

# TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



[www.gillmass.org](http://www.gillmass.org)

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

*February 5, 2018*

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Members Present: Randy Crochier, Greg Snedeker

Members Absent: John Ward

Others Present: Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant; George Brace, Janet Masucci, Gene Beaubien, and Ronnie LaChance

Real Estate Liens for Unpaid Sewer Charges: Tax Collector Ronnie LaChance, who also collects sewer charges, met with the Selectboard to request sewer liens be placed on the FY18 real estate tax bills for 25 past due sewer accounts. The unpaid amounts total \$15,547.57, which is up significantly from last year's list totaling \$8,410.80. Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to sign the request for sewer liens. The vote was 2-0 in the affirmative. LaChance left the meeting at 5:37 PM.

SAFE Grant: The Gill Fire Department has been awarded \$2,808 for Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) grants.

FEMA AFG Grant: Fire Chief Gene Beaubien reported the AFG grant application for a new firetruck to replace Engine 1 was filed ahead of the 2/1 deadline. Key contributors to the grant application were Beaubien, Deputy Fire Chief Stuart Elliott, Greg Snedeker, and Ray Purington.

EMPG Grant Update: Beaubien, in his role as Emergency Management Director, provided the Selectboard with an update on the Town's \$2,460 grant from MEMA for Emergency Management Preparedness. Approximately \$850 of the grant will go toward a portion of the \$1,500 annual cost of the CodeRED alert system. One of the other approved projects was to re-key the two exterior doors to the Fire Station and the two exterior doors to the Highway Garage, to better control access to the Emergency Operations Center.

Beaubien recommended further exploration of a key card or key fob access system that provides the ability to give individualized access, monitor who is coming and going from the building, and deactivate a person's access upon leaving the Town's employment. Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to authorize Ray and Gene to explore these options and report back with a recommendation. The vote was 2-0 in the affirmative. Beaubien left the meeting at 5:43 PM.

Review of Minutes: Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve the minutes of 1/22/18. The vote was 2-0 in the affirmative.

Gill Elementary Well: Ray has met with the engineer regarding the higher capacity treatment equipment, and the engineer is in the process of reviewing the specifications.

Gill 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Randy and Greg both attended the 2/2 contra dance and reported a great time was had by all. Approximately 65-70 people attended over the course of the evening. Randy recognized and thanked Steve Damon for an excellent job organizing the event.

FRCOG 2018 Local Technical Assistance Requests: The Selectboard reviewed a draft of the priority-ranked 2018 Local Technical Assistance Request Form. There were no objections to the suggested rankings, and the form was approved by consensus. Ray will submit the request to the FRCOG on 2/6.

FCCIP Refund: The Town has received a refund of \$2,740.80 from the Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP). The refund comes from an excess in the program's reserve fund, and was distributed to member towns based upon the percentage of permit fees generated by each town. It was surprising to see Gill generated

10.24% of all permit fees for the 5-year period (FY13-FY17) covered by the refund. The percentage is second only to Whately, which had 17.83%.

Retirement System COLA Discussion: The Selectboard reviewed and discussed an email from Dale Kowacki, the Executive Director of the Franklin Regional Retirement System. The email announced a 2/28 meeting of the Retirement Board at which a 3% COLA for eligible retirees will be considered. In past years the Selectboard has sent a letter to the Retirement Board outlining its opposition to the COLA, usually because the amount was out of line with cost of living increases granted by Social Security, and higher than COLAs being proposed for the Town and other regional municipal bodies.

It was noted the Social Security increase for this year is 2%, so the 3% COLA being considered by the Retirement Board is much closer to Social Security's increase than previous years. The Selectboard asked Ray to send a letter urging fiscal caution on the part of the Retirement Board.

Resignations and Appointments: The Selectboard received a letter of resignation from Bev Demars as a member of the Gill Historical Commission (GHC). In the letter she offered to stay involved as an alternate member of the GHC, and recommended Bob Perry be appointed as a full member of the GHC. Perry is currently an alternate member. Ray confirmed that Perry is willing to accept the appointment. Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to regretfully accept the resignation of Bev Demars from the GHC, to happily appoint Bob Perry as a regular member of the GHC thru 6/30/2019, and to happily appoint Bev Demars as an alternate member of the GHC thru 6/30/2018. The vote was 2-0 in the affirmative.

Due to the Presidents' Day holiday, the next Selectboard meeting will be held Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:30 PM. George Brace left the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Warrant: The Selectboard reviewed and signed the FY 2018 warrant #17.

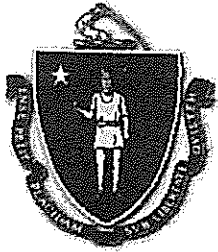
The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.*

*Signed copy on file. Approved on 02/21/2018*

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Greg Snedeker, Selectboard Clerk



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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(617)725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

January 9, 2018

Chief Gene M. Beaubien  
196A Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354-1805

Dear Chief Beaubien:

Congratulations! We are pleased to inform you that the Gill Fire Department has been awarded \$2,808.00 for Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) and for Senior SAFE grants. We look forward to working with you and your community on this public fire and life safety initiative.

Additional correspondence, including all the necessary documents needed to execute this award will be provided by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Department of Fire Services within the next two weeks.

Feel free to contact Cynthia Ouellette at [cynthia.ouellette@state.ma.us](mailto:cynthia.ouellette@state.ma.us) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in black ink.

Governor Charles D. Baker

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in black ink.

....Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito



**2018 Local Technical Assistance Request Form**

DRAFT

*This is an electronically fillable form. Please review with town committees, boards, and departments, then email back one consolidated and prioritized form per town to [admin@frcog.org](mailto:admin@frcog.org) by **January 31, 2018**.*

Town: Gill

Date: 02/05/2018

Your Name: Ray Purington Board/Department: Admin. Ass't.

<b>PLANNING PROJECTS</b> – Please priority rank the <b>TOP THREE TO FIVE</b> planning projects in which your town is interested (starting with 1 as most important) <i>Please provide a Board/Committee/Department contact for each priority planning project</i>	
Rank	Project
	<p><b>Housing Choice Initiative Planning and/or Designation.</b> <i>See attached summary of the new MA Housing Choice Initiative Program.</i></p> <p>Technical Assistance to <i>(please specify)</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Create a Housing Production Plan (5-year plan that outlines strategies to increase housing development, including affordable housing, and gives a town more control over comprehensive permit applications).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a Housing Needs Assessment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement recommendation(s) from a housing plan such as drafting zoning changes and identifying sites for possible affordable housing development. <i>Please specify which recommendations:</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement one or more of the remaining Housing Choice Initiative Best Practices and/or conduct analysis of a town’s housing production history to apply for Housing Choice designation.</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Downtown or Village Center Economic Development Projects</b> <i>(please specify)</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct survey/interviews to understand what residents, businesses and visitors want in downtown.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop a mixed use, economic development and housing plan for a downtown or village center and action steps for implementation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop Master Plan chapters for Housing or Economic Development.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
6	<p><b>Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Matching Funds.</b> The Towns of Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Erving, Greenfield, Hawley, Leverett and Shelburne requested 2018 DLTA funding to cover all or a portion of the required 25% match for their application to the FFY 2017 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program to update local multi-hazard mitigation plans.</p> <p>Please confirm that your town still wishes to use DLTA funds to help with match and assign a priority to this request: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i> Gill will try to meet the 25% match with in-kind services, but might need a little funding.</p>

	<p><b>Zoning Bylaws and/or Town Ordinance Development</b> <i>(please specify):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Affordable/work force housing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Clean energy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Land conservation that protects natural resources and promotes smart growth</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Larger-scale development</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Low impact development</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mixed use districts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New development standards for tree retention</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recreational marijuana retail and/or cultivation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Short term residential rentals (such as VRBO and Airbnb)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Open Space Residential Development / Natural Resource Protection Zoning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
2	<p><b>Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update.</b> Work with the town to update their existing OSRP, a document to inventory and assess the condition of open space, natural resources, parks, and other recreation facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New update    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Update continued from previous year    OSRP Expiration Date: <u>12/2018</u></li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i> Ray Purington</p>
	<p><b>Deerfield River Economic Impact Study.</b> Conduct a study of the outdoor recreation industry and hydro power industry that relies on the Deerfield River as an economic driver.</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Floodplain and River Corridor Management.</b> Assess infrastructure vulnerabilities and gaps in floodplain and river corridor management. Work with the town to identify and implement appropriate management strategies.</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
1	<p><b>Regional Planning/Technical Assistance for Large Scale Utility Projects</b> <i>(please specify):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project /Turners Falls Dam FERC relicensing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tri-State economic resiliency work related to closure of VT Yankee</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i> Ray Purington, John Ward, Phil Gilfeather-Girton</p>
	<p><b>Community Food Assessments.</b> Examine a town's food system, which could include analysis of food supply and demand, economic development through food processing or distribution, increased food production of farmland, increased food access for residents, and other elements.</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Creative Placemaking.</b> Work with the municipality to develop and implement a pop-up park or art installation project, including how to create and implement a project that fosters economic and main street activity. <i>For municipalities eligible for the MassDevelopment Commonwealth Places opportunity, work can include developing a funding campaign.</i></p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Wellhead Protection Plans to Protect Public Drinking Water Supplies.</b> Work with the town to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan, which can help towns manage and protect their water supply sources.</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Agricultural Commissions.</b> Assist towns that want to establish or reinvigorate an Ag Commission including exploring their role in supporting food and ag initiatives in town, helping them connect with farmers and food producers in town, and coordinating between farmers and Boards of Health.</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>

	<p><b>Implement Stormwater Management Measures.</b> Create and adopt land use regulations that limit impervious surfaces in new development or redevelopment using Low Impact Development (LID) techniques.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Brownfields Redevelopment Support.</b> Provide site specific technical assistance to municipalities seeking to clean-up and/or redevelop a brownfield site.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Industrial Park Master Plan Update.</b> Review current bylaws and regulations governing the industrial park, and conduct a parcel level analysis to determine developable land remaining.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
5	<p><b>Recreational Marijuana Assistance (please specify):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public Education &amp; Outreach Assistance</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Zoning for retail sales and/or cultivation</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development of local Board of Health regulations and other policies to prevent youth use.</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
3&4	<p><b>Other Planning Project (please specify):</b></p> <p>3. Investigate/evaluate Riverside sewer system for stormwater infiltration (Mick LaClaire)          4. Assist making &amp; printing maps of Town Forest and other Town-owned conservation areas. (Amy Gordon, Chris Polatin)</p> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>

<b>REGIONAL PROJECTS - Please priority rank the TOP THREE TO FIVE regional projects in which your town is interested (starting with 1 as most important)</b> <i>Please provide a Board/Committee/Department contact for each priority regional project</i>	
Rank	Project
2	<p><b>Local Official Continuing Education Workshops.</b> Continue to offer workshops to Select Board, Planning Board, Board of Health members and other public officials (fiscal planning, open meeting law, school finance, new state policies and initiatives, etc.).  <i>Please share any ideas for topics:</i>                      Public Records training specific to Police Departments and Fire Departments (two different training sessions)</p>
X	<p><b>Develop MA Rural Policy Commission Recommendations (please specify):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work with DEP to develop a rural shared water and sewer operator program and explore innovative technologies that could ease water and sewer-related rural economic development constraints</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop rural Housing Choice Initiative standards</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advocate for rural policy initiatives, funding programs, and related legislation</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>New Collective Purchasing ideas.</b> Continue to research and develop new goods and or services that can be procured on behalf of multiple towns (<i>please specify</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency improvements to municipal buildings</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: please share your idea(s):</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
3	<p><b>Regional Opioid Task Force.</b> Support the regional efforts to reduce heroin and prescription painkiller abuse and related deaths, with a specific focus on municipal action steps.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
X	<p><b>Regional Public Health.</b> Work with towns interested in joining CPHS health district for nursing or health inspection services.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>

	<p><b>Abandoned Properties Task Force Phase II.</b> Work with towns to identify, prioritize and assess redevelopment needs and options of abandoned or distressed residential properties. Technical assistance will include establishing a local abandoned and distressed properties task force, using tools for property inventory and ranking, and determining which paths for resolution best fit the prioritized properties.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Networking, collaboration and training opportunities for Emergency Management Directors.</b>  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Support local substance abuse prevention plan for young people.</b> Implement strategic priorities of the Communities That Care Coalition’s action plan to reduce drug and alcohol use among area teens, including specific municipal policy projects and specific strategies to support parents in talking with their children about legal marijuana.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
1	<p><b>Explore feasibility or continue work to establish new shared services.</b> <i>Please specify interest areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ambulance services and EMTs</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Officer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Works</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facilities management of municipal buildings and grounds</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fire Services</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Human Resource management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology (IT) management, support, back-up</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Library Programming/Administration</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Police</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sewage treatment and /or water operators</li> </ul> <p><i>Town Contact for Project:</i> Ray Purington</p>
	<p><b>Succession Planning.</b> Consider how towns can plan and prepare for retirements of long-term public servants in key municipal positions.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
	<p><b>Cultural Council regional application process.</b> Work with local cultural councils to develop a regional application and scoring process in an effort to ease burden on local artists and organizations applying to multiple Councils and to coordinate distribution of funding for highest regional good.  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i></p>
4	<p><b>Other regional project (please specify):</b>          Micro-grids and/or community solar projects  <i>Town Contact for Project:</i> Energy Commission member yet-to-be-named</p>

**Additional Thoughts and/or Other Regional Project Specifics (Space continued from above):**

	<p><b>COMMUNITY COMPACT PROJECTS</b> – Please go to the Community Compact Best Practices link – <a href="https://www.mass.gov/service-details/best-practice-areas">https://www.mass.gov/service-details/best-practice-areas</a> to identify the newly refined and expanded list of Best Practice areas and best practices. Please identify the <b>TOP THREE</b> specific best practices your town would like to pursue and rank order them (starting with 1 as most important).</p> <p><i>The FRCOG will prioritize assisting municipalities with Community Compact projects using DLTA funds but will be limited by available funds and expertise in some best practice areas.</i></p> <p><i>Please also note that municipalities that applied for Community Compact projects in 2016 can apply again in 2018. Municipalities that applied in 2017 must wait until 2019.</i></p>
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project</b>
	<b>Education.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Energy and Environment.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Financial Management.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Housing and Economic Development.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Human Resources.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Information Technology.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Public Accessibility.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Public Safety.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Regionalization/Shared Services.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>
	<b>Transportation/Public Works.</b> <i>Identify the specific best practice(s):</i>





# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

To: Select Board

From: Robert Dean, Director of Regional Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Dean", is written over the printed name.

Date: January 16, 2018

Re: Refund of a portion of FCCIP Fund Balance

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On March 8, 2012, the Advisory Board to The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP) voted unanimously to approve a new method of calculating participating towns' annual assessment for inspection services. The new method funds a portion of the FCCIP budget with a flat yearly budget assessment to the towns. The remainder of the budget is funded by permit fee revenues which are retained by the program. This change was intended to provide participating towns with a more stable and predictable budget assessment. It is our hope that this has been the case for your town.

In anticipation of the possibility that permit revenue received by the FCCIP might bring the funds held in reserve to a level higher than needed, a high limit was set and approved at \$92,000. Reserve amounts in excess of \$92,000 were to be disbursed to participating towns in proportion to the permit activity of each town.

We are happy to report that at the end of FY17, FCCIP's reserve amount was \$118,759.06, or \$26,759.06 above the high limit. Please see the enclosed spreadsheet that shows your town's percentage of the total permit fees received starting with FY13. That percentage was used to determine the portion of the refund attributed to your town and the enclosed check is payment of that refund.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [bdean@frcog.org](mailto:bdean@frcog.org), or at extension #108.

Thank you.

### Return of FY17 Funds

Monies are returned to towns based on the percent of total permit fees attributed to a town since FY13.

	Permit fees FY13	Permit fees FY14	Permit fees FY15	Permit fees FY16	Permit fees FY17	Total	% of Total	Amount to be Refunded
Ashfield	\$ 19,682	\$ 29,821	\$ 20,746	\$ 49,324	\$ 27,147	\$ 146,720	7.71%	\$ 2,062.57
Bernardston	\$ 28,180	\$ 33,992	\$ 29,381	\$ 25,781	\$ 33,656	\$ 150,990	7.93%	\$ 2,122.59
Buckland	\$ 22,023	\$ 24,841	\$ 22,854	\$ 36,870	\$ 22,889	\$ 129,477	6.80%	\$ 1,820.17
Charlemont	\$ 13,660	\$ 44,398	\$ 16,050	\$ 27,400	\$ 22,200	\$ 123,708	6.50%	\$ 1,739.07
Conway	\$ 25,104	\$ 27,075	\$ 23,525	\$ 28,382	\$ 42,354	\$ 146,440	7.69%	\$ 2,058.63
Erving	\$ 13,719	\$ 16,333	\$ 32,855	\$ 19,849	\$ 14,781	\$ 97,537	5.12%	\$ 1,371.16
Gill	\$ 16,656	\$ 35,826	\$ 36,669	\$ 43,611	\$ 62,204	\$ 194,966	10.24%	\$ 2,740.80
Hawley	\$ 7,706	\$ 4,365	\$ 8,997	\$ 7,481	\$ 8,856	\$ 37,405	1.97%	\$ 525.83
Heath	\$ 12,412	\$ 7,937	\$ 9,650	\$ 11,648	\$ 13,951	\$ 55,598	2.92%	\$ 781.59
Leverett	\$ 20,375	\$ 25,561	\$ 24,041	\$ 34,083	\$ 23,646	\$ 127,706	6.71%	\$ 1,795.27
Leyden	\$ 13,658	\$ 9,927	\$ 7,939	\$ 6,826	\$ 7,852	\$ 46,202	2.43%	\$ 649.50
Rowe	\$ 9,608	\$ 6,767	\$ 5,782	\$ 10,233	\$ 4,989	\$ 37,379	1.96%	\$ 525.47
Shelburne	\$ 32,571	\$ 36,106	\$ 33,296	\$ 34,200	\$ 40,409	\$ 176,582	9.28%	\$ 2,482.36
Shutesbury	\$ 13,915	\$ 13,934	\$ 10,048	\$ 14,190	\$ 41,287	\$ 93,374	4.91%	\$ 1,312.64
Whately	\$ 97,335	\$ 49,981	\$ 53,964	\$ 74,502	\$ 63,632	\$ 339,414	17.83%	\$ 4,771.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 346,604</b>	<b>\$ 366,864</b>	<b>\$ 335,797</b>	<b>\$ 424,380</b>	<b>\$ 429,853</b>	<b>\$ 1,903,498</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 26,759.06</b>

## Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

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**From:** Dale Kowacki <frs01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2018 2:47 PM  
**To:** Dale Kowacki  
**Subject:** July 1, 2018 retirees COLA

As required by MGL 32 §103(i), please be informed that the retirement board, at its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 8:00 am, in the meeting room in Suite 311 at 278 Main Street, Greenfield, will contemplate the option of voting a 3% cost-of-living allowance (C.O.L.A.), to eligible retirees of this system. In the past, the board has voted the C.O.L.A., but this year, because of limits set by law, the board must do so at a public meeting, and must notify the towns 30 days in advance of the meeting.

*MGL 32 §103 (i) "Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (c) to the contrary, the board of any system may, by accepting the provisions of this as hereinafter provided, elect annually to pay a cost-of-living increase greater than the percentage increase, as recommended in the report prepared in accordance with paragraph (f) of subdivision (3) of section 21 for that year, but not greater than 3 per cent. The board shall conduct such election in a public meeting, properly posted, called specifically for such election. The board shall also notify each legislative body at least 30 days before such election."*

The report referred to in the above comes to us in the form of a memo from PERAC - which can be found in the "Memos" section at: <https://www.mass.gov/memorandum/03-cola-notice> This year the report states the COLA percentage to be 2%.

The 3% COLA has been budgeted in the valuation and assessments. At 3%, the average monthly COLA would be \$29.50; the average annual would be \$354. At 2%, the average monthly would be \$19.77, and the average annual would be \$237.18. The average annual retirement benefit in the COLA calculation is \$11,800\*. Average annual benefit overall is \$16,139. The monthly increase due to COLA would be about \$16,445. The annual increase would be about \$197,346.

Neither your attendance, nor your participation is required regarding this topic. However, your questions and comments are always considered.

\*COLA is limited to 3% of the first \$17,000 of annual retirement benefit.

## History of FRRS COLAs

	SocSec	FRRS	COLA Base	COLA Max	COLA avg	Overall Avg Bene	Avg COLA Salary
In 1998 the expense went back to the retirement system							
07/01/1998	2.1%	2.1%	12,000	360			
07/01/1999	1.3%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2000	2.5%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2001	3.5%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2002	2.6%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2003	1.4%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2004	2.1%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2005	2.7%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2006	4.1%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2007	3.3%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2008	2.3%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2009	5.8%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2010	0.0%	3.0%	12,000	360			
07/01/2011	0.0%	3.0%	13,000	390	267	12,446	8,900
07/01/2012	3.6%	3.0%	14,000	420	287	13,250	9,568
07/01/2013	1.7%	3.0%	14,000	420	288	13,962	9,600
07/01/2014	1.5%	3.0%	15,000	450	312	14,577	10,400
07/01/2015	1.7%	3.0%	16,000	480	328	15,060	10,933
07/01/2016	0.0%	3.0%	17,000	510	336	15,479	11,200
07/01/2017	0.3%	3.0%	17,000	510	348	15,538	11,600
07/01/2018	2.0%	3.0%	17,000	510	354	16,139	11,800

## Dale Kowacki

Executive Director, Franklin Regional Retirement System

413.774.4837x4

[FRRSMA.com](http://FRRSMA.com)



Get a signature like this. [CLICK HERE.](#)



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

February 1, 2018

Gill Board of Selectmen  
325 Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354

Dear Board:

I am submitting my resignation as a member of the Gill Historical Commission.

I have spoken to Bob Perry, who is an alternate member, and asked if he would be willing to be appointed as a regular member of the Commission giving him voting privileges. Bob was in favor of that move. He is very active and really deserves to be appointed as a regular member of the Historical Commission. I hope you will consider that appointment.

I intend to still help when needed, but at this time I can't give the amount of time the Commission needs. I would be willing to be appointed an alternate member.

Thank you for your time.



Beverly L. Demars

cc: Ivan Ussach