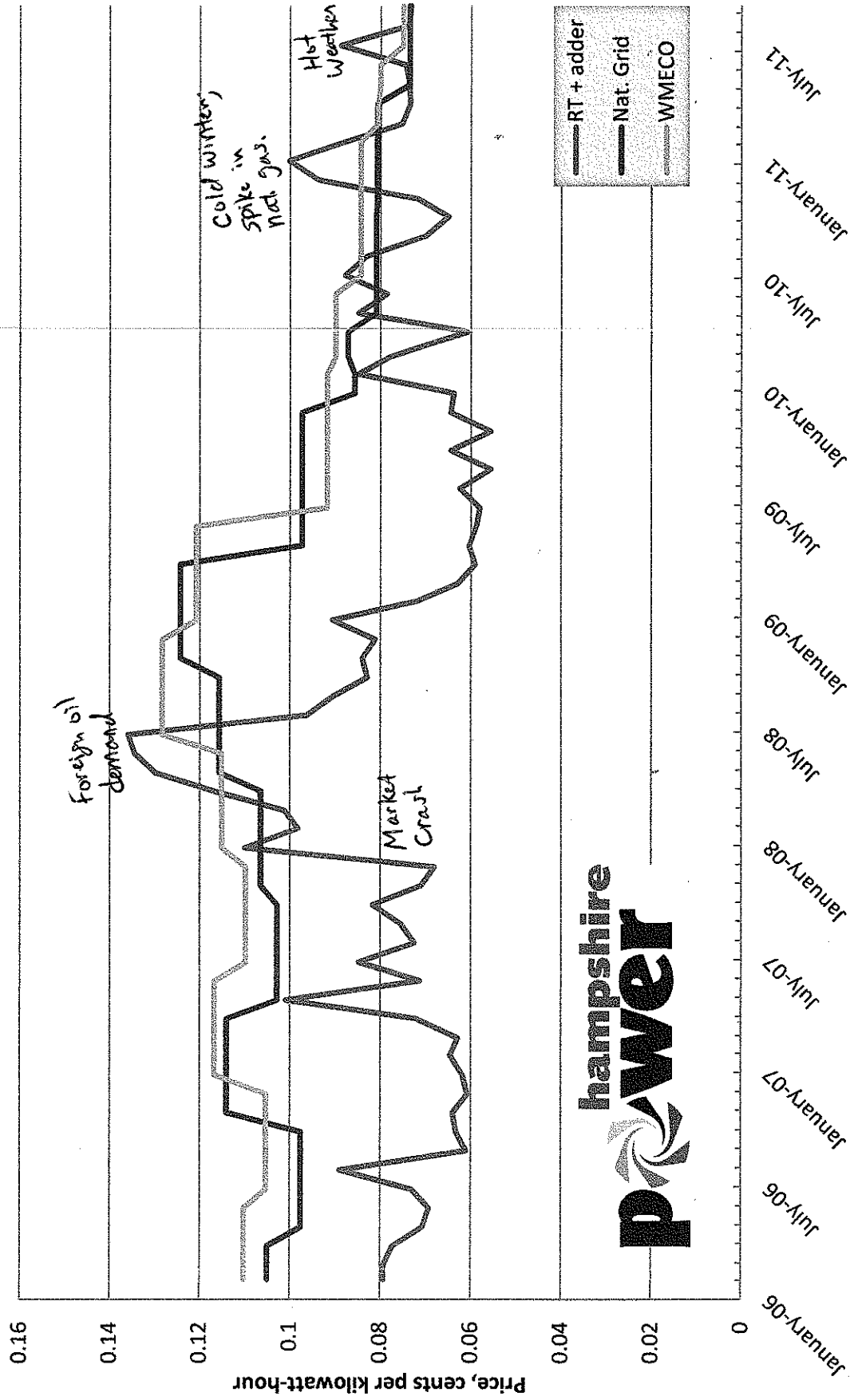
Ann H. Banash, Selectboard Clerk

Gill Profit-Sharing vs. Real-Time Calculations, FY 07- FY11

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	TOTALS	Actual Rebates
Profit Rebate	426.13	\$	40.45	\$	\$233.24	\$	1,934.64
usage, kWh/mo			8,404	7,645	7,346	7,419	
usage, kWh/yr			100,848	91,741	88,153	89,028	
R/T Savings, Comp.	\$1,500	\$	1,000.00	\$2,990	\$	(200.00)	6,490.00
						\$	-
Difference, R/T-Reb:	\$	1,073.87	\$	1,755.17	\$	(200.00)	4,555.36



Commercial Electricity Prices, WMECO, National Grid, and Hampshire Power, 2006-2011



Community Development Strategy
Town of Gill
September 26, 2011

Overview

Volunteers and paid staff serve as elected or appointed members of various boards and committees, and undertake Gill's governance, community development, and strategic planning efforts. The activities contained within this application for funding are consistent with the priorities and needs identified through several local and regional community assessment and strategic planning processes, and with the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development Principles. A Public Hearing was held on September 26, 2011 to review and discuss this Community Development Strategy and the document was adopted by the Selectboard on October 11, 2011.

Community Planning Entities

Gill residents are involved in a variety of local and regional planning efforts to help clarify and coordinate the town's priorities. The following committees and people conduct needs assessments and community-based planning activities for the town: the 911 Coordinator, Accountant, Administrative Assistant, Agricultural Commission, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Board of Selectmen, Cable Access Committee, Capital Improvement Planning Committee, Cemetery Commission, Conservation Commission, Council on Aging, Cultural Council, Energy Commission, Finance Committee, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director, Gill-Montague Regional School Committee, Gill School Advisory Committee, Highway Superintendent, Historical Commission, Library Trustees, Memorial Committee, Personnel Committee, Planning Board, Police Chief, Recreation Committee, Riverside Municipal Building Use Committee, Town Clerk, Town Forest Committee, Treasurer/Tax Collector, and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Several regional organizations assist Gill in its planning and community development efforts including the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), Franklin Community Development Corporation, Franklin Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Franklin County Home Care Corporation, Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program, Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, and the Franklin Regional Transit Authority. Gill residents serve as representatives to these and other organizations carrying out local and regional planning initiatives.

The following Massachusetts state offices and agencies also assist the town, providing guidance and funding to help meet community needs: Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Department of Transportation, Department of Energy Resources, Department of Public Health, Emergency Management Agency, Historical Commission, Department of Revenue Division of Local Services, and Department of Housing and Community Development.

Planning Processes and Documents

The town is involved in a variety of planning processes, as follows:

Capital Plan: Each year members of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committees meet to discuss long-range capital needs and priorities for the Town. Each department head and the members of the Building Committee are asked for input. Prioritization of needs and allocation of resources are recommended and discussed at Town Meeting.

Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP): In 2011, the Gill Open Space Committee, with assistance from the FRCOG Planning Department, is updating its OSRP. The OSRP combines the interest, effort, and motivation of community members towards the identification, prioritization, conservation and protection of Gill's landscapes and ecosystems in the face of new residential development. Its purpose is to provide a framework for decisions dealing with land use, which may affect ecosystems and the lands that contain unique agricultural, historical, recreational, and scenic values.

Energy Savings Performance Contract: In 2011, Gill entered into an Energy Management Services Agreement with Siemens Building Technologies to perform \$281,000 in energy conservation improvements at the Gill Elementary School. To pay for this work, the Town received a \$150,000 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, \$6,615 in WMECO rebates, and issued a \$127,500 Qualified Energy Conservation tax credit bond. The bond will be repaid using energy savings generated by the improvements. Through its Energy Commission and other town officials, Gill continues to research the feasibility and desirability of paying for Town energy conservation measures using alternative methods.

Green Communities Action Plan: In 2010, with technical assistance from the FRCOG Planning Department, Gill's Energy Commission developed a Green Communities Action Plan. This document outlines the steps the Town hopes to take in order to achieve state designation as a Green Community. If it becomes so designated, the Town could then apply for Green Community grants which could be used by the Town and its residents to make energy conservation improvements to buildings, homes, and town services.

Subdivision Regulations: In 2009, using funds from a Chapter 43D planning grant, the Gill Planning Board, with assistance from town counsel and the FRCOG, completed a major update and revision to the Town's subdivision regulations.

Right-To-Farm By-Law & Agricultural Commission: In 2006 Gill voters established an Agricultural Commission, a five-member body charged with supporting agriculture and other farming activities in Gill. This group meets monthly and sponsors farmers markets and educational events throughout the year. The Right To Farm by-law was adopted in 2009, and is meant to encourage agriculture and related activities, while minimizing conflicts between farmers, neighbors, and town officials.

Mariamante Parcel: In December of 2004, the Town purchased a commercially zoned fifteen-acre parcel of land that had previously been classified under Chapter 61A. The hope was the Town could encourage future commercial development to occur in already existing commercial areas in town. The Town has held numerous visioning and brainstorming meetings, and paid to have two archaeological studies performed on the site in order to better qualify and quantify the extent of Native American artifacts and influences on the property.

In October 2009, in a striking example of civic spirit, a ground penetrating radar study was conducted. The professional costs of the study, including surveying, radar equipment, and analysis of a mountain of data, was all donated. Final results seem to indicate pre-colonial activity on the site. The Town continues to explore ways to develop the property while remaining sensitive to the beliefs and concerns of the various Native American tribes.

Community Development Plan (CDP): The Gill Community Development Committee, with assistance from the FRCOG, completed a comprehensive Community Development Plan in June 2004. This plan, developed under Executive Order 418, addresses four principal areas: open space and resource protection, economic development, transportation, and housing. The CDP uses the information collected and maps created to establish options and strategies for addressing future development. The CDP's vision statement reads,

The vision for the Town of Gill is to recognize and preserve the Town's unique natural, historic and scenic resources, as well as its overall rural character. The preservation of these assets is for the benefit of current and future residents and visitors alike. This vision for Gill includes the continued provision of quality community services and the promotion of the economic well-being of residents and the health of the Town's business community.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Plan: The ADA coordinator annually assesses the town's ability to meet the regulations of the ADA with respect to town-owned buildings and properties. The town underwent an ADA compliance review by the United States Department of Agriculture in September, 2007. After making a few small adjustments, the town easily passed the review.

Annual Town Report: Each year the town produces an Annual Town Report, which contains detailed information about town processes, highlights progress made on a number of community development and planning projects, and identifies needs and priorities related to town governance, community development, social services, and public safety. Reports from various boards, committees, commissions, and trustees are reviewed and accepted at each Annual Town Meeting.

Regional Plans: The Town's needs and priorities were taken into consideration during the development of the following regional plans:

- The Greater Franklin County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2011 Annual Report. The FRCOG operated the CEDS program and guides economic development activities throughout Franklin County and neighboring communities. A committee of 46 business and community leaders directs the program.
- Franklin County Home Care Corporation/Area Agency on Aging (FCHCC) is a private, non-profit corporation, which develops, provides, and coordinates a range of services to support the independent living of elders, people with disabilities, caregivers and providing support to local Councils on Aging and Senior Centers. They serve elders, persons with disabilities and care providers in homes in all of Franklin County.
- Franklin County Bikeway Plan, 2009. The plan seeks to design facilities and a transportation system that encourage bicycling as a viable mode of transportation and reduces auto trips. The 2009 update extends and expands a system created in 1993, and installed roadside signs delineating bikeway routes, including approximately four miles of road-based trails in Gill.
- Mohawk Trail Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan, 2009. In 1998, the FRCOG and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) embarked on a cooperative project to recognize, interpret, preserve and promote the unique scenic, natural, recreational, historical, cultural and archaeological resources of the Mohawk Trail in Franklin and Berkshire Counties. The FRCOG and the BRPC sought and received funding through the Federal Scenic Byway

program to complete a corridor management plan for the Mohawk Trail Scenic Byway between Greenfield and Williamstown in Massachusetts.

- Regional Transportation Plan, 2007. This plan, coordinated by the FRCOG with input from all 26 towns in Franklin County, promotes ways to develop transportation alternatives to the automobile while, at the same time, supporting the improvement and more efficient use of traditional facilities.

Strategic Action Plan

The planning processes described above have resulted in specific action plans that the Town has completed and/or will undertake over the next three to five years. The Town's priorities, projects, and identified resources and funding sources are described in detail in the relevant planning documents. The Town strives to embrace the Sustainable Development Principles published by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and incorporates aspects of these principles in its planning activities.

The activities included in the following list of projects promote a strong emphasis on regional planning, as Gill is fortunate to be a member community of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. Smart land use, environmental sensitivity, and energy conservation also play a strong role in Gill's planned activities. The projects reflect a focus on maintenance and improvement of existing Town facilities and infrastructure, a commitment to improving the economic conditions and quality of life for town residents, and a dedication to conserving the Town's natural resources.

Town of Gill

Prioritized Projects List

2011 Community Development Strategy

Geographic Target Area: TW = Town-wide

Priority: 1 = High Priority 2 = Moderate Priority EP = Existing Priority (in progress and funding is secured)
CP = Completed Project

Geographic Target Area / Priority	Timeline	Project	Project Description / Relevant Plan	Funding Source / Estimated Cost
TW / EP	12/31/11	Public Safety Complex Boiler	Replace leaking boiler	Local taxes \$20,000
TW / EP	12/31/11	Energy Savings Performance Contract	Install new boiler, energy management system, and lighting upgrades at Gill Elementary	EECBG grant; WMECO rebates, Energy savings Up to \$281,000
TW / EP	12/31/11	Town Hall Office Walls	Construct office walls for Town Clerk, & Treasurer/Tax Collector; move Assessor's Office to first floor	FC Tech shop program; local taxes (\$10,000)
Riverside Sewer District / EP	3/31/12	Sewer Pump Station Upgrades	Replace critical components of sewer system pump station to improve reliability & energy efficiency and to reduce operating & maintenance costs.	Town funds \$60,000
TW / EP	6/30/12	Green Communities Action Plan	Explore and implement activities to fulfill requirements to be designated as a Green Community	Volunteers and existing town staff.
TW / EP	12/31/11	Slate Memorial Library Building Needs	Conduct preliminary assessment of building needs & expansion options	Local taxes, \$1,100
TW / EP	12/31/11	Open Space Plan	Update Gill Open Space Plan	Volunteers, existing town staff, FRCOG
TW / I	Ongoing	Social Services	Support the Gill Council on Aging, Meals on Wheels program, food pantry and Montague Senior Center for benefit of and use by our seniors.	Fundraising CDBG funds Volunteers and community donations
TW / I	6/30/12	Town Hall Roof	Repair/replace 30-year-old asphalt roof	Local taxes, \$ TBD
TW / I	12/31/12	Mariamante Property	Determine best possible use for Mariamante property, create and execute plan to develop and/or sell property	Ch. 43D grant, PWED & CDAG grants, preservation restriction, local taxes
TW / I	12/31/13	Housing Rehab	Correction of code violations for CDBG-qualified homeowners	CDBG funds

TW / 1	12/31/12	Public Safety Complex Roof	Determine need and course of action to replace 30-year old membrane roof	Local taxes \$ TBD
TW / 1	12/31/12	Emergency Generator for Gill Elementary	Obtain & install generator to allow emergency shelter options at school	Federal surplus equip.; Town funds
TW / 1	6/30/15	Fire Truck Replacement	Replace 1979 tanker truck	FEMA Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant; NMH gift, grants, local taxes. \$350,000 est.
TW / 1	12/31/12	Cemetery space acquisition	Acquire new land for a town-owned cemetery	Private donations, local taxes. \$ TBD
TW / 2	12/31/12	Police Cruiser	Replace 2004 police cruiser	Local taxes \$28,000
TW / 2	6/30/14	Highway truck replacement	Replace 1990 dump truck	Local taxes. \$200,000 estimated
TW / 2	7/31/12	Gill Elementary Driveway & Parking Lot; ADA Ramp	Correct grade and re-pave driveway & upper parking lot; build ADA ramp for General Purpose room.	Local taxes. \$25,000 estimated
TW / 2	9/30/12	Extend Pavement on Hoe Shop Road	Extend pavement by 500 feet to eliminate ice-related safety hazard at crest of hill on Hoe Shop Road	Local taxes. \$ TBD
TW / 2	12/31/12	Town Forest	Develop use plan and trail network at 160-acre town conservation area.	Forestry grants, volunteers \$ TBD
TW / 2	6/30/13	Community Access Programming	Establish volunteer group to produce Gill-related programming to air on local PEG cable access channel	Town funds from Comcast Cable Company \$ TBD
TW / 2	6/30/15	Police Cruiser	Replace 2004 police cruiser	Local taxes. \$28,000 est.
TW / 2	12/31/15	Master Plan	Update Gill Master Plan	FRCOG, Town volunteers & staff
TW / CP	8/31/11	Gill Elementary Well Upgrades	Replace 20-year-old well pump to assure reliable water delivery	Local taxes. \$7,000
TW / CP	7/31/11	Ball Field Refurbishment	Refurbish the infield of a long-dormant municipal baseball diamond	Volunteers and community donations
TW / CP	6/30/11	Fire Department brush truck	Convert surplus US Govt. pickup truck into fire-fighting brush truck	US Govt. truck donation; Town funds \$11,000

Sustainable Development Principles

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall care for the built and natural environment by promoting sustainable development through integrated energy and environment, housing and economic development, transportation and other policies, programs, investments, and regulations. The Commonwealth will encourage the coordination and cooperation of all agencies, invest public funds wisely in smart growth and equitable development, give priority to investments that will deliver good jobs and good wages, transit access, housing, and open space, in accordance with the following sustainable development principles. Furthermore, the Commonwealth shall seek to advance these principles in partnership with regional and municipal governments, non-profit organizations, business, and other stakeholders.

- 1. Concentrate Development and Mix Uses:** Support the revitalization of city and town centers and neighborhoods by promoting development that is compact, conserves land, protects historic resources, and integrates uses. Encourage remediation and reuse of existing sites, structures, and infrastructure rather than new construction in undeveloped areas. Create pedestrian friendly districts and neighborhoods that mix commercial, civic, cultural, educational, and recreational activities with open spaces and homes.
- 2. Advance Equity:** Promote equitable sharing of the benefits and burdens of development. Provide technical and strategic support for inclusive community planning and decision making to ensure social, economic, and environmental justice. Ensure that the interests of future generations are not compromised by today's decisions.
- 3. Make Efficient Decisions:** Make regulatory and permitting processes for development clear, predictable, coordinated, and timely in accordance with smart growth and environmental stewardship.
- 4. Protect Land and Ecosystems:** Protect and restore environmentally sensitive lands, natural resources, agricultural lands, critical habitats, wetlands and water resources, and cultural and historic landscapes. Increase the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces and recreational opportunities.
- 5. Use Natural Resources Wisely:** Construct and promote developments, buildings, and infrastructure that conserve natural resources by reducing waste and pollution through efficient use of land, energy, water, and materials.
- 6. Expand Housing Opportunities:** Support the construction and rehabilitation of homes to meet the needs of people of all abilities, income levels, and household types. Build homes near jobs, transit, and where services are available. Foster the development of housing, particularly multifamily and smaller single-family homes, in a way that is compatible with a community's character and vision and with providing new housing choices for people of all means.
- 7. Provide Transportation Choice:** Maintain and expand transportation options that maximize mobility, reduce congestion, conserve fuel and improve air quality. Prioritize rail, bus, boat, rapid and surface transit, shared-vehicle and shared-ride services, bicycling, and walking. Invest strategically in existing and new passenger and freight transportation infrastructure that supports sound economic development consistent with smart growth objectives.
- 8. Increase Job and Business Opportunities:** Attract businesses and jobs to locations near housing, infrastructure, and transportation options. Promote economic development in industry clusters. Expand access to education, training, and entrepreneurial opportunities. Support the growth of local businesses, including sustainable natural resource-based businesses, such as agriculture, forestry, clean energy technology, and fisheries.
- 9. Promote Clean Energy:** Maximize energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities. Support energy conservation strategies, local clean power generation, distributed generation technologies, and innovative industries. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of fossil fuels.
- 10. Plan Regionally:** Support the development and implementation of local and regional, state and interstate plans that have broad public support and are consistent with these principles. Foster development projects, land and water conservation, transportation and housing that have a regional or multi-community benefit. Consider the long-term costs and benefits to the Commonwealth.

TOWN OF GILL
MASSACHUSETTS



Town Clerk

Thursday, September 22, 2011

I would like to request that the Selectboard take a vote to use the Accuvote scan voting system at the March 6, 2012 Presidential Primary. I have decided to do this because Presidential Elections can be very well attended and participation can be very hard to predict, especially this early. It is always a good idea to have this machine used once prior to a Presidential Election.

Notification to the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office is required 120 days before the referenced election.

I would ask that a copy of the accepted minutes of the Selectboard's decision be provided for mailing to the office of the Secretary of the State.

Thank you,
Lynda Hodsdon Mayo

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



RECEIVED SEP 22 2011

www.gillmass.org

SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM (Revised 10/5/10)

If the usage figures are believed to be incorrect for the current billing cycle, an abatement form must be filled out, signed, and dated to allow the Town to respond and consider the request. The bill must be paid before any abatement will be considered.

Sewer Bill Date: 9/22/11 Sewer Bill #: 5100
 (Abatement requests must be in writing to the Sewer Commissioners within 30 days of the bill date.)

Dear Sewer Commissioners: I am requesting abatement of my sewer bill for the noted reason(s).

- ☒ Metered water used for filling swimming pools or spas (complete chart below)
 (Abatement shall not be granted if calculated amount is less than \$10.00)
- ☐ Inaccurate readings (must be confirmed by Water Commissioners)
- ☐ Excessive reading due to broken water pipes (must prove that excess water did not enter sewer system)
- ☐ Other (explain below)

Explanation:

POOL FILLED FOR SUMMER
SPA FILLED

Usage History:

Date	"A" Meter Reading Before (Cu. Ft.)	"B" Meter Reading After (Cu. Ft.)	"C" # of Cubic Ft (B - A)	"D" Sewer Rate (from bill) \$/cu. ft.	\$ Requested for Abatement (C x D)
<i>Example</i>	075074	075143	69	.0850	5.86
5/28/11	096334	095444	890 CU FT		\$ 75.65
6/17/11	NEW METER 000123	000192	69 CU FT		5.86
7/17/11	001422	001491	69 CU FT		5.86
8/18/11	001838	001907	69 CU FT		5.86
				Total requested	\$ 93.23

Continued on second page

SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FORM, page 2

Name JEFFREY SUPREMANANT

Account # (from bill) 5700

Address 284 WALNUT ST

GILL, MA. 01354

Tel. 813-8492

Meter location if different from above address _____

Submit this completed form to the Tax Collector

PO Box 784, Turners Falls, MA 01376

-----Town Use Only Below This Line-----

Date received by Tax Collector 9/22/2011

Abatement deadline (90 days from receipt) _____

Sewer bill is paid & no outstanding sewer charges? ☒ YES ☐ NO

Tax Collector signature Thomas A. LaPlante

Sewer Commission response: Approved ☒ Denied ☐

Date 9/26/11

Sewer Commissioners

[Signature]
Thomas A. LaPlante
John R. Ward

TOWN OF GILL
MASSACHUSETTS



www.gillmass.org

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS
Sewer Use Charges and Inspection Fees

— REVISED COMMITMENT —

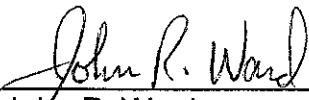
To: Town Accountant

You are hereby notified that COMMITMENT(S) as shown below has (have) this day been made by the Board of Sewer Commissioners to Veronica LaChance, Tax Collector (Town Collector) and Collector of Sewer Charges. Bill date is September 14, 2010.

To: Veronica LaChance, Tax Collector (Town Collector) and Collector of Sewer Charges for the Town of Gill in the County of Franklin:

You are hereby required to collect from the several persons named in the list dated September 2, 2010, herewith committed to you the amount of the sewer usage charges assessed therein to each such person, with penalties, the sum total of such list being Fifteen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Four and 00/100 Dollars (\$15,684.00).

Given under our hands the Thirteenth day of September, 2010.



John R. Ward



Randy Crochier



Ann H. Banash
Board of Sewer Commissioners of the Town of Gill

September 15, 2011

TO: Board's of Selectmen, Fire Chief's, Police Chief's EMS Director's and
Emergency Managers
FROM: Northwestern Massachusetts Incident Management Team
SUBJECT: Tropical Storm Irene Response

The members of the Northwestern Massachusetts Incident Management Team would like to invite you or a representative to attend a meeting to conduct a preliminary "After-Action Review" of the initial response to the damage caused by Tropical Storm Irene.

The Incident Management Team, made up of individuals specially trained in the implementation of the National Incident Management system ended up being tasked with the operation of what turned out to be a Regional Emergency Operations Center combined with an Area Command. This center operating out of the Greenfield Community College coordinated requests from the communities and deployed resources to these communities in cooperation with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

This was the first time that this Team was involved in a situation of this caliber and size. In order for the members of the Team to learn and become more proficient in handling/assisting with large scale emergencies we would like your feedback.

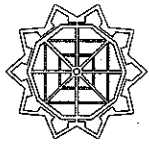
To follow the established program of after-action reviews we need to know-

- What you expected to happen. (Specifically when requesting assistance)
- What actually occurred?
- What went well and why?
- What can be improved on and how?

This is to be a knowledge sharing tool to allow the team to correct deficiencies, sustain strength, and focus on improved performance for future events. We are hoping that this will be an open and honest discussion with clarity and commitment to identifying and recommending solutions.

Please join us September 28, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Downtown GCC Campus, 270 Main Street, Greenfield, MA 01301.

Questions, please call Dennis M. Annear – Team leader at 978-575-0410.



MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

ONE WINTHROP SQUARE, BOSTON, MA 02110
617-426-7272 • 800-882-1498 • fax 617-695-1314 • www.mma.org

September 21, 2011

Dear Mr. Randy Crochier,

The Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) is pleased to announce the annual **MMA Statewide Essay Contest for 6th Graders**. This initiative raises public awareness, promotes the attributes of good local government and encourages future leaders of Massachusetts to take an active interest in their community activities.

“If I were elected leader of my community, I would make a difference by...”

What:

The MMA invites cities and towns to participate in the 2010 contest. We are sending this letter to the chief municipal official in each community and the first 100 communities to respond will participate this year. Last year, the MMA received 2200 essays from the 97 participating communities. We are looking forward to an even greater number of participating communities in 2011.

When:

Complete the enclosed sign-up sheet and return it to the MMA by October 11. By signing the sheet, you give the MMA permission to invite your schools to participate in the contest. In the fall, the MMA will send you, your superintendent and your 6th Grade principals an essay contest kit. We will be inviting your school leaders to distribute the essay materials to all 6th Graders. Students will be able to access contest materials via our website: www.mma.org.

Why:

The essay contest is fun for students and demands little time or preparation from the teacher. It is viewed as an independent student project but can be incorporated into a teacher's lesson plan. The MMA is available as a resource to any teacher, school or municipal official.

Who:

All 6th Graders in your public schools are invited to participate. The MMA will award savings bonds to three finalists. The overall winner will be invited to the MMA's Annual Meeting & Trade Show, January 20-21, in Boston. All teachers who participate will be entered into a random drawing for a prize. The contest deadline for students is December 2.

If you have any questions, please contact Essay Contest Coordinators, Amanda Lorenti or Katelyn O'Brien at (800) 882-1498. We are excited to engage and encourage students to think creatively about local government. We hope you will join our effort by signing up your community today! Thank you for your time, interest and leadership.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Beckwith
Executive Director
Massachusetts Municipal Association

Natick Selectman Joshua Ostroff
President
Massachusetts Municipal Association

MMA's Statewide 6th Grade Essay Contest

Community Leadership Commitment

Active involvement of elected officials and the chief administrative officer is key to the essay contest's success. You are the main catalysts in your communities.

We'll count on you to support the contest in your community, generate enthusiasm for local government, and help make one of your 6th graders the winner of the MMA's statewide essay contest! (Contest materials will be mailed to your schools.)

Your leadership is important to the success of the contest. Please consider:

- Publicizing the contest in your community by working with your superintendent, principals and teachers. Alert the PTA, school committee, and community groups.

- Promoting the contest on your community's website.

- Posting contest materials in city / town hall.

- Visiting your 6th graders to discuss the contest.

Talk about community service, local government's commitment to citizens and the importance of good leadership. A classroom visit from a local official has a profound impact on the quality of information students possess about municipal government.

- Announcing the community's participation to local newspapers to raise awareness of the important services local government provides Massachusetts' citizens.

- Holding a hometown ceremony at a meeting of your governing board (or at an appropriate event) if one of the winners is from your city / town.

I Commit My Community TODAY!

As the chief municipal official (CMO), our community will support the participation of our sixth grade students in the MMA's 2012 Statewide Essay contest.

Please print:

Name: RAY PURINGTON

Title: ADMINISTRATIVE ASS'T.

Address: 325 MAIN ROAD, GILL, MA 01354

Fax: 413 863 7775

Phone: 413 863 9347

Email: administrator@gillmass.org

Date: 10/4/11

We are in a regional school district: Please Circle Yes or NO

If Yes, our sixth graders attend one of our regional school(s): Please Circle Yes or NO

If Yes, please list all communities in your regional sixth grade classroom(s):

Gill & Montague

Fax back to the MMA by October 11: (617) 695-1314

