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2003




*Looking Toward
the Future . . .*

Town and School
2003
ANNUAL
REPORT
Epping, New Hampshire



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Town and School Annual Report

Epping, New Hampshire



Fiscal Year Ending
December 31, 2003

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Dedication

Robert and Amogene Kimball

We dedicate this year's edition of the Epping Town Report to Robert and Amogene Kimball, two exceptional models of the New England tradition of service to one's community. Robert, known to most of us as Bob, and Amogene Kimball as young marrieds bought the Hills/Simonds farm in 1951, moving from their homes of Kensington and Nottingham. They cared for the farm in addition to earning a living as a highway designer and registered nurse. They also raised two daughters who earned professional graduate degrees following their 12 years of education in the Epping school system.

Bob and Amogene individually and together throughout their lives and continuing to this day gave and give countless hours to our town. The following are a few examples of their contributions. Bob served as a member and chair of the Epping School Board during the years when the Carrie Odiorne junior high and gym were being planned and built. The "Upping Epping" scholarship program benefited from his guidance and efforts. He served on the Industrial Commission working to create a commercial/industrial tax base for the town. He served as Trustee of the town's trust funds and with the Conservation Commission researching and developing an inventory of town rights along the Lamprey River. He served as a deacon and officer for the Epping Community Church. He has researched and devel-

oped a historic tour of the town.

Amogene served as a Library Trustee during the years of the construction and opening of the current building. Throughout her life, she has been an active working member of the Epping Garden Club and today serves as its president. Flowers for church as well as high school baccalaureate services often come from her gardens. She led the creation of the Epping Historic District, led the town's celebration of America's bicentennial, and supported the purchase of the old A & P by the Epping Historical Society. Throughout her

life she has volunteered at hundreds of Red Cross blood drives, building on her service as an Army nurse during World War II.

Together, Bob & Amogene cre-

Few town beautification projects, church suppers, church fairs, chicken barbecues, school fund drives, Historical Society breakfasts, town meetings and elections did not benefit from their contributions of time, effort and talent.



Bob and Amogene Kimball have been exceptional supporters of the Epping community throughout the past half century.

ated and operated "The Red Door" at the Community Church, a place for food and conversations for teens open after home high school basketball games. Few town beautification projects, church suppers, church fairs, chicken barbecues, school fund drives, Historical Society breakfasts, town meetings and elections did not benefit from their contributions of time, effort and talent.

Each December, they make sure wreaths are hung on town buildings and lanterns. Their commitment to the town and their active service to their community serves as an inspirational challenge to all of us.

Town Meeting Minutes

The deliberative session of the Town Meeting was held at the Epping Middle/High School Gymnasium on Tuesday, February 4, 2003. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Harold K. LaPierre Jr. at 7:05 p.m. The deliberative session was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

The following discussion took place and final voting was by ballot on March 11, 2003. There were 58 Absentee Ballots cast and 46 new voters registered at the polls. The total number of votes cast was 1384. The results are as follows.

ARTICLE 1: To select persons to fill the following elected positions:

Budget Committee – 3 years

Vote for not more than 3

Laurie A. Bentz – 752

Michael King – 679

Ron LaChance – 714

Write-Ins

Don Sisson – 64

Patricia Tierney – 41

Paul Spidle – 13

Jennifer Yergeau – 10

Laurie Bentz, Michael King and Ron LaChance were elected

Budget Committee – 1 year

Vote for not more than 2

Jennifer Yergeau – 944

Write-Ins

Don Sisson – 249

Patricia Tierney – 218

Jennifer Yergeau and Don Sisson were elected

Cemetery Trustee – 3 years

Vote for not more than 1

Daniel W. Harvey – 1168

Daniel W. Harvey was elected

Fire Ward – 3 years

Vote for not more than 1

Charles H. Goodspeed – 721

Donald H. Oakes – 345

Charles Goodspeed was elected

Library Trustee – 3 years

Vote for not more than 1

Deborah McConnell – 1011

Write-Ins

Cheryl Denoncour – 53

Mary Lou Flayhan – 32

Deborah McConnell was elected

Library Trustee – 2 years

Vote for not more than 1

Write-Ins

Cheryl Denoncour – 178

Mary Lou Flayhan – 61

Cheryl Denoncour was elected

Planning Board – 3 years

Vote for not more than 2

Rob Graham – 690

Steve Illsley – 686

Paul Spidle – 652

Write-Ins

Kevin Murphy – 13

Rob Graham and Steve Illsley were elected

Selectman – 3 years

Vote for not more than 2

Dianne Gilbert – 663

Michael J. Jean – 536

Stephen Johnson – 588

Christopher Murphy – 673

Ken Twombly Sr. – 79

Dianne Gilbert and Christopher Murphy were elected

Trust Fund Trustee – 3 years

Vote for not more than 1

Daniel W. Harvey – 1139

Daniel W. Harvey was elected

Water & Sewer Commissioner – 3 years

Vote for not more than 1

Roger Gauthier – 1069

Write-Ins

Paul Spidle – 15

Roger Gauthier was elected

Zoning Board of Adjustment – 3 years

Vote for not more than 2

Dick Fisher – 667

Ron LaChance – 724

Write-Ins

Kevin Murphy – 149

Paul Langdon – 15

Dick Fisher and Ron LaChance were elected

ARTICLE 2: To establish following the guidelines in RSA 669:16, two additional seats on the Board of Library Trustees.

Results: YES – 814

NO – 436

Article 2 PASSED

ARTICLE 3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as Article 15 as follows: Optional Open Space Design Subdivision — The intent of this ordinance is to provide a flexible method of residential development that is consistent with principles of sound planning and wise land use that are not specifically permitted in the current zoning ordinance. Developments under this article will be required to preserve large portions of the site from future development in exchange for flexible design options. All public utilities and roads within the development shall be built to Town of Epping standards. This is an optional form of subdivision design that requires adherence to specific criteria intended to protect abutters and residents of the development from adverse impacts. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Planning Board Chairman Rob Graham explained the intent of this article is to provide large areas of open space in a subdivision. Marilyn Perry asked if this applied to residential zones only. Graham replied that it could be for any parcel over 10 acres. Perry stated that this was similar to cluster development which the Town voted against in 1988, and would result

in more traffic in the developed areas. Bill Channel asked if there was any possibility the open land could be developed at a later date. Graham replied that the open space would be protected from future development, and 40% of the total acreage would have to be set aside. The Planning Board would have the final decision as to whether or not a subdivision would qualify for this optional design. Virginia LaPierre expressed concern this would lead to favoritism, since it was at the discretion of the Planning Board. Hannah Howard asked if the open space could be swamp. Graham stated that at least 50 % of the open space would have to be upland, but there would be a mix of land types. Ron Altman asked if the set aside land would need to be contiguous with the developed land. Graham confirmed that it would need to be.

YES – 554 NO – 718

Article 3 FAILED

ARTICLE 4: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: Elderly Housing Overlay - This ordinance seeks to address the housing needs of the elderly and to encourage the development of such housing to meet the needs of persons who have lived in Epping and who would like to continue to reside in Town, but who are no longer able or interested in residing in and maintaining a conventional residence. The ordinance encourages the development of elderly housing by permitting such housing to be developed at a higher unit density and with a certain amount of planning flexibility that is greater than that permitted for conventional single family housing development. These developments will be permitted in the Residential, Residential/Commercial and High Density Residential Districts. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Planning Board Chairman Graham explained that this would allow 2 to 10 housing units per acre

which is higher than what is currently allowed under our multifamily zoning. There would be strict Site Plan guidelines. Marilyn Perry remarked that at 10 units per acre, the result could be a large increase in traffic.

YES – 670 NO – 666

Article 4 PASSED

ARTICLE 5: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To repeal and remove the following sections of Article 3 and Article 6 as they relate to parking and circulation requirements that are covered in the Site Plan Review Regulations: Sections 3.9.5, 3.9.6 and Section 6.3. The intent of these changes is to bring the ordinance into consistency with the Board's policy with respect to a number of issues, streamline the Town's regulations and provide the Board with a more current regulatory framework with which to process industrial and commercial applications. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Rob Graham explained that this is primarily a housekeeping article and would move several issues from the zoning ordinance to Site Plan Review. It also eliminates reference to items that are no longer part of the ordinance. Marilyn Perry remarked that the Planning Board could make changes in the Site Plan Review Regulations with just a public hearing, but a change in the zoning ordinance requires the vote of the Town.

YES – 820 NO – 474

Article 5 PASSED

ARTICLE 6: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To repeal and remove the following sections of Article 3 as they are redundant with other parts of the ordinance and already covered in the Site Plan Review Regulations: Section 3.6 Definitions, 3.8 Procedures and Development Regula-

tions and 3.9.13 Stormwater Drainage 3.9.14 Snow & Trash and 3.9.15 Water & Sewer. The intent of these changes is to bring the ordinance into consistency with the Board's policy with respect to a number of issues, streamline the Town's regulations and provide the Board with a more current regulatory framework with which to process industrial and commercial applications. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Rob Graham stated this is another housekeeping article. It eliminates items from the zoning ordinance and places them under Site Plan Review. The current Zoning Ordinance is very specific and makes it difficult to have flexibility under Site Plan Review.

YES – 859 NO – 420

Article 6 PASSED

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000.00) for the purpose of pursuing "take out financing" of the State's portion of the construction and upgrading of the Town's Waste Water Treatment Facility, and to borrow in the name of the Town by issuance of serial notes or bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33), a sum not to exceed \$900,000.00 for the purpose of capturing the costs of the foregoing project, and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. (3/5 majority vote required. Recommended by Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Kim Sullivan explained that the cost for the Waste Water Treatment Plant was \$5,000,000. Of this amount \$4,000,000 was received in federal funds and the State had agreed to pick up the remaining \$1,000,000. The board initially decided not to bond this amount since we had sufficient cash flow. In November of 2002 we were notified by the State that they didn't have all the money

that they had agreed to pay. They forwarded \$115,000, and advised us to get a bond for the remaining money and they would be responsible for the payments. By spreading the payments over a ten year period, the State would be able to handle the principal and interest. If we do not vote to bond this money, the Town will have a cash flow problem and will need to apply for Tax Anticipation Notes. The interest we would need to pay on the TANs would not be reimbursable. A representative from Hoyle Tanner gave a history of the grant process and stated that the State has always come through with their obligation. Water and Sewer Commissioner Mike King said that the State would be more likely to reimburse us if we have a debt. Paul Spidle was not in favor of the article. He felt that since the State is in debt they might not live up to their agreement. Selectman Tom Gauthier stated that he was not initially in favor of the bond, but due to the information received from Hoyle Tanner and our auditors, he is now confident that applying for the bond would be the right course.

YES - 637 NO - 668

Article 7 FAILED

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a ten (10) year Lease Agreement for the purpose of leasing a Fire Engine with CAFS (Compressed Air Foam System) for the Fire Department; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Seven Dollars (\$19,547.00) for the first semiannual payment for that purpose. This lease agreement will contain a non-appropriation clause and is expected to cost a grand total of Three Hundred Ninety Thousand, Nine Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$390,940.00) with a One Dollar (\$1.00) purchase option at the end of the lease term. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Fire Wards, the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee).

Results: Fire Chief Hank Letourneau

enumerated the reasons for wanting to purchase this truck. Since the foam and water mixture is much lighter than just water, the hoses are not as heavy and fewer fire fighters are needed at a fire. Although it is not a rescue vehicle, there is room on the truck for much of our equipment, making it easier to store the remaining equipment on our current equipment vehicle. It will be equipped with a new Jaws of life, a hydraulic generator, and a tower with lights to illuminate the fire or accident area. Although the truck would be ordered in 2003, it would probably not be delivered until 2004. In this case the money appropriated for 2003 would be returned to the Town or could be used to prepay a future payment. We currently have a 1989 Tanker, a 1980 Tanker, and a 1970 Engine. This vehicle would be to replace the 1970 engine. Former chief Chris Murphy stated that this new technology will save the Town money down the road, and since it is lighter it will be able to travel faster. Historically fire engines only last 20 years so it is time to be replacing the 1980 and 1970 vehicles. Don Sisson asked for an update on the sale of the ladder truck and what would happen to that revenue if it is sold. Chief Letourneau stated that he had hoped to realize \$25,000 to \$30,000 on the sale, but there has been no one interested to date, and we may only get \$10,000 to \$15,000. Any money that we did get would be returned to the General Fund. Paul MacDonald asked if we sell the ladder truck and find we have a need for it in the future, would we have to buy another one. Chief Letourneau answered that any industry that constructs a tall building would be asked to provide a ladder truck if it was needed. Selectman Sullivan stated that he hoped we would be able to find funding other than taxes, and urged the voters to wait until next year. Sal Barbasso asked if the truck would come fully equipped. Chief Letourneau replied that most of the equipment would come off the existing truck. He hopes we could ask industry to replace the 1980 truck, but

would like to get the order in now to replace the 1970 vehicle.

YES - 783 NO - 539

Article 8 PASSED

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to deposit fifty per cent (50%) of the Land Use Change Tax (Current Use) pursuant to RSA 79-A:25, II into a separate Conservation Fund for the purchase of land or the acquisition of Conservation Easements, but not more than will result in there being more than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) of such revenue in said Conservation Fund at any time; any disbursements or expenditures from said fund will require Board of Selectmen approval; further Land Use Change Tax collected from land sold to the Town or School District would be exempt from the disbursement made to said Conservation Fund. (Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Conservation Commission Chairman Scott Pim spoke in favor of this article. Passage of this article would restore the funding to the Conservation Commission that was reduced last year, and it would increase the limit of money that could be in this fund to \$75,000. Purchasing land or easements for conservation purposes is beneficial to the Town and protects our natural resources. The tax impact would not necessarily be \$75,000 every year since it depends on how much money has been collected and whether or not there is a good project for using these funds. Last year no funds were expended. Paul Spidle asked if passage of this article would repeal the existing article which allows for depositing 10% of the Current Use fees for a maximum of \$50,000, or would both articles be in effect. He also wanted to know how often the fund could be spent and refilled. Scott Pim answered that there would be no limit to the number of times the fund could be refilled, but in the past, we have made very few expenditures from this fund. Sal Barbasso asked how much money was currently

in the fund and why it was necessary to increase it. Pim replied that there was currently \$42,000 in the fund, and although no money was spent last year, we need to be prepared to act in the future when a good project becomes available. Selectman Steve Johnson stated that the intent of the article was to eliminate the 10% funding if this article passes. Although the Town needs development, we also need to preserve open space. Liz Conrad spoke about a UNH study that showed that for every dollar raised in revenue from commercial or open land, less than a dollar of services is required, but for every dollar of tax revenue from residential property more than a dollar of services is required. It is therefore good planning for the Town to have a balance of different types of growth. We are wise to prepare for future opportunities to secure open space. Selectman Sullivan mentioned an opportunity he was working on regarding the hill behind the Town Hall. The owners expressed an interest in selling the property. The hill could be leveled providing additional parking as well as access to the river. He hopes that the Conservation fund will help to acquire this. Selectman Gilbert stated that the law does not require the Conservation Commission to get approval from the Board of Selectmen, and they could expend funds with simply a public hearing. Last year the Town collected \$190,000 in Land Use Change Taxes and \$19,000 went to the Conservation Commission. At the 50% funding level they could get \$95,000 which would otherwise be used to offset taxes. The small land owner subsidizes land owners who have land under Current Use. Phil Primack spoke in favor of the article and explained that land with a conservation easement is taxed at the same rate as land without an easement. He also read a letter from Jerry Langdon urging the Town to pass this article and not wait for a crisis to fund a solution. Selectman Gauthier pointed out that any money collected that would result in a fund balance over the allowed cap would go into the

general fund and he felt the loss of tax revenue was a good trade off to secure conservation land rather than funding a large warrant article as many of the neighboring towns are doing. Phil Primack proposed an **amendment to read "If passed this article will supercede any previous article regarding the use of Land Use Change Tax revenues to purchase land or conservation easements in Town."** It was seconded by Kim Sullivan and the amendment passed with a hand vote.

YES - 569 NO - 740

Article 9 FAILED

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purchase of a Highway Department 6-wheel dump truck to be equipped with a wing and plow; the Board of Selectmen have been appointed the agent to expend said fund. (Majority vote required. Submitted by Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Tom Gauthier explained that 2 years ago the Town purchased a 6 wheel dump truck with a wing for plowing. The Town is trying to move away from using 1 ton trucks for plowing. This article along with encumbered fees from previous years will allow the Town to purchase a used dump truck.

YES - 795 NO - 530

Article 10 PASSED

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund (pursuant to RSA Chapter 35) for the future revaluation of the Town and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 towards this purpose, and appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Gauthier explained that within 3 years the State is going

to require us to have a revaluation. The total cost of this is estimated to be \$200,000. This article will help to prepare for the expense.

YES - 578 NO - 720

Article 11 FAILED

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to be deposited into the existing Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Gauthier explained that we anticipate that the State will require us to close the landfill in the future. The total cost is expected to be in the \$100,000 range. We currently have between \$70,000 and \$80,000 set aside for this.

YES - 752 NO - 547

Article 12 PASSED

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a three (3) year lease agreement for the purpose of leasing a new 2003 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser for the Police Department; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$8,500.00) for the first year's payment and to purchase equipment for said vehicle. This lease agreement will contain a non-appropriation clause and is expected to cost a grand total of Twenty Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000.00) with a One-Dollar (\$1.00) purchase option at the end of the lease term. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Police Chief Greg Dodge explained that this is the same request that was defeated last year. The need has not gone away and the department now needs to replace 2 cruisers. Funding for one of the replacements is in the regular budget.

YES - 505 NO - 824

Article 13 FAILED

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a three (3) year lease agreement for the purpose of replacing and upgrading the computer network and workstations at the Police Department; and to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand and Three Hundred Fifty Six Dollars (\$9,356.00) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement will contain a non-appropriation clause and is expected to cost a grand total of Twenty Eight Thousand Sixty Six Dollars (\$28,066.00) with a One-Dollar (\$1.00) purchase option at the end of the lease term. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Chief Dodge explained that in 1994 the department received a grant to purchase several computers. Any replacements over the years have been through donations. The present system has problems with the server, is not reliable, depends on a manual backup, and cannot be upgraded. Out of 12 work stations usually 1 or 2 are down. Instead of trying to repair the system piece meal, the decision was made to obtain a good reliable system. The new system would have 12 work stations, a 2000 NT server, 2 laser printers, 2 dot matrix printers, and a tape back up. No laptops are included

YES - 569 NO - 775

Article 14 FAILED

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Five Dollars (\$19,935.00) to cover the salary and related benefits of an additional police officer to work in the Detective Division of the Police Department, effective July 1, 2003. Approval of this warrant article will make the position permanent. (*Note: Estimated total salary and benefits for the 2004 annual budget is \$39,870.00*). (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Chief Dodge explained that

there has been increased activity in the Detective Division, and even by assigning misdemeanors to patrol officers, the current detective cannot handle the remaining cases. There has been a 30% increase in cases over the last 3 years, and there are currently 72 open cases. Paul Spidle asked if this position would be a union employee. Dodge answered that it would be.

YES - 498 NO - 840

Article 15 FAILED

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred Dollars (\$8,800.00) for the purchase of 18 mobile radios, operating on the new split frequency as supported by Rockingham County Dispatch, for installation in the Fire, Ambulance and Officer vehicles. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Fire Wards, the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Fire Chief Letourneau explained that under our current system the department can hear emergency calls all up and down the east coast. Although we can hear the calls from dispatch, they can't hear us because of all the interference. A separate frequency is needed, and there are no more 3 digit frequencies available. Dispatch has decided to go with a split frequency and our present radios cannot accommodate this. The department considered using digital radios similar to the police department, but they would be more expensive.

YES - 901 NO - 439

Article 16 PASSED

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to sponsor in Epping an Olde Home Day event during the year 2003. (Majority vote required. Submitted by Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectman and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Steve Johnson spoke in favor of this article and ex-

plained that the money would be used primarily for renting canopy tents and Port-a-Potties, paying for publicity, and paying for entertainment.

YES - 541 NO - 791

Article 17 FAILED

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to remove approximately 350 tons of existing scrap tires from the Town. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Gauthier explained that this is the same amount that was requested last year. Last year we were able to remove a large part of the pile. This article may not be enough to remove all the remaining tires at \$1.00 a piece, but we are collecting \$2.00 apiece for each new tire added to the pile.

YES - 717 NO - 588

Article 18 PASSED

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand and Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$3,250.00) to establish an Emergency Management Budget. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Mike King spoke for Emergency Management Director Michael Jean who was not able to attend the meeting. The purpose of this article is to prepare office space in the old police station for the meetings and to purchase some equipment Jason Lavoie asked what issues the Emergency Management Committee would be involved with that were different from the Fire Department's responsibilities. King replied that it would deal with Homeland Security issues and disasters.

YES - 501 NO - 825

Article 19 FAILED

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00)

in support of the Epping Youth Athletic Association. (Majority vote required. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Jim McGeough spoke for this article and explained that this is the same level of funding requested for the last 10 years. All the money is used for equipment, there are no salaries involved.

YES – 951 NO – 376

Article 20 PASSED

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing and installing a Carved Sign to be installed in front of the Epping Safety Complex. (Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Cliff Cray explained that this was part of the original plan for the Safety Complex, but as expenses went over budget, the sign was not included. The wiring is already in place to the street, and it is hoped that the installation could be done for an Eagle Scout project or by an Explorer.

YES – 542 NO – 774

Article 21 FAILED

ARTICLE 22: Are you in favor of approving a sum not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) for the purchase of the land and buildings at 11 Prospect Street currently owned by *Mr. Trefethen*, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to obtain any necessary financing to acquire this property during 2003? (Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen or by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Kim Sullivan explained that this was a good investment for the Town because the property is adjacent to the School property. Purchasing this property would also eliminate a non-conforming use on Prospect Street. Sul-

livan hoped that we would not have to spend the entire amount of this article, but could exchange it for land currently owned by the Town or use School Impact Fees. The use of Prospect Street is important to the Town. The Trefethens gave Prospect Street to the Town years ago and received no money for it. Don Sisson asked why this had not been recommended by the Budget Committee. Jim McGeough responded that the Budget Committee felt this should be a School issue and should come under their scope. Grace Lavoie asked for clarification as to what property was involved. Sullivan replied that it was the property of Timothy Trefethen and included the house and barn and half an acre of land. The wood shop is not included since that is on the property of Warren Trefethen. Sullivan hopes that at a later date the Town would be able to purchase that property also. Sullivan made a motion to **amend the article by replacing “Mr. Trefethen” with “Timothy Trefethen”**. It was seconded by Virginia LaPierre, and the amendment passed with a hand vote.

YES – 278 NO – 1042

Article 22 FAILED

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred and Ninety Five Dollars (\$36,195.00) to be distributed to the organizations listed on page 10 in the amounts noted for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2003. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Selectman Gauthier stated that the agencies listed in this article provide services to people of this town, and without them the amount of our Welfare budget would be much higher. Kim Sullivan pointed out that each request is carefully reviewed by the Budget Committee. Dianne Gilbert suggested that in the future there should be a contract or business arrangement so that there would be a paper trail of the number of people who were

helped by each agency. Over a half million dollars has been appropriated over the last 10 years and we have no proof that the money has been spent on Epping residents. Jennifer Yergeau commended the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen for presenting this article. The Town has voted to support this article in the past, and should be given the opportunity to vote again this year.

YES – 673 NO – 658

Article 23 PASSED

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court: Resolved, in its first two years of operation, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) has helped communities throughout New Hampshire preserve their natural, cultural and historic resources and therefore, the State of New Hampshire should maintain funding for LCHIP in its next biennial budget. (Majority vote required. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen.)

Results: Kim Sullivan explained that the purpose of this article is to show Concord which communities still support this program.

YES – 636 NO – 647

Article 24 FAILED

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Seven Hundred Sixty Four Thousand and Six Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$4,764,633.00) which represents the operating budget of the Town. **Actual amount to be raised by taxes is: \$3,578,633.00.** Said sum does not include the special and individual warrant articles herein contained. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget from last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Epping Board of Selectmen or by law will be the default budget; or the governing body may hold a special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised

operating budget only. (Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and by the Municipal Budget Committee.)

Results: Jim McGeough explained that just as we have seen an increase in the price of real estate in Town, so have the Town's costs increased in all areas. Kim Sullivan addressed the \$512,000 increase in the operating budget. Of this increase, \$252,000 is for a lift station for the Water & Sewer Department and will be paid for with Water & Sewer funds. There is an increase in Po-

lice staffing resulting in an additional \$92,000. Changes in Health Care coverage account for an increase of \$60,000. The default budget is calculated to be \$3,162,268.54. The Town's assessed valuation will also increase over the 2002 amount. Although we don't have figures for 2003, the increase in assessed value last year was \$5,000,000. Jennifer Yergeau asked about the increase of \$1,186,000 in the Economic Development budget. Sullivan answered that this was for highway improvement and was being funded in part by a \$500,000

grant from EDA. The remainder of the amount will come from the developers, thus there is no tax impact for this amount.

YES - 788 NO - 519

Article 25 PASSED

ARTICLE 26: To see what action the Town will take in regards to the reports of its officers and agents.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Foley
Town Clerk*

Organization	2002 Appropriation	2003 Request	BOS Recommend	BudCom Recommend
Aids Response Seacoast	0	500	0	0
Adult Tutorial Program	500	500	500	500
A Safe Place	500	2,000	500	500
American Red Cross	500	1,000	500	500
Area Homecare & Family Services	2,610	2,610	2,610	2,610
Child & Family Services	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Community Diversion Program	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590
Lamprey Health Care	3,600	3,780	3,780	3,780
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	300	300	300	300
Richie McFarland Children's Center	2,750	3,850	3,850	3,850
Rockingham Co. CAP	9,350	17,381	10,285	10,285
Rockingham Nutrition & Meals On Wheels	3,724	3,910	3,910	3,910
Seacoast Big Brother/Big Sister Program	1,620	2,280	1,620	1,620
Seacoast Hospice	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Sexual Assault Support Services	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250
Seacoast Mental Health	0	2,000	0	0
Sub Totals:	\$33,794	\$48,451	\$36,195	\$36,195

Committee Reports

Board of Selectmen

First and foremost, we the Board of Selectmen are looking for your support on Article #3, which is to allow The State of New Hampshire to make the final reimbursement to us for the Waste Water Treatment Facility by approving the bonding of \$800,000.

This is an excellent opportunity for the town to recover from a bad situation. This is necessary for the following reason: even though the town received grants to pay almost the entire, multi-million dollar cost of our new Waste Water Treatment Facility, the town was unexpectedly forced to pay the state's portion of the project at completion and allow the state to *repay* the town, without any interest, over a 10-year period. With your approval of this bond, the Town will be repaid that money immediately and the state has agreed to assume its obligation by paying the entire cost of the principal and interest for this bond. Once the bond is established it will cost the town nothing.

This bonding will help the Town to operate without short-term borrowing and eliminate the expense associated with borrowing. Furthermore, the money that we are repaid will earn interest for the Town and provide the Board of Selectmen an opportunity to better manage the total tax rate in 2004. There are other articles that the Board unanimously supports, however the importance of your approval of this bonding is the reason we open our Report by specifically requesting your support for this article.

Other Warrant Articles that the Board fully supports include:

- Funding for the 2005 State mandated Town Revaluation
- Adding an Additional police officer with Grant Funding
- A Fire Protection Sprinkler System for your Town Hall
- Adding to the Capital Reserve Fund for Highway Equipment

Please review the Town Warrant for other articles supported by the majority of the Board of Selectmen.

A very quick reflection back onto 2003, confirms that Epping is changing. With Wal-Mart completed and Lowe's confirmed as "double anchors", Epping Crossings is ready for full development. This lends credence to the old bumper sticker that states "Epping is the Center of the Universe!". In addition to Fox Fire and Zampa Restaurants, further development and enhancements to existing businesses is continuing on Route 125. All of this is good news to the Town of Epping, but it does come at a price by way of competition to our established small businesses and to what Epping will become in the future. But, with your help, by making an effort to support our small businesses, we can truly have the best of both worlds.

The Planning Board, Water & Sewer, Economic Development and Board of Selectmen are fully aware of, and emphasize, these concerns whenever dealing with any new opportunity for Epping. A consistent attainable objective is that all infrastructure cost, additional direct public service costs, and appropriate fees on existing services are to be born by new development. A continuing challenge is to assure that additional services required by new developments, do not consume all of the additional tax revenues received from new development. The Board "tips its hat" to all those, who for little or no pay devote extensive amounts of time, personal and professional effort to ensure the prosperity of Epping.

Along with commercial and industrial development, Epping is being recognized to be a great place to live! With several new family residential developments going forward in 2003 and several "over the age of 55" developments plans going through the Planning Board at this time, we are con-

stantly made aware of the overall cost of prosperity!

While the Board of Selectmen and all other boards, execute your requests for development it is done cautiously, appreciating the cost to each taxpayer in not only tax dollars, but also changes in our community.

We continue to ask for your personal involvement in the Town. There are too many elected positions that either attract no interest or so little interest that a candidate runs unopposed. In addition, there are many appointed opportunities that garner little or no interest. There are many residents who have a great deal of knowledge in areas that they personally enjoy, which could benefit the Town. Remember, this is your Town! Get involved!

The Deliberative Session to discuss Town Warrant Articles is Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at the Middle/High School Gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. The Deliberative Session to discuss School District Warrant Articles is Thursday, February 5, 2004 at the Middle/High School Gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. Your chance to vote on what is to be voted on in March and to become informed about the ballot. Please attend if it is at all possible or make sure you view the session on ETV.

Annual Town (& School) Voting is Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at the Middle/High School Gymnasium between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. PLEASE VOTE !!!

Epping Board Of Selectmen:

Tom Gauthier

Kim Sullivan

Susan McGeough

Dianne Gilbert

Christopher Murphy

Cemetery Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees are responsible for the care and maintenance of the

Town's public cemeteries, namely: the Central Cemetery at Main and Academy St. and the West Epping (Shepherd) Cemetery on Folsom Mill Rd. The trustees also oversee the care and maintenance of several private cemeteries around the town. Families, whose members are interred therein, pay for the perpetual care of these cemeteries. The Trustees of the Trust Funds oversee the management of these private moneys.

The Cemetery Trustees meet on an as needed basis. Epping residents are encouraged to contact us with their questions, suggestions and concerns

Maintenance & Care

In 2003, a portion of Central Cemetery's rear wall had to be reset and mortared. It had collapsed due to an overgrown root system from trees growing too close to the wall. The trustees wish to thank Ted Bolduc, Matthew Harvey and Jesse Hartford for their work in repairing and mortaring the wall as well as for cutting back the stumps of these trees, which were removed in 2002.

Keeping the cemetery grounds groomed this year was particularly troublesome. The heavy spring rains contributed to faster grass growth and the mowing crew, led by Sharon Harvey, had difficulty keeping up with it. The trustees wish to thank Sharon for her efforts.

The Trustees also wish to thank the Holloway family who spent several weekends at the Central Cemetery mowing, trimming, resetting grave stones and cutting down Poison Ivy, other overgrowth from around the grave sites, walls and gates. The Holloway's have been retained as Central cemetery caretakers in 2004. Other thanks go to the Epping Highway Department for hauling away the brush and debris and also to the Glines family for their work in maintaining the West Epping Cemetery.

Cemetery Expansion

Last year the Trustees cleared the rear one-acre parcel of the Prospect

Cemetery. This year the stumps were removed to make ready for future expansion of the back lot.

The front expansion of Prospect Cemetery, started in 2003. This project benefited from a donation of several loads of fill from the Wal-Mart site. Jim Stacey of Severino Trucking transported the fill to the cemetery at no cost to the Town. Jerry Langdon, Marcel Bernier and Ted Bolduc provided the time and equipment to spread the fill. The cemetery trustees are now seeking a donation of loam and grass seeding in order to complete this project.

In closing, the trustees offer their sincere condolences to the Sanborn family in the recent loss of Donald and Richard. Their contributions to Epping and its history were numerous and will not be easily replaced.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Cemetery Trustees: Daniel Harvey,
Paul Spidle, Fred Semprini*

Code Enforcement and Building Inspection

The year 2003 was another busy year for the Town of Epping in all departments. The town will see additional commercial growth along with substantial residential housing. The long anticipated opening of Wal-Mart came on January 21, 2004. The Planning Board has granted conditional approval to the next "big box" store, a super Lowe's Home Improvement Center that could break ground as early as February of this year. Along with the Lowe's store a restaurant and two smaller commercial stores will be forth coming. The Route 125 corridor will experience further development this year and the in the future. The Town of Epping is changing and becoming the place businesses and new homeowners alike are rapidly seeking.

*Sincerely,
Kevin Kelley*

Building Permits

	2002	2003
New Houses	40	22
New Manufactured Homes	3	3
Replacement Manufactured Homes	1	3
Additions	11	36
Renovations	16	11
Decks/ Porches	20	17
Garages/ Barns	19	22
Sheds	16	18
Pools	6	11
Commercial	2	6
Miscellaneous	6	5
Demolition	2	4
Total Building Permits	147	154
Electrical Permits	106	132
Plumbing Permits	54	47



On September 20, Epping students Ryan Murphy, Jenna Riley, Mike D'Errico, Mariella Hill, and Sarah Ouellette joined other residents to clean up litter, tires, and debris on the newly acquired Lamprey River Wildlife Preserve.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission had a busy year in 2003, and we welcome and need people to help us out in 2004. We have a variety of projects to suit almost anyone's interests, from walking boundaries to writing letters. Stop by a meeting, give us a call, or e-mail us at ecc@townofepping.com.

Land

In 2003, over 600 acres of development and 300 housing units came before the Planning Board. Counterbalancing that development, the Conservation Commission helped protect 30 acres along the Lamprey River near Dimond Hill, to be called the Lamprey River Wildlife Preserve. This riverfront area has long been recognized as a valuable property for its natural resources. It will remain open to the community for walking trails and fishing in the Lamprey River.

The Conservation Commission has limited funds, but a major donation from the Lamprey River Advisory Committee, along with our \$5000 contribution and many private donations from Epping residents, enabled the Rockingham Land Trust to purchase

and protect this parcel. We also assisted with fund-raising and organizing volunteers to help clean up the property. The Rockingham Land Trust will continue to pay property taxes, and will bear the costs of maintaining and monitoring the property.

We're very pleased to have helped complete this purchase, and we thank all the groups and donors who made it possible. Purchases like this are a small step towards preserving some of the things that make Epping a special place to live for all of us: the rural feel of our town, with open space, good neighbors, less traffic, and places for kids to explore.

On another property, the early part of 2003 was spent salvaging timber on a newly acquired parcel known as the Sweeney lot. An illegal timber trespass was cleaned up and restored to a proper woodland site.

And in May of 2003, the town realized an \$800 profit on an improvement cut in the Fox Run Conservation Area. We thank Lois and Richard Straw for allowing access to the Conservation area from

their property, thereby leaving the frontage on High Road undisturbed. The harvest was a success, cleaning up the forest for better growth, diversifying the wildlife habitat, and creating two vistas for viewing the nearby Muddy Pond from the walking trail. We encourage you to take a walk out there and enjoy the area.

Many thanks to forestry committee members Jerry Langdon, Bob Kimball, and Kevin Martin for their work on these projects.

Planning

The planning that Epping does now to handle growth will shape what kind of town we live in over the next 10 years. To help with that planning, the Conservation Commission in 2003 began working with the Rockingham Planning Commission to create a Natural Resources Inventory of Epping. When complete in 2004, the maps and reports that are part of this inventory will be available to all residents. The Commission is looking forward to working with the Planning Board and the selectmen to use this information in updating the town's Master Plan and



Paddlers prepare to start the 26th annual Lamprey River Canoe Race.

setting conservation priorities for the future.

One other responsibility the Conservation Commission has in dealing with growth is commenting on wetlands applications. With all the development taking place in 2003, this was a big task. We spent hours reviewing development plans and wetlands fill applications, and sending our comments to the state Department of Environmental Services for review. We expect this work to continue in 2004.

Outreach

In 2003, we began focused efforts to communicate with residents about the natural resources available in Epping, and what the Conservation Commission is working on. One of these efforts is our newsletter, and we hope you received the first edition that we published in the fall. It included information about the newly created Lamprey River Wildlife Preserve, the Land Use Change Tax and its use as a conservation tool, and a map of the conservation areas in Epping. We have applied for and received a grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund to publish three more newsletter editions. We hope you will find them helpful and informative.

We have also created web pages on the town's Web site, at www.ci.epping.nh.us/ecc. There is information about current projects and meeting minutes, and more general conservation information as well. We plan to add information about Epping conservation areas in the near future.

With the help of Jerry Langdon, we also made our first video, to be broadcast on ETV. It features the Fox Run Conservation Area, and discusses how the area came to be conserved, what its resources are, and the trail system in it.

Recreation

Last year, for the first time, the Commission created a geocaching site, at the Fox Run Conservation Area. A geocache is a small box that peo-

ple search for with the help of a GPS (Global Positioning System) unit. Many people took the opportunity to visit Fox Run and try this activity. To find out more, go to www.geocaching.com, or check out our first newsletter, which is still available on our Web page.

And 2003 was the 26th year in a row for the annual Lamprey River Canoe Race. Despite a chilly gray day with a little bit of rain, nearly 70 people participated, and everyone had fun. We'd like to thank Steve Johnson, Jerry Langdon, Neal and Verna Folsom, and Andy Vallone for all their help, and of course all the paddlers who made it a great day on the river.

We plan to have this year's race on the last weekend in April, and we hope to see you there!

Epping Conservation Commission:

Scott Pim, Chair

Sonja Gonzalez, Secretary

Carolyn Muise, Treasurer

Jeff Conrad

Gregory Tillman

Epping Television — ETV — Cable Channel 22

ETV-22 has been blessed with a great staff who have helped our "community connection" to mature gracefully. Our on-air image is the best it's ever been.

Our bulletin board continues to be one of the best in New England. For a brief period of time, WHOM 94.9 FM radio was off the air (due to a fire on top of Mt. Washington) but it has returned as the background music to our bulleting board, to the delight of many residents.

Our main efforts continue to be with the coverage of town meeting, and this year we aired hundreds of hours of meetings, helping Epping residents follow the workings of our rapidly growing community.

Extra events, such as the Memorial Day Parade, were also covered. With the establishment of a new "Remote

Division", this area of coverage will be strongly increased.

In my opinion, the greatest asset our community has, is "Access Programming", and it's off to a great start. This allows any Epping resident to produce a video (on or about anything) to be aired on ETV-22. We can even provide the equipment and training. The first year has been completed with many hours of Access Programs being aired, and a noticeable increase in interest to air much more in the coming year.

Our staff continues to be one of the best in New Hampshire. Joe Denoncour has been promoted to Senior Operator and has been a major influence in ongoing crew training, and was put in charge of meeting coverage. Steve Johnson has been promoted and put in charge of scheduling and play-back of videos. Glenn Frederick has been promoted to head the new "Remote Division" which also includes access shoots and equipment.

Along with the conscientious efforts of the rest of the staff, including Dan Bennis, Josh Frederick, Gina Akerman, Roxanne Richard, Nicholas and Seth Denoncour, ETV-22 continues to be an important and integral part of our community.

*Thanks for watching.
Respectfully submitted,
Bill Channell, Director,
Epping Television*

Fire Department

2003 was the beginning of a new era for our town: more of what we want or need readily available, and a little more demand on our town services. As 2004 approaches we continue to prepare our department to provide for the needs of our residents, businesses and visitors alike.

We have training scheduled for our extrication tools and our CAFS (compressed air foam system) to be prepared when our new Fire Engine ar-

Members of the Epping Fire Department

Chief: Hank Letourneau FF/EMT-P
 Asst. Chief: Robert Downie FF/EMT
 Dep. Chief: Brian Toomire FF/EMT
 Captain: Cliff Cray FF
 Captain: Kevin Zukas FF/EMT-I
 Lieutenant: Jason Lavoie FF/EMT
 Lieutenant: Adam Laurent FF/EMT-I
 Lieutenant: John DeSotto FF/EMT
 Lieutenant: Robert LoCascio FF/EMT

Arneil, Steve FF
 Beaudoin, Phil FF
 Bennis, Daniel FF/EMT
 Bertogli, Wayne FF/1st Responder
 Bodge, Cheryl EMT-P
 Bodge, Joseph FF
 Carter, Donna EMT
 Childs, John FF/EMT
 Childs, Shirley FF/EMT
 Clough, Craig FF/EMT-P
 Carrier, Maria FF
 DeSotto, Nancy EMT
 Frederick, Glenn FF
 Garrant, Chris FF
 Hoelzel, Greg FF/1st Responder
 LaRochelle, Amanda FF/EMT-I
 LaRochelle, Steve FF/EMT
 Louis, Karen EMT-I
 Murphy, Chris EMT
 Nickerson, Marc FF/1st Responder
 Oakes, Dianne EMT
 Oakes, Donald FF/1st Responder
 Page, Joan 1st Responder
 Rodier, Amy FF/EMT
 Rodier, Laurel EMT
 Rodier, Richard FF
 St. Clair, Shelley FF/1st Responder
 Tierney, Patti 1st Responder
 Turgeon, Douglas FF/EMT
 VanAmburgh, Donald FF/EMT
 Wallace, Wanda EMT
 Wells, Scott EMT-P
 Wiesen, Kurt FF/EMT

Addy, Mike Resigned
 Felch, Peter Resigned
 Gagnon, Sabre Resigned
 Pevear, David Resigned
 Suchovsky, Scott Resigned
 Whittaker, Lisa Resigned /Moved
 Wiesen, Darcy Resigned /Moved

Fire Wards: Cantrall, Richard
 King, Michael
 Goodspeed, Charles

Selectman's Rep: Gauthier, Tom

rives this summer.

These new technologies along with our currently utilized onboard computer systems help us locate addresses faster and thereby provide needed care or resolve fire/smoke conditions more quickly. Your continued assistance is appreciated by displaying your house number in a location easily seen from the street.

We have Ambulance EMS (emergency medical services) and Fire training courses scheduled this spring for new members as well as continued advance training and drills for current fire and ambulance personnel.

Anyone who would like to help our town by becoming part of our organization, please speak to any member or call 679-5446. Opportunities available for all ages: firefighters, ambulance attendants, project organizers / coordinators, general helpers, clerical help, washing / waxing vehicles. Teens: Call about our Explorer Post (Junior Firefighters).

Please help us save lives: Check your smoke detector batteries, have family fire drills and even consider a residential sprinkler system for your home.

"Thank You" to all who support our fund raisers: Spring Dance, Car Washes and Christmas Tree Roast.

CPR and First Aid Courses available. Ideas always welcome for other ways we can serve you.

*Respectfully,
 Hank Letourneau, Chief*

Total Calls for 2003: 918
Ambulance Calls: 661
Fire Calls: 257

General Assistance (Welfare) Department

Another year has passed, and in last year's Annual Report I shared with you the many resources that are available to our Epping residents who are unable to provide for themselves and their families. The Food Pantry is available year-round to serve those in need. To visit the food pantry, please call my office or come in to see me so I can reach the appropriate person to help you. Raymond Community Action Program continues to be a significant resource in meeting the needs of our low-income residents.

The State welfare reform programs place urgency in times of crisis on cities and towns to provide services. The Statute RSA: 165 implies that, "If a person is poor and unable to maintain himself or herself" the Town has no other choice but to assist.

I continue to receive a multitude of brochures. Among the many brochures received are from Rockingham Community Action with information about the Fuel Assistance Program, and the CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program) for seniors. PSNH continues to assist those on how to save with their electric bill. I also have many brochures for Legal Advice & Referral Centers. The Compass Program is still going strong. This is a program to help the unemployed or under-employed develop skills that will lead to self-sufficiency and offer job-training services. Information on the program along with many other brochures is available in my office.

If you feel that you or your family needs assistance or information how to receive assistance, please do not hesitate to call my office at 679-1202, ext. 16. My office hours for appointments is Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

*Phyllis E. McDonough
 Welfare Administrator*

Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library

This past year has been one of transition for the Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library. With the great amount of staff turnover, the Library Trustees decided to refocus on more traditional library goals while also looking to upgrade the automated systems and give the library a more open, less cluttered, ambience. A professional librarian was hired in September to oversee this new direction.

For the last four months of 2003, the library underwent a cleaning and weeding of the collection. This weeding process has allowed us to eliminate inaccurate, out-of-date material and books in little demand. The library is tending toward having a better selection of easily accessible, useful materials, which is an often important "quality of life" issue for individuals and families.

With the assistance of Sonya Gonzales, the library obtained a network laser printer, plus seven computers, monitors, and keyboards from BAE Systems of Nashua.

The library has also standardized its hours to include being open four evenings during the week and on Saturdays. **Beginning in January, the library will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The Library Trustees and Staff have ambitious goals for 2004. They are outlined below.

Automation:

- Upgrade circulation software
- Clean patron database
- Barcode all materials
- Remove all books and materials not returned since 1998 from database
- Eliminate dual checkout system
- Use only one registration card
- Use software for holds/reserves

and overdues

- Purchase and install updated circulation and cataloging software
- Cable/Network the entire library building
- Set-up a children's circulation computer and at least 2 public access
- Internet terminals for children

Planning:

- Prepare and distribute a community questionnaire concerning the library and its services, including hours open
- Start planning process by selecting a planning committee
- Complete planning process and present to the community, Selectmen, and Budget Committee for subsequent Town budgets

Collection:

- Continue to purchase new materials to the extent the budget allows
- Continue to purchase Library of America (classic American literature) publications
- Continue to purchase the best 100 Films on DVD
- Continue to weed collection

Library Building:

- Substantially meet fire code regulations

The Trustees and Staff wish to thank the library's many users and supporters. We will do our best to provide the best contemporary library service the budget will allow.

Statistics through November 2004

Circulation: 12,913
Attendance: 10,179
Group Meetings: 81
Internet Users: 1,431

Highway Department

The Highway Department experienced

some changes again this year. One was hiring a third full time employee, Ray Twombly, a long time resident of Epping. We think he will be a valuable asset to the Town.

Once again this has been a productive year for the Highway Department. Paving was completed on Prescott Road, Jacobs Well Road, Main Street, and Elm Street. They got skimmed and an overlay as well.

A lot of long time culvert work was completed on School Street, Blake Road, and Birch Hill Road. We also improved a few of the scenic dirt roads, High Road and Birch Road.

The new roads accepted this year are Rayemma Drive, Winslow Way, and Ledgewood Lane.

The Highway Department purchased a new International Dump Truck and a bobcat with a snow blower for sidewalk work.

Dave Reinhold, Highway Foreman

Planning Board

In 2003 the Board welcomed a new elected member, Steve Illsley who sat as an Alternate on the Board from 1999 to 2003 and was appointed Treasurer to the Board. Ron Nowe who served on the Board from 1994 to 2003 chose not to run in 2003. The Board would like to thank Ron for all his hard work and dedication. Robert Graham remained Chairman, Cory McPhee Vice-Chairman, and Austin Bishop as Secretary. The Board welcomes Sonja Gonzalez who now sits as an Alternate on the Board. Susan McGeough was appointed to serve as the Selectmen's Representative, with Chris Murphy serving as the Selectmen's alternate, and Clay Mitchell Circuit Rider/Planner helps with his knowledge of Land Use and meeting with applicants before they submit an application. Along with Clay we have Ben Frost from NHMA to help out with the many applications brought forward to the Town. All contacts and issues relating to planning in

the Town of Epping shall be forwarded to the Planner, Clay Mitchell. Generally scheduled office hours for the Planner will be Thursdays 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., however, contacting the Planning Board secretary at 679-1202 ext. 16 will insure that time is available.

In all, (10) Ten Site Plan reviews, (3) Three Minor Site Plans (4) Four Subdivisions, totaling (177) One Hundred and seventy-seven lots, and (7) Seven Lot Line Adjustments, came before the Board. As always the Board works diligently on making sure that Epping remains as rural as possible with all the growth.

We note and commend your willingness to see some of our zoning matters through the Town Meeting.

The entire Board as always wishes to thank the citizens of Epping for their continued support and interest shown throughout the year. We thank you for your commitment and continued service.

"Your Planning Board"

Officers: Rob Graham, Cory McPhee, Austin Bishop, Steve Illsley; Alternate Sonja Gonzalez; Selectman's Representative Susan McGeough; Planning Board Assistant Phyllis McDonough.

Police Department

As the year 2003 comes to a close I want to express my sincere appreciation to all the officers and staff of my department for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Town of Epping. I made two well-deserved promotions this year to help in the overall day to day operations of the department and the patrol division. On April 21, 2003 Michael Wallace was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and is now second in command. In addition to his patrol duties he has become more involved with the administration of the department. Sean Gallagher was promoted to rank of sergeant on Sep-

tember 8, 2003 and has become one of the shift supervisors. I have a great deal of respect for both these men and am confident in their abilities to take on added responsibilities.

Throughout this year the detective division has had a difficult time keeping up with the number of crimes it investigates. With only one detective, cases are prioritized in terms of their classification, such as felony or misdemeanor and rated as to their probability of being solved. Unfortunately more times than not new cases are reported each day and only add to an extremely heavy caseload. I proposed to the voters last year that they approve a warrant article that would have added an additional detective to my staff but it did not receive a favorable vote. Another year goes by and the need becomes more critical. As you read this report the new Wal-Mart Superstore will be open. We know the store opening will have an impact on our resources but I can't tell you with any certainty what that will be. What I do know is little consideration has been given to the addition of personnel in the police department and those costs are not reflective in the budget you will be asked to approve. The costs for added personnel are part of a warrant article. We have been approved to receive \$225,000.00 in Federal Grant money to hire three additional full-time officers a grant that is to be paid out in equal amounts over the next three years. As with all Federal Grants at the end of the three-year period the Town would have to incur 100% of the costs and vote to retain those three new positions. The department applied for the grant to address our staffing levels and also to help defray a portion of the costs that would otherwise burden the taxpayer. The three officer positions will help give support to our detective division, patrol division and the third officer will be trained to be proactive in educating our elderly to safeguard themselves against fraud and identity theft. Some training will also be needed in computer crimes, we have had a few cases

this past year and they can be time consuming. I hope to receive your approval for the three new positions and will address your questions during the deliberative session in February.

In addition the voters are being asked to approve a new three-year contract for the Police Union. The most significant change of the contract is in the salary structure. Most of the negotiations were spent on agreeing to a fair wage scale. I think that was accomplished and ask the voters to give this contract their approval.

As we experience the impact of commercial growth and with the possibility of 120 new residential homes being considered there are many challenges ahead for the Town and its police department. We know that our current resources will be stretched thin and we need your support in making some of the changes necessary to meet those challenges.

If any resident would like more information on the role of its police department in their community or need a better understanding of our needs, please feel free to drop by the station at any time and talk with one of the officers, they will be willing to assist in any way possible. In closing I want to wish you all a safe 2004!

Chief Gregory C. Dodge

Recreation Department

2003 was a year of constant change for the Recreation Department as the Director's chair proved to be an elusive one to fill. Sean Kotkowski said goodbye in January to pursue his Master's degree after having served for almost two years. He left a solid program behind and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

In March, Catherine Andrews jumped into the void and became the Director. During her time as director, Catherine started many successful programs that saw frogs jumping during a fun summer camp that was filled to

capacity with over 80 children participating weekly, our Seniors enjoying the Gardiner Museum in Boston and cruising on Lake Winnepesaukee, youth sleep-overs in Watson Academy, tennis lessons and the annual Jack Sharkey 5K road race to name but a few of the programs. During the summer Watson Academy, home to the Recreation Department, had the exterior of the building repainted. Due to her husband being transferred we said goodbye to Catherine in August.

In September, Beth Mincher took over the reins as Director and oversaw a vibrant after-school program serving over 40 children and family trips with one of the highlights being to see the Royal Lipizzaner Stallion Show. A much-needed fence was installed in front of Watson Academy to help keep children and equipment from ending up in the street. Sadly, Beth was offered an opportunity that was too good to pass up and moved to California in December.

Seth Hickey was hired as the new Recreation Director at the end of December and we are excited about the many programs that he has planned for our town in 2004!

We would also like to thank Mary-ellen Colford, Michelle Hughes and Gary MacLeay of the Recreation Com-

mission and the many volunteers who helped keep things running smoothly throughout the constant change.

If you have any programming ideas or would like to volunteer your time or if you want to know what is going on in the recreation department, please feel free to call Seth at 679-3301 or e-mail him at eppingrec@hotmail.com.

Town Clerk's Report

In November of 2003, the Town Clerk's Office was connected to the State Bureau of Vital Records. We can now issue birth, death and marriage certificates for any event that occurred in New Hampshire if it falls between the following dates:

- Births..... 1988–Present
- Deaths..... 1990–Present
- Marriages..... 1989–Present

There have been a few changes in Motor Vehicle Registration Laws during the past year. Now if you want to register a homemade trailer, you must first obtain a "blue form", TDMV19A, to verify that the trailer has no vehicle identification number. This form must be completed even if the trailer weight is under 3,000 pounds. Looking forward to 2004, you will no longer need to title

1989 vehicles. Titles are required for all vehicles up to 15 years old.

Linda Foley
Town Clerk

Water and Sewer

To the Citizens of Epping,

2003 was a very busy year for the Water & Sewer Department. On May 18, 2003 we had our first year of ownership of our Wastewater Treatment Plant. It was a very interesting year as we went through several problems, which were corrected by our two very competent employees along with Zenon, the manufacturer of the equipment. This was all a learning process for everyone. Both our employees are highly respected by the State DES in their operations of the plant. Good work men! The DES and the North Eastern States very closely monitored this learning process. Continual testing shows that the Zenon process discharges drinkable water into the Lamprey River. At this time, the plant is running very well. We would like to thank our Engineer's, Hoyle & Tanner, for a job well done in guiding us in the operation and maintenance of the plant.

The developer of Epping Crossing put in a sewer line to the development and beyond to accommodate both sides of Route 125. They also built a pump station on Route 125, which cost \$257,785. We received \$147,200 from Wal-Mart and \$10,000 from Weiner Development leaving the actual cost to the Sewer Department of \$100,785.

The Water Department has had an interesting year as well. The developer has installed a new 12" water main from Fecteau's Store down Railroad Ave. then South on Route 125 to their project and beyond to help in developing that area at NO cost to Epping.

Our Hoar Pond Well #2 is online to use in an emergency until we get our Well Head Protection at the site. We plan to drill Hoar Pond Well #3 in early 2004 and hopefully get this Well on

The Town Clerk's Office had the following activity during the period of January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003:

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued	8,274	\$923,894.21
Municipal Agent Transactions	6,671	16,677.50
Dog Licenses	724	4,349.00
Dump Permits	3,303	3,303.00
Marriage Licenses	40	1,800
Vital Records Certificates	90	1,172.50
UCC Filings		2,162.00
Miscellaneous		1,146.00
Total Remitted to Treasurer		\$954,504.21

line by summer. We are working with developers to pay for this Well. We are also working with developers to get a new Water Tower, which is very much needed. We have many developers before us at this time. We are working on developing Epping in a timely and proper manner for the betterment of the Town and Community while protecting our water aquifer.

We have hired Sharon Johnstone as our Administrator. Her job is to communicate with people who want Water and/or Sewer services whether they are individuals or developers. She informs them of our Rules & Regulations and sets up appointments for us. She has a very pleasant and likable attitude to all. When someone comes to us they are well informed and this makes it easier for all involved.

We have made our Rules & Regulations for the Water & Sewer Department. This will help in protecting our investment in the Water & Sewer system in Epping.

As a board, we have worked very well together and hope you will allow us to continue to do so. There is still very much to be done.

*Thank you,
Roger Gauthier
Henry DeBoer
Mike King*

Zoning Board of Adjustment

The Zoning Board of Adjustment consists of five elected members: Chairman Thomas Dwyer, Jr., Paul Brown, Steve Illsley and newly elected members Richard Fisher and Ron LaChance. Alternates are Paul Spidle and Greg Tillman. Zoning Secretary Phyllis McDonough.

In 2003, the ZBA heard **Twelve** requests for Variances that were granted, **Two** Special Exceptions that were approved with **One** of them being challenged and rescinded, **One** Rehearing

approved and **One** Hearing denied, and **One** Equitable Waiver approved.

New Hampshire law strictly controls the actions of ZBA Boards in the state. By law a ZBA can only grant three kinds of requests: an appeal of a previous administrative decision regarding the meaning of the Town Ordinance, a request for a Special Exception (if it meets all the specific conditions of the Town Ordinance), and request for a Variance from the literal wording of the ordinance — **if** it meets five tests spelled out in state law. Therefore, your Zoning Board of Adjustment earnestly asks every person considering an appeal to **read Epping's Zoning Ordinance carefully beforehand, and to refrain from submitting any request which cannot be granted within these laws.** By so doing they will save themselves time, expense and frustration.

For example, Epping's Zoning Ordinance states that certain uses are permitted by Special Exception in the Aquifer Protection District, provided they will not pollute the aquifer, significantly reduce the volume of water which it contains, or discharge hazardous materials on site. It is the ZBA's responsibility to decide whether or not a request meets these conditions. If the ZBA finds all the conditions have been met, it must grant the request; if it finds even one condition is not met, under the law it cannot grant it.

If a variance is requested, by State law the ZBA can grant it **only** if all five criteria are met:

- Value of surrounding properties would not be reduced.
- Granting the appeal would be in the public interest.
- Denying the appeal would effectively prevent the owner from making any reasonable use of the land.
- By granting the appeal substantial justice would be done.
- The use must not be contrary to the "spirit and intent" of

the zoning ordinance. The courts have ruled "when an ordinance contains a restriction against a particular use of the land, the ZBA would violate the spirit and intent by permitting that use."

The principle underlying these laws is **only the voters have power to change their zoning ordinance.** No ZBA has this power.

Members continue to attend law lectures for Zoning Boards sponsored by the New Hampshire Municipal Association.

The Board would like to remind the public that the Zoning Board of Adjustment meets as needed and all meetings are televised on EPTV. The Board also invites the public to attend the meetings.

"Your Zoning Board of Adjustment"

Thomas Dwyer, Jr., Steve Illsley, Paul Brown, Ron LaChance and Dick Fisher.

Alternates: Paul Spidle and Greg Tillman. Zoning Board Assistant Phyllis McDonough.



*The Lamprey River from Mill Street Bridge.
(Photo by Jonathan L. Miller)*

Financial Reports

Tax Collector's Report MS-61

Year Ending 12-31-2003

Debits	2003	2002	2001	2000 & Prior
Uncollected Taxes at Beginning of Year				
Property Taxes		652,599		
Land Use Change Tax		8,200		
Timber Tax		210		
Tax Liens		106,149	54,897	44,925
Water & Sewer Liens				3,423
Water Billing		26,327	1	
Sewer Billing		57,605	117	
Taxes Committed This Year				
Property Taxes	7,540,235			
Land Use Change Tax	178,500			
Timber Tax	7,945			
Gravel Tax	500			
Tax Lien Executed	279,563			
Water Billing*	65,998			
Sewer Billing*	147,167			
Overpayment/Refunds				
Property Taxes	33,355**	8,650		
Timber Tax	27			
Water Billing	290			
Tax Liens	2,502			
Interest & Penalties Charged				
Interest For Taxes	10,584	26,081		
Penalties For Taxes		5,714		
Interest For Tax Liens	8,256	9,534	13,725	849
Interest For Water	210	275		
Interest For Sewer	371	571	11	
Interest For Water & Sewer Liens			697	
Total Debits	\$8,275,503	\$901,915	\$68,751	\$49,894

* Only 3 quarters of Water & Sewer Billing are shown in this report.

** This number is unusually high because of the number of refinances that resulted in duplicate payments.

Credits	2003	2002	2001	2000 & Prior
Remitted To Treasurer				
Property Taxes	6,911,362	338,506		
Land Use Change Tax	173,232	7,200		
Timber Tax	7,972	210		
Gravel Tax	30			
Taxes Converted To Lien		261,020		
Tax Liens Redeemed	152,551	60,007	49,284	2,515
Interest For Taxes	10,584	26,081		
Interest For Tax Liens	8,256	9,534	13,725	849
Penalties For Taxes		5,714		
Water Billing	61,373	26,235	1	
Sewer Billing	135,552	57,307	117	
Interest For Water	210	275		
Interest For Sewer	371	571	11	
Water & Sewer Liens				2,390
Interest For Water & Sewer Liens			697	
Adjustments Made				
To Change Tax Payment				
From Lien To Current Year	678			
And Adjust Out Small Balances			(661)	
Abatements Made				
Property Taxes	3,123	62,723*		
Property Tax Liens	895	780		
Water Billing	202			
Sewer Billing	2,057			
Current Levy Deeded				
Property Taxes	814			
Tax Liens	1,835	1,612	1,514	249
Uncollected Taxes at End of Year				
Property Taxes	657,613			
Land Use Change Tax	5,268			
Gravel Tax	470			
Property Tax Liens	126,785	43,749	4,099	42,823
Water Billing	4,493	92		
Sewer Billing	9,777	299		
Water & Sewer Liens				1,032
Total Credits	\$8,275,503	\$901,915	\$68,751	\$49,894

* There was a large abatement for Public Service of NH.

Summary of Valuation MS-1

Value of Land	Acres	2002	2003	Net Change
Current Use	9,089.56	\$1,042,323	\$1,005,405	\$(36,918)
Residential	4,939.77	52,770,279	53,529,147	758,868
Commercial/Industrial	880.25	10,082,000	12,047,706	1,965,706
Total Taxable Land	14,909.58	63,894,602	66,582,258	2,687,656
Tax Exempt/Non-Taxable	609.13	4,583,779	4,588,413	4,634
Value of Buildings				
Public Utilities		6,746,884	4,438,200	(2,308,684)
Valuation before Exemption		\$233,418,890	\$230,942,427	\$ (2,476,463)
Blind Exemption	6@15,000	105,000	90,000	(15,000)
Elderly Exemption		1,495,900	1,469,200	(26,700)
Total Amount of Exemptions		\$1,600,900	\$1,559,200	\$(41,700)
Net Value for Local Tax Rate		\$221,817,990	\$229,383,227	\$7,565,237
Net Value w/o Utilities for State Education Tax		\$215,071,106	\$224,945,027	\$9,873,921

Statement of Appropriations MS-2

Item	2002	2003	Difference
General Government			
Executive	\$175,701	\$184,698	\$8,997
Election, Reg & Vital Statistics	58,394	55,060	(3,334)
Financial Administration	109,943	120,991	11,048
Revaluation of Property	15,800	20,000	4,200
Legal Expense	30,500	30,500	-
Personnel Administration	-	-	-
Planning & Zoning	61,162	55,780	(5,382)
General Government Buildings	111,145	106,120	(5,025)
Cemeteries	1,400	1,400	-
Insurance	43,100	41,835	(1,265)
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	-	-	-
Other General Government	16,256	30,450	14,194
Public Safety			
Police	683,657	775,174	91,517
Ambulance	214,476	241,971	27,495
Fire	114,287	147,957	33,670
Building Inspection	43,542	48,242	4,700
Emergency Management	-	-	-
Other Public Safety	-	-	-
Airport/Aviation Center			
Airport Operations	-	-	-

Item	2002	2003	Difference
Highway & Streets			
Administration	-	-	-
Highway & Streets	742,761	422,519	(320,242)
Bridges	-	-	-
Street Lighting	15,000	20,000	5,000
Other	-	-	-
Sanitation			
Administration	-	-	-
Solid Waste Collection	104,300	83,341	(20,959)
Solid Waste Disposal	187,061	215,000	27,939
Solid Waste Clean-Up	-	-	-
Sewage Col. & Disposal & Other	255,521	478,848	223,327
Water Distribution & Treatment			
Administration	8,950	10,610	1,660
Water Services	-	-	-
Water Treatment, Conservation & Other	63,518	90,708	27,190
Electric			
Electrical Operations	-	-	-
Health			
Administration	-	-	-
Pest Control (Animal Control Officer)	2,860	2,880	20
Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other	-	-	-
Welfare			
Administration Direct Assistance	44,794	46,195	1,401
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	-	-	-
Vendor Payments & Other	-	-	-
Culture & Recreation			
Parks & Recreation	138,694	133,902	(4,792)
Library	81,000	76,634	(4,366)
Patriotic Purposes	1,100	1,500	400
Other Culture & Recreation	-	-	-
Conservation			
Admin. & Purch. Of Nat. Resources	1,000	1,000	-
Other Conservation	-	-	-
Redevelopment & Housing			
Economic Development	12,500	1,198,500	1,186,000
Debt Service			
Principal: Long Term Bonds & Notes	70,000	158,442	88,442
Interest: Long Term Bonds & Notes	68,284	91,918	23,634
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	-	-	-
Other Debt Service	-	-	-

Statement of Appropriations MS-2 (continued)

Item	2002	2003	Difference
Capital Outlay			
Land & Improvements	-	-	-
Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment	-	-	-
Buildings	-	-	-
Improvements Other than Buildings	-	-	-
Operating Transfers Out			
To Special Revenue Fund	-	-	-
To Capital Projects Fund	-	-	-
To Enterprise Fund	-	-	-
Sewer	-	-	-
Water	-	-	-
Electric	-	-	-
Airport	-	-	-
To Capital Reserve Fund	-	-	-
To Expendable Trust Fund	-	-	-
To Health Maintenance Fund	-	-	-
To Non-Expendable Trust Fund	-	-	-
To Agency Funds	-	-	-
Total Appropriation	\$3,476,756	\$ 4,892,175	\$ 1,415,419

Revised Estimated Revenues MS-4

Source of Revenue	FY02 Projected	FY03 Projected	Dollar Variance
Taxes			
Land Use Change Taxes	\$137,700	\$166,500	\$28,800
Resident Tax	-	-	-
Yield Taxes	10,470	7,900	(2,570)
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	2,515	-	(2,515)
Other Taxes	1,000	-	(1,000)
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	51,000	59,000	8,000
Inventory Taxes	-	-	-
Excavation Tax (0.02 per cu yd)	1,200	500	(700)
Licenses, Permits, & Fees			
Business Licenses & Permits	1,400	1,400	-
Motor Vehicles Permit Fees	865,000	916,000	51,000
Building Permits	26,645	85,000	58,355
Other Licenses, Permits, & Fees	10,600	12,800	2,200
From Federal Government	-	500,000	500,000

Statement of Appropriations MS-4 (continued)

Source of Revenue	FY02 Projected	FY03 Projected	Dollar Variance
State Government			
Shared Revenue	35,758	33,564	(2,194)
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	163,669	160,000	(3,669)
Highway Block Grant	118,982	125,288	6,306
Water Pollution Grants	-	-	-
Housing & Community Development	-	-	-
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	-	-	-
Flood Control Reimbursement	-	-	-
Other Miscellaneous	115,000	-	115,000
From Other Governments	-	-	-
Charges for Services			
Income from Departments	149,044	151,675	2,631
Other Charges	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Municipal Property	-	-	-
Interest on Investments	25,000	10,000	(15,000)
Other	23,517	30,000	6,483
Interfund Transfer In			
Special Revenue Fund (Safety Complex)	100,000	130,000	30,000
From Capital Projects Funds	-	738,000	738,000
From Enterprise Fund	-	36,000	36,000
From Sewer	255,521	426,152	170,631
From Water	72,468	103,000	30,532
From Electric	-	-	-
From Airport	-	-	-
Capital Reserve Fund	-	-	-
Trust & Agency Funds	-	-	-
Other Financing Sources			
Proceeds from Long Term Notes & Bonds	300,000	-	300,000
Total Revenues	\$2,466,489	\$3,692,779	\$1,226,290
Unreserved Fund Balance			
	\$582,662		
Voted from Fund Balance Surplus	-	703,431	
Unreserved Fund Balance - Retained	402,662	-	
Unreserved Fund Balance - Reduce Taxes	180,000	-	
Total Revenue & Credits	\$2,869,151	\$3,692,779	
Requested Overlay	50,000	50,000	

General Information

Elected Officials

Selectmen

Tom Gauthier, 2004, Chair
Susan McGeough, 2005
Kim Sullivan, 2004
Dianne Gilbert, 2006
Christopher Murphy, 2006

Town Clerk

Linda Foley, 2004
Deputy: Joyce Blanchard

Tax Collector

Linda Foley, 2004
Deputy: Joyce Blanchard

Treasurer

Patricia Tierney, 2005
Resigned June 16, 2003
Joseph Foley, Appointed, 2004
Deputy: Patricia Tierney

Fire Wards

Charles Goodspeed, 2006
Richard Cantrall, 2005
Michael King, 2004
Tom Gauthier, Selectmen's Representative

Cemetery Trustees

Daniel Harvey, 2006
Fred Semprini, 2004
Paul Spidle, 2005

Moderator

Harold LaPierre, 2004
Robert Goodrich, Appointed Assistant, 2004

Planning Board

Robert Graham, 2006, Chair
Steve Illsley, 2006
Corey McPhee, 2004
Austin Bishop, 2005
Susan McGeough, Selectmen's Representative
Christopher Murphy, Selectmen's Alternate

Paul Spidle, Appointed Alternate, 2005
Sonja Gonzalez, Appointed Alternate, 2004

Library Trustees

Deborah McConnell, 2006
Patricia Van Wagoner, 2004
Cheryl Denoncour, 2005

Budget Committee

James McGeough, 2005, Chair
Brenda McCartney, 2005
Elizabeth Conrad, 2005
Robert Goodrich, 2004
Donald Sisson, 2004
Jennifer Yergeau, 2004
Laurie Bentz, 2006
Michael King, 2006
Ron LaChance, 2006
Kim Sullivan, Selectmen's Representative
Diane Gilbert, Selectmen's Alternate
Jeff Nollet, School Board Representative

Trustees of Trust Fund

Joe Denoncour, 2004, Chair
Mark Kucera, 2005
Daniel Harvey, 2006

Supervisors of Checklist

Grace Lavoie, 2004
Pamela Holmes, 2006
Kim Gauthier, 2008

Water and Sewer Commission

Roger Gauthier, 2006, Chair
Michael King, 2004
Henry DeBoer, 2005

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Richard Fisher, 2006
Ron LaChance, 2006
Tom Dwyer, Jr., 2004, Chair
Steve Illsley, 2005
Paul Brown, 2005
Paul Spidle, Appointed Alternate, 2004
Gregory Tillman, Appointed Alternate, 2004

Appointed Officials

Selectmen's Office

Town Administrator, Craig Kleman (no term)
Assessing Clerk, Administrative Assistant: Judith Bielcki (no term)
Assistant: Joyce Blanchard (no term)
Bookkeeper: Gladys Clark (resigned 10/03)
Accounting Contractor: Sharon Johnstone
Planning Board Secretary: Phyllis McDonough (no term)
Code Enforcement Officer: Kevin Kelley (no term)
Emergency Management: Michael Jean

Police Department

Chief of Police: Gregory C. Dodge (no term)
Secretary: Julie Sullivan (no term)
Lieutenant: Michael Wallace (no term)
Sergeant: Jason Newman (no term)
Sergeant: Sean Gallagher (no term)
Detective: Marc Turner (no term)
School Resource Officer: Richard McFadden (no term)
Patrol Officers: John Walsh, Richard Cote, Ray Fluet, Bradley Jardis, Gregory Nye (no term)
Part-Time Officers: Sgt. Richard Newman, Sr., Paul Hanley, Jeffrey Leduc, Kevin Kelley, Shannon Lussier, Michael Tully (no term)
Animal Control Officer: Robin Gilbert

Fire Department

Chief of Department: Henry Letourneau, Jr. (no term)

Welfare Administrator

Phyllis McDonough (no term)

Library Director

Duane Shaffer (resigned) Gary Mason (no term)

Recreation Director

Mary Katherine Andrews (resigned);
 Beth Mincher (resigned): Seth
 Hickey (no term)

Recreation Advisory Commission

Mary Ellen Colford, 2003
 Michelle Hughes
 Gary MacLeay, 2004
 Carol Bonenfant, 2005
 Christopher Murphy, Selectmen's
 Representative

Ballot Clerks

Doris Charron, 2004
 Joan Thompson, 2004
 Anne Marie Amaru, 2004
 Nancy Fecteau, 2004

Conservation Commission

Scott Pim, 2006
 James Malcuit, 2005, resigned
 9/22/2003
 Carolyn Muise, 2005
 Sonja Gonzalez, 2006
 Jeff Conrad, 2006
 Gregory Tillman, 2006
 Gerald Langdon, Forestry Committee
 Robert Kimball, Forestry Committee
 Kevin Martin, Forestry Committee
 Kim Sullivan, Selectmen's
 Representative
 Isobel Parke, Honorable Member

Crossing Guard

Beverly Laurent

Lamprey River Advisory Committee

Kevin Martin, 2003

Historic District Commission

Madelyn Williamson, Chair
 Rob Graham
 Deborah McConnell
 Devon Rains
 Susan McGeough, Selectman's
 Representative

School District Officers**School Board**

Marci Morris, Chair, 2005
 Pamela Tibbetts, 2006
 Scott Booth, 2004
 Susan Kimball, 2004
 Jeffrey Nollett, 2005

Superintendent of Schools

Robert F. Bell, retired, Jan-June
 Barbara Munsey, July-Dec

Business Administrator

Barbara Munsey, Jan-June
 Toby Eaton, Sept-Dec

Special Education Director

Cathryn Zylinski

**Director of Curriculum
and Instruction**

Gary Tyrone

Administrators*Grades 1-5*

Mark Vallone, Principal
 Christopher Andriski, Assistant
 Principal

Grades 6-12

Michael Sanz, Principal
 Dagmar Franke, Assistant Principal

Treasurer

Rene Pettis, 2005

Clerk

Robin O'Day, 2005

Area Statistical Information

CID Number.....	810
County.....	Rockingham
Labor Market Area.....	Portsmouth-Manchester
Distance to:	
Manchester, NH.....	15 miles
Boston, MA.....	50 miles
New York, NY.....	235 miles
Montreal, Canada.....	280 miles
Elevation.....	160
Temperature (°F)	
Annual Average.....	46.6
January Average.....	22.2
Precipitation: Annual Average.....	44.0

Demographics

Population

	2000	1990	1980	1970
Community	5,476	5,162	3,460	2,356
County	264,871	245,845	190,345	138,951

Population by Age (2000)

under 5.....	383
35 to 39.....	2,149
5 to 19.....	1,219
60 to 74.....	486
20 to 34.....	1,030
75+.....	209

Commuting Patterns (1990)

Min. travel time to work (mins).....	28.98
Residents working in community (%).....	20%
Residents working elsewhere (%).....	80%
Non-Residents working in community (%).....	52%

Largest Employers

Epping High School.....	100
Epping Elementary School.....	88
McDonalds.....	62
ERRCO (Recycling).....	53
Abenaki Timber.....	31
Burger King.....	27
Omni Industrial.....	25
PSNH (Utility).....	15
Goodrich Brickyard.....	13
Hetnars Orchard.....	12
Crossroad Sports Center.....	10

Municipal Services

Town Hall Hours.....	M-Th 8-4; F 8-12 noon
Type of Government.....	Selectman/SB2
Fiscal Year.....	2003
Budget (Annual 2003).....	4,764,633
Planning Board.....	Elected
Industrial Plans Reviewed by.....	Planning Board
Zoning.....	1968/99
Master Plan.....	1999
Capital Improvement Plan.....	Yes
Full Time Police Dept.....	Yes
Full Time Fire Dept.....	Yes
Town Fire Insurance Rating.....	5/9

Taxes (2003)

Local Property Tax Rate (per thousand).....	33.10
Assesment Ratio.....	53.1

2003 Valuation

Residential.....	197,060,542
Commerial.....	33,392,180

Housing (2003)

Single-Family Units.....	1617
Number of building permits.....	154
Multi-Family Units.....	414
Number of building Permits.....	2
Mobile Homes.....	340

Utilities

Electricity.....	PSNH/Electric Coop.
Natural Gas.....	None
Water.....	Epping Water Dept.
Source.....	2 Bed Rock Wells
Average Usage Hoar Well.....	90 gpm
Average Usage Well #4.....	70 gpm
Sanitation	
Sewer.....	Municipal
Coverage.....	25%
Municipal Treatment Plant	
Type.....	Active Sludge/Zenon Microfiltration
Capacity (million gal/day).....	0.50
Load (percent of capacity).....	20%
Telephone.....	Verizon
Telephone Switching.....	Digital
Cellular Phone Access.....	Yes
Cable Television.....	Yes

Transportation/access

Road Access	
Federal Routes	101, 125, 27
State Routes	1-95, Exit 2
Nearest Interstate	Portsmouth
Distance	15 miles
Railroad	Downeaster (Exeter)
Airport	Manchester
Runway	7000 feet
Lighted	Yes
Navigational Aids	Yes
Distance	26 miles

Medical & Health

Hospital	Exeter Hospital
Distance	10 Miles
Beds	218
Number of Doctors working in town	1

Educational/Childcare Facilities

	# of Schools	Grades	Enroll.	Vocation/ Education
Elementary	1	K-5	459	
Middle/Jr. High	1	6-8	270	
High School	1	9-12	413	No
Higher Education Institutions				
Technical College				Stratham Comm. Tech. College
College/University				White Pines/McIntosh/UNH
Daycare Facilities			2	
Total Capacity			163	

Community Services & Recreation

Protestant Churches	4
Catholic Churches	1
Hotels/Motels	1
Bed & Breakfasts	4
Live Theater	2
Museums	1
Local Television	1
Channel 22, Epping TV & Bulletin Board	
Library	1
Harvey-Mitchell Memorial	
Municipal Parks	1
Conservation Areas	3
Tennis Courts	1
Nearest Ski Areas	White Mountains
Other Recreation	2 Race Tracks

For more information, contact:

Town Administrator
 157 Main Street, Epping, NH 03042
 Telephone: 603-679-5441
 Fax: 603-679-3002
 Email: administrator@townofepping.com
 Web: www.ci.epping.nh.us

Town Directory**Emergency Numbers**

Fire/Police/Rescue 911

General Business

Fire 679-5446
 Police 679-5122
 Animal Control 679-5122

Schools

Elementary 679-8018
 High School 679-5472
 Superintendent's Office 679-8003

Town Offices

Code Enforcement and Health 679-1224
 Highway 679-5441
 Library 679-5944
 Planning and Zoning, Welfare 679-1202
 Recreation 679-3301
 Tax Assessing 679-5441
 Town Administrator 679-5441
 Town Clerk/Tax Collector 679-8288
 (voter/car registrations, dog licenses,
 taxes, water/sewer payments)
 Water and Sewer 679-5171

Other Resources

Department of Motor Vehicles 679-2111
 Epping Post Office 679-5952
 Rockingham County Sheriff 679-2225
 Exeter Chamber of Commerce 772-2411
 Raymond Chamber of Commerce 895-2254
 Rockingham Planning Commission 778-0885

Town Owned Properties

Map	Lot	Serial	Location	Value
10	032	619	High Road — 22 Acres with a Conservation Easement	52,901.00
12	026	539	Off Camp Lee Road — 4.5 Acres	28,500.00
15	013	2241	Red Oak Hill — 40,000 S.f., Triangle at intersection of Red Oak Hill, Plumer Road and Nottingham Sq. Rd.	25,000.00
18	001	2126	Jacobswell Road — 11.65 Acres, Conservation Land	49,700.00
22	044	1744	Hoar Pond Property — Taken by Eminent Domain for New Well 9/99; 56 +/- Beniah Lane	37,900.00
22	053	597	17 Academy Street — School Property — Watson Academy, Middle/High School, Elementary School	482,700.00
22	068	2503	Plumer Road — 17,000 S.f., Old Cemetery on Lehrmit Property	3,900.00
22	089	1837	Cate Street — 3.18 Acres, Public Skating Rink and Sports Field	45,000.00
22	096	2881	Cate Street — Sports Field and Tennis Courts	35,700.00
24	001	603	130 Old Hedding Rd. — 13.18 Acres	N/A
24	009	1716	Route 87 — 11.2 Acres	N/A
24	096	605	Old Hedding Rd — Dump — 11 Acres, Transfer Staion, Recycling and Highway Storage Ld	97,600.00
24	097	2891	Dorothy Drive — Backland — 6 Acres	30,100.00
25	002	607	Jacobswell Road — Forest — 2.37 Acres, Protected Conservation Forest Land	26,700.00
26	001	1780	Prescott Road — 2 Acres	26,100.00
26	014	2578	Joshua Lane — 3.21 Acres	27,300.00
26	015	2576	Joshua Lane — 1.47 Acres	25,500.00
26	016	2575	Joshua Lane — 2.02 Acres	26,100.00
26	017	2574	Joshua Lane — 1.24 Acres	25,300.00
26	018	2573	Joshua Lane — 1.71 Acres	25,800.00
26	019	2572	Joshua Lane — 1.12 Acres	25,200.00
26	020	2571	Joshua Lane — 1.77 Acres	25,900.00
26	021	2570	Joshua Lane — 1.59 Acres	25,700.00
26	022	2569	Joshua Lane — 1.68 Acres	25,800.00
26	023	2568	Quakerfield Drive — 1.46 Acres	25,500.00
26	024	2567	Joshua Lane — 1.52 Acres	25,600.00
26	025	2563	Joshua Lane — 1.10 Acres	25,200.00
26	026	2565	Joshua Lane — 1.37 Acres	25,500.00

Map	Lot	Serial	Location	Value
26	027	2566	Quakerfield Drive — 1.643 Acres	25,700.00
26	028	2564	Quakerfield Drive — 1.3 Acres	25,400.00
27	020	606	Mill Rd — 5.5 Acres, New Cemetery Land	54,800.00
27	020-a	2107	Mill Rd — 4.5 Acres, Connected to Lot #106, Cemetery Land	4,100.00
27	061	602	Holt Rd. — 6 Acres, West Epping Fire Station	102,600.00
27	095	2292	Folsom Lane — 10.5 Acres, Mary Folsom Blair Memorial Park	37,100.00
27	158	80	11 School Street — .31 Acres & Building	N/A
27	190	2108	Depot Road — 3.36 Acres	N/A
28	045	944	Ledgewood Lane — 23.85 Acres for Conservation.	1,262.00
29	103	2932	Pleasant Street from Ed White — 4.4 Acres, Backland	4,400.00
29	104	2767	Pleasant Street — 17,200 S.f., Water Tower Land, .39 Acres	240,800.00
29	113	1239	37 Pleasant Street — Safety Complex	116,000.00
29	124	601	Pleasant Street — 12 Acres known as Scoutfield, owned by town, custody of School Officials	7,200.00
29	133	604	Main Street — 1.77 Acres, Town Hall and Parking Lot	584,900.00
29	134	595	Main Street — 9,000 S.f., Harvey Mitchell Memorial Library	143,400.00
29	135	592	Main Street — 7,200 S.f., Main St. Fire Station	111,200.00
29	161	2331	Mill Street — 30,000 S.f., Waste Water Treatment Facility Lift Station	18,000.00
29	162	2133	Water Street — 8,778 S.f., Miriam Jackson Memorial Park under custody of Conservation Comm.	25,000.00
29	167	599	Water Street — 5,226 S.f., Dar Memorial Lot	27,800.00
29	177	608	Bunker Ave. — 900 S.f., Parking Lot	17,200.00
29	283-e	2909	Calef Highway. — Whelabrator Easement to town for Sewer Lift Station	2,600.00
29	283-008	3094	Calef Highway — .057 Acres+d12	N/A
29	285	2130	Main Street — 12,740 S.f., Triangle above Cumberland Farms maintained by Epping Garden Club	114,200.00
29	312	1915	Bunker Ave. — 1,465 S.f., Three Lot Parking Lot	15,100.00
30	031	2135	Lagoon Road — 58 Acres, Municipal Sewage Treatment Facility	1,509,900.00
30	056	2263	Route 27 — 9.98 Acres	N/A
31	008	2741	Off Mast Road — 11.2 Acres	1,434.00
31	026	2832	Mast Road — 46.66 Acres	N/A
32	011	1071	Mast Road — 4.4 Acres	N/A
32	025	1933	Birch Road — 18 Acres	N/A

Town Owned Properties (continued)

Map	Lot	Serial	Location	Value
33	024	872	Route 101 West	N/A
33	025	2393	Route 101 — 1.49 Acres	N/A
33	026	2452	Off Route 101 — 1.38 Acres	N/A
33	027	2449	Off Route 101 — 2.16 Acres	N/A
34	010	494	Witham Road	N/A
34	015	1900	Tami Lane — .96 Acres	N/A
35	006	1361	Fremont Road — .17 Acres	N/A
36	020	2829	Fremont Road — .52 Acres & Bldg.	N/A
37	007	1674	Off Exeter Road — 25 Acres	N/A
39	004	2827	Off Birch Road — 2.2 Acres	N/A
39	010	2127	Birch Road — 4.5 Acres	N/A
39	011	137	10 Birch Road — 20 Acres	N/A

Marriages

January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003

Date of Marriage	Name of Groom & Bride	Residence of Groom & Bride	Date of Marriage	Name of Groom & Bride	Residence of Groom & Bride
1/4/2003	Adam Naigle Shannon Hobby	Epping Epping	5/31/2003	Ryan Hupper Veronica Pocsik	Epping Epping
2/14/2003	Theodore Schwarz Lieselotte Pekarski	Epping Epping	6/6/2003	Jotham Stavish Mindi Perkins	Epping Epping
2/17/2003	Howard Gervais Jennifer Brent	Northwood Epping	6/7/2003	Robert Robinson Erika Pethic	Epping Epping
3/5/2003	Dimitrios Gioldasis Olga Zhukova	Epping Epping	6/14/2003	Christopher Tuttle Ann Pond	Nottingham Epping
5/22/2003	John Gaynor Danielle Labonte	Epping Epping	6/22/2003	John Michaud Donna Hurteau	Epping Epping
5/23/2003	Jeff Crosby Nicole Fithian	Raymond Epping	6/28/2003	Mark McLaughlin Janeth Moody	Salisbury, MA Epping

Date of Marriage	Name of Groom & Bride	Residence of Groom & Bride
7/4/2003	Joseph Miner Kristin Rancourt	Epping Epping
7/5/2003	Arthur Valerio Karin Vennell	Epping Epping
7/18/2003	Jacob Denoncour Andrea Boutilier	Epping Chicopee, MA
7/19/2003	Christopher Nickerson Carolyn LaFave	Exeter Epping
7/20/2003	Steven Albright Catherine Shenk	Epping Kittery, ME
7/26/2003	Jeffrey Closson Jane Quilliam	Epping Epping
8/2/2003	Mark Lewis Lisa Carbone	San Saba, TX Epping
8/15/2003	Christopher Dyer Lisa Evans	Epping Atkinson
8/23/2003	Thomas Hurteau Sherry Braley	Epping Epping
9/13/2003	Shane Wells Kellin Martin	Epping Epping
9/20/2003	Steven LaRochelle Amanda Taylor	Epping Epping
9/20/2003	Scott Currier Kelly Maguire	Epping Epping
9/20/2003	Joseph Brown Wendy Richards	Epping Epping
9/27/2003	Brian Bacon Bonnie Roberts	Epping Epping
9/27/2003	David French Betsy Adams	Epping Epping

Date of Marriage	Name of Groom & Bride	Residence of Groom & Bride
9/27/2003	James Chapman Jennifer Wentworth	Epping Epping
10/1/2003	Jeffery Myers Jeanne Muller	Epping Manchester
10/3/2003	Ian MacMillan Tabatha Allyson	Epping Epping
10/4/2003	Shon Stevens Kristien Crosby	Epping Epping
10/11/2003	Scott Suchovsky Rebecca D'Errico	Epping Epping
10/18/2003	Michael Mack Tiffany Ostaszewski	Epping Epping
11/8/2003	James Little Julie Jutras	Epping Epping
11/8/2003	Richard Yost Karrie Parsons	Epping Epping
11/21/2003	Peter Marrone Darlene Cunliffe	Epping Epping
11/22/2003	Barry LaValley Danielle Battle	Epping Epping
11/26/2003	William Murch Jane Keezer	Epping Epping
11/27/2003	David Kirkland Cynthia Hathaway	Epping Epping
12/14/2003	Stephen Kolsky Arlene Lancey	Epping Raymond
12/22/2003	Karl Janisch Stephanie King	Epping Norwood, MA
12/23/2003	John Talmage Leitha Joubert	Epping Epping

Births

January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003

Date of Birth	Child's Name	Parents' Names	Birthplace
1/8/2003	Tyler Michael Melton	Lorraine Melton Brian Melton	Portsmouth
1/16/2003	Dillon Patrick McKenzie	Lisa McKenzie Patrick McKenzie	Exeter
1/16/2003	Jake Patrick McKenzie	Lisa McKenzie Patrick McKenzie	Exeter
1/21/2003	Alayna James Mackie	Gina Mackie Clinton Mackie	Exeter
1/30/2003	Kaitlyn Rose Prince	Charlene Prince Jeffrey Prince	Exeter
2/9/2003	Delaney Lyn Clough	Holly Clough Craig Clough	Beverly, MA
2/10/2003	Abigail Makenzie Walsh	Renee Walsh Kevin Walsh	Exeter
2/10/2003	Madelin Alexis Walsh	Renee Walsh Kevin Walsh	Exeter
2/16/2003	Anneliese Marie Wade	Kristen Wade Andrew Wade	Portsmouth
2/16/2003	Brynn Marie Sweetsir	Jodi Sweetsir Frederick Sweetsir	Exeter
2/17/2003	Isabelle Ann Deary	Debora Deary Sean Deary	Exeter
2/24/2003	Benjamin Rhodes Milbury	Erin Milbury Matthew Milbury	Portsmouth
2/28/2003	Colby Mathew Carrier	Maria Carrier Ryan Carrier	Exeter
2/28/2003	Andrew Joseph LeBlanc	Julie LeBlanc Alan LeBlanc	Exeter
3/11/2003	Abigail Malissa Roy	Laurie Roy David Roy	Exeter
3/26/2003	Colby Thomas Mills	Shannon Mills Justin Mills	Portsmouth
3/26/2003	Trevor Blake Hovey	Susan Hovey Timothy Hovey	Exeter
3/29/2003	Brandon Joseph Spechuilli	Erica Spechuilli David Spechuilli	Exeter
4/1/2003	Charles Mclean Makee	Susan Makee Randall Makee	Exeter
4/8/2003	Owen Jameson Hayes	Stacey Hayes Jamie Hayes	Manchester
4/14/2003	Brycen Alexander Braley	Jennifer Braley Stephen Braley	Exeter

Date of Birth	Child's Name	Parents' Names	Birthplace
5/6/2003	Jenna Nell Needham	Ellen Needham Daniel Needham	Exeter
5/17/2003	Mia Rae Boccelli	Jessica Boccelli Ryan Boccelli	Exeter
5/18/2003	Joshua Harris Coolidge	Catherine Coolidge Stephen Coolidge	Dover
5/18/2003	Ryan Paul Pinkham	Kimberly Pinkham Mark Pinkham	Portsmouth
5/21/2003	Madison Gail Garside	Norman Garside Jenifer Garside	Manchester
5/22/2003	Tristian Joseph Thomas Henshaw	Becky Henshaw Todd Henshaw	Portsmouth
5/30/2003	Erin Michelle Murphy	Desiree Murphy Keith Murphy	Exeter
6/15/2003	Emmet Mahlon Pim	Marjorie Pim Scott Pim	Exeter
6/20/2003	Scott Dean Johnson	Nancy Johnson Lawrence Johnson	Manchester
6/25/2003	Jack Robert Meyer	Andrea Meyer Jeffrey Meyer	Exeter
7/1/2003	Mark Robert Perry	Laura Perry Mark Perry	Exeter
7/3/2003	Ryan Prescott Hoelzel	Mary Hoelzel Gregory Hoelzel	Exeter
7/3/2003	Katrina Jean Jennings	Sylvia Jennings Michael Jennings	Derry
7/5/2003	Alexandra Maria Koffler	Anna Koffler Michael Koffler	Exeter
7/8/2003	Samuel Ethan Hackett	Camille Hackett Michael Hackett	Exeter
7/9/2003	Steven John Thompson	Andrea Thompson William Thompson	Exeter
7/12/2003	Rachel Lynn Peitz	Renea Panicello-Peitz Russell Peitz	Exeter
7/16/2003	Owen Thomas Stocker	Cassandra Stocker Thomas Stocker	Exeter
7/20/2003	Caleb Jackson White	Jennifer White Jeffrey White	Manchester
7/20/2003	Megan Marie Webber	Jennifer Webber Timothy Webber	Exeter
7/26/2003	David Matthew Parents	Tricia Parents David Parents	Dover
7/29/2003	Brady William Landry	Alyssa Landry Paul Landry	Exeter

Births (continued)

Date of Birth	Child's Name	Parents' Names	Birthplace
8/2/2003	Isabella Hope Walley	Talia Walley Mark Walley	Exeter
8/5/2003	Peter Ross McTague	Julie McTague Henry McTague	Dover
8/5/2003	Michael Andrew Anderson	Joya Anderson Lee Anderson	Portsmouth
8/16/2003	Leo Goodfellow White	Melissa White David White	Exeter
8/22/2003	Alyssa Madison Higginbottom	Nicole Higginbottom Brian Higginbottom	Exeter
8/25/2003	Isabella Grace Peracchi	Kelly Peracchi John Peracchi	Manchester
8/29/2003	Chevy Ryan Fortier	Jamie Fortier Robert Fortier	Dover
8/29/2003	Natasha Skye Fortier	Jamie Fortier Robert Fortier	Dover
9/14/2003	Joshua Andrew Short	Tricia Short Andrew Short	Exeter
9/26/2003	Miles Paul Leavis	Molly Leavis Jeremy Leavis	Portsmouth
10/9/2003	Zachary Thomas LeBlanc	Christine LeBlanc David LeBlanc	Portsmouth
10/16/2003	Cavan Edward Snell	Genevieve Snell Gary Snell	Exeter
10/16/2003	Caden Bartlett Snell	Genevieve Snell Gary Snell	Exeter
11/4/2003	Tyler Evan Lynch	Debra Lynch Kevin Lynch	Lebanon
11/4/2003	Nathan Allen Lynch	Debra Lynch Kevin Lynch	Lebanon
11/6/2003	Sophia Lynn Vasapolli	Debra Vasapolli Stephen Vasapolli	Portsmouth
11/6/2003	Angela Man-Nghi Misztal	Linh Misztal Jason Misztal	Exeter
11/14/2003	Patrick Riley McTague	Shana McTague Charles McTague	Exeter
12/05/2003	John Michael Gaynor	Danielle Gaynor John Gaynor	Exeter
12/12/2003	Katelyn Elizabeth Whitman	Tammyanne Whitman Daniel Whitman	Exeter
12/14/2003	Kaitlyn Valenca Miller	Alice Miller Brian Miller	Exeter
12/22/2003	Morgan Taylor Witmer	Cynthia Witmer Thomas Witmer	Exeter

Deaths

January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003

Date of Death	Place of Death	Name of Deceased	Father's Name	Mother's Name
1/5/2003	Brentwood	Adeline Goldthwaite	Emil Bonenfant	Emila LaBranche
1/30/2003	Exeter	Agapit Jean Sr.	Alfred Jean	Josephine Lavoie
2/17/2003	Exeter	Deneen Fortier	William Hobby	Alida Simmons
2/18/2003	Epping	Mary Turcotte	Donald Neddy	Claire McNamee
3/3/2003	Warner	Aili Helander	Leaneles Holm	Liisa Loukola
3/14/2003	Exeter	Howard Chaplin	Unknown	Unknown
3/19/2003	Epping	George Melanson	Joseph Melanson	Edith Hendsbee
3/23/2003	Epping	Robert O. Coates	Robert Coates	Mildred Lacy
3/29/2003	Brentwood	Marion Fritz	Patrick O'Brien	Marion Potter
4/11/2003	Rochester	Shirley Stackpole	William Woodworth	Mattie Thompson
5/3/2003	Manchester	Shirley Kennedy	Ernest Ruiter	Gladys Sowles
5/10/2003	Epping	Nancy Braley	Henry Dionne	Blanche Landry
5/27/2003	Exeter	Kenneth Jackson	John Jackson	Ethel Hill
5/28/2003	Exeter	Eunice Chapman	Burton Sanborn	Sarah Page
7/7/2003	Exeter	Josephine Arneil	E. Giglio	M. Cinelli
7/15/2003	Manchester	Bernard Devlin	John Devlin	May Spotterswood
7/19/2003	Raymond	Michael O'Leary	James O'Leary	Marian Badalamenti
7/20/2003	Epping	James Eddy	Harold Eddy	Ella Griggs
7/25/2003	Raymond	Carolyn Godbout	Edwin Keniston	Dorothy Donahue
7/31/2003	Exeter	Thomas Dwyer Sr.	Earl Dwyer	Natalie Brierly
8/21/2003	Exeter	Donald Sanborn	Walter Sanborn	Sylvia Sanborn
9/14/2003	Epping	Lindsey Coleman	Harry Campbell	Evelyn Purington
9/21/2003	Epping	James Sharp	Floyd Sharp	Paulette Brzeviecki
9/26/2003	Lebanon	Ann Reardon	Rocco Fini	Evelyn Giordano
10/1/2003	Exeter	Frances Driscoll	Francesco Cimino	Carmella Letieri
10/3/2003	Brentwood	Doris Davies	William Yeany	Myrtle Burgess
11/11/2003	Exeter	Bernice Bowden	Thomas Murach	Estella Waraxa
11/15/2003	Epping	Raymond Ouellette	Roger Ouellette	Rose St. Pierre
11/22/2003	Brentwood	August L. Warren	August Warren	Elizabeth Hockney
11/22/2003	Epping	Joseph Castine	William Castine	Maryanne Brodreau
12/4/2003	Exeter	Richard F. Sanborn	Walter Sanborn	Sylvia Sanborn
12/9/2003	Epping	Judith Stevens	Earle Hand	Eleanor Condon
12/11/2003	Epping	Irene Freeman	Harry McNamara	Bernice Lockwood
12/15/2003	Portsmouth	Elsie Chonak	Bartley Browning	Carrie Thomas
12/21/2003	Epping	Michael Regan	John Regan	Irene Lavoie
12/27/2003	Exeter	Sistine Scarpetti	Francesco Scarpetti	Rose Cooperstein
12/27/2003	Exeter	Carl Bristol	Myrle Bristol	Pauline Weires
12/28/2003	Exeter	Howard Bullerwell	James Bullerwell	Allison Palmer
12/29/2003	Epping	Bruce Larocco	Joseph Larocco	Susan Neely

In Memoriam

Donald Rundlett Sanborn (1913–2003)

Richard Favor Sanborn (1912–2003)

The Town of Epping lost two of its' long time, outstanding citizens this year. Donald Rundlett Sanborn, born May 21, 1913, died August 21, 2003. Richard Favor Sanborn, born April 19, 1912, died December 4, 2003. They were both sons of Walter P. and Sylvia A. Sanborn. Both Donald and Richard resided all of their lives at the home place at 3 Fremont Road. Both saw a considerable span in the history of our town, and doubtless saw many changes.

Richard Favor Sanborn passed away December 4, 2003. Holder of the Boston Post Cane, he was Epping's oldest citizen, born April 19, 1912. Much of Richards life was dedicated to serving the Town of Epping, serving two

terms as selectman, a member of the school board, a cemetery trustee, and library trustee. While on the Board of Selectmen, he was among those who developed, and he later operated the Epping Wastewater Treatment Plant. After graduating from Epping High School, and the University of New Hampshire, he enjoyed a career of agriculture. He worked for Merrimack Farmers Exchange for 25 years, and did farming at his home farm at 3 Fremont Road. His knowledge of plants and gardening was excellent, a family tradition passed down through the years. He also had a great interest in barns and had a concern for their continual demise. He loved his family, his home, and the land proudly handed

down in the family from ancient times. Richard Sanborn loved his community. He was a true citizen in every sense of the word.

Donald Rundlett Sanborn died August 21, 2003. His passing leaves a void in the community. He is missed by all that knew him. He graduated from Epping High School and the University of New Hampshire. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1942. Donald served his country well. His tour of duty included guarding the Gatun Locks in Panama, and then being assigned to the 42nd Infantry Division, being shipped to France and Germany. He also fought in the Battle of the Bulge in the 358th Regiment of the 90th Division of General Patton's Third Army, and was discharged from the U.S. Army in October 1945. After the war Donald operated Sanborn's Nursery in North Epping. He was an avid reader, learning to read at age 4. He later worked in the NH State Library.

Donald Sanborn is best known in recent times for his great interest in the history of Epping. He gathered an extensive collection of information and photographs. It is planned that this will become the first comprehensive history of Epping. He had a life of enrichment not only himself, but reaching so many others. He climbed mountains, built and sailed sailboats, collected stamps, did much photography, was a member of the Rockingham Grange, and in his last years a skilled user of the computer.

Well done, Donald Rundlett Sanborn!



Donald and Richard Sanborn

2004 Town Warrant Articles

To the inhabitants of the Town of Epping, in the County of Rockingham, qualified to vote in Town affairs: You are hereby notified to meet at the Middle/High School Gymnasium located on Prescott Road on Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. for a Deliberative Session and at the Middle/High School Gymnasium located on Prescott Road on Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following:

To be taken up Tuesday, March 9, 2004:

ARTICLE 1: Are you in favor of adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as Article 15 as follows: Optional Open Space Design Subdivision — The intent of this ordinance is to provide a flexible method of residential development that is consistent with principles of sound planning and wise land use that are not specifically permitted in the current zoning ordinance. Developments under this article will be required to preserve large portions of the site from future development in exchange for flexible design options. All public utilities and roads within the development shall be built to Town of Epping standards. This is an optional form of subdivision design that requires adherence to specific criteria intended to protect abutters and residents of the development from adverse impacts. Densities and unit counts shall be limited to that number of units permitted under conventional zoning. There are no density bonuses provided under this proposed amendment. **[Recommended by the Planning Board.]**

ARTICLE 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: REPEAL, in its entirety, the Elderly Hous-

ing Overlay District at Article 6, Section 6.14. This repeal would remove the zoning ordinance that provides for increased development densities and other regulations provided for the development of elderly housing. Such developments would continue to be permitted at conventional densities for the underlying zone. The subject provisions apply to land in the Residential, Residential/Commercial and High Density Residential Districts. **[Recommended by the Planning Board.]**

ARTICLE 3: In order to allow the State of New Hampshire to assume the cost of the State's portion of the Waste Water Treatment Facility upgrade, will the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$800,000.) for the purpose of pursuing a bond for the State's portion of the construction and upgrading of the Town's Waste Water Treatment Facility, and to borrow that amount in the name of the Town by the issuance of serial notes or bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33)? Passage of this article will repay the town's general fund and incur NO DIRECT COST TO THE TOWN except for the cost of issuing the bond. **[3/5 majority vote required. Recommended by Board of Selectmen (5-0) and the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund (pursuant to RSA Chapter 35) for the future property revaluation of the Town and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Five Thousand (\$105,000) towards this purpose, and appoint the selectmen as agents to expend from the fund. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will approve within the provisions of RSA 273-A: 3 the cost items included in the three (3) year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached with the International Brotherhood of Police Officers and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Three Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Dollars and Eight Four Cents (\$33,670.84) in fiscal year 2004, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. Said contract calls for an estimated increase of Twenty Eight Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and Forty Six Cents (\$28,334.46) in fiscal year 2005, and Twenty One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars and Nineteen Cents (\$21,797.19) in fiscal year 2006 over fiscal year 2003. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-2) and Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,810.00 (Seventy Thousand Eight Hundred Ten Dollars) for the hiring of two additional full-time police officers to include benefits. \$20,810.00 (Twenty Thousand Eight Hundred Ten Dollars) is to be raised by taxes. The balance of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) shall be provided by an approved three year United States Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Grant funded at \$50,000.00 per year. Approval would call for a total estimated increase of \$264,365.00 (Two Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Five Dollars) in fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006. \$114,365.00 (One Hundred Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Five Dollars) is to be raised by taxes with a total offsetting revenue from the

grant of \$150,000.00 (One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars). Terms of the grant require that the Town, upon termination of the grant period (3 years) must fully fund the two additional full-time police officer positions for one additional year. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,405.00 (Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred Five Dollars) for the hiring of an additional full-time police officer to include benefits. \$10,405.00 (Ten Thousand Four Hundred Five Dollars) is to be raised by taxes. The balance of \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) shall be provided by an approved three year United States Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Grand funded at \$25,000.00 per year. Approval would call for a total estimated increase of \$132,185.00 (One Hundred Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred Eight Five Dollars) in fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006. \$57,185.00 (Fifty Seven Thousand One Hundred Eight Five Dollars) is to be raised by taxes with a total offsetting revenue from the grant of \$75,000.00 (Seventy Five Thousand Dollars). Terms of the grant require that the Town, upon termination of the grant period (3 years), must fully fund the additional full-time police officer position for one additional year. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to deposit fifty per cent (50%) of the revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 (Land Use Change Tax) into the Conservation Fund, up to a total of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) per year, to be spent for land acquisition and other conservation purposes in accordance with

RSA 36-A. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-2) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 9: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) for the purpose of purchasing and installing a fire protection sprinkler system in the Epping Town Hall. The town hall is one of Epping's most historically significant buildings as well as being the Town of Epping's business office where all current tax, land, and motor vehicle records, as well as hundreds of historical records are kept. The town hall is recognized to be at great risk from fire because of its design, age, and location. Approval of this article will empower the Board of Selectman to immediately contract to complete the installation of the fire protection system. The acceptance of this article will automatically rescind Article 10 **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 10: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000) and create a Capital Reserve Fund in which to place those funds for the express purpose of purchasing and installing a fire protection sprinkler system in the Epping Town Hall. The entire cost of the system and installation is expected to be Thirty-six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000). The town hall is one on Epping's most historically significant buildings as well as being the town of Epping's business office where all current tax, land, and motor vehicle records, as well as hundreds of historical records are kept. The town hall is recognized to be at great risk from fire because of its design, age, and location. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the purchase of a Highway Department Vehicle to be added to the existing Highway Truck Fund. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be deposited into the existing Landfill Closure Capital Reserve Fund. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) to establish an Emergency Management Budget. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by the Board of Selectmen. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-2) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred and Fifteen Dollars (\$2,515) to provide medical benefits for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector according to the same provisions granted to all other full time employees. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand and Twenty-Five Dollars (\$10,025) for the purpose of hiring an additional part time employee for the Town Clerk's office. This article would provide public office hours for the Town Clerk's office 5 days a week. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$145,000.00 to install a septage receiving station at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. Said money to come out of trust funds of the Sewer Department if funds are available. This will not come from the Town General Fund. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by the Water and Sewer Commission. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 to paint the water tank on Route 27. Said amount to come from Water Surplus or Trust Funds if available. No cost to the General Fund or taxpayers. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by the Water and Sewer Commission. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) in support of the Epping Youth Athletic Association. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0). Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) in support of the Lamprey River Youth Soccer. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0). Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Six Hundred and Four Dollars (\$6,604) for the purpose of upgrading computer software, hardware and workstations at the Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Rec-**

ommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1). Approved by the Library Board of Trustees. Not Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be distributed to the Adult Tutorial Program for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred and Twenty Five Dollars (\$525.00) to be distributed to the Aids Response Seacoast for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and not recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be distributed to American Red Cross for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Six Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$2,610) to be distributed to Area Homecare & Family Services for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Six Hundred and

Twenty Dollars (\$1,620) to be distributed to Seacoast Big Brother/Big Sister Program for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to be distributed to Child & Family Services for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety Dollars (\$1,590) to be distributed to Community Diversion Program for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Dollars (\$3,780) to be distributed to Lamprey Health Care for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$3,850) to be distributed to McFarland Children's Center for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) to be distributed to Retired Senior Volunteer Program for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty-Five Dollars (\$10,285) to be distributed to Rockingham Co. Community Action for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ten Dollars (\$3,910) to be distributed to Rockingham Nutrition & Meals On Wheels for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be distributed to A Safe Place for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) to be distributed to Seacoast Hospice for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board**

of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) to be distributed to Seacoast Mental Health for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0) and not recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,250) to be distributed to Sexual Assault Support Services for services estimated to be rendered to residents of the Town during the year 2004. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (4-1) and by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 13, passed by a hand vote taken at the 1993 Annual Town meeting, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to "fix" the salary of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector. Passage of this article will allow the voters and taxpayers to set the salary for these elected positions per RSA 41:25 and RSA 41:33, respectively, with all fees received by the Town Clerk and Tax Collector to be paid into the Town's General Fund. The annual increase in compensation for these elected position shall be presented in the form of a warrant article, separate and distinct from the operating budget, and made subject to approval by the voters at the annual town meeting per the official ballot. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to set the salary of the elected positions of Town Clerk and Tax Collector at \$21,000.00 each as authorized by RSA 41:25 and RSA 41:33, respectively.

Passage of this article will reduce the salary line by \$21,710.00 in both the Town Clerk and Tax Collector portions of the proposed Town budget. The result of this article would be a reduction in the current salary from \$43,420 to \$42,000. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-2).]**

ARTICLE 39: Are you in favor of adopting the provisions of RSA 31:94a to change the Town's budget year from a calendar year (running from January to December) to a fiscal year (running from July 1 to June 30), to coincide with the Epping School District's fiscal year. This change would require the development of a one time 18-month operating budget beginning on January 1, 2005 to be funded through the provision of RSA 31:94e authorizing the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to cover the transition period in the manner provided by RSA 33:7. Passage of this article is a nonbinding referendum only. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 40: Are you in favor of changing the date for elections and the second session (i.e. Election of Town Officers) from the second Tuesday in March to the second Tuesday in May, which would change the date for the first session (i.e. Deliberative Session) to a date between the first and second Saturdays after the last Monday in March, inclusive? Passage of this article is a nonbinding referendum only. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 41: To see if the Town will vote to eliminate taxpayer funding of dues to all professional, non-profit, or quasi-government organizations for elected or appointed Town Officials or Town Employees unless specifically authorized by New Hampshire State Law (i.e. RSA31:8 Power and Duties of Towns). **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 42: To see if the Town will vote to publish the salaries and benefits of all Town Employees and elected or appointed Town Officials as part of the Annual Town Report. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 43: To see if the Town will vote to change the appointed positions of Building Inspector, and Code Enforcement Officer from an appointed position to a 3-year elected position. Compensation for this position to be recommended by the Board of Selectmen in a warrant article, separate and distinct from the operating budget, hereby subject to approval by the voters and taxpayers at the annual town meeting per the official ballot. If passed this article will take effect January 1, 2250. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 44: To see if the Town will vote to eliminate funding for membership in the Rockingham Planning Commission. This membership is no longer needed now that the Town has contracted for the services of a Town Planner. Passage of this Article will reduce the Selectmen's Budget (proposed and default) by \$4,918.00. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 45: To see if the Town will vote to require the Epping Conservation Committee to broadcast their meeting live, or pre-recorded for broadcast, on Epping's local cable channel, other-

wise known as EPTV. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 46: To see if the voters of the Town of Epping by majority vote, will adopt a policy of doing criminal checks on all Fire/Ambulance applicants. The voters shall set a minimum standard and the Fire Wards and the Board of Selectmen can adopt a more stringent standard if they desire. That minimum standard shall be that all fire/ambulance applicants shall have a criminal check done. Every fire/ambulance applicant that has lived out of the State of New Hampshire shall have a criminal check done in each state that they have resided in. The criminal checks shall be reviewed by the Fire Chief and Police Chief. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 47: Are you in favor of the adoption of the petitioned warrant article, Amendment No. 3 as proposed in accordance with RSA 675:4, as follows: "That all of the land between Old Hedding Road and Elm Street that is currently zoned in the Rural Residential Zone be rezoned to be in the High Density Residential Zone." **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition. Not recommended by the Planning Board.]**

ARTICLE 48: To see if the voters of the Town of Epping will change the current noise by-laws to be less restrictive. We want the noise ordinance to be revised, so that from 7:00 a.m. to

9:00 p.m. residents can use and enjoy, on their own property, recreational vehicles and other operating equipment. **[Majority vote required. Submitted by Petition.]**

ARTICLE 49: To see if the voters of the Town of Epping will add a line item in the ETV budget for capital improvements. As ETV is not funded by tax dollars, the fees fluctuate from year to year, this article proposes to add a line item in the ETV budget for capital improvements. All left over income from franchise fees shall be added to this fund. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0).]**

ARTICLE 50: Shall the Town of Epping raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$3,763,107? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$3,357,883, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Epping or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. **[Majority vote required. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (5-0). Not recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee.]**

2004 Town Budget

MS-7

BUDGET OF THE TOWN/CITY

OF:

EPPING

BUDGET FORM FOR TOWNS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 32:14 THROUGH 32:24

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004 _____

or Fiscal Year From _____ to _____

IMPORTANT:

Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list the entire budget in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the town clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below.

This is to certify that this budget was posted with the warrant on the (date) _____.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Please sign in ink.

Dan McLaughlin
Brenda J. McLaughlin
Ronald A. Chance
W. Conrad
Laurie A. Benty

Jennifer H. Hargrave
Don Lusk
[Signature]

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE TOWN WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

MS-7
Rev. 07/02

MS-7 Budget - Town/City of _____

EPPING

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS (RECOMMENDED)	Ensuing Fiscal Year (NOT RECOMMENDED)	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS (RECOMMENDED)	Ensuing Fiscal Year (NOT RECOMMENDED)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
4130-4139	Executive		184,698	172,326	197,784		168,226	29,558
4140-4149	Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics		55,060	41,195	62,166		62,166	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		120,991	111,963	162,611		162,611	
4152	Revaluation of Property		20,000	21,036	20,000		20,000	
4153	Legal Expense		30,500	50,434	30,500		30,500	
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		0	0	0		0	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		55,780	72,619	79,483		79,483	
4194	General Government Buildings		106,120	98,247	101,395		95,595	5,800
4195	Cemeteries		1,400	1,298	2,000		2,000	
4196	Insurance		41,835	42,746	43,500		43,500	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.		0	0	0		0	
4199	Other General Government		30,450		30,450		30,450	
PUBLIC SAFETY								
4210-4214	Police		775,174	720,329	825,693		825,693	
4215-4219	Ambulance		241,971	199,954	265,400		263,200	2,220
4220-4229	Fire		119,610	120,810	111,467		111,467	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		48,242	40,598	73,676		70,676	3,000
4290-4298	Emergency Management		0		0		0	
4299	Other (Including Communications)		0		0		0	
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER								
4301-4309	Airport Operations		0		0		0	
HIGHWAYS & STREETS								
4311	Administration		0		0		0	
4312	Highways & Streets		412,519	393,444	458,038		438,038	20,000
4313	Bridges		0		0		0	

EPPING

MS-7 Budget - Town/City of _____

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS	
					(RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
HIGHWAYS & STREETS cont.								
4316	Street Lighting		20,000	12,052	20,000		20,000	
4319	Other		0		0	0	0	0
SANITATION								
4321	Administration		0	0	0		0	
4323	Solid Waste Collection		83,341	82,255	80,308		80,308	
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		165,000	154,160	170,225		170,225	
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up		0	0	0		0	
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other		478,848	433,816	334,885		334,885	
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT								
4331	Administration		10,610	10,298	12,480		12,480	
4332	Water Services		0	0	0		0	
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv. & Other		90,708	82,792	93,215		93,215	
ELECTRIC								
4351-4352	Admin. and Generation		0	0	0		0	
4353	Purchase Costs		0	0	0		0	
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		0	0	0		0	
4359	Other Electric Costs		0	0	0		0	
HEALTH/WELFARE								
4411	Administration		0	0	0		0	
4414	Pest Control		2,880	843	2,910		2,910	
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other		0	0	0		0	
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Assist.		10,000	4,918	10,000		10,000	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Pymnts		0	0	0		0	
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		0	0	0		0	

EPPING

Budget - Town/City of _____

MS-7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
	CULTURE & RECREATION		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		130,902	99,051	142,577		142,577	
4550-4559	Library		76,634	76,634	84,811		84,811	
4583	Patriotic Purposes		1,500	1,500	1,600		1,600	
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		0	0	2		0	
	CONSERVATION		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4611-4612	Admin.& Purch. of Nat. Resources		1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000	
4619	Other Conservation		0	0	0		0	
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMNT & HOUSING		0	0	0		0	
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		1,198,500	1,109,476	25,000		20,000	5,000
	DEBT SERVICE		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		158,442	158,442	197,542		197,542	
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		91,918	91,918	117,391		117,391	
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		0	0	0		0	
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		0	0	0		0	
	CAPITAL OUTLAY		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4901	Land		0	0	0		0	
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment		0	0	0		0	
4903	Buildings		0	0	0		0	
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.		0	0	0		0	
	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		0	0	0		0	
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		0	0	0		0	
4914	To Enterprise Fund		0	0	0		0	
	Sewer-		0	0	0		0	
	Water-		0	0	0		0	

MS-7 Budget - Town/City of _____

EPPING

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (RECOMMENDED)	(NOT RECOMMENDED)	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT cont.								
	Electric-		0		0		0	
	Airport-		0		0		0	
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		0		0		0	
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917		0		0		0	
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds		0		0		0	
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds		0		0		0	
4919	To Agency Funds		0		0		0	
SUBTOTAL 1			4,764,633	4,406,152	3,758,107		3,692,549	65,558

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount	Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations: 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trusts funds; or 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

***INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

MS-7
Rev. 07/02

MS-7 Budget - Town/City of _____

EPPING

1	2	3	4	5	6
ACCT.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
TAXES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3120	Land Use Change Taxes		50,000	166,499	125,000
3180	Resident Taxes		0	0	0
3185	Timber Taxes		3,000	8,745	7,000
3186	Payment In Lieu of Taxes		0	0	0
3189	Other Taxes		1,000	9,546	7,000
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		60,000	63,233	60,000
	Inventory Penalties		0	0	0
3187	Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu yd)		1,000	500	250
LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		1,400	695	700
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		850,000	923,895	940,000
3230	Building Permits		50,000	57,288	50,000
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		2,000	7,355	12,000
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT		500,000	365,000	130,000
FROM STATE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3351	Shared Revenues		33,564	67,128	55,000
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution		160,000	170,994	160,000
3353	Highway Block Grant		125,288	125,000	125,000
3354	Water Pollution Grant		0	0	0
3355	Housing & Community Development		0	0	0
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		0	0	0
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		0	0	0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)		115,000	63,440	75,000
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS		0	0	0
CHARGES FOR SERVICES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3401-3406	Income from Departments		151,675	107,431	140,000
3409	Other Charges		0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		0	0	0
3502	Interest on Investments		10,000	5,825	5,000
3503-3509	Other		23,500	22,081	30,000
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		130,024	98,074	100,000
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		738,000	686,000	52,000

MS-7 Budget - Town/City of _____

EPPING

1	2	3	4	5	6
ACCT.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN cont.			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3914	From Enterprise Funds		36,000	0	195,000
	Sewer - (Offset)		426,152	407,040	400,000
	Water - (Offset)		103,000	75,921	105,000
	Electric - (Offset)		0	0	0
	Airport - (Offset)		0	0	0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		0	0	0
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds		0	0	0
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes		124,150	124,150	0
	Amounts VOTED From F/B ("Surplus")		0	0	0
	Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes		120,000		100,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE & CREDITS			3,814,753	3,555,840	2,873,950

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	PRIOR YEAR ADOPTED BUDGET	SELECTMEN'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from pg. 5)	4,764,633	3,758,107	3,692,549
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	984,000	1,142,604	1,142,604
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	150,583	227,229	146,714
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	5,899,216	5,127,940	4,981,867
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	3,814,753	3,555,840	2,873,950
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	2,084,463	1,572,100	2,107,917

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18: _____
 (See Supplemental Schedule With 10% Calculation)

466,694

BUDGET COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE(For Calculating 10% Maximum Increase)
(RSA 32:18, 19, & 32:21)

VERSION #2: Use if you have Collective Bargaining Cost Items

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: EPPING FISCAL YEAR END 2004

Col. A

	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT		
1. Total RECOMMENDED by Budget Committee (see budget MS7, 27, or 37)	4,981,867		
LESS EXCLUSIONS:			
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	197,542		
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	117,391		
4. Capital Outlays Funded From Long-Term Bonds & Notes per RSA 33:8 & 33:7-b	0		
5. Mandatory Assessments	0		
6. TOTAL EXCLUSIONS (Sum of rows 2-5)	< 314,933 >		
7. Amount recommended less recommended exclusion amounts (Line 1 less Line 6)	4,666,934		
8. Line 7 times 10%	466,934		
9. Maximum allowable appropriation prior to vote (Line 1 + 8)	5,448,561	Col. B	Col. C (Col. B-A)
10. Collective Bargaining Cost Items, RSA 32:19 & 273-A:1, IV, (Complete Col. A prior to meeting & Col. B and Col. C at meeting)	Cost items recommended 33,671	Cost items voted	Amt. voted above recommended

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE APPROPRIATIONS VOTED

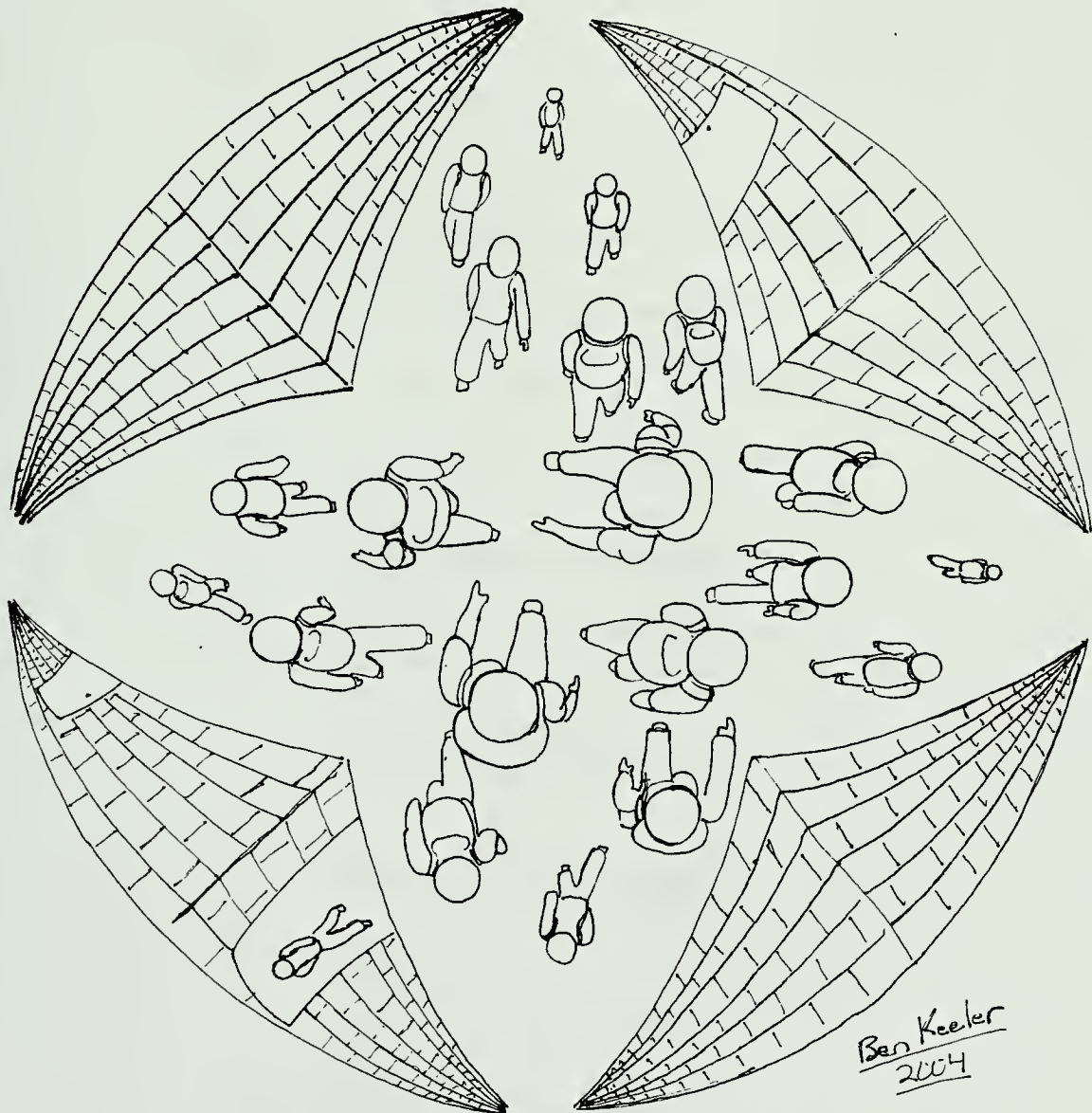
At meeting, add Line 9 + Column C.

\$ _____

Line 8 plus any not recommended collective bargaining cost items or increases to cost items voted is the maximum allowable increase to budget committee's recommended budget. Please enter this amount on the bottom of the posted budget form, MS7, 27, or 37.

Please attach a copy of this completed supplemental schedule to the back of the budget form.

Epping School District 2003 Annual Report



Epping School District Officers

2003–2004

School Board

Marci Morris, Chairman	Term Expires 2005
Scott Booth	Term Expires 2004
Susan Kimball.....	Term Expires 2004
Jeff Nollet.....	Term Expires 2005
Pamela Tibbetts.....	Term Expires 2006

Barbara D. Munsey, *Superintendent of Schools*

Victor Petzy, *Assistant Superintendent of Schools*

Toby Eaton, *Business Administrator*

Cathy Zylinski, *Special Services Administrator*

Gary Tirone, *Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

Building Administrators

Mark Vallone, *Principal, Grades 1–5*

Chris Andriski, *Assistant Principal*

Mike Sanz, *Principal, Grades 6–12*

Dagmar Franke, *Assistant Principal*

School District Officers

Renee Pettis, *School District Treasurer*

Robin O'Day, *School District Clerk*

Harold K. LaPierre, *School District Moderator*

Letters to the Community

School Board

It's been a challenging but eventful year for the Epping schools. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our administrators and staff for their creativity and dedication to our students. They participate in many hours of committee work to improve educational services to our children. We faced our first default budget last year and called upon staff to cut back on supplies, textbooks, and programs. The special education deficit, which was not funded on Election Day, required the Board to freeze all spending in April. Last year we were faced with a decrease in revenue from the state education grant and face another significant reduction in state funding this year. The funding for the work needed to begin for our reaccreditation process with NEASC was lost with the default budget and there were no other monies in the budget to provide for the costs.

We said good-bye to Bob Bell, who retired as our long-time superintendent. Bob was a caring professional who worked hard to bring about positive changes in curriculum and achievement for our schools. We welcomed Barbara Munsey as our new Superintendent. Her knowledge of the school and community and her excellent management skills have made the leadership transition in SAU 14 a smooth one. Michael Sanz, our new Middle/High School Principal, has focused upon making our schools community schools. Gary Tirone, our new Director of Curriculum and Instruction, has worked to improve our academics and create a coordinated curriculum from kindergarten to grade 12.

Despite financial challenges and staff transitions, the year also saw some very positive outcomes for the Epping School District. We scored in the top 20% of the state on the New Hamp-

shire Educational Improvement and Assessment Program (NHEIAP) tests, with significant increases in scores in our third and tenth grade tests. Initiatives such as Project Read, which targets early reading and language skills, the Freshman in Transition Program, which helps students be more successful in high school, and realignment of the curriculum have had a positive impact upon student achievement. Our efforts will continue over the next year, targeting our sixth grade scores, and intensifying programming around mathematics. Work continues with the NH Best Schools committees to improve practices in the school to promote student success. The special education program passed their site visit with the Department of Education. The final report was very complimentary on the level of teamwork within the school and the commitment to inclusionary services for children.

This year, the school board has worked very hard with administrators and staff to create a workable budget with no frills. We still need those textbooks and supplies that were cut from the budget last year to offset the special education deficit and the default budget. You will see warrant articles to address some of the space issues in our school that required us to seek a waiver from the NH Department of Education this year. The cafeteria expansion will show a good faith effort to begin to address this and may give us more flexibility in the time frames for building a new school. We will once again look at forming a cooperative school district as we explore how we will fund a new school while maintaining the programming that we have now. You will see a warrant article that is needed to fund the reaccreditation process with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. We will need your support to make this happen. The collective bargaining agreement with

your teachers is on the warrant as well. They worked hard with the Board to come up with a fair agreement, accepting a 0% salary increase next year, making concessions around health insurance, and agreeing to a new evaluation process. We encourage you to take the time to gather factual information about the budget and all of the warrant articles before you this year. If you have questions, call the SAU or contact Board members for accurate details. We ask you to support your schools this year and thank you for the support that you have shown over the years for the education of our students.

*Marci Morris, Chair
Epping School Board*

Superintendent of Schools

I would like to start off by thanking the Epping Community for making me feel welcome these past years while working for School Administrative Unit No. 14, and for giving me this opportunity to serve you as your new superintendent of schools. Epping has always felt like home. Like any family we've been through some good times and some rough times and, together, we've managed to do it well for the children and community of Epping.

We're heading into some rough times, again. The Epping School District is not unique in this regard. Many New Hampshire public schools are facing similar financial challenges — rising health insurance and special education costs, decreasing state education funding, and increasing regulations from the federal law No Child Left Behind. In response to these challenges the Epping School Board is presenting a responsible 2004–2005 school budget, which maintains the current edu-

cational program for all students while including the necessary increases for health insurance and special education, and taking into account the decrease in state educational funding.

Rising health insurance premiums and special education costs are areas in which we are familiar. We've also experienced changes with state educational funding. Our present state funding system is based on a formula to provide an adequate education for all children. State funding comes from two sources — the state property tax and the state education grant. Over the past few years, the adequate education formula has been redefined. Today, we are faced with another such redefinition. The adequate education formula is being altered to meet a total spending cap of \$428 million for the State of New Hampshire. Under the new formula, Epping is projected to lose \$760,000 in state property tax and education grant funding for the 2004–2005 school year. If this trend continues, further reductions in state educational tax and grant funding will continue to result in significantly higher local property taxes.

To compound matters, No Child Left Behind is here. It is a recent and not well understood federal mandate. The goal of No Child Left Behind is that all children will demonstrate proficiency in reading and mathematics at their grade level and will receive instruction from highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals. No one can disagree with the goal. The issues are

that the law did not come with the funding that was promised and subjects the school district to regulations that have not been well thought out for a rural state such as New Hampshire. We do seem to do things a little differently here. We didn't need No Child Left Behind to tell us we could do better. What we did need were the federal dollars to support the demands of this federal mandate.

As to making progress, the school district has taken steps to improve instruction and yield improved student learning a few years prior to the full implementation of No Child Left Behind. Several years ago the district added an elementary reading consultant leading to the adoption and full implementation of Project Read. Three years ago the district added an elementary math consultant with state grant funding leading to the adoption and continued implementation of Everyday Math. This is our second school year with a curriculum coordinator, focusing on curriculum in the middle/high school and the coordination of curriculum from kindergarten through grade 12. We've provided teacher staffing levels to maintain reasonable student-to-teacher ratios in our elementary school, to provide additional courses and programs in the middle/high school, and to provide additional support to students in need throughout the district. Those mentioned are only a few of the initiatives that are underway in our schools. More important is the commitment of the Epping Com-

munity in supporting these initiatives and the commitment of the Epping School Community in successfully bringing educational vision to reality. Together, Epping Citizens and Epping School Staff are responsible for the results we see today and the continued improvements of tomorrow. We have a lot to be proud of, but our work is cut out for us.

I am asking for your continued support in maintaining our educational programs and all the initiatives to improve Epping Schools. Sometimes, when I get a little discouraged with things in general, I turn to a movie called *The American President*. At the end of the movie Michael Douglas, portraying the President of the United States, gives a passionate speech in which he states that America is advanced citizenship — you have to want it bad, because it will put up a fight. Public education is our ticket to advanced citizenship and it is putting up a fight. I am a product of the public education system and I have two sons who are presently enrolled in a public high school. I want it bad, not only for my sons but for all the daughters and sons of Epping. The continued success of our democracy and our community depends on our commitment to public education.

Let's take advanced citizenship a little bit further. There are serious state and federal influences that are affecting the Epping Community. Ask questions. Become informed. Be an educated voter. Public education and the right to vote — it doesn't get much better than that.

Barbara D. Munsey
Superintendent of Schools

Statistical Data: School Year 2002–2003

	Average Daily Membership	Average Daily Attendance	Percent of Attendance
Elementary	467.2	449.7	96.2
Middle School	238.9	228.8	95.7
High School	437.0	415.6	95.1
Kindergarten	35.1	33.2	94.5

Elementary School

Epping Elementary School began the school year with its annual First Day program, inviting parents, guardians and community members to share in the start of the school year. This year over 300 adults visited their children's

classes, met their teachers and attended an orientation session put on by school and community organizations such as the Title I staff, Epping Police and Fire Departments. Our school welcomed new staff members Jodi Dawson (Grade 5), Meghan Masi and Lindsey Sweitzer (First Grade), Janet Parker (Speech Pathology), Lauren DeCoursey (Technology Coordinator) and Irina Mackey (ESOL).

In the 2003 NHEIAP test of grade 3 students, 90% of our students met the federal standard of success in Mathematics with Epping ranked 37th out of 159 schools in the state. 88% of Epping's grade three students met the standard in English/Language Arts. These results place Epping Elementary in the top 25% of New Hampshire schools.

With help from federal and private grants totaling nearly \$60,000, Epping Elementary is in the second year of implementing a new mathematics program for grades K-5. This year, mathematics professors from Plymouth State College and the Northeast Alliance for Mathematics Education meet regularly with each team of teachers to study how best to teach a particular lesson in mathematics. Teachers take turns teaching the lesson in front of a study group who provide ideas for how to improve the lesson. This method has been effective in promoting professional growth in all teachers of mathematics.

Epping Elementary's implementation of mathematics and teacher training continues to be a model for southern New Hampshire. Our school has received visitors from Brentwood, Exeter, Merrimack, Fremont, Manchester and Chester schools who want to learn more about how our school plans and teaches mathematics.

Epping Elementary continues to work to meet the needs of every child. Mathematics Coordinator, Sandy Landis and Grade 2 teacher, Sharon Dyer trained at Plymouth State University to become Math Recovery specialists who offer intensive remedial services to individual students before and after

school as well as helping train other teachers in these remedial methods.

Epping Elementary received its fourth and fifth Artist-in-Residence grants to promote the arts as well as to beautify our school. Landscape architect Laura Campbell worked with students to design and construct four gardens around our school. Each garden is designed around a theme based on our history or science curriculum. Grade four's garden comes in the shape of the garden state complete with lilacs, birch trees and Epping brick. This year's artist, sculptor Emile Birch, is working with students to design and produce sculptures for our gardens based on their themes. The School's Wellness Committee also wrote a grant that led to the construction of a walking trail around the school and connected to the gardens. Thanks to the PTO, the Arts Committee, Robert Goodrich and Paul Gatchell for their financial support and to the many students, staff, parents and community members who volunteered.

As our mathematics grant winds down, Epping Elementary teachers work to improve our Language Arts and writing programs. Teams of teachers have studied the highly regarded Rebecca Sitton spelling program and begun pilot programs in classes. To improve, teachers are taking graduate courses through the University of New Hampshire.

After school programs this year included a Homework Club, Study Buddies, Passport Around the World, Math Recovery, Adventure Club, Spanish and Destination Imagination. Before-school programs include Jump Rope Club, Math Recovery, Friendship Club, Safety Skills and Library.

Epping Elementary teachers take their professional growth very seriously. For the third summer in a row, virtually every Epping Elementary teacher or staff member took part in a training session or graduate class to learn new skills, increase their knowledge or help improve our programs.

During this school year, 18 teachers have taken or are taking graduate courses related directly to improving their teaching and to increasing student achievement.

This year Epping Elementary was recognized as a Blue Ribbon School for the many, many volunteers who help out at our school. Thanks to parent volunteer Abby Constantineau and Guidance Counselor Toni Brown who recruited and trained new volunteers and managed the schedules of the many veteran volunteers.

The PTO has been and continues to be a major supporter of Epping Elementary. Last year's PTO fundraisers were the best in school history and helped pay the cost of bus transportation for field trips, sponsor performances by a story teller and evening lectures

Enrollment As of 10/1/2003

Grade	Elementary School
1	88
2	74
3	72
4	79
5	79
	Middle/High School
6	98
7	84
8	88
9	98
10	118
11	118
12	78
Total Enrollment for Grades 1-12:	1,075
Kindergarten Enrollment:	67

for parents. The PTO purchased and installed a new piece of playground equipment called the Bongo Climber. PTO volunteers operate a daily snack program, put on ice cream socials and occasional school dances. Thank you, PTO.

Epping Elementary is now on cable television with a Principals' Corner show broadcast at 6:40 p.m. on two Monday nights each month just before the Epping Selectmen's Meeting. Mike Sanz, principal of Epping Middle/High School and I alternate weekly episodes showing what goes on in our schools. Epping Elementary also has received a private grant to help produce a cable program on reading that will be produced by our school librarian, Barbara Young. Look for shows to start airing in February.

It takes a lot of dedicated people to make this school work for the benefit of our students — parents, teachers, custodians, aides, food service workers, office staff, and volunteers. I am grateful that there are so many people who dedicate themselves to Epping Elementary's success.

I invite anyone who would like to see a dedicated staff working with great kids to make a wonderful place of learning, please feel free to call our school at 679-8018 to arrange a visit.

Mark Vallone,
Epping Elementary School Principal

Middle/High School

Epping Middle/High School opened the 2003–2004 school year with an enrollment of 677 students. 412 students were enrolled in grades 9–12, and 265 students were enrolled in grades 6–8. There are 129 students from Fremont in the high school as well as two students from other towns. Our estimates show that these totals will continue to rise as we expect 100 students in our sixth grade next year.

The class of 2003 had 84 graduates with 60% of the seniors going on

to post-secondary educational institutions. Some of the colleges graduates are attending include: West Point, University of New Hampshire, Plymouth State College, University of Connecticut, Bucknell, Becker, Champlain University, George Mason University, Johnson and Wales, Lasell, Liberty University, Lynchburg University, Southern New Hampshire University, St. Anselm's, University of Hartford and the University of Central Florida.

After completing my first year as principal at Epping Middle/High School, I thought it was time to present a vision of where I'd like to see the school community travel over the next five years. As we approach our NEASC reaccreditation in the spring of 2005, I think that it is essential that we have a clear picture as to who we are and where we want to be. The following is an overview of this vision:

Every student can be successful at something during their middle and high school experience. On a daily basis, every student should enjoy coming to school and every staff member should enjoy coming to work. This scenario is framed by the philosophy of 'Family First'. Kids and adults that have strong nuclear families are best poised to come to school performing and producing at optimal levels. The climate and culture of the school will be centered on "Relationships and Respect" All members of the school community will respect themselves, others and the facility, while walking the halls with pride and dignity. On-going character education programs will be woven into the fabric of the school culture as expectations for student behavior are raised and enforced. We have instituted an Advisor/Advisee program for sixth and seventh graders. This is a wonderful opportunity for your children to develop a closer relationship with a staff member. By the fall of 2005, this program will be in place for 6th through 12th graders. Students and staff will participate in town, state and national service events. Each class will participate in a

Civic Duty Day this spring, participating in service projects throughout the community. This is a precursor for a proposal in which Community Service will be a mandatory component of graduation with forty hours of service expected for the class of 2008. The importance of life-long service will permeate throughout the culture and curriculum of the school.

The discipline process will follow a course of consistency and compassion with less focus on punitive measures and more direction towards positive behavioral changes. Staff morale will be maintained through mentoring, support systems, student/teacher friendly competitions and a sense of humor. Upkeep of the facilities is essential for if the place looks good, people will feel good!

Post-secondary options are available for all of our students, whether it is four year college, community college, tech school or the military. The class of 2003 had 60% of the students move on to some form of post-secondary education. The goal over the next five years is the following: Class of 2004 — 65%; 2005 — 75%; 2006 — 85%; 2007 — 90%. After that point we will maintain a 90% post-secondary attendance rate. This will be achieved by directing our students towards loftier goals (Failure is not an option!!), promoting options earlier to middle school students, and preparing our students better through Honors and AP programs.

The "Spirit and Pride" of the school community will be ignited and strengthened by strong and active clubs and organizations. The Student Council will become the voice of the students and will energize the school with exciting spirit weeks, winter carnivals, spirit cups and well attended thematic high school dances. There will be avenues for introductions of new clubs including Key Club, Future Business Leaders of America and many others. A school store will be introduced, theatre and music programs will be expanded and will be more involved and visible at co-curricular events. The

athletic program will continue to grow to accommodate students with many different interests. Golf, tennis, cross country, bowling and lacrosse are new programs to be added over the next three years.

I firmly believe that the schools should be the flagship of a small community. We should be able to have available the resources and space necessary to present programs that give our kids the opportunities to learn, grow and compete with students from other New Hampshire towns. If this educational vision is to come to fruition a new school is needed that would include an auditorium, an expanded cafeteria, state of the art science laboratories, technology and fine arts facilities, new athletic facilities, conference space, office space and a work space for every teacher.

Reflecting on my first year and a half as principal, I want to thank all of the students, teachers, parents and community members for your support and for welcoming me into the community. We have such wonderful kids and teachers and I am honored to be a member of the Epping school community. I thoroughly enjoy greeting the kids early in the morning, joining in friendly competitions, sitting in on a class, saying "Hi" to kids in the halls, supporting them at games or concerts, or having a little fun on the intercom. I cherish all these special moments and I look forward to the many more that we will share during the next school years. I will not accept statements such as, "We are just from Epping", or "The best go somewhere else". I truly believe that every one of our students can be successful and I want every student at EMHS to burst with pride for themselves, the school and this community. Epping Middle/High School will, and should be recognized for the warmth of its smiles, the strength of its character, and as a place where the wins

are tailored by modesty and the losses eased with grace. I am committed to leading the students and staff at Epping Middle/High School to a point where every student has post-secondary opportunities, academic and personal achievement rises to unlimited heights, and the school culture and climate receives accolades for the winds of "Respect" that pass through the halls.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Michael L. Sanz
Epping Middle/High School Principal*

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

The School District has been involved in a number of curriculum efforts this past year that impact student learning and professional development for teachers. Those efforts include the development of Exit Outcomes and Understandings for graduating seniors

that align with essential state and/or national association standards and frameworks; the continued development of our content area curriculums at Epping Middle/High School; completing the implementation of Everyday Math in the Elementary School; and expanded offerings of on-site University of New Hampshire graduate courses that have 31 teachers enrolled and engaged in topics like the writing process, portfolios & assessment and differentiated instruction, which directly impact instruction.

Additionally we have several pilot programs underway. One program is curriculum mapping where the Epping Middle/High School Science and World Language Departments, grade 7 and grade 2 teaching teams, and some special educators are mapping areas of instruction that will allow them to assess gaps and consistencies in instruction and coverage. Another program is our Very Special Arts initiative that is an attempt to integrate the arts within the curriculum through multiple means including student portfolios. The program is grant funded and being implemented with 6th grade students through the efforts of the sixth grade team of teachers. Last, the District is also piloting a teacher observation program that is more group oriented and teacher



Elementary school students assemble on their first day (above). A visiting author acts out his story (right).



driven. It will ultimately provide more insight for teachers relative to their classroom instruction and engagement with students. It will also give administration better insights into instructional issues and foster better learning communities of adult learners in our schools.

As we move forward with our curriculum efforts, it is critical that we view those efforts as an ongoing process, not an isolated or one-year event. The curriculum currently being developed and eventually mapped for grades K-12 is not being designed to be put on shelves and viewed only by educators. Rather, it is meant to be shared and understood between teachers and with students, parents and community. Once complete, it will be on the school's website and will hopefully engage the entire community in conversation about what our students should know and be able to do as a result of the educational experience the Epping community provides them.

I would like to thank Superintendent Munsey and the Epping School Board for their continued support, as

well as the principals and teachers who put in enormous amounts of time and effort on behalf of students.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Tirone
Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

Director of Special Services

The Epping Special Education Department opened the school year with a strong endorsement from the New Hampshire Department of Education review, which was a part of the Program Approval and Special Education Improvement Process we completed last year.

The Special Education staff received commendations for their concern for student growth, their energy, commitment to high standards, and their professionalism evident at both of the schools. The staff was also commended for their creative approach to solution finding, including grant writing to expand resources available to students.

While the district was praised for their inclusion model, it was noted that this model relies on a well-developed system of communication and planning.

It was determined that there is a need for general and special educators, as well as paraprofessionals to have additional time and space for this collaborative work. With the help of both building administrators and the Director of Curriculum, we have been busy providing staff time and training in a variety of areas to address students' needs. The space concern continues to be an issue.

As of December 31, 2003, 186 Epping students with disabilities were being provided special services. At the Middle/High School level, 15% of Epping students were identified as having an educational disability. In the Elementary School level, 17% of Epping students were identified.

The Epping School Special Education Department provides in-house services such as speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, behavioral consultation with our in-school psychologist, adjustment counselor, and adventure-based counselor. The overwhelming majority of our evaluations are completed within the district and not by contracted evaluators. We provide services for physical therapy through a highly certified contracted employee. Itinerant teachers, such as teachers for the hearing impaired or visually impaired, are contracted as needed.

I would like to thank all the parents, staff, and school board members for their support of the Epping Special Education services within the district. Working together, we can continue to make a difference in every child's life as well as create a dynamic educational community. It truly is a pleasure to serve the Epping Community.

*Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Zylinski
Director of Special Services*



Football Pep Rally 2003



Three-Year Plan

Spanning 2003–2004 to 2005–2006

VISION: Our vision is to transform our schools into community schools where learning for all is our primary purpose. Epping Schools will become the center of learning for our children, parents, citizens, teachers, and school staff. In this transformation we will all benefit by taking active roles in our own learning as well as the learning of others, becoming self-directed learners, traditional leaders, non-traditional leaders, and lifelong learners.

GOAL: Our goal is to improve student achievement for all students and make Epping Schools the center of learning for children, parents, citizens, teachers, and school staff guided by the principles of Best Schools.

1. Student Performance: Increase student learning and achievement (to comply with the guidelines proposed by the State of New Hampshire in meeting the requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB)).

2. Community Engagement: Link school improvement to community goals and activities. Involve youth and adults from the whole community.

3. Team Leadership: Prepare all leaders to engage in effective and sustainable school improvement.

STRATEGIES: The following Best Schools' strategies with specific objectives will be used to accomplish this three-year plan. Annual action plans will be provided and evaluated on a quarterly basis.

A. Excellence in Teaching

1. Develop and pilot a teacher portfolio evaluation system incorporating observation, certification, professional development goals, reflective practices, self-assessment, peer-assessment, and administrative-assessment with the focus on student performance, community engagement, and team

leadership, with full implementation within three years.

2. Continue the study and research group strategy and support on-site course and workshop opportunities to enhance student performance, community engagement, and team leadership.

3. Develop and implement a two-year district professional development plan to transition from 2003–2004 and to align and support the district's three-year plan.

4. Develop and implement an SAU plan to meet the guidelines proposed by the State of New Hampshire in meeting the high quality staff requirements of NCLB.

B. Students Ready to Learn

1. Explore and pilot the creation of smaller, more homelike schools within the middle and high schools such as the Freshman in Transition Program.

2. Provide middle and high school students with guidance programs for divorce, drugs, anger management, peer, and other issues.

3. Provide middle and high school students with career and higher education guidance and encouragement with 80% of students attending post-secondary schooling and other training opportunities, and develop an alumni survey to evaluate the success of the Epping School System.

4. Pilot an adult to student advisor program in grades 6 and 7, and expand annually to other grades in the middle/high school.

5. Explore adding the element of community service to the school curriculum and as a requirement for high school graduation.

6. Develop an administrator portfolio evaluation system incorporating observation, certification, professional development goals, reflective practices, self-assessment, peer-assessment, and

central office-assessment with the focus on accountability and evidence for student learning, community engagement, and team leadership, and fully implement within two years.

C. Strong Education Programs

1. Complete the projected curriculum maps for all grade levels and subject areas using the Understanding by Design format (essential questions, concepts, assessment, and standards) and including exit outcomes.

2. Complete the reflective curriculum maps for all grade levels to eliminate redundancy, facilitate grade level transitions, and meet state standards.

3. Refine the reflective curriculum maps to promote literacy in reading, writing, public speaking, listening, technology, and math throughout the curriculum within each grade and from grade to grade.

4. Explore and implement the concept of differentiation in curriculum, instruction, and assessment to enhance learning for all students, and incorporate in curriculum maps.

5. Explore and implement the integration of the arts in curriculum, instruction, and assessment to enhance learning for all students, and incorporate in curriculum maps.

6. Explore and pilot the addition of multiple languages in the elementary school to promote literacy and cultural diversity.

7. Explore and pilot varied student opportunities such as the honors option incorporating critical interdisciplinary thinking and alternative options providing opportunity for acceleration and flexibility.

8. Pilot a student portfolio assessment system incorporating goals, different learning styles, reflective practices, and self-assessment with full implementation within three years.

9. Develop and implement a sys-

tem-wide assessment strategy to monitor student learning for all students throughout their elementary, middle, and high school education years, and to use this data to identify students that do not meet or will not meet the proficient rating as determined by the State of New Hampshire (NCLB), and to provide specific support to these students.

D. High Quality Learning Environments

1. Develop and implement a three-year facilities plan and manual for maintenance and improvement of existing facilities to optimize use and appearance.

2. Develop and implement a long-term facilities plan for additional instructional and recreational space using a multiple phase approach.

3. Promote a learning-centered environment with positive climate for students, parents, citizens, teachers, and school staff.

4. Propose and implement student discipline policy and procedures promoting student equity and dignity through less punitive measures.

E. Technology as an Educational Tool

1. Pilot and implement system wide the use of technology in curriculum mapping to create an actual account of what is taught and when.

2. Develop and implement a system wide student database to monitor student learning for all students throughout their elementary, middle, and high school education years.

F. Parents, Educators, Business, and Community Members Working Together

1. Continue the community engagement strategy to obtain feedback regarding education and facility planning.

2. Develop and implement a system wide communication policy and strategy to improve communication within schools, between schools, be-

tween schools and community, and between school board and community.

3. Update the district's website monthly and utilize EPTV to report accomplishments, to inform of scheduled events and procedures, to televise events, and to provide education programming for the whole Epping community.

4. Involve parents, students, teachers, and community members through active recruitment and participation in district communication, website, and EPTV initiatives.

5. Encourage student and adult literacy by offering early childhood literacy programs, adult literacy programs, and parent education programs and speakers.

6. Offer traditional career and non-traditional career skills as well as financial assistance programs to promote employment, secondary school attendance, and lifelong learning.

7. Enlist parent involvement by instituting system wide parent advi-

sory groups and parent teacher organizations.

NOTE: This three-year plan is based on the Best Schools authentic task approach process, which includes articulating a vision, identifying a goal, and using strategies. Best Schools is a New Hampshire Department of Education initiative in which the elementary school has been a member for two years and the middle/high school a member for one year.

This plan also encompasses the school and community feedback received from the middle/high school's June 2003 focus group sessions in which the community explored what students need to know and be able to do, how do we know students have the skills and knowledge they need, what are the ways EMHS is adequately and inadequately preparing students, and what are the top priorities for preparing students for the future.



Faculty and students enjoy a friendly but competitive game of softball.



2003 Ballot Results

OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION
EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 11, 2003

Rosen A. Day

Rosen A. Day
 School District Clerk

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice (s) like this: ●
 B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
 C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

3 years	Vote for not more than 1	437
GARY MacLEAY		<input type="radio"/>
PAM TIBBETTS		642 <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in)		<input type="radio"/>

ARTICLES

Article 2. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred-seventy thousand dollars (\$170,000) for the purchase of 20 acres more or less of land abutting on the north side of the existing school site, the legal and other costs associated with this purchase, and to request from the town the sum of one hundred-seventy thousand dollars (\$170,000) in collected impact fees to offset this appropriation. No funds will be raised from general taxation. (Majority vote required)

1032

Recommended by the Epping School Board
 Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

YES ☐

NO ☐
 338

Article 3. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate a deficit appropriation of two hundred-fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for unanticipated special education and support service costs for the 2002-2003 school year. (Majority vote required)

502

Recommended by the Epping School Board
 Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

YES ☐

NO ☐
 858

Article 4. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the district's portion of a heating-ventilation-air conditioning project to address air quality issues in the middle/high school. The remaining funds will be provided by a Federal School Renovation Grant in the amount of \$228,000. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the project is completed or by September 30, 2005. (Majority vote required)

1020

Recommended by the Epping School Board
 Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

YES ☐

NO ☐
 343

Article 5. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the purchase of computers and new technology equipment. (Majority vote required)

581

Recommended by the Epping School Board
 Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

YES ☐

NO ☐
 777

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

2003 Ballot Results

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 6. To see if the Epping School District will vote to authorize the school board to enter into a two-year lease agreement for the purpose of leasing two modular units, and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred-thirteen thousand dollars (\$113,000) for the first year's lease payment, modular setup costs, and new furniture. This lease agreement will contain an "escape" clause. (Majority vote required)

530
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
813

Article 7. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred-eleven thousand, three hundred dollars (\$111,300) for new teaching staff salaries and benefits to provide instruction and services, and to maintain reasonable teacher-student ratios in the elementary school and to provide program for increased schedule needs in the middle/high school. (Majority vote required)

571
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
773

Article 8. To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for window replacement, energy efficient lighting, and/or asbestos tile removal and flooring replacement, and to authorize the school board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aide, if any, which may be available. (Majority vote required)

888
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Not recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
450

Article 9. Citizens petition per Rich McFadden, Jamle Hayes, Pamela Tibbetts, et al., to see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,060, Eight Thousand Sixty dollars to be used as the operating budget for the 2003 Epping High School Football Program. (Majority vote required)

592
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
745

Article 10. Shall the Epping School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$10,300,672. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$10,199,153, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Epping School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

626
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School District
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
713

Article will appear on Ballot as written

Article 11. To see if the Voters of the Epping School District affirm that newly enacted and existing state and federal mandates have placed an undue and heavy financial burden on the local school district budget, and vigorously oppose any and all unfounded and under-funded state and federal educational mandates, including but not limited to, those contained in the recently enacted No Child Left Behind Law as well as those mandates historically unfounded with the IDEA/Special Education Laws. (Majority vote required)

799
YES ☐

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

NO ☐
519

Article 12. To see if the Voters of the Epping School District affirm that the Epping School Board aggressively pursues a long-term educational relationship with its neighboring community of Fremont..

571
YES ☐
632
NO ☐

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

2004-2005 School District Budget

MS-27

SCHOOL BUDGET FORM

BUDGET FORM FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 32:14 THROUGH 32:24
OF: EPPING NH

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year From July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

IMPORTANT:

Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list ALL APPROPRIATIONS in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the school clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below.

We Certify This Form Was Posted on (Date): _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Please sign in ink.

[Signature]
[Signature]
 Brenda McIntyre
 Ronald LaPlante
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]
 Jennifer Hyman
 Laurie A. Brey
[Signature]

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE SCHOOL WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

Budget - School District of EPPING FY 2004-2005

MS-27

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	WARR. ART.#	Expenditures		Appropriations Current Year as Approved by DRA	School Board's Appropriations		Budget Committee's Approp.	
			for Year 7/1/02 to 6/30/03			Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
	INSTRUCTION (1000-1999)		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
1100-1199	Regular Programs	9	4,040,409	4,306,460		4,422,177		4,422,177	
1200-1299	Special Programs	9	1,606,628	1,711,709		1,903,911		1,903,911	
1300-1399	Vocational Programs	9	99,156	115,164		165,900		165,900	
1400-1499	Other Programs	9	110,199	130,841		165,563		165,563	
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs								
1600-1699	Adult & Community Programs								
	SUPPORT SERVICES (2000-2999)		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
2000-2199	Student Support Services	9	766,620	854,461		862,963		862,963	
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	9	442,661	450,907		493,493		493,493	
	General Administration		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
2310-840	School Board Contingency								
2310-2319	Other School Board	9	72,771	54,503		64,875		64,875	
	Executive Administration		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
2320-310	SAU Management Services	9	252,006	278,970		297,016		297,016	
2320-2399	All Other Administration	9	102,286	101,723		114,636		114,636	
2400-2499	School Administration Service	9	547,353	541,737		606,038		606,038	
2500-2599	Business								
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant	9	704,540	649,953		646,661		646,661	
2700-2799	Student Transportation	9	337,111	401,709		426,829		426,829	
2800-2999	Support Service Central & Other	9	252,856	318,345		397,832		397,832	
3000-3999	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES								
	FACILITIES ACQUISITIONS & CONSTRUCTION	9	1	200,001		1		1	
4000-4999	OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)		XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
5110	Debt Service - Principal								
5120	Debt Service - Interest								

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Rev. 07/02

MS-27 Budget - School District of EPPING FY 2004 - 2005

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Acct.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	WARR. ART.#	Expenditures for Year 7/1/02 to 6/30/03	Appropriations Current Year As Approved by DRA	School Board's Appropriations Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED	Budget Committee's Approp. Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
FUND TRANSFERS								
5220-5221	To Food Service	9	293,443	332,670	354,064.00		354,064.00	
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue							
5230-5239	To Capital Projects							
5251	To Capital Reserves							
5252	To Expendable Trust (see below)							
5253	To Non-Expendable Trusts							
5254	To Agency Funds							
5300-5399	Intergovernmental Agency Alloc.							
	SUPPLEMENTAL							
	DEFICIT							
	SUBTOTAL 1		9,628,041	10,449,153	10,921,959.00		10,921,959.00	

PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER DETAIL:

* Amount of line 5252 which is for Health Maintenance Trust \$ (see RSA 198:20-c, V)

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount	Acct. #	Warr. Art. #	Amount

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Rev. 07/02

SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES

Special warrant articles are defined in RSA 32:3, VI, as appropriations: 1) in petitioned warrant articles; 2) appropriations raised by bonds or notes; 3) appropriations to a separate fund created pursuant to law, such as capital reserve funds or trust funds; 4) an appropriation designated on the warrant as a special article or as a nonlapsing or nontransferable article.

[illegible]

INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES**

"Individual" warrant articles are not necessarily the same as "special warrant articles". Examples of individual warrant articles might be:

- 1) Negotiated cost items for labor agreements; 2) Leases; 3) Supplemental appropriations for the current year for which funding is already available; or 4) Deficit appropriations for the current year which must be funded through taxation.

	1	2	3	4	5
PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3, V)	Expenditures for Year 7/1/02 to 6/30/03	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	WARR. ART.#	School Board's Appropriations Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED	Budget Committee's Approp. Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED
Acct.#					
2600 Telephone System			4	35,000	35,000
2120 Resource Officer -Epping P.D.			5	48,000	48,000
1200-2400 Special Education Deficit			6	60,000	60,000
1100-2200 Technology			7	67,500	67,500
11100-2900 Negotiated Teacher Contract			8	186,994	186,994
SUBTOTAL 3 RECOMMENDED	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXX	397,494	397,494
				XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX

MS-27
Rev. 07/02

MS-27 Budget - School District of EPPING FY 2004-2005

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
REVENUE FROM LOCAL SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
1300-1349	Tuition	9	1,080,573	1,199,562	1,484,379
1400-1449	Transportation Fees				
1500-1599	Earnings on Investments	9	8,855	4,500	4,550
1600-1699	Food Service Sales	9	195,063	223,170	258,514
1700-1799	Student Activities				
1800-1899	Community Services Activities				
1900-1999	Other Local Sources- (Misc.)	9, 2	14,629	0	467,500
	Driver Education, Rental Income	9	38,354	39,030	39,360
REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	School Building Aid	9	65,197	65,197	65,197
3220	Kindergarten Aid				
3230	Catastrophic Aid	9	69,872	58,532	70,000
3240-3249	Vocational Aid	9	3,213	2,768	2,768
3250	Adult Education				
3260	Child Nutrition	9	4,051	4,500	4,500
3270	Driver Education	9	8,700	7,250	7,250
3290-3299	Other State Sources				
REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
4100-4539	Federal Program Grants				
4540	Vocational Education				
4550	Adult Education				
4560	Child Nutrition	9	104,852	105,000	91,000
4570	Disabilities Programs				
4580	Medicaid Distribution	9	90,077	50,000	40,000
4590-4999	Other Federal Sources (except 4810)				
4810	Federal Forest Reserve				
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes	1			400,000
5221	Transfer from Food Service-Spec.Rev.Fund				
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds				
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds				
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds				

MS-27

Budget - School District of EPPING FY 2004-2005

1	2	3	4	5	6
Acct.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	WARR. ART.#	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Revised Revenues Current Year	Estimated Revenues ENSUING FISCAL YEAR
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES CONT.			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds				
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds				
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources				
	Impact Fee's	1	0	170,000	100,000
5140	This Section for Calculation of RAN's (Reimbursement Anticipation Notes) Per RSA 198:20-D for Catastrophic Aid Borrowing RAN, Revenue This FY _____ less RAN, Revenue Last FY _____ =NET RAN				
	Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)				
	Voted From Fund Balance				
	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		70,557	83,054	0
	Total Estimated Revenue & Credits		1,753,992	2,012,563	3,035,038

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Current Year Adopted Budget	School Board's Recommended Budget	Budget Committee's Recommended Budget
SUBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from page 3)	10,449,153	10,921,959	10,921,959
SUBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 4)		994,522	994,522
SUBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from page 4)		397,494	397,494
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	10,449,153	12,313,975	12,313,975
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	8,436,590	9,278,937	9,278,937
Less: Amount of Cost of Adequate Education (State Tax/Grant)*	(4,244,984)	(3,447,332)	(3,447,332)
Estimated Amount of Local Taxes to be Raised For Education	4,191,606	5,831,605	5,831,605

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18: 1,190,495
(See Supplemental Schedule With 10% Calculation)

*Note: You will also be required to pay a State Education Tax RSA 76:3 and you may be required to pay an additional excess education tax in the amount of \$ N/A

BUDGET COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

(For Calculating 10% Maximum Increase)

(RSA 32:18, 19, & 32:21)

Revised 2000

VERSION #2: Use if you have Collective Bargaining Cost ItemsLOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: Epping FISCAL YEAR END 2004-05

Col. A

	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT
1. Total RECOMMENDED by Budget Committee (see budget MS7, 27, or 37)	12,313,975
LESS EXCLUSIONS:	
2. Principle: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	0
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	9,022
4. Capital Outlays Funded From Long-Term Bonds & Notes per RSA 33:8 & 33:7-b	400,000
5. Mandatory Assessments	0
6. TOTAL EXCLUSIONS (Sum of rows 2-5)	< 409,022 >
7. Amount recommended less recommended exclusion amounts (Line 1 less Line 6)	11,904,953
8. Line 7 times 10%	11,904,495
9. Maximum allowable appropriation prior to vote (Line 1 + 8)	13,504,470
10. Collective Bargaining Cost Items, RSA 32:19 & 273-A:1, IV, (Complete Col. A prior to meeting & Col. B and Col. C at meeting)	Cost items recommended 186,994

Col. B

Col. C

(Col. B-A)

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE APPROPRIATIONS VOTED

At meeting, add Line 9 + Column C.

\$ _____

Line 8 plus any not recommended collective bargaining cost items or increases to cost items voted is the maximum allowable increase to budget committee's recommended budget. Please enter this amount on the bottom of the posted budget form, MS7, 27, or 37.

Amended School Warrant Articles

Per Deliberative Session (First Session)

Articles to be voted at the second session:

To the inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Epping, New Hampshire, qualified to vote in District affairs: You are hereby notified of the second session of the annual meeting, to vote on questions required by law to be inserted on said official ballot, and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot, shall be held Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at the Epping Gymnasium, Epping Middle/High School. The polls shall be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Article 1: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000 Gross Budget) for the expansion and renovation of the cafeteria area in the middle/high school and other renovation projects such as window replacement, paving, and the like to address district facility maintenance, and said sum to be offset by state building aid of 30% over the term of the bond (\$150,000 Gross Revenue), and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$400,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and to authorize the school board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, with the balance of \$100,000 (\$100,000 Gross Revenue) to be requested from the town in the form of collected impact fees, and furthermore to appropriate an additional sum of \$9,022 for the 2004-2005 bond interest payment. (The net gross impact of expenditure minus revenue is \$250,000.) (3/5-ballot vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 2: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred-sixty-seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$467,500) for the construction and original equipping of athletic fields, track, or both. **There will be no tax impact as this sum is to be raised from grants, donations, or both; no funds will be raised from general taxation.** This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the athletic project is completed or by June 30, 2009 whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 3: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) for the re-accreditation of Epping Middle/High School by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the re-accreditation process is completed or by June 30, 2006 whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 4: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) for the purpose of improving the telephone system in the elementary and middle/high schools. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 5: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-four thousand

dollars (\$34,000) for the salary and benefit costs required to continue the middle/high school resource officer program that has been in effect since September 2001 in partnership with the Epping Police Department. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 6: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate a deficit appropriation of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for unanticipated special education costs for the 2003-2004 school year. This amount will be funded by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 7: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$67,500) for the purchase of portable computer labs for the elementary and middle/high schools. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 8: To see if the Epping School District will vote to approve the cost item included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Epping School Board and the Epping Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase
2004-2005	\$186,994
2005-2006	\$241,308
2006-2007	\$277,741

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$186,994 for the 2004-2005

fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increases in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Article 9: Shall the Epping School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$10,921,959? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$10,769,480, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Epping School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

The Epping School Board Recommends

\$10,921,959

The Epping Budget Committee Recommends

\$10,921,959

Article 10: To see if the Epping School District, pursuant to RSA 195:18 will vote to create a Cooperative School District Planning Committee consisting of three qualified voters of whom at least one shall be a member of the School Board, and to see if the District will vote to authorize the School District Moderator to appoint the members of the committee. **There will be no tax impact as no funds will be raised from general taxation.** (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Amended Article 11: To see if the voters will vote to have the school board consider eliminating taxpayer funding of dues to all professional, non-profit, or quasi-government organizations

on behalf of SAU 14 employees and Epping school district officials or employees unless specifically authorized by New Hampshire State Law.

Amended Article 12: To see if the voters will vote to publish the salaries and benefits of all SAU 14 and Epping school district employees and elected

or appointed school district officials as part of the annual Town Report commencing with the year 2250.

(Please Note: Articles 11 & 12 have been amended. The school board recommendation and citizen petitioner's names have been removed as a result of these amendments.)

SCHOOL WARRANT STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Epping, New Hampshire, qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Epping Middle/High School Howard Allen Gymnasium in said District on the ninth day of March, 2004, at eight o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects: (The polls may not close before seven o'clock in the evening.)

1. To choose two School Board Members for the ensuing three years.
2. To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hand at said Epping this 22nd day of January, 2004.

EPPING SCHOOL BOARD

Marci Morris
[Signature]
Susan H. Kimball
Scott Bell
Angela Hobbs

A true copy of warrant – attest:

EPPING SCHOOL BOARD

Marci Morris
[Signature]
Susan H. Kimball
Scott Bell
Angela Hobbs

2004–2005 Warrant Article Information

WARRANT ARTICLE 1 CAFETERIA EXPANSION & RENOVATIONS

THE PROJECT ADDS:

1. Additional seating capacity for students eliminating the need for students to sit on the floor in the hallways and to meet fire and safety regulations for cafeteria occupancy.
2. Conference area and handicap accessible bathrooms in cafeteria area to meet facility deficiencies identified in state school approval & re-accreditation by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).
3. New entry area and handicap accessible ramp in rear lobby area.

THE PROJECT CONTINUES:

4. Window replacement in the middle/high school.
5. Paving of parking areas.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS INCLUDE:

6. Payment schedule matching the receipt of school building aid from state.
7. Eligibility of school building aid for renovation projects. (Renovations will be ineligible for school building aid in the near future.)

PROJECTED PROJECT COSTS:

General Construction for Expansion and Renovations	\$288,000
Architect & Engineering Fees	\$30,000
Bonding & Legal Fees	\$15,000
Furnishings	\$7,000
Contingency	\$60,000
Other Renovations - Windows, Paving, Etc.	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Expenditures	\$500,000

PROJECTED PROJECT REVENUES:

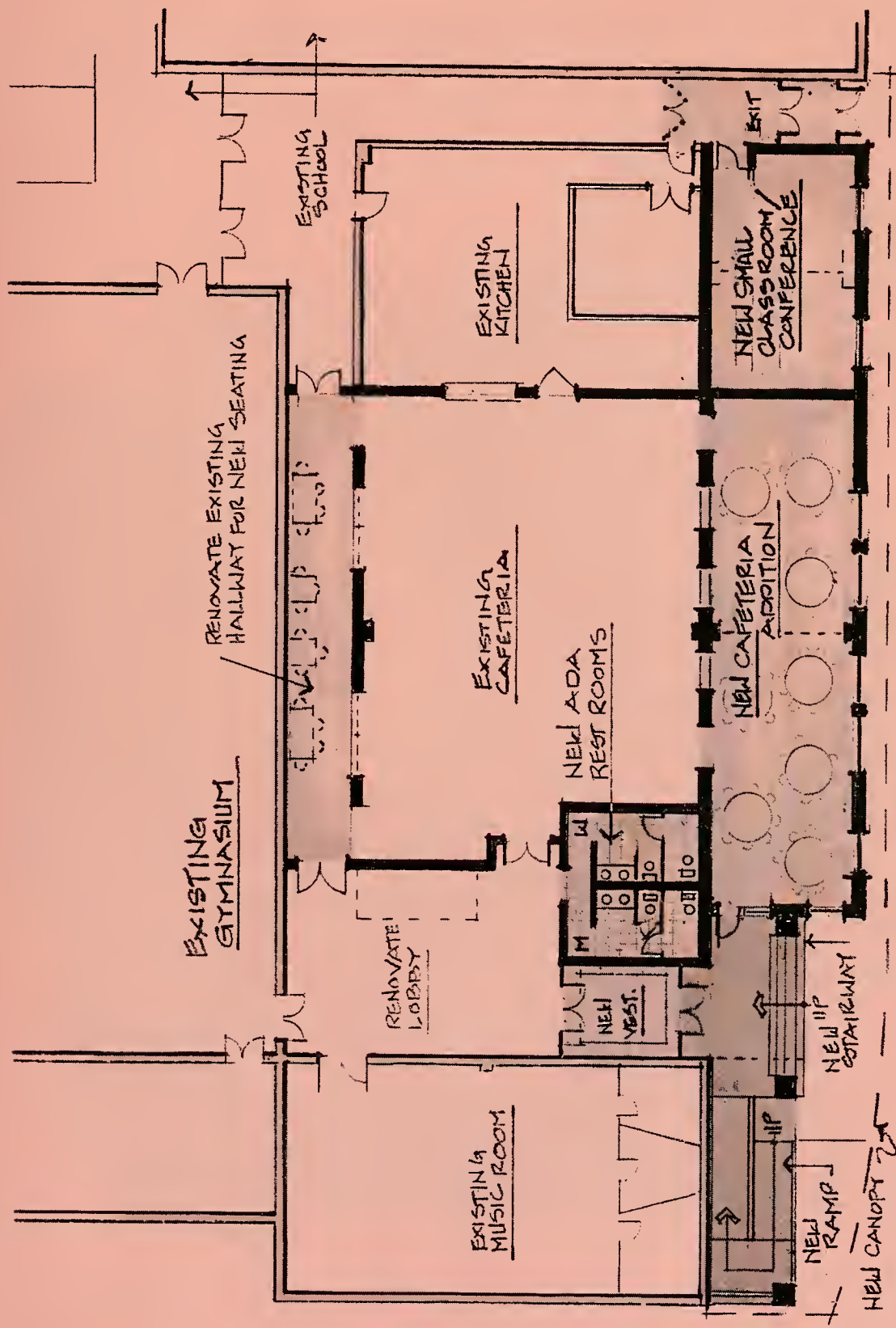
Impact Fees (Collected from town)	\$100,000
30% School Building Aid	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total Revenues	\$250,000

NET PROJECT COST: **\$250,000**

TAX IMPACT:

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>ANNUAL</u>	<u>ANNUAL CHANGE</u>
2004-2005	\$0.04	\$0.04
2005-2006	\$0.29	\$0.25
2006-2007	\$0.27	(\$0.02)
2007-2008	\$0.26	(\$0.01)
2008-2009	\$0.24	(\$0.02)
2009-2010	\$0.22	(\$0.02)

NOTE: Tax impact is based on \$400,000 level principal bond for 5 years.



**PROPOSED CAFETERIA
ADDITION TO EPPING MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 2
TRACK & FIELD PROJECT****BENEFITS:**

1. Additional multi-purpose athletic fields for school and town recreation.
2. New athletic track for track and field events for school and town recreation.
3. Projected 175 additional parking spaces for school, after school, and weekend needs.
4. **No cost to community.** Project expenses are to be paid by donations and grants.
5. Reduction in future school construction costs as fields will already be in place.
(Layout of track & fields will not interfere with future school layout on site.)
6. Project will make the land purchase eligible for school building aid.

PROJECTED PROJECT COSTS:

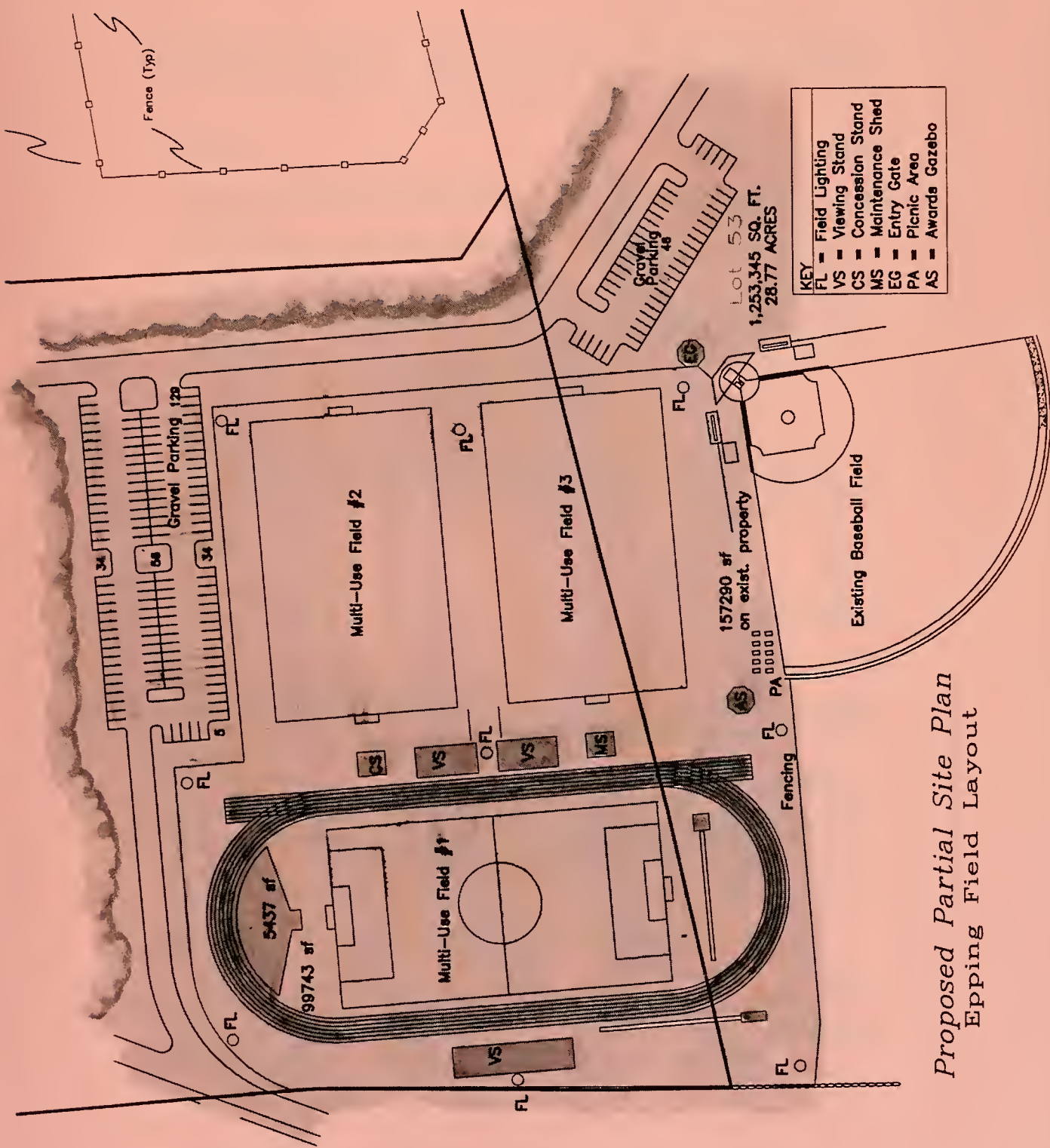
Construction Expenses	\$372,075
Equipment & Field Maintenance	<u>\$95,425</u>
Subtotal Expenses	\$467,500

PROJECTED PROJECT REVENUES:

NH Land Grant	\$100,000
US Soccer Grant	\$89,600
Nike Grant	\$50,000
Local Donations	\$112,558
Other Grants & Donations	<u>\$115,342</u>
Subtotal Revenues	\$467,500

NET PROJECT COST: **\$0**

TAX IMPACT: **\$0.00**



Proposed Partial Site Plan
Epping Field Layout

**WARRANT ARTICLE 3
RE-ACCREDITATION OF MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL****BENEFITS:**

1. Maintains the accreditation of the middle/high school by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.
2. Enables the school to meet the curriculum requirements for state school approval.
3. Keeps middle/high school competitive with all accredited public secondary schools in New England, of which 95% are accredited.
4. Process includes review of:
 - a. Expectations for student learning
 - b. Curriculum, instruction, and assessment
 - c. Leadership and organization
 - d. School resources for learning
 - e. Community resources for learning
5. Guarantees the funding of the re-accreditation process as monies would not be safeguarded in the default budget.

COST: \$18,000

TAX IMPACT: \$0.08

**WARRANT ARTICLE 4
IMPROVEMENT OF TELEPHONE SYSTEM****BENEFITS:**

1. Addresses safety and security concerns at both schools
2. Better communication between school and community
3. Greeting and messaging capabilities for school closures, attendance, etc.
4. Voice mail for school staff

COST: \$35,000

TAX IMPACT: \$0.15

**WARRANT ARTICLE 5
RESOURCE OFFICER AT MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

BENEFITS:

- 1. Provides on-site professional presence for emergency response and increases site safety.
- 2. Reinstates the resource officer program that has been in effect since September 2001.
- 3. Provides proactive programs and intervention services for students, parents, school staff, and community.
- 4. Continues the partnership between the school community and the police.

NOTE:

The warrant article states a cost of \$48,000 for this purpose. The request will be reduced at the deliberative session to reflect the decreased cost.

COST: \$34,000

TAX IMPACT: \$0.15

**WARRANT ARTICLE 6
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEFICIT**

BENEFITS:

- 1. Addresses a projected deficit for the 2003-2004 school year for unforeseen special education costs to avoid cuts in regular education programs.

NOTE:

Projected deficit is due to unanticipated costs for tuition, services, and transportation for out-of-district placements.

COST: \$60,000

TAX IMPACT: \$0.26

**WARRANT ARTICLE 7
COMPUTER LABS FOR ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL**

BENEFITS:

1. Completes elementary school portable lab system to provide every child in a class with access to a computer.
2. Provides a portable computer lab for the high school to meet classroom needs.
3. Uses technology efficiently due to its portability in that it can be delivered to the classroom.
4. Integrates technology in the daily curriculum & the classroom.
5. Supports the district's technology plan. (Every school district is required to have a technology plan per the Department of Education.)

COST: \$67,500

TAX IMPACT: \$0.29

**WARRANT ARTICLE 8
TEACHERS' COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

BENEFITS:

1. Reduces future health insurance costs by eliminating the most expensive health insurance plan for new teachers.
2. Changes the evaluation system to be a more participatory and involved process including teacher certification, professional development, school district goals, etc.
3. Keeps Epping competitive in attracting and retaining quality teachers by maintaining state average compensation.
4. Provides a three-year agreement minimizing the tax impact for the 2004-2005 budget as requested by the budget committee.

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>TAX IMPACT</u>
2004-2005	\$186,994	\$0.80
2005-2006	\$241,308	\$1.01
2006-2007	\$277,741	\$1.14

WARRANT ARTICLE 9 **2004-2005 BUDGET**

BENEFITS:

1. Maintains current school program.
2. Enables schools to meet increasing state and federal requirements under No Child Left Behind.

NOTE:

The district is presently operating under a default budget for the 2003-2004 school year. Last school year (2002-2003) school expenses were frozen to cover an unanticipated deficit in special education and support services. Although this budget will not make up for a loss in resources for the past two years, it is needed to continue our present educational program to meet increasing educational standards required by No Child Left Behind.

ISSUE:

The district is projected to receive a significant reduction in state funding for the second year in a row due to changes in the funding formula.

EXPENDITURE INCREASES

SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$142,815	
HEALTH INSURANCE	\$259,134	
VOCATIONAL TUITION	\$50,736	
OTHER	<u>\$20,121</u>	
	\$472,806	40%

REVENUE CHANGES

MORE HIGH SCHOOL REVENUE	\$276,817	
LESS STATE TAX	(\$331,864)	
LESS STATE EDUC GRANT	(\$428,189)	
LESS OTHER REVENUE	(\$138,788)	
FUND BALANCE 02-03	<u>(\$83,054)</u>	
	(\$705,078)	60%

EXPENDITURES LESS REVENUE

LESS STATE TAX ADJUSTMENT	<u>(\$331,864)</u>	
* ALREADY INCLUDED IN PRESENT TAX RATE		
* TAX IS SHIFTING FROM STATE TO LOCAL		

NET IMPACT	\$846,020	
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ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT OF RECOMMENDED	\$3.61	
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ESTIMATED TAX IMPACT OF DEFAULT	\$2.96	
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**WARRANT ARTICLE 10
COOPERATIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

BENEFITS:

1. Offer lower cost alternatives to future educational and facility needs.
2. Permits the school district to pursue cooperative school district opportunities with other school districts. (Final decision to adopt a cooperative school district must be approved by the voters.)
3. **No cost to the district.**

COST: **\$0**

TAX IMPACT: **\$0.00**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 11
CITIZENS PETITION - DUES**

School Board is **not recommending** this article because the school district receives services at minimal cost and training opportunities at reduced cost.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 12
CITIZENS PETITION - PUBLISH SALARIES**

School Board is **not recommending** this article because the district's records are available upon request to the public. Publishing of all salaries and benefits will increase the cost of printing the annual report.

Deliberative Session Minutes

March 5, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

High School Gymnasium

Moderator Harold LaPierre called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Jim McGeough recognized a moment of silence for members of our Armed Services who are serving in the United States Military.

Marci Morris introduced the members of the Epping School Board (Sue Kimball, Jeff Nollett, Scott Booth, Marci Morris, Pam Tibbetts; Superintendent Barbara Munsey and the school district's attorney Peter Bornstein) and the Epping Budget Committee (Jim McGeough, Jennifer Yergeau, Bob Goodrich, Ron LaChance, Liz Conrad, Brenda McCartney and Michael King). Chairperson Morris read a statement that commended the staff and administration for their hard work and commitment to educational excellence for the students of Epping. She spoke about the cuts in State funding, the re-accreditation process that will be beginning in October of 2005, improvements in State testing, implementation of a new math curriculum and other improvements and obstacles that face the Epping School District. She encouraged voters to make sure they have correct and factual information when making their decisions at the polls on March 9th and to feel free to contact the SAU or Board members if they have questions about material that they receive regarding the school.

Moderator Harold LaPierre read the following warrants articles.

Article 1: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000 Gross Budget) for the expansion and renovation of the cafeteria area in the middle/high school and other renovation projects such as window replacement, paving, and the like to address district facility maintenance,

and said sum to be offset by state building aid of 30% over the term of the bond (\$150,000 Gross Revenue), and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$400,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and to authorize the school board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, with the balance of \$100,000 (\$100,000 Gross Revenue) to be requested from the town in the form of collected impact fees, and furthermore to appropriate an additional sum of \$9,022 for the 2004–2005 bond interest payment. (The net gross impact of expenditure minus revenue is \$250,000.) (3/5-ballot vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Scott Booth explained Article #1. He gave a brief background explanation of the facilities committee and their purpose in generating a master plan for the Epping School District. There were display boards available for viewing in the lobby during the deliberative session. This is a preliminary master plan.

See the attached "Epping School District Annual Process for 2004–05 School Year". Pages 1 and 2 of the handout explain the cafeteria improvements that are being proposed. This proposal will bring the cafeteria into Fire safety compliance (NFPA 101 Life Safety Code 101 (2003 edition) Chapter 7.)

Harold opened the floor for discussion.

Will appear on ballot as written.

Article 2: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred-sixty-seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$467,500) for the construction and original equipping of athletic fields, track, or both. **There will be no tax impact as this sum is raised from**

grants, donations, or both; no funds will be raised from general taxation to be. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the athletic project is completed or by June 30, 2009 whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Jeff Nollet spoke on this article. Explained that this is a private group that is raising funds through grants for much needed fields. Page 4 of the handout explains the field layout. Placing these fields in now by grants will make it cost effective for the school district if they propose a new school in the future. The fields will be in place and the school will not need to build them and add the cost on to the taxpayers. All final approvals will be brought to the school board. This proposal will also add additional parking spaces for athletic use.

Jim McGeough made an amendment to the end of the article, which read **"No phase of construction shall be undertaken unless it provides additional adequate parking."** It was seconded by Liz Conrad.

Frank Gibbard stated that the amendment needs to be accurate in what specific parking needs are being considered. Jim McGeough stated that as fields are being phased in parking needs to be phased in at same time and not at the end when the fields are complete. As each field opens up parking spaces need to be available also.

Jeff Nollet explained that the project would be overseen by the Epping School Board. Parking is a continued concern and the facilities committee along with the school board would most likely push for parking to be included in the first phase.

Jason Haberman asked if there were going to be any parking problems with regards to school use versus after school use. It was stated that most use

would be after school and would not conflict with school use.

Tom O'Day asked for clarification on gravel parking. It was stated that it would be gravel unless enough money is raised for paving.

Liz Conrad stated that she would not have supported this warrant if she were not reassured that parking was a critical component.

Gary McCleay stated his opposition to the amendment. Mr. McCleay stated that the grant money is not contingent upon the parking issues being addressed. He also stated that they have just received the NH Land Grant for \$100,000. Mr. McCleay commented that the field project would be undertaken when adequate funding was obtained which might not be next year.

Colleen Schmidt stated that if the school needs to fix the parking issues then fix them and don't hold a committee who is willing to find grant monies to such provisions.

The moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The amendment failed.

Rich McFadden asked if there is a private group doing the funding and the fields will be placed on school property whose responsibility would it be to maintain and issue use of the fields. Jeff Nollet explained that it would be the responsibility of the school board and administration.

Will appear on ballot as written

Article 3: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) for the re-accreditation of Epping Middle/High School by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and will not lapse until the re-accreditation process is completed or by June 30, 2006 whichever is earlier. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Pam Tibbetts spoke on this article and explained the accreditation process and the need for the district to be

accredited and the importance it places on our community and students.

Sharon Dyer asked for the board to explain what will happen if the school is not accredited. Marci Morris and Superintendent Munsey explained the accreditation and how colleges look at high school students who come from an accredited HS. It's the importance of the accreditation process that allows you to really examine the curriculum and see the districts strengths and weaknesses.

Mary Bolduc stated that accreditation not only affects the students but every property owner as well. When people invest in the schools they will also invest in their property and increase their property values. It is the best investment you can make for both your students and community.

It was asked if this was a one-time accreditation fee. Marci Morris explained that money would need to be allocated every ten years to go through the accreditation process.

Jennifer Yergeau spoke as a past member of the Epping Accreditation Committee about the process and the benefits that come from it. The process allows you to see your strengths and weaknesses and demands improvement on all levels. Jeff Nollett noted that this was placed by warrant this year due to a possible default budget situation. Last year, the fees were included in the budget and when the budget was voted down, there was no way to pay for the costs.

Will appear on ballot as written

Article 4: To see if the Epping School district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) for the purpose of improving the telephone system in the elementary and middle/high schools. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Sue Kimball spoke on this article. Sue explained the current phone system in both buildings. The elementary system is about 15 years old. The

HS system is even older. There are no voice mail capabilities, no answering machine capabilities, difficulties with getting through to the HS.

Johanna Comeau asked if it would upgrade our intercom system. Sue Kimball stated that it would not. There have been provisions made in the proposed budget to take care of intercom issues.

Will appear on ballot as written

Article 5: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000) for the salary and benefit costs required to continue the middle/high school resource officer program that has been in effect since September 2001 in partnership with the Epping Police Department. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Pam Tibbetts made an amendment to change article. Seconded by Jim McGeough. The amendment change reads "**change \$48,000 to \$34,000**". The change is based on a 180 school year instead of the full calendar year as previously proposed.

Jim McGeough stated that he strongly supports this article and also stated that this program is widely used across our state and country. The horror of Columbine made this a necessity for our schools across the country.

Rich McFadden explained the reality of this position and that it doesn't mean that your students are being housed in a violent school. It is more of a preventative measure to keep the schools safe, prepare safety policies and help the staff deal with safety situations.

Sue Kimball stated that there are those who will say that the school board is trying to use the "fear factor" in order for this article to pass. She stated that it is the Board's obligation to help prevent situations before they happen.

The moderator called for a vote to the amendment. The amendment passed.

Will appear on Ballot as amended.

Article 6: To see if the Epping School district will vote to raise and appropriate a deficit appropriation of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for unanticipated special education costs for the 2003-2004 school year. This amount will be funded by taxation. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Morris explained this article. She explained that last year when the article for special education was defeated the monies that are legally obligated by the school district needed to be taken out of regular education, supplies, text books, programs etc.

Mary Bolduc talked about the stigma that people perceive regarding special education. She noted that these students add to the school and the community as a whole.

Jane Chase stated that we are legally liable to provide these services and as a community we should come together to support this article.

Stephanie Sturzo stated that any one of us at any given time could be faced with a special needs child and we must help support them.

Warrant will appear as written.

Article 7: To see if the Epping School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of sixty-seven thousand, five hundred dollars (\$67,500) for the purchase of portable computer labs for the elementary and middle/high schools. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Scott Booth spoke to this article. Scott explained that one of the portable labs would be used for the Elementary school and the other one for the EMHS. Additionally, the existing labs in both the EES and EMHS would have laptops added to complete them. It will allow all children in a classroom to use a computer all at the same time. It is less expensive than installing 20 individual computers in each classroom, which are hardwired and can't be moved once they are installed. It also allows teach-

ers to be able to use the Internet for instruction with their students.

Liz Conrad stated that she voted against this article due to the fact that she thinks spending needs to slow down.

Mr. Gibbard wanted to know if competitive bids were requested and how the figure of 67,500 was reached. Superintendent Munsey explained that the figure was determined by the technology coordinators within the school and was based on current cost figures for equipment.

Liz Conrad made an amendment that replaces **"\$67,500 with \$35,000"**. Seconded by Ron LaChance.

Hanz Sweitzer wanted to know why the amendment was lowered to \$35,000. Liz stated that it was just a figure out of the air and that she can't determine how much technology that amount will purchase. She has concerns that we are spending too much too quickly.

Hanz Sweitzer asked if the district has asked I-Mac or Apple for a package deal like many other companies do. Seacoast Educational Technology Services are one area that the district looks for competitive bids.

Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment failed.

Warrant will appear as written.

Article 8: To see if the Epping School District will vote to approve the cost item included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Epping School Board and the Epping Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase
2004-2005	\$186,994
2005-2006	\$241,308
2006-2007	\$277,741

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$186,994 for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increases in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board
Recommended by the Epping Budget Committee

Marci Morris spoke on this article. Marci explained components of the teachers' contract and the process of the negotiating. One of the goals of the School Board has been to keep pace with average state salaries. The salary package provides for a 0% increase in 2004-5, a 3% increase in 2005-6 and an effective 31/2% increase in 2006-7 with a 3%/4% split for this year. The teachers also agreed to the elimination of the JY insurance plan for the new employees, which is the district's most costly insurance plan. Marci stated that this is a fair package and encouraged the voters to support it.

Liz Conrad reiterated the support of the budget committee on this contract agreement.

Nann Nutt a former teacher stated that she has looked at other states and NH is still below average for teacher salaries. She stated that she was paid more in 1985 than a beginning teacher is now in the Epping School District. She stated that support is needed for our teachers and this contract.

Warrant will appear as written.

Article 9: Shall the Epping School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$10,921,959? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$10,769,480, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Epping School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required)

The Epping School Board Recommends
\$10,921,959
The Epping Budget Committee Recommends
\$10,921,959

Jeff Nollet spoke on this article.

Jeff explained the standards that need to be raised with the "No Child Left Behind Act" and the roles that the teachers will play. He also thanked the SAU staff, school administration and budget committee for all their hard work in preparing the proposed budget.

Jeff explained the proposed budget. See page 8 of the handout for description of increases and revenue changes.

Liz Conrad proposed an amendment. Seconded by Jim McGeough.

The amendment eliminates any salary increases for personnel who are not included in the bargaining agreement. The amendment reads as follows **"To the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$10,843,000"**. She feels if teachers are willing to not take a rate increase this year then other employees should do the same.

Mr. Gibbard explained that the amendment as presented would not insure that the raises being addressed would necessarily be the areas that the school board would cut. Jeff explained that it is correct that the amendment isn't quite clear and that it would be up to the board's discretion as to where to cut the suggested amendment amount.

Marci explained that one of the positions that would be lost if this amendment were to pass was a position for a Special Education teacher to create programming for 5 students who need specialized programming. To cut that position would cost the district in the long run and possibly force out of district placements for some students.

Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment failed.

Warrant will appear as written.

Article 10: To see if the Epping School District, pursuant to RSA 195:18 will vote to create a Cooperative School District Planning Committee consisting of three qualified voters of whom at least one shall be a member of the School Board, and to see if the District will vote to authorize the School District Moderator to appoint the members of the committee. There will be no tax impact, as no

funds will be raised from general taxation. (Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Epping School Board

Sue Kimball spoke on this article. Sue stated that this article would simply give the school board the option to look at possible cooperative opportunities. A cooperative school agreement would save taxpayers a significant amount of money over an Epping only school due to the way that state building aid is distributed. This does not give the Board permission to establish a cooperative agreement with another community. All agreements would have to be approved by the voters.

Warrant will appear on ballot as written.

Article 11: Citizens petition per M. Harvey, R. Averill, T. Sutcliffe, et al., to see if the voters will vote to eliminate taxpayer funding of dues to all professional, non-profit, or quasi-government organizations on behalf of SAU 14 employees and Epping school district officials or employees unless specifically authorized by New Hampshire State Law.

Not Recommended by the Epping School Board

Marci Morris spoke on this article. She stated that eliminating the benefits that are provided by many of the agencies could cost the district more money in the long run. These agencies supply the school board, administrators and the SAU, with technical assistance, legal assistance regarding school law, assistance in implementing best educational practices, and establishing legally sound policies.

Ginny LaPierre asked if there were any petitioners present to explain the intent of the article.

Marci Morris has offered an amendment. Seconded by Michael King. The amendment reads to **"Have the school board consider the elimination of taxpayer dues"**. Marci explained that this amendment would give the board the ability to consider eliminating dues to specific agencies.

Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment passed.

Warrant will appear as amended.

Article 12: Citizens petition per M. Harvey, T. Sutcliffe, D. Harvey, et al., to see if the voters will vote to publish the salaries and benefits of all SAU 14 and Epping school district employees and elected or appointed school district officials as part of the annual Town Report.

Not Recommended by the Epping School Board

Amendment submitted by Ginny LaPierre. Amendment reads **"commencing with the year 2250 to be placed at end of article"**. Seconded by Kim Sullivan.

Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment passed.

Warrant will appear as amended.

Jeff Nollet explained that the information that was requested from this article was already public information and any citizen can obtain this information from the SAU. It would be at great cost to the school district to print and mail this information to every household.

Article 13: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Jim McGeough encouraged people to pay attention to the literature that will be distributed to the voters and encouraged the voters to speak to other residents about what they heard here tonight and mostly importantly to get out and vote.

Sharon Dyer wanted to know who were the members of the Epping Taxpayers Association. It was stated that that information wasn't clearly known.

Marci encouraged taxpayers that had questions to call for answers and wanted to highlight the sentiments that were expressed tonight with regards to supporting your school and community.

Elections will be at the EMHS Gymnasium on March 9th from 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Robin A. O'Day
Board Secretary*

Auditor's Report



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the School Board
Epping School District
Epping, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Epping School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Epping School District has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Epping School District as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 6, 2003 on our consideration of the Epping School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

*Epping School District
Independent Auditor's Report*

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Epping School District taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Epping School District. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements. All such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

Gregory A. Collyer, CPA

November 6, 2003

PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

EXHIBIT A
Epping School District
Combined Balance Sheet-All Fund Types and Account Group
June 30, 2003

Prepared by: AGM
Reviewed by:

02/02/04
01:11 PM

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Group		Totals
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt		(memorandum only)
Assets and Other Debits							
Assets							
Cash and Equivalents	113,059	57,711		88,283			259,053
Receivables							
Accounts	1,214						1,214
Intergovernmental	74,215	51,934					126,149
Interfund Receivable	76,361	145,000					221,361
Other debits							
Amount to be provided for retirement of general long term debt					166,351		166,351
Total assets and other debits	264,849	109,645	145,000	88,283	166,351		774,128
Liabilities and equity							
Liabilities							
Accounts payable	45,451	7,336					52,787
Contracts payable			40,320				40,320
Retainage payable			4,480				4,480
Intergovernmental payable		2,707					2,707
Interfund payable	145,000	76,361					221,361
Due to student groups				88,283			88,283
Compensated absences payable					166,351		166,351
Total liabilities	190,451	86,404	44,800	88,283	166,351		576,289
Equity							
Fund balances							
Reserved for encumbrances			100,200				100,200
Unreserved		23,241					23,241
Designated for special purposes							74,398
Undesignated	74,398						
Total equity	74,398	23,241	100,200				197,839
Total liabilities and equity	264,849	109,645	145,000	88,283	166,351		774,128

EPPING SCHOOL DISTRICT

DETAILED EXPENDITURE & REVENUE DATA FOR SPECIAL
EDUCATION (HANDICAPPED/DISABLED ONLY) (ALL FUNDS)

REQUIRED PER RSA 32:11-a

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>
Instruction	\$1,441,361	\$1,834,495
Related Services	\$498,116	\$472,345
Administration	\$105,701	\$107,496
Legal	\$335	\$0
Transportation	\$104,139	\$116,498
TOTAL	\$2,149,652	\$2,530,834
 <u>REVENUE</u>	 <u>2001-2002</u>	 <u>2002-2003</u>
Tuition (Local)	\$110,351	\$103,594
Adequate Education (State)	\$495,326	\$508,239
Catastrophic Aid (State)	\$100,612	\$69,872
Medicaid (Federal)	\$56,357	\$90,077
Disability Programs (Federal)	\$131,312	\$156,995
TOTAL	\$893,958	\$928,777
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>	 <u>2001-2002</u>	 <u>2002-2003</u>
MINUS REVENUE	\$1,255,694	\$1,602,057

DETAILED EXPENDITURE & REVENUE DATA FOR SPECIAL
EDUCATION (CULTURALLY DEPRIVED, BILINGUAL AND
GIFTED/TALENTED) (ALL FUNDS)

<u>BILINGUAL EDUCATION</u>	<u>2001-2002</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>
Expenditure	\$0	\$22,276
Revenue	\$0	\$0
Expenditure minus Revenue	\$0	\$22,276

No expense/revenue reported for culturally deprived and gifted/talented.



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