



Town of Amesbury



Annual Report
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

Front Cover Photo

Patriot Flag

June 25, 2011, Amesbury MA

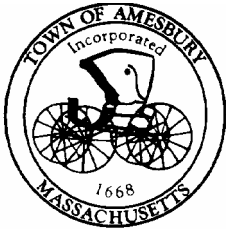
The 30-by-58-foot American flag was hoisted in front of the Amesbury Fire Department on School Street to commemorate the victims and families of the Sept. 11 attacks, as well as members of the military.

"This is a proud moment for Amesbury," fire Chief Jonathan Brickett said. "It is an honor for our community to be chosen to pay tribute to our nation's finest through the display of the Patriot Flag."

A group of California firefighters established the Patriot Flag with a goal of flying the large flag in all 50 states in 50 weeks to pay tribute to first responders, as well as those in the military.

The program began Sept. 11, 2010, with the tour set to end at Ground Zero on Sept. 11.





Dear Amesbury Citizens,

I am once again pleased to present to you the Annual Report of the city known as the Town of Amesbury. As you read this report, you'll see that this has been an exciting year full of change, progress, and challenges. We entered the year with ambitious goals and a clear, focused direction to guide our activity.

We continue our work refining city services and to make Amesbury a wonderful community to live in, raise a family and an attractive location for business growth. Working within our financial means and the current economic challenges, we have responded with measures to ensure our continued success. This year we saw the implementation of strategies designed to stimulate economic development in the Lower Millyard. We have taken great strides to control costs through employee health care reforms and innovative efficiencies to create significant savings for our community.

Among our most successful cost savings strategies has been the regionalization of selected city services. This allows the city to share the costs and benefits of services with our neighbors. Capitalizing on the economies of scale, the Essex County Regional Dispatch Center, to which six communities have committed, is in the final stages of implementation and is projected to be in service by next year.

This year we made significant progress in our goal to revitalize the Lower Millyard. The planned relocation of the Department of Public Works building, coupled with the construction of a new Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority building and the repair of the Water Street parking garage, reinforces our commitment to investing in the Lower Millyard, which is expected to bring over \$50 Million in private investment and growth to the downtown. Meanwhile, infrastructure enhancement projects around the city continue in order to support the services residents and businesses require.

As I look forward, I know there are challenges we must face. I believe that Amesbury is well positioned to take on the economic and social challenges that lie before us. I invite you to review the actions of our city over the past year, covered in the following pages. I think you'll find that Amesbury is steadfast in its commitment to provide excellent municipal services at a cost residents can afford.

Sincerely,

Thatcher W. Kezer III
Mayor

Overview

The city known as the Town of Amesbury exists to provide five essential services to our citizens and is supported by an effective Administration & Finance function:

Public Education

Amesbury Elementary
Cashman Elementary
Amesbury Middle School
Amesbury High School
Academy Charter School

Public Safety

Police
Fire & Rescue
Emergency Management

Public Works

Public Works
Engineering
Water Treatment
Waste Water Treatment
Recycling & Refuse
Snow & Ice Removal

Permits & Land Use

Community Development
Economic Development
Inspection & Health
Conservation
Planning
Zoning

Community and Social Services

Senior Services
Youth Services
Veteran Services
Public Library

Admin & Finance

Finance
Assessing
Treasurer/Collecting
Licenses and Permits
Clerk and Records

Amesbury Public Schools

Amesbury Public Schools – Michele Robinson

The 2010-2011 school year for Amesbury Public Schools was quite challenging with respect to the district's financial status. In spite of this, Amesbury's public schools continue to be perceived as a district of excellence, as evidenced in the School Choice participation. This year, the district created a taskforce to create and implement a Prevention and Intervention Plan to address bullying and peer aggression. On-going curriculum and professional development continue to serve as growth opportunities for both students and teachers. Year after year, parent volunteers log thousands of hours of work and student and teacher participation in community events continue to nourish and connect families in productive ways. Amesbury Public Schools owe its successes to the many dedicated teachers and administrators that work hard each day to enrich the lives of Amesbury's children.

By the Numbers

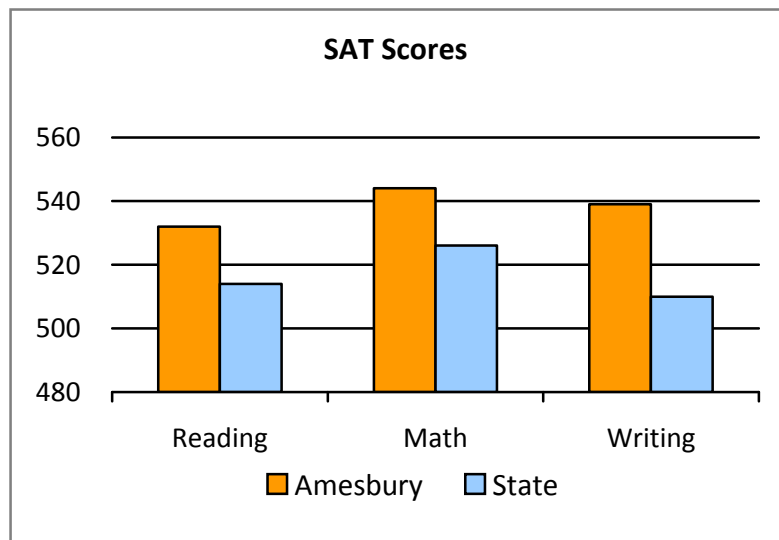
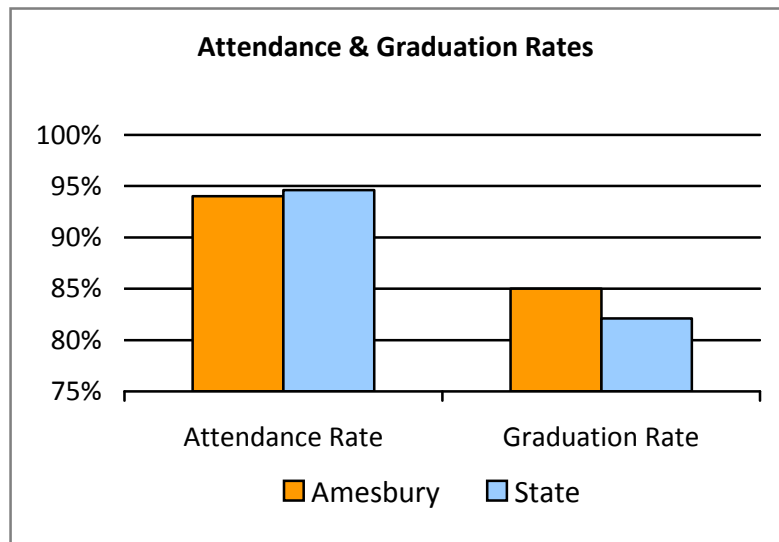
55¢ of every tax dollar is spent on K-12 public education.

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$12,154 per student per year. The state average is \$13,006.

2,385 students attended Amesbury Public Schools in the 2010-2011 school year.

Amesbury has more children choosing to attend Amesbury Public Schools from other communities (Choice In), than Amesbury children choosing to attend school in other communities (Choice Out).

\$151,820 = NET revenue the city receives from School Choice.



Amesbury Public Schools

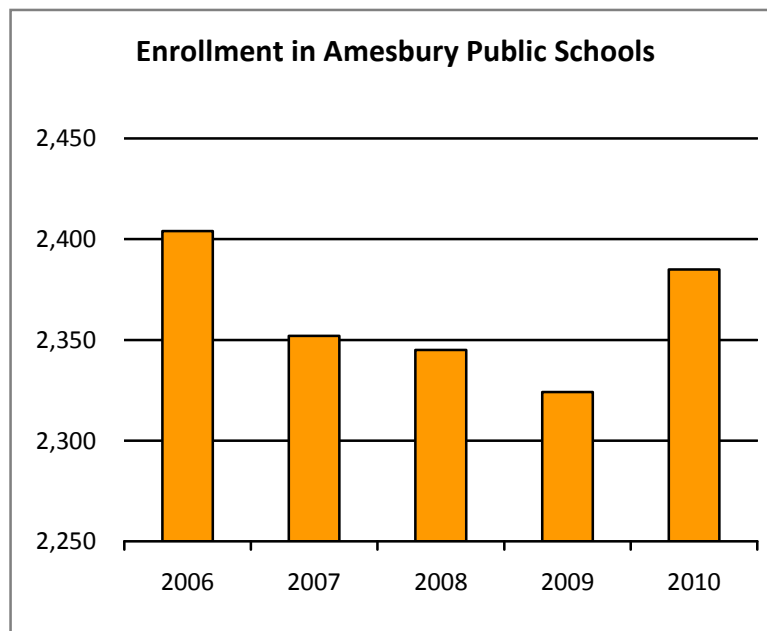
Amesbury Elementary School – Walter Helliesen

Focusing on specific strategic areas this year, students experienced an integrated curriculum of vocabulary development, identifying key words, developing and assessing number concepts, and increasing physical activity levels.

Indicator	Amesbury	State
Grade 9-12 Dropout Rate	1.8%	2.9%
Average # of days absent	9.1	9.3
In-school Suspension Rate	2.4%	3.7%
Out-of-school Suspension Rate	2.6%	6.0%

Cashman Elementary School – Louise Charette

Cashman students continue to demonstrate consistent improvement and growth on both district and state assessments. Using the unique location of the school, teachers take advantage of the surrounding environment by building powerful connections with curriculum subject matter.

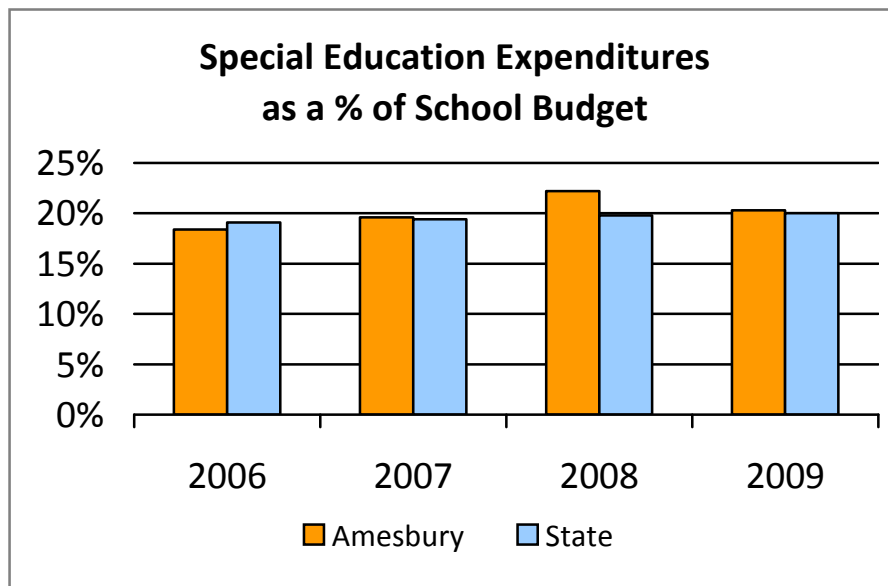


Amesbury Middle School – Michael Curry

The focus on literacy continues to help students develop the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills students need to be successful. Students are encouraged to think more deeply and critically in many content areas.

Amesbury High School – Roy Hamond

Consistent with district-wide literacy and writing initiatives, this year's curriculum integrated strategies to strengthen student preparation for the workplace or continued education. Professional development for instructors was given significant focus this year as teachers participated in workshops and conferences designed to share best practices and explore cross-disciplinary techniques. The High School's partnership with Massachusetts State colleges continues to be successful; more than 50 students took part in a dual enrollment program with Northern Essex Community College. Amesbury High School athletics remain popular as a full two-thirds of students participated at some level. As in past years, extra-curricular activities consistently provide theatrical, recreational, and intellectual opportunities for students and community members alike.



Amesbury Academy Public Charter School – Donna Georges

Before graduating 14 students in 2011, the Academy marked its tenth year by settling in to a new location at the former Sacred Heart School at All Saints Parish. Community service remains a focus for students as evidenced by their comprehensive year-end trail maintenance and enhancement project.

Police – Chief Mark Gagnon

This year saw the appointment of both a new Police Chief and Police Lieutenant. Under new administration, the Amesbury Police Department has turned its focus to enhancing public safety through community outreach. Traditional cruiser patrols are now supplemented by uniformed mountain bike and foot patrols. Working to fortify collaborative relationships with area residents and businesses, the department regularly attends community events and programs.

By the Numbers

13¢ of every tax dollar is spent on Public Safety.

Amesbury tax payers spend \$197 per person per year for 24-hour crime prevention and response.

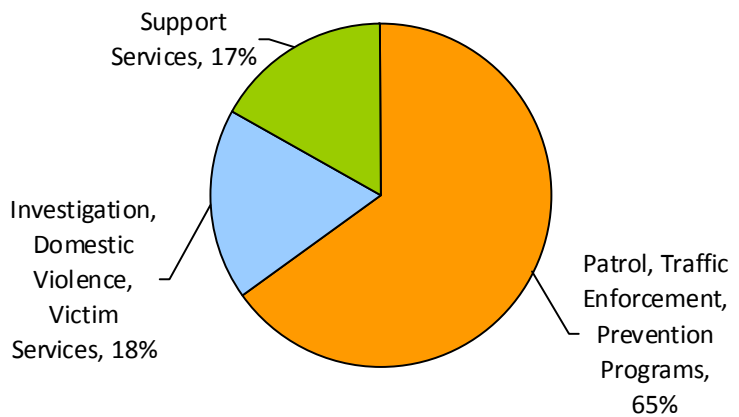
Amesbury's move to regional emergency dispatch is tentatively scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2012. This move will increase efficiency and save the city a projected \$100,000 a year.

53 = number of communities within the North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council. This regional partnership provides operational support and supplementary assistance to member communities.

New England cities with populations of 10,000 – 24,999 residents employ 1 officer per 555 people.

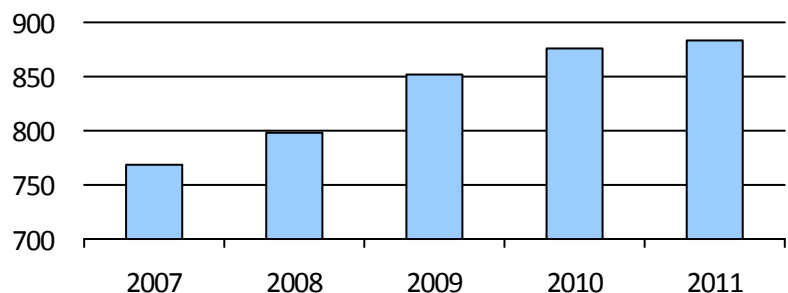
Amesbury employs 1 officer per 548 people.

Police Resource Allocation



Prevention programs include community policing, **domestic violence victim checks**, vacation watch, child seat safety checks, “Watch Words” weekly articles, Coffee with the Chiefs hour, Fire Safety Education, School Safety programs, National Night Out, Click It or Ticket, Prom Safety programs, and Downtown patrols.

Calls per Sworn Officer



Fire – Chief John Brickett

Amesbury Fire & Rescue remains committed to maintaining and enhancing the public safety through fire prevention and emergency medical response. Most certainly a highlight of this year was both the creation and implementation of a five-year fire vehicle/apparatus replacement schedule. The implementation of the plan saw the lease-purchase of a new Fire Attack Pumper, Amesbury's first since 1996.

By the Numbers

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$169 per person per year for 24-hour response to medical, fire, natural and man-made disasters.

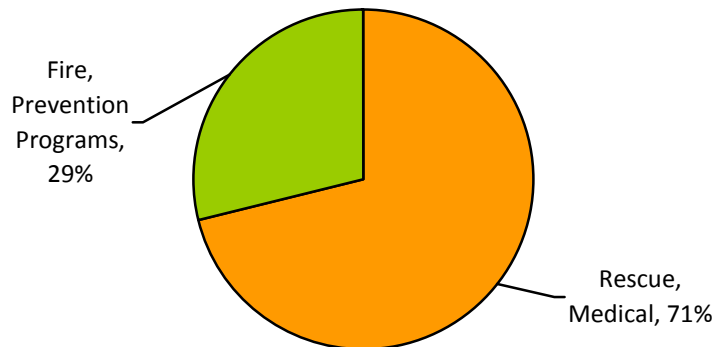
1 = number of Amesbury Fire Chiefs to be awarded Accreditation from the State of Massachusetts Fire Service Commission. Fire Chief Brickett was awarded the distinction in 2011.

Ambulance revenues offset taxpayer costs for Fire & Rescue. \$317 = average revenue per ambulance call.

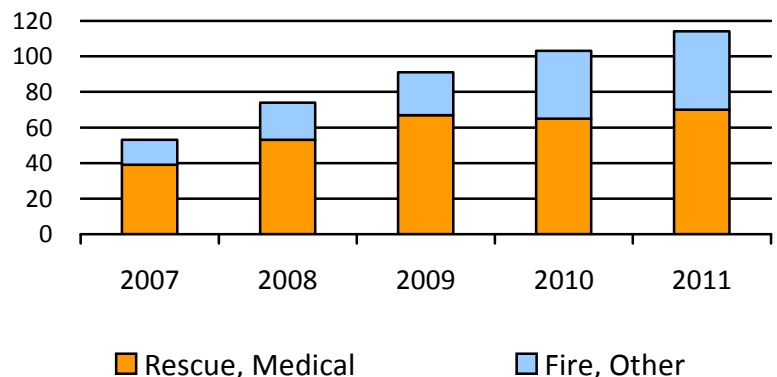
\$200,000 = amount of money saved by ordering a fire truck "off the shelf", rather than purchasing a custom-built model.

The CodeRed notification system was used during the snowstorm in December 2010 to notify residents of severe weather and emergency plans.

Fire & Rescue Resource Allocation



Calls per Fire Fighter



Emergency Management – Don Swenson

During this year, a total of 12 Emergency Management volunteers, along with department leadership, responded to six hazardous material incidents. Resident inclusion continues to be a focus of the CodeRed notification system initiative. The winter of 2010-2011 proved to be a monumental year for snowfall in Amesbury; as such, the Emergency Operations Center was utilized several times for weather-related response.

Department of Public Works

City Services – Rob Desmarais

Amesbury Public Works is committed to enhancing resident quality of life through management and improvement of public facilities and infrastructure, provision of clean drinking water, safe removal of wastewater, recycling, trash and snow & ice.

By the Numbers

5¢ of every tax dollar is spent on the maintenance of roads, sidewalks, parks, drainage, waste removal, and snow and ice operations.

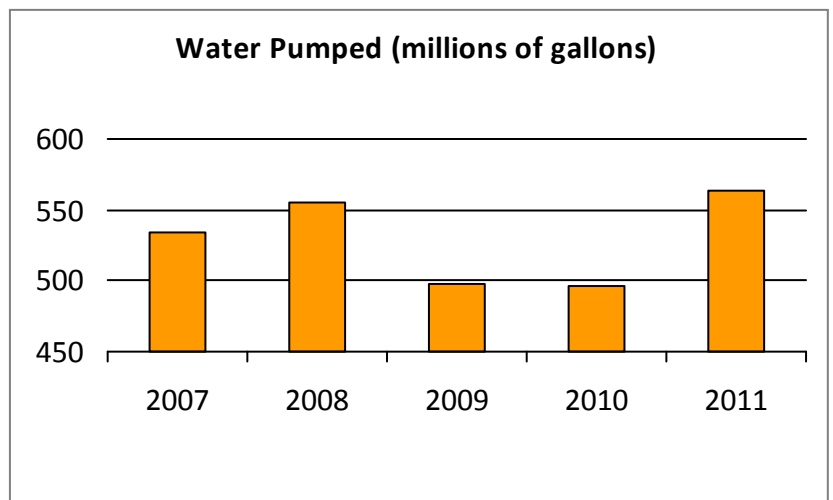
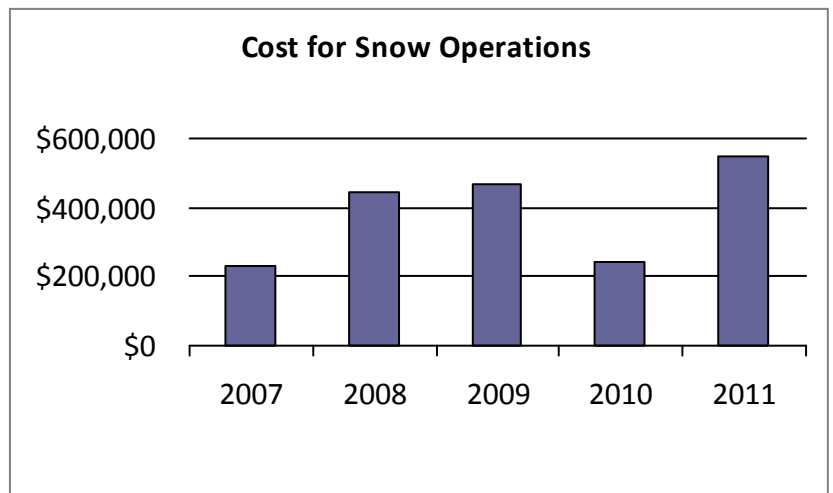
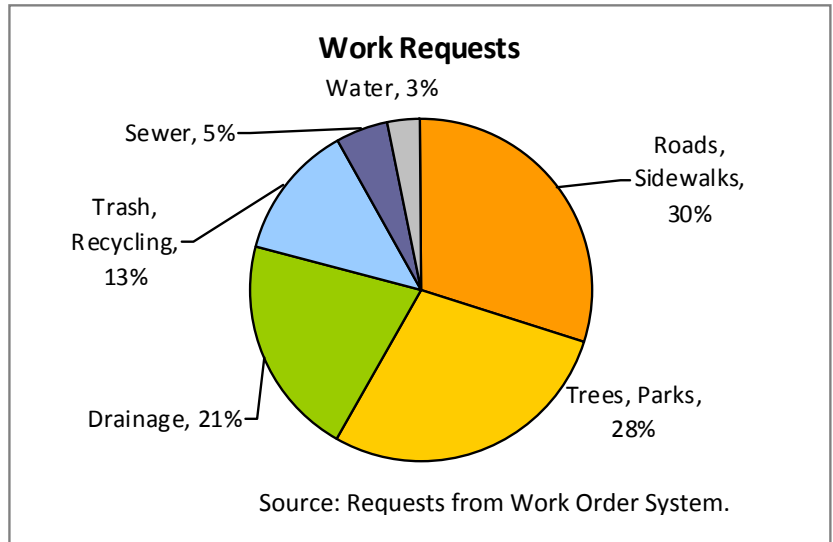
1/2¢ = cost of 1 gallon of clean drinking water delivered directly to your home.

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$150 per resident annually for public works services including trash and recycling removal, road, sidewalk, park and cemetery maintenance, snow removal, drainage management, and public facility maintenance.

Costs for Snow Operations vary based on the amount of snow per event, severity of icing, and variable cost of sand and salt.

There were 94 inches of snow recorded for the winter of 2010-2011, representing a 77% increase over the average annual snowfall.

Check out the city's annual water quality report at www.amesburyma.gov.



Community and Economic Development

Community and Economic Development – Joe Fahey

Despite the economic downturn, the Department continues its efforts in planning, zoning, permitting, and redevelopment in a number of areas. The commercial development on Elm Street, along with the proposed hotel, has been the focus of many hours of review and planning. The Lower Millyard has emerged as an area of redevelopment with significant activity occurring around the area this year. The removal of the current DPW garage, the repair and expansion of the parking garage, the development of Heritage Park, and the completion of the Riverwalk will all help to stage the Lower Millyard as the next area of surge in economic growth for Amesbury. In order to encourage thoughtful design and expand the city's tax base, the Department places significant focus on guiding residents and potential developers through the permitting process.

By the Numbers

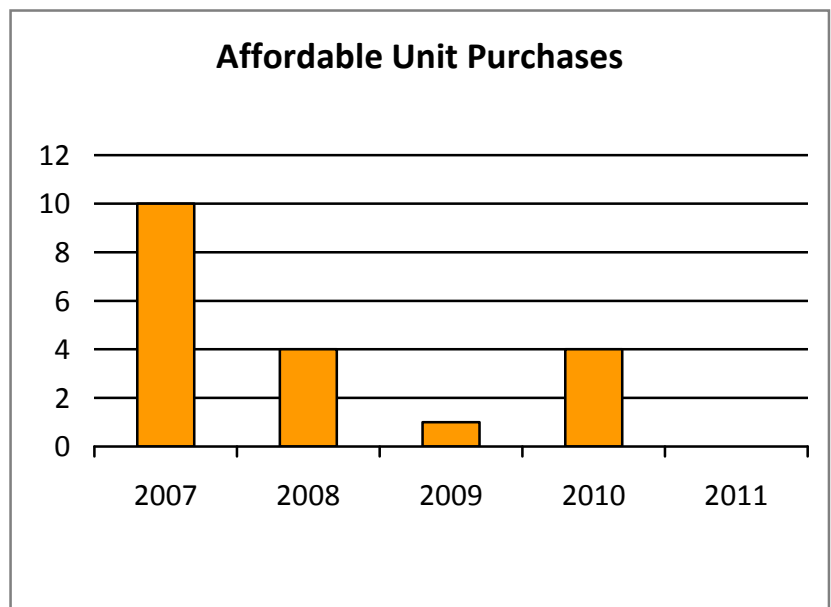
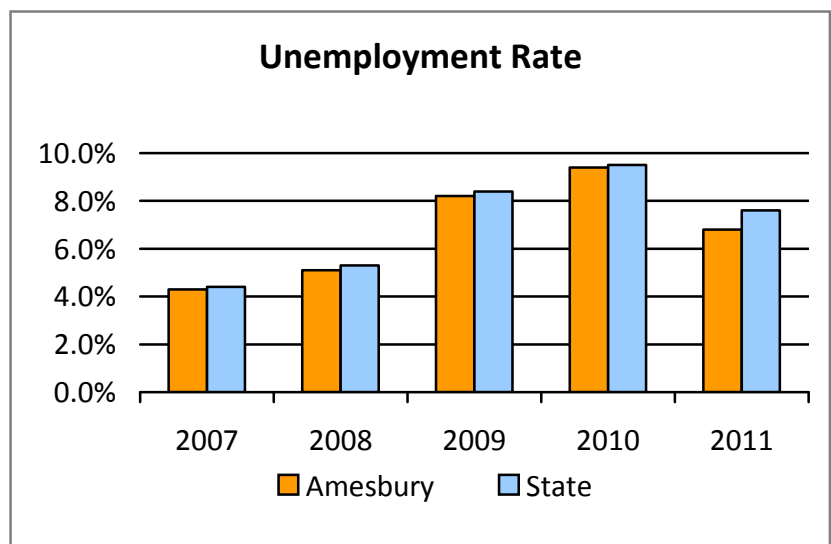
Less than 1¢ of every tax dollar is spent on the promotion, planning and regulation of development in the city.

This function of the city is driven largely by state and federal grants, and fees collected through the permit application process.

\$1,707,938 = total community development block grant revenue since 2006

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$18 per person per year for planning, conservation, and economic development programs.

A family of four with annual income of \$64,000 or less may qualify for affordable housing programs including downpayment assistance, first-time homebuyer seminars, and affordable housing units.



Note: No affordable Unit Purchases were recorded for 2011

Building – Denis Nadeau

The Building Inspectional Services function enhances public safety through the oversight and enforcement of state and local building, health and animal control codes and regulations. A current comprehensive study of surrounding municipalities is expected to bring Amesbury's inspection fees in line with surrounding communities within FY12.

By the Numbers

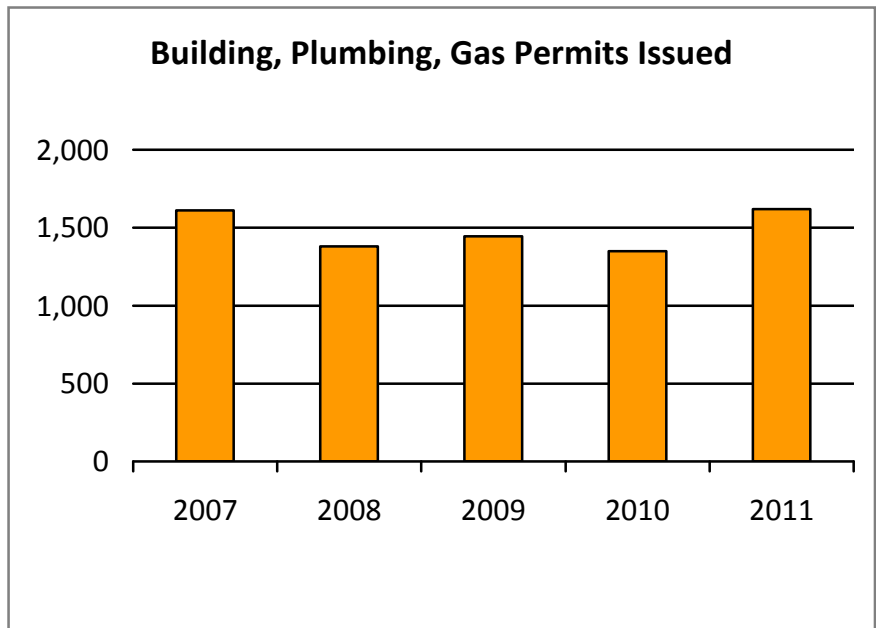
Less than 1¢ of every tax dollar is spent on the enforcement of building, health and animal regulations.

\$156,286 = fee revenue from permits.

Amesbury residents spend on average \$21 per resident per year in fees for building, plumbing, electrical, gas, zoning, health, and animal code enforcement.

The Health Nurse spends four hours every week at the Council on Aging. In addition, annual influenza clinics are conducted throughout the city in the fall.

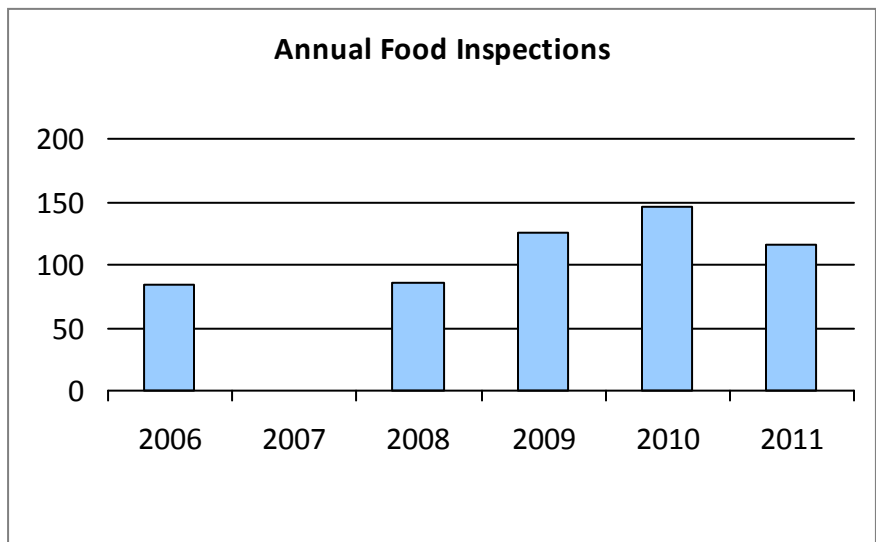
Building, Plumbing, Gas Permits Issued



Health – Jack Morris

Health Inspectional Services enhances public safety and health through the oversight and enforcement of state health and animal control codes and regulations.

Annual Food Inspections



Note: Data unavailable for 2007.

Community and Social Services

Amesbury Council on Aging – Annmary Connor

The Council on Aging continues to provide comprehensive social services to area seniors. A new initiative for this year brings community resources and light exercise to seniors through two local shows on Amesbury Community Television. Construction began this year on a new Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority building in Amesbury. This facility, scheduled to be open in the spring of 2012, will house a number of Amesbury's Community and Social Services, including the Senior Center.

By the Numbers

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$80 per resident per year for library materials, youth & senior enrichment programs, and veteran support services.

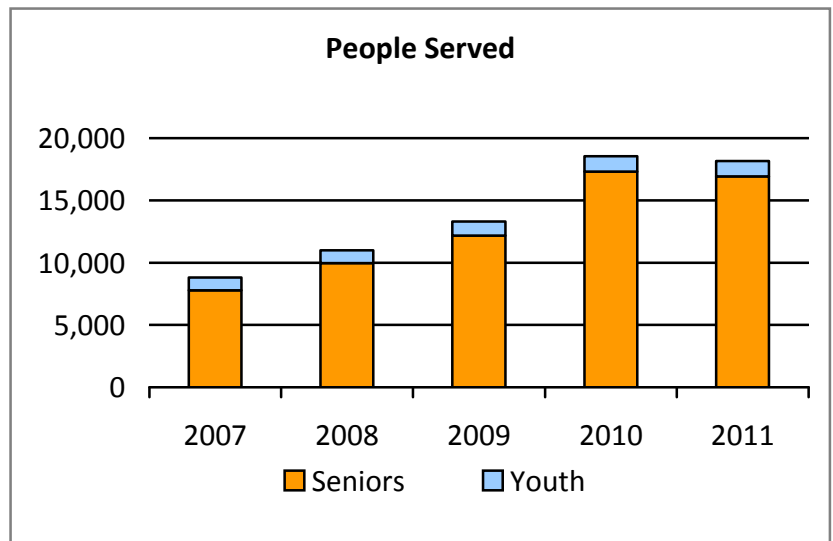
3¢ of every tax dollar is spent on providing free resources and programs for the enrichment of residents.

\$250,000 = amount that the Friends of the Council on Aging have committed to fundraising to furnish the interior of the new site.

Senior Services include providing seniors in the city with a nutritious hot lunch each day. Meals served in 2011 = 13,752

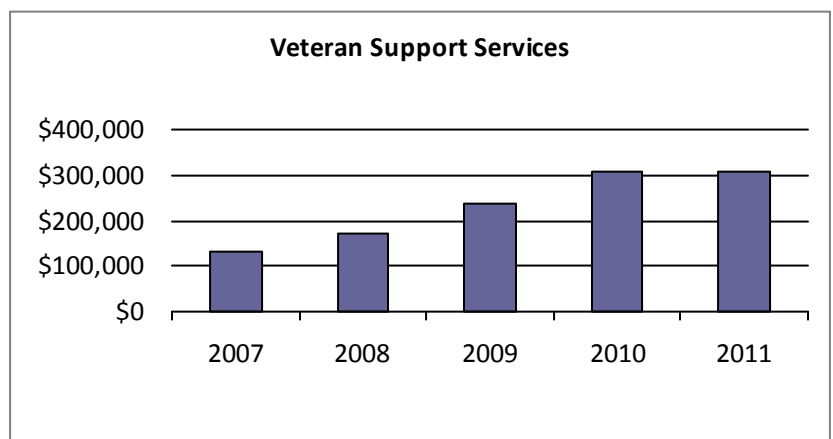
In collaboration with local schools and volunteer groups, the Veterans' Services Office ensures that over 2,000 veterans receive a flag at their gravesite each Memorial Day.

Veterans' Support Services include supplemental income, housing and fuel assistance, and medical care assistance.



Department of Veterans' Services – Kristen LaRue

The Amesbury Department of Veterans' Services has experienced a sharp increase in Chapter 115 claims over last year. The Veterans' Services Agent continues outreach and support activities designed to reach veterans, widows, and eligible dependents through partnerships with other city departments, educational institutions, and area VA hospitals.



The state reimburses Amesbury for 75% of the Veteran Support Services.

Community and Social Services

Amesbury Public Library – Patty DiTullio

The Amesbury Public Library saw a record number of residents utilize their services this year. The Amesbury Room, designed to showcase the local history collection, was created on the newly renovated main floor. On the lower level, a Teen Lounge was added and the expansion of collections continued. Visitors to the Library's website, or the online branch of the Library, increased 21% over last year, due in part to the many new features such as language learning programs and downloadable music and books. The Board of Library Trustees this year approved an exciting, ambitious five-year strategic plan outlining goals for services, IT improvements, and the expansion of services. It is clear Amesbury residents are recognizing its Library as a place for social connections and lifelong learning.

By the Numbers

\$2,500,000 = value of materials available for free at the public library. Every person in the city would need to spend \$154 at Barnes & Noble to amass a similar collection.

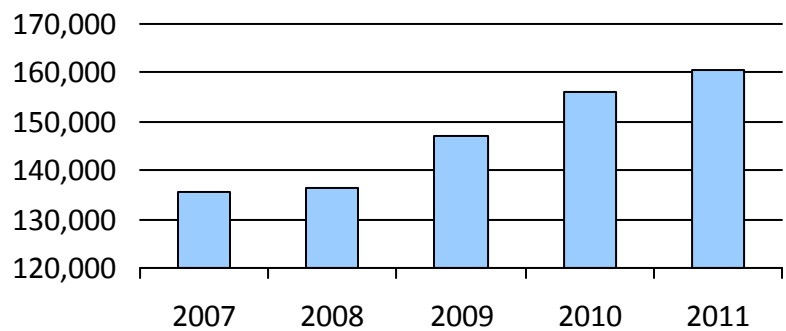
39% = single year increase in attendance for library programs.

\$35,000 = amount area families save through the Museum Pass program.

23 = weekly field trip hours for summer youth programs.

\$0 = tax dollars spent for youth recreation programs. Youth services are supported **entirely** through program fees.

Library Materials Circulation



Youth – Kathleen Crowley

Amesbury Youth Services brings cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities to area youth. Youth services are provided at no cost to taxpayers, as programs and services are completely fee-driven. For this year, Youth Recreation provided over 50 summer program opportunities for over 900 kids, while employing 108 summer staff members. After school programs continue to be popular as program participants totaled over 300.

Finance and Administration

Finance and Administration – Mike Basque

Finance & Administration remains committed to the responsible stewardship of the city's assets, finances, and records through sound financial management principles and adherence to state regulations and professional standards.

By the Numbers

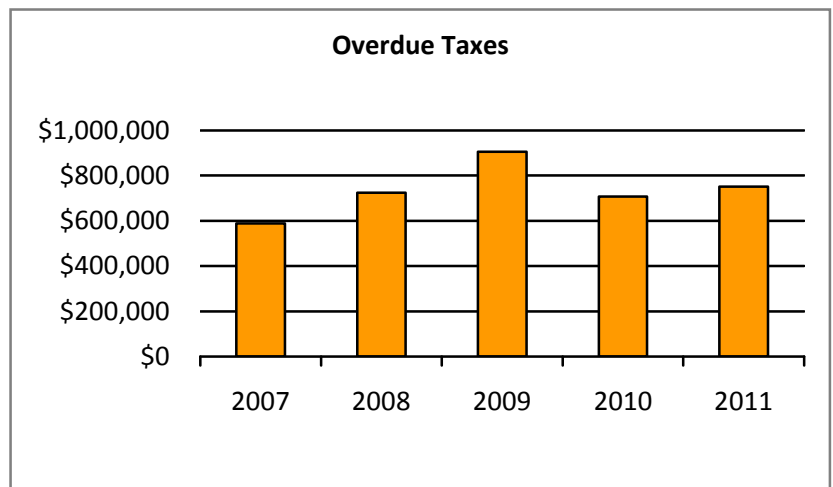
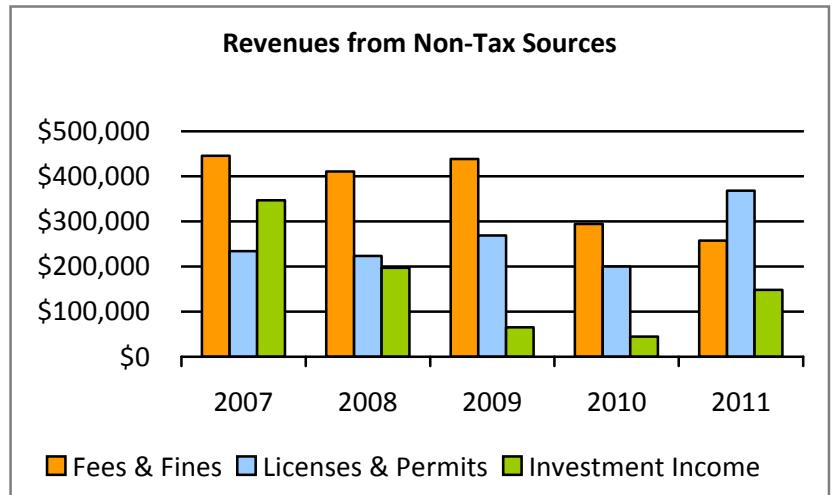
3¢ of every tax dollar is spent on the management of the city's cash, real assets, elections and records.

\$1,850,966,073 = total value of all residential, commercial, industrial and personal property in Amesbury.

Amesbury taxpayers spend \$58 per resident per year for assessing, collections, accounting, information management, license management, elections, records management, and clerk services.

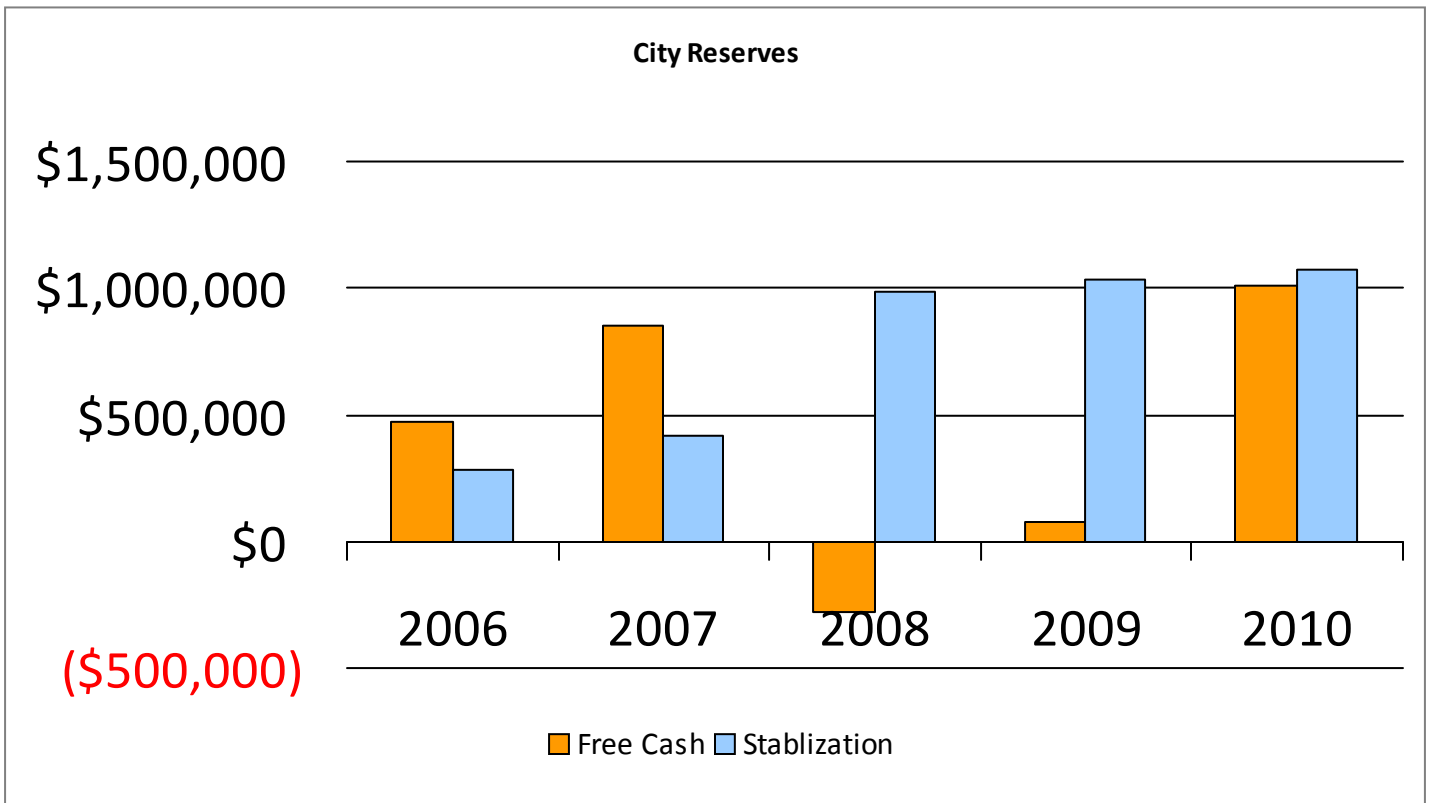
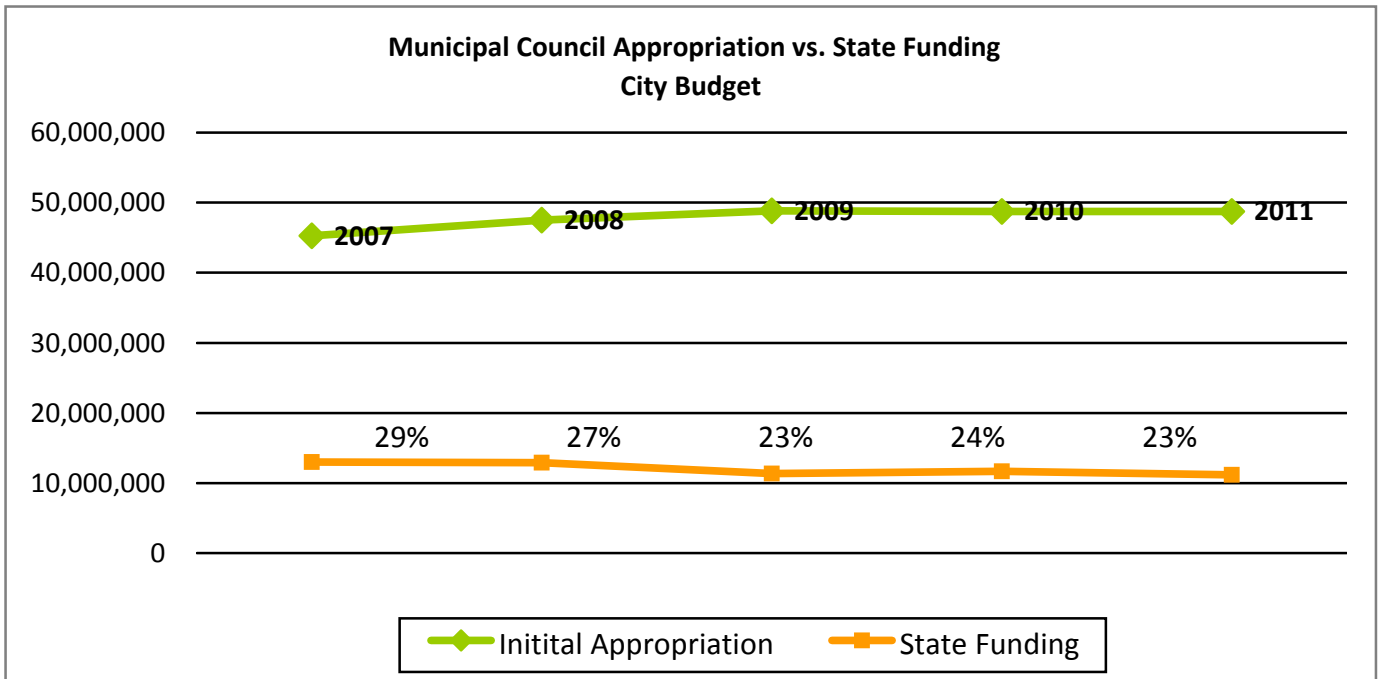
\$77,283,150 = receipts recorded and processed in 2010.

1,671 = number of online student accounts created by M.I.S. to facilitate the enrichment of parent/teacher interactions for Amesbury schools.



Records Activity for 2011	Total
Deaths	160
Births	142
Marriages	91
Dog License	1,235
Business Certificates	126

Finance and Administration



Additional Information and Resources

The city publishes other useful and informative reports on topics of interest to our citizens. The reports are available at the Public Library, Amesbury Town Hall or online at www.amesburyma.gov, Forms and Documents section.

Annual Budget ~ contains a detailed breakdown of the fiscal year's anticipated expenditures by department, category and line item. The budget contains a financial summary, revenue details, and prior-year comparisons. The Annual Budget is published in May.

Capital Improvement Plan ~ contains all of the known capital investment needs for the city, including proposed implementation schedules, cost estimates, and anticipated outcomes of projects. Spending on each budget is approved either with the annual operating budget vote or on an individual basis if projects cannot be funded through normal operations. The Capital Improvement plan is published in February.

Audit Report ~ contains a statement of the city's balance sheet, assessment of its financial management policies, and an independent report of the city's books. The Audit is published in January.

Wages Report ~ contains the gross salaries for all employees of the city by fiscal year and includes all reportable wages including regular wages, overtime, details (paid for privately), and stipends applicable with IRS code. The Wages Report is published in September.

Consumer Confident Report ~ contains information about drinking water quality, and updates and notices regarding water treatment. The Consumer Confidence report is published in July.

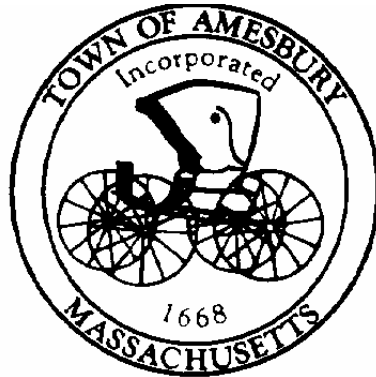
Revenue Projections and Financial Report ~ contains revenue projections for the coming five years, and the financial statements for the city's water and sewer enterprise funds. The Revenue Projections and Financial Report is published in February.

Public Records Request

Can't find what you are looking for? Consider a public records request. The Massachusetts Public Records Law provides that every person has a right to access public information. The right to access public information includes the right to inspect, copy or have copies provided upon payment of a reasonable fee. Public records requests should be made directly to the department housing the information, or to the Mayor's Office for general requests.

For more information about Massachusetts' Public Records Law contact the State Public Records Division at (617) 727-2832.

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Town of Amesbury
Municipal Council
Annual Report
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

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Municipal Council Annual Report

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

- 2010-070 Michael Bik to the Conservation Commission term to expire 6/30/13
- 2010-071 Katherine Sullivan to the Board of Health term to expire 6/30/13
- 2010-072 Lorri Fucile to the Board of Health unexpired term to expire 6/30/12
- 2010-073 David Andrews to the Cultural Council unexpired term to expire 6/30/11
- 2010-074 Joanne McCarthy to the Health Care Trust Commission term to expire 6/30/13
- 2010-075 2010 Re-Appointments to Various Boards and Committees

Licenses & Permits:

- 2010-065 Public Hearing – Temporary Pole Placement on Main Street
- 2010-067 Common Victualler License – Thalassa Pizzeria, 36 Main Street
- 2010-068 Common Victualler License – MJK Cappaccio d/b/a Cappaccio Italian Cuisine
143 Elm Street
- 2010-066 General Business License – Maggie Sundae, Town Ways
- 2010-069 Second Hand License – Cini & Beebs, 69 Main Street

2010-057 An Ordinance to Revise and Consolidate, Amend, Supplement and Codify the Bylaws and Ordinances of The City Known as The Town of Amesbury – President Lavoie, Councilor Dunford and Neale sponsor; Councilor Kimball moved to approve 2010-057 with the changes recommended by Town Counsel. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2010-061 \$59,220 FEMA Grant for protective gear – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Neale moved the finance committee recommendation for approval as submitted.
Councilor Dunford seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2010-062 Transfer between D.P.W. to Snow & Ice – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Neale moved the finance committee recommendation for approval as submitted.
Councilor Dunford seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2010-063 Transfer between General Department Funds – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Neale moved the finance committee recommendation for approval as submitted.
Councilor Ferguson seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2010-076 Resolution of Support for a \$1.4 million PWED Grant Application – Mayor Kezer sponsor
Councilor Gilday moved to support the Elm Street Public Works and Economic Development (PWED) Grant application as submitted. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Voted Unanimous

2010-077 Warrant for State Primary, September 14, 2010

Councilor Ferguson moved to post the Warrant for the State Primary scheduled for September 14, 2010. Councilor McMilleon seconded. Voted Unanimous

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Licenses & Permits:

- 2010-078 Second Hand License – The Kid’s Garage, 51 Macy Street
- 2010-079 General Business License – Tune & Lube d/b/a Pro Lube, 60 Elm Street
- 2010-080 Common Victualler License – Wild Bites, 36 Main Street
- 2010-081 General Business License – Whole Music Enterprises, 21 Water Street
- 2010-082 General Business License – Kookie d/b/a Custard Shoppe, 50 Market Street
- 2010-083 General Business License – Marie Burke Unlimited, 14 Cedar St, Unit #116
- 2010-084 August Grants Report – Mayor Kezer

Councilor Ferguson moved to affirm the Mayor’s acceptance of the August Grants. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Voted Unanimous

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

- 2010-090 Sandra Jutras – Health Care Trust Com. – term to expire 6/30/13
- 2010-091 Michael Basque – Chief Financial Officer – term 10/1/10 – 9/30/13

2010-085 To Accept a \$6,500 grant from The Provident Community Foundation to Amesbury Youth Recreation Program – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: The Provident Community Foundation has donated \$6,500 for the scholarship programs for Amesbury Youth Summer Program. Councilor Ferguson moved the finance committee recommendation to accept a grant from the Provident Community Foundation in the amount of \$6500 for the scholarship program for Amesbury Youth Recreation Programs. Councilor Gilday seconded. Roll Call Vote - Unanimous

2010-086 Appropriate \$200,000 for the Water St. Parking Garage – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: This order will provide the funding for the engineering and permitting of the repairs and expansion of the Water Street parking garage. Councilor Ferguson moved for approval of the finance committee recommendation; Ordered: that \$200,000 is appropriated for the planning, engineering and permitting of the expansion, remodeling, and reconstruction of and the making extraordinary repairs to the parking garage located on Water Street; and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow \$200,000 under G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote - Unanimous

2010-087 Appropriate \$2,400,000 for Capital Expenditures to Public Safety Buildings – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: This order will provide the additional funding required for the completion of repairs to the public safety buildings. Councilor Neale moved for approval of the finance committee recommendation; Ordered: that \$2,400,000 is appropriated for the remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to public safety buildings, including original equipment and related site improvements and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow \$2,400,000 under G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Roll Call Vote – 7- Yes, 2- No, Kelcourse, Kimball

2010-088 Appropriate \$400,000 for a Snow Dump and DPW Facility – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: This order will provide the funding for the engineering, permitting and site improvements for a snow dump and the study and preliminary engineering of a Department of Public Works facility. Councilor Neale moved for approval of the finance committee recommendation 2010-088A: Ordered that \$120,000 is appropriated for the engineering, permitting and site improvements for the construction of a snow dump and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow \$120,000 under G.L. c. 44 §7 or any other enabling authority; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project. Councilor Dunford seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous

2010-95 State Election Warrant – November 2, 2010

President Lavoie motioned to accept, Councilor Neale second – Voted Unanimous

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

2010-103 Mary-Lee Ford – Council on Aging unexpired term to expire 6/30/13

Licenses & Permits:

2010-095 Amesbury House of Pizza, 242 Main St. – Common Victualler License

2010-096 Felco Car Wash LLC, 62 Haverhill Rd. – General Business License

2010-097 Felco Mini Mart LLC, 60 Haverhill Rd. – General Business License

2010-098 Felco Enterprise, 60 Haverhill Rd. – Storage License

2010-099 Verizon Pole Hearing – Haverhill Rd

2010-088B Appropriate \$280,000 for a DPW Facility – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: This order will provide the funding for the study and preliminary engineering of a Department of Public Works facility. Councilor Neale moved Ordered: that \$250,000 is appropriated for the study and preliminary engineering of a Department of Public Works facility and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow \$250,000 under G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority; and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; provided, however, that only \$50,000 of this appropriation may be spent for feasibility study purposes and until the

feasibility study is presented to the municipal council and approved by the municipal council no more than \$50,000 of this appropriation may be spent. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous (9 Members present)

2010-089 25 year Mutual Aid Agreement for assistance with public health needs – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: The Mutual Aid agreement provides for aid and assistance between communities for public health needs when existing resources are not sufficient to cope with a situation or emergency that concerns public health. Councilor Ferguson moved the Finance Committee and the Ordinance Committee recommendation for approval as submitted. Councilor Kimball seconded. Voted – Unanimous

2010-092 An Order to request the Municipal Council to vote to amend Bill No. 2009-042, The R Street Bridge Takings and Alterations of Layouts. – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: This action will increase the compensation for William F. Drew and Beverly A. Drew from \$27,340 to \$47,172. Councilor Dunford moved the Finance Committee recommendation to amend 2009-041 to increase the compensation for William F. Drew and Beverly A. Drew from \$27,340.00 to \$41,172.00 for damages incurred in the taking of two permanent easements and a temporary easement as submitted. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous (9 Members present)

2010-094 Accept certain roads and easements within Woodsom Meadows subdivision for ownership by the public as a public way said road being Woodsom Drive – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: To accept Woodsom Meadows as a public way. Councilor Neale moved the recommendations of the Ordinance Committee, Finance Committee and Planning Board to accept Woodsom Drive as a public way as submitted. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous (9 Members present)

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Licenses & Permits:

- 2010-104 Auto Class II – FARCO Auto Sales & Auto Repair, 41 Hillside Ave.
- 2010-105 Common Victualler License – Crave Brasserie and Wine Bar, 32 Elm Street
- 2010-106 General Business License – The Witches Cauldron, 19 Main Street
- 2010-107 Fortune Telling License – The Witches Cauldron, 19 Main Street
- 2010-108 2011 Common Victualler License renewals
- 2010-109 2011 General Business License renewals
- 2010-110 2011 Dine, Dance & Entertainment renewals
- 2010-111 2011 Automatic Amusement renewals
- 2010-112 2011 Sunday Juke renewals
- 2010-113 2011 Inn Holders renewals
- 2010-114 2011 Auto Class I renewals
- 2010-115 2011 Auto Class II renewals
- 2010-116 2011 Auto Class III renewals

2010-100 An Order to hold the Annual Classification Hearing – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: On an annual basis, the Municipal Council must vote on the issue of selecting a residential factor which will determine the percentage of the burden to be borne by each class of property.

Councilor Neale moved the finance committee recommendation to adopt the selection of a Residential Factor of one (1) establishing a single rate. Councilor Dunford seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous 9-Yes Councilor Neale moved not to adopt an Open Space Discount. Councilor Gilday seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous 9-Yes

Councilor Neale moved the finance committee recommendation not to adopt a Residential Exemption. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous 9-Yes

Councilor Kelcourse moved the finance committee recommendation not to adopt the Commercial Exemption. Councilor McMilleon seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous 9-Yes

2010-101 An Order to increase the exemption amount of qualified applicants – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: On an annual basis, the Municipal Council must vote to decide if the Town of Amesbury shall increase the exemption amount of qualified applicants under the provisions of M.G.L.

Councilor McMilleon moved the finance committee recommendation to increase the exemption amount of qualified applicants as submitted. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous 9-Yes

2010-117 2011 Municipal Council – Regular meeting schedule

Councilor Neale motioned to adopt as submitted, Councilor McMilleon second. Voted - Unanimous

2010-118 Ad Hoc Advisory Committee – Election meeting location

Councilor Neale moved to create an Ad Hoc Committee to review changing the voting location for all elections. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Voted 8 Yes, Councilor McMilleon was not present for the vote.

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

2011- 003 Appointed to the Amesbury Industrial Dev. Financing Authority
Robert Gonthier Jr. term to expire 6/30/12 and Romeo Fournier term to expire 6/30/11

2011-005 Appoint Peter Suorsa – Amesbury Industrial Development Financing Authority term to expire 6/30/12

2011-006 Appoint Richard Joltes – Historical Commission – expired term to expire 6/30/11

2011- 004 Statement of Interest for Amesbury Elementary School

Councilor Allen Neale moved to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated January 24, 2011 for the Amesbury

Elementary School located at 20 South Hampton Road as submitted. Councilor Gilday seconded.
Voted Unanimous (9 – Members)

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

- 2011-009** Appoint Nate Cordova to the Cultural Council – term to expire 6/30/12 – Mayor Kezer sponsor
- 2011-007** 2011 Election Calendar Councilor Ferguson motioned to accept 2011-007, Councilor McMilleon second. Voted – Unanimous
- 2011-008** Election Ad Hoc Committee: Michael Bergeron – Superintendent’s Office; Debra LaValley Bibeau – School Committee; Robert Desmarais – DPW; Robert Gaudet – Board of Registrars; Bonniyo Kitchin – Town Clerk; Sgt Donovan/Sgt Chaput – Police Department; Councilor Neale motioned to accept 2011-088, Councilor Gilday second – Voted Unanimous

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Licenses & Permits:

2011-010 Common Victuallers – Amesbury One Stop II, 23 Rocky Hill Rd.

2010-102 An order to provide for the accounting treatment of the proceeds from the sale of surplus property. Councilors Kelcourse, Kimball, Lavoie, Neale sponsor

Summary: This order will be determinative with respect to the use of proceeds from the sale of surplus property, requiring such proceeds to be placed into a reserve account for the pay down of long term bond debt. Councilor Dunford moved 2010-102 Ordered: That the proceeds from the sale of surplus real estate property shall be placed into a Revenue Reserved From the Sale of Surplus Real Estate Account, and that each proceed from a sale shall be applied to the payment of indebtedness incurred under MGL Chap 44 Sec 7 (3) at a rate of ten percent per year. This shall apply to the proceeds from the sale of all surplus real estate except the proceeds from the sale of park land which shall be used only for the acquisition of land for park purposes, or for capital improvements to park lands as outlined in MGL Chap 44 Sec 63. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Roll Call Vote – Ferguson-Yes, Gilday-Yes, Kelcourse-Yes, Kimball-Yes, Neale-Yes, Chatigny-Yes, Dunford-Yes, McMilleon-Yes

2011- 002 Fire Attack Pumper – 5 Year lease agreement

Summary: The Fire Department seeks to purchase a new Fire Attack Pumper that will become the Front Line Pumper allowing the 2001 Engine 1 to become the Second Line Pumper and the 1996 Engine 3 to become the Reserve Pumper. Councilor Dunford moved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the five-year lease purchase agreement for a new Fire Attack Pumper as submitted. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Roll Call Vote – Ferguson-Yes, Gilday-Yes, Kelcourse-Yes, Kimball-Yes, Neale-Yes, Chatigny-Yes, Dunford-Yes, McMilleon-Yes

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Licenses & Permits:

- 2011-010 Common Victualler License – Amesbury One Stop II, 23 Rocky Hill Rd.
- 2011-013 Pole Hearing – Lions Mouth Rd & Friend Street
- 2011-015 General Business License – The Healing Arts Massage Studio, 14 Cedar St., Suite 323
- 2011-016 General Business License – Driven 2 Distraction, 11 Friend Street
- 2011-017 General Business License – Riverwalk Brewing Corp., 36 Main St.
- 2011-020 2011 Renewals – Pool/Bowling License
- 2011-021 2011 Renewals – Junk Dealer/Second Hand/Antique License

2011-011 A Request that the Municipal Council vote to place on the November 8, 2011 ballot the attached revisions to the Amesbury Home Rule Charter

Summary: See attached revisions to the Amesbury Home Rule Charter as recommended by the Amesbury Charter Commission, which include revisions by the Mayor. Councilor McMilleon moved that the Municipal Council vote to place on the November 8, 2011 ballot the attached revisions to the Amesbury Home Rule Charter and to amend 2011-011 by inserting at the beginning the following language: “Shall this city approve the charter amendment proposed by the Municipal Council, as summarized below?”

(With the stipulation that the summary shall be provided by legal council based upon the recommendation of the Ordinance Committee.) YES _____ NO _____ Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote 8-Yes, Gilday, Kelcourse, Kimball, McMilleon, Neale, Chatigny, Ferguson, Lavoie

2011-012 Request to overspend the FY2011 Snow & Ice budget, Mayor Kezer sponsor.

Summary: M.G.L. allows the Town to overspend the Snow and Ice budget with the approval of the Municipal Council. The deficit will be funded through end-of-the-year transfers.

Councilor McMilleon moved to accept the finance committee recommendation for approval as submitted. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote – 8-Yes, Gilday, Kelcourse, Kimball, McMilleon, Neale, Chatigny, Ferguson, Lavoie (8 Members present)

Re-appointment of Charles LaBella – Whittier Vocational Tech. School – term to expire 3/31/2014

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Licenses & Permits:

- 2011-014 Pleasant Valley Marina, LLC dba - Common Victualler
- 2011-022 Cherry Bomb Ice Cream Inc – Common Victualler
- 2011-023 Robin Mulcahey dba Circa Vintage Wares & Chairs – Junk Dealer
- 2011-025 Mill 77 Trading Co. – Junk Dealer
- 2011-026 Absolute Auto – Class II Auto – Renewal

2011-018 Transfer \$35,000 from Reserve Fund to Veterans Dept. – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: Transfer \$35,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Veterans Department to cover FY11 expenditures.

Councilor Neale moved the Finance Committee recommendation to authorize the transfer of \$35,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Veterans Department as submitted. Councilor Kimball seconded.

Roll Call – 8 – Yes, Kelcourse, Kimball, McMilleon, Neale, Dunford, Ferguson, Gilday and Lavoie

2011-019 Transfer \$10,000 from Youth to Youth Services – Mayor Kezer sponsor

Summary: Transfer \$10,000 from Youth to Youth Services to cover FY11 expenditures.

Councilor Ferguson moved the Finance Committee recommendation to authorize the transfer from the Youth Fund to Youth Services to cover FY 2011 expenditures. Councilor Kelcourse seconded.

Roll Call - 8-Yes, Kelcourse, Kimball, McMilleon, Neale, Dunford, Ferguson, Gilday, Lavoie

2010-093 Accept certain roads and easements within Pond Hill Subdivision for ownership by the public as public ways; said roads being Spindletree Rd., Lancewood Dr., Tallowood Ln., Chapman Way and Whitewood Circle – Mayor Kezer

Summary: Initiates the procedure for acceptance of the public ways listed above.

Councilor Neale moved to adopt the recommendation of the Finance Committee and authorize the Mayor to make the Order of Taking that's attached and also that we accept as public ways those streets laid out on the plans that are referenced in the Order of Taking, namely, Spindletree Road, Lancewood Drive, Tallowood Lane, Chapman Way and Whitewood Circle. Councilor McMilleon seconded. Roll Call Vote – 8-Yes, Kelcourse, Kimball, McMilleon, Neale, Dunford, Ferguson, Gilday, Lavoie

2010-088B Discussion on the DPW Feasibility Study and Vote on authorizing the Design Work to proceed past the current \$50,000 limitation under Measure 2010-088B as adopted on November 9, 2010

Councilor Kelcourse moved that the Municipal Council accept the findings of the feasibility study dated April 12, 2011 generated in accordance with measure 2010-088B with the following provisos; 1. That the facility to be designed be the scope and size similar to Option B of said study but still capable of reasonably meeting Amesbury DPW's current requirements; and 2. The facility be designed to be easily added on to, so as, to allow for future needs of Amesbury to be reasonably accommodated. Councilor Ferguson seconded. Roll Call Vote – 7-Yes, Kelcourse, Kimball, Neale, Dunford, Ferguson, Gilday, Lavoie; 1-No, McMilleon

2011-029 Notice of Upcoming Assessment for Accreditation – Amesbury Police Department

Councilor McMilleon read 2011-029 into the record. Council Communications, Announcements and Committee Reports - Councilor Neale read the FY10 Audit Committee Report into the record.

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At the meeting of the Amesbury Municipal Council held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in the Town Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

Mayoral Appointments:

2011-035 Alison McGonagle – Cultural Council term to expire 6/30/13

Licenses & Permits:

- 2011-034 Common Victualler – Charles Labella d/b/a Monster Dog – Town Ways
- 2011-024 Edward Maccaro dba Merrimack Traders - Junk Dealer
- 2011-031 Sharie Camren dba Life Roots Healing Center – General Business License
- 2011-032 Janice Valverde, LMT dba Valverde Massage – General Business License

2011-027 Transfer \$335,000 from Free Cash to Snow & Ice Removal to cover FY11 expenditures – Mayor Sponsor Councilor McMilleon moved the Finance Committee recommendation for approval as submitted. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9-Yes

2011-033 Request to Vote to Surplus the Amesbury Town Hall Annex building located at 13 School Street

Summary: The Town seeks to surplus the Town Hall Annex building in order to seek bids for the private investment and purchase of the building. Councilor Neale moved the Finance Committee recommendation for approval as submitted. Councilor Chatigny seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9 – Yes

2011-030 Request to amend the Amesbury Zoning Bylaw and Map– Mayor Kezer and Councillor Gilday sponsor - Summary: Amend Sections V, VI, VII, VIII, XI, XI.J, XI.J2, XI.O, and Map. Councilor Kelcourse moved the Ordinance Committee and Planning Board recommendations for approval of the proposed amendments to the Amesbury Zoning Bylaw and the Amesbury Zoning Map as submitted. Councilor McMilleon seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9-Yes

2011-028 Precinct Boundary Map as amended by 2010 Federal Census

Councilor Neale moved to accept as presented by the Town Clerk, the 2011 Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Amesbury; including the enclosed map, legal description and block listings. Councilor McMilleon seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9 – Yes

2011-001 FY2012 Budget Mayor Kezer sponsor

Be it Ordered by the Municipal Council of the Town of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows: that the Operating Budget for the Fiscal Year 2012 be approved as follows:

Municipal Council	\$	88,850
Mayor	\$	207,043
Reserve Funds	\$	50,000
Administration & Finance	\$	258,079
Assessor	\$	185,173
Collector/Treasurer	\$	202,481
Legal Services	\$	100,300
Mgmt Information Systems	\$	267,198
Central Supply	\$	72,500
Town Clerk	\$	167,511
Elections	\$	33,789
Conservation Commission	\$	32,442
Community & Economic Development	\$	252,336
Planning Board	\$	15,728
Board of Appeals	\$	5,891
Municipal Buildings	\$	134,120
Police Department	\$	3,303,241

Fire Department	\$ 2,786,553
Communications	\$ 532,109
Inspections	\$ 190,653
Weights & Measures	\$ 4,500
Emergency Management	\$ 27,536
Harbormaster	\$ 7,500
Department of Public Works	\$ 1,263,091
Snow & Ice	\$ 225,000
Outdoor Lighting	\$ 170,004
Refuse/Recycling	\$ 979,118
Regional Health Department	\$ 152,961
Council on Aging	\$ 104,085
Veterans Services	\$ 372,649
Library	\$ 691,213
Youth	\$ 265,627
Debt Services	\$ 2,317,094
Other Assessments	\$ 830,193
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,990,146
Insurance Expense	\$ 278,300
School	\$ 25,833,496

For a total appropriation of: \$ 47,398,510

That to fund said appropriation, the Municipal Council approves \$46,218,383 to be raised by taxation and other revenue sources and further that \$ 1,180,127 be applied from the sources detailed below:

Sale of Cemetery Lots	\$ 9,000
Ambulance Receipts	\$ 550,000
Youth Revolving	\$ 265,627
Cemetery Interest	\$ 8,000
Waterways Improvement	\$ 7,500
Free Cash	\$ 340,000

Further voted that the Municipal Council approves the following enterprise fund budgets:

Landry Stadium	\$ 5,000
Sewer Department	\$ 2,740,786
Water Department	\$ 3,362,921

Therefore, the Municipal Council hereby appropriates the following:

TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$ 53,507,217

Councilor McMilleon moved the Finance Committee recommendation of all unquestioned department budgets. Councilor Kelcourse seconded. Roll Call Vote- 9-Yes
 Councilor Neale moved the Finance Committee and the Mayor’s recommendation of \$25,833,495 for the School budget. Councilor Kimball seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9-Yes
 Councilor McMilleon moved the Finance Committee recommendation to appropriate the following Total Appropriation of \$53,507,217. Councilor Neale seconded. Roll Call Vote – 9-Yes