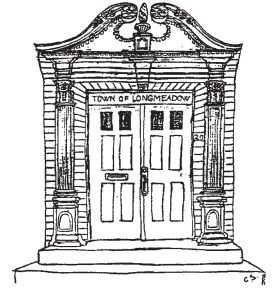

Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Please bring this report to the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 29, 2008
at 7:00 p.m. at Longmeadow High School

Note: *If you need special accommodations to attend this meeting, please call 565-4110.*



Report of the Finance Committee to be made at Town Meeting

Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Message of Town Manager

Background

The Fiscal Year 2009 budget as adopted by the Select Board funds existing service levels through both recurring revenue and reserves, while setting aside a portion of free cash (raised through the FY08 override as excess capacity) to fill an anticipated revenue gap in FY 2010. This strategy was developed collaboratively in the autumn of 2007 during meetings of the Budget Strategy Committee, an advisory group comprised of representatives from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee.

With the settlement of the school collective bargaining agreements, and the anticipated FY09 settlements with town collective bargaining agreements, it was clear last fall that existing revenues could not meet existing service levels without an increase in revenue. Failing that, extensive personnel and service reductions would be necessary.

The School Committee, Select Board and Finance Committee endorsed a Proposition 2 ½ operating override to raise \$2.15 Million in property taxes to fund FY07 school collective bargaining settlements; to fund FY08 school collective bargaining settlements; to fund FY09 school and town collective bargaining settlements; and to set aside approximately \$ 1 Million in free cash into the Operating Stabilization fund to help “bridge” the anticipated budget gap in FY2010. The town would also use \$500,000 in future certified free cash (after July 1, 2008) to support the FY09 budget.

In addition, the FY09 budget implements enterprise funds for water, sewer and solid waste/recycling in accordance with the adoption of Chapter 44, section 53F ½ by town meeting in the fall of 2007. Direct and indirect costs for these services will be accounted for, and interest on revenues generated by these services will accrue to the respective enterprise fund.

Revenues

Revenues are generally comprised of the following resources: real estate and personal property taxes; state aid (including Chapter 70 education aid and lottery receipts); offsets from measured services (water, sewer, childcare, and ambulance fees); and local receipts, such as motor vehicle excise, license and permit fees, interest on revenues and a variety of other smaller sources.

Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes

Property taxes are the single largest revenue source in Longmeadow’s budget. In 2008, 77% of the general fund budget was funded by property taxes. By law, the total tax levy in the community may only increase annually by 2 ½ %, plus any new growth in the tax base (from new construction or remodeling), plus any override or debt exclusion approved by the voters.

In November, voters approved a \$2.15 Million override, boosting the overall levy from \$33,820,714 to \$35,970,714. Yet this boost, at 2 ½ %, provides only \$53,750 in additional revenue as part of the overall allowable increase of \$869,494. The town also relies on new growth annually to increase that tax base. Because Longmeadow is largely built out, new growth is relatively small in comparison to other communities. New growth added \$217,708 in FY08; in FY09, only \$125,000 is projected at this time.

Total additional tax revenue for FY09 = \$994,494

State Aid

	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>FY09</u>
Net	\$ 5,680,604	\$ 6,034,942	\$ 6,216,814

The state budget proposes a net increase of \$181,814 or about 3% above FY08 levels, which is factored into estimated revenue for FY09. While Chapter 70 school aid shows an increase, it is offset by other charges and assessments by the state. Lottery revenue shows no increase.

Total net additional state aid for FY09 = \$ 181,814

Offsets

Offsets are revenues derived from measured, fee-based services, such as enterprise, special revenue and revolving funds. In Longmeadow, these are comprised of water and sewer charges, transfer station/solid waste fees, ambulance charges and daycare fees. These fees “offset” the cost of these services so they aren’t supported by the limited general fund resources.

In the proposed budget, the offsets include:

Water	\$ 1,626,879
Sewer	\$ 1,920,756
Transfer Station/Recycling	\$ 328,000
Daycare	\$ 326,400
Ambulance	\$ 467,375
TOTAL	\$ 4,669,410

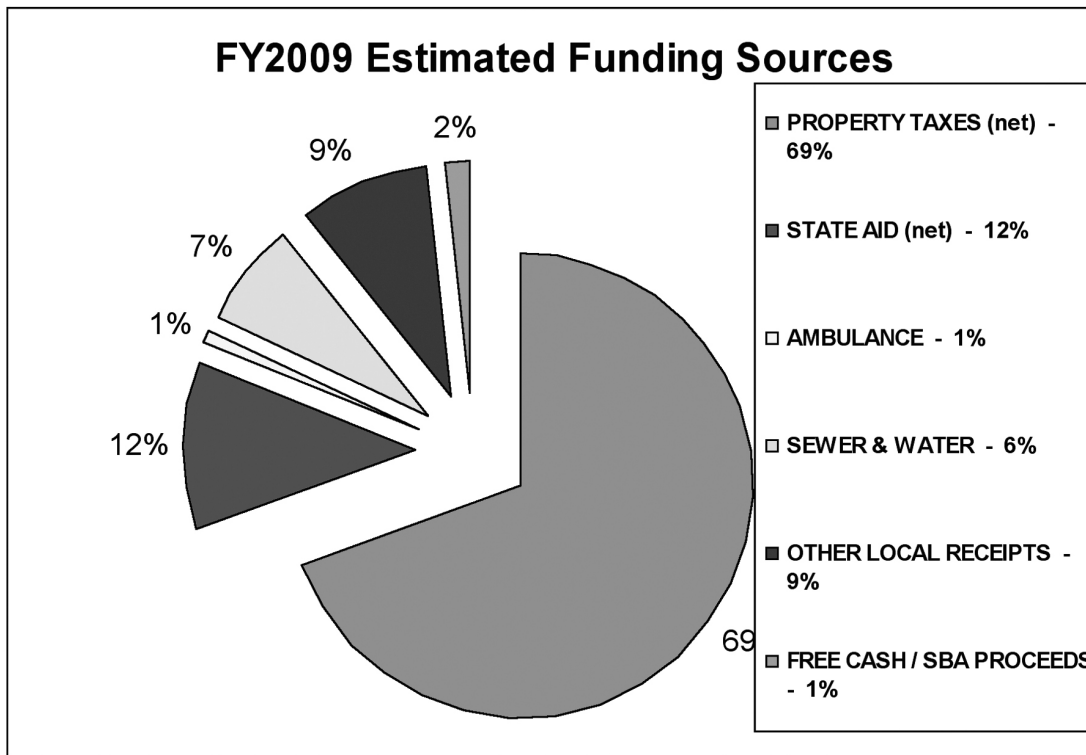
Offsets also pay for a portion of salaries and costs carried in the general fund, known as indirect or administrative costs, where personnel or expenses benefit or otherwise support these services. The solid waste enterprise fund is subsidized by the general fund in FY09 by \$715,989 to cover the cost of residential curbside waste and recycling collection. The ambulance fund covers 25% of the Fire department, to cover costs of providing emergency medical response to the community. Fees from day care and pre-school programs cover the cost of direct and indirect costs of those programs. The parks and recreation revolving fund covers the costs of recreational programming.

Local Receipts

This is the broadest category of general fund revenue, and the smallest source. The largest categories and the FY09 estimate for each are:

Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 2,150,000
Investment Income	470,000
Licenses and permits	149,500
Penalties/Interest (past due taxes)	150,000
Rentals (Wireless communication sites)	105,000

Estimated general fund local receipts for FY08 are \$3,480,600; FY09 is budgeted at \$3,443,600, a decline of 1%. The reduction in general fund receipts is due principally to two factors: the trending down of interest rates on investments, and the fact that the three new enterprise accounts will retain interest income on their fund balances, instead of interest accruing to the general fund.



Free Cash and Operating Stabilization Fund

The FY09 budget relies on use of free cash and anticipated use of some small portion of the Operating Stabilization fund. Those amounts will be finally determined in the fall, and appropriated at the fall town meeting, when FY08 budgets and receipts are closed out, and a clearer funding picture emerges.

Budgets

The proposed budget maintains existing service levels. Unavoidable increases, such as environmental and regulatory compliance; increases in heating and motor vehicle fuel; and increases in the cost of water and wastewater treatment by the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission also are included.

Below is a highlight of changes in the budget:

Sewer Budget

- Addition of one full time person dedicated to sewer system maintenance
- Increases in maintenance, cleaning, inspection activities
- Implementation of year 1 of 10 year plan to televise all lines and record condition to develop long term maintenance, repair, replacement plan

Increased sewer funding is especially critical given the effect poor past maintenance has had on other costs and on public good will. From 2005 to present, the town’s insurer has paid out \$334,104 in claims due to sewer backups into homes; the town’s out of pocket costs were \$40,000. The good news is that claims have declined, but the town needs a regular maintenance plan and the necessary equipment to prevent these unfortunate occurrences. The Select Board and Capital Planning Committee support funding of a sewer jet, which the additional staff will utilize as part on an on-going sewer cleaning program to reduce back-ups and improve maintenance.

Athletic Fields

Representatives from school, town and youth organizations met during the past year to develop a strategy for improving the quality of playing fields. The town has assumed responsibility for these fields as part of consolidation. In the past, not all fields were properly maintained or properly installed. A field maintenance plan to improve field condition was developed. With the cooperation of town, school and sports organizations repairs were made to several fields. To continue improved maintenance, funds have been reallocated from parks and recreation to public works. The Capital Planning Committee recommends funding for irrigation improvements to school fields, also part of the field improvement strategy.

Information Technology

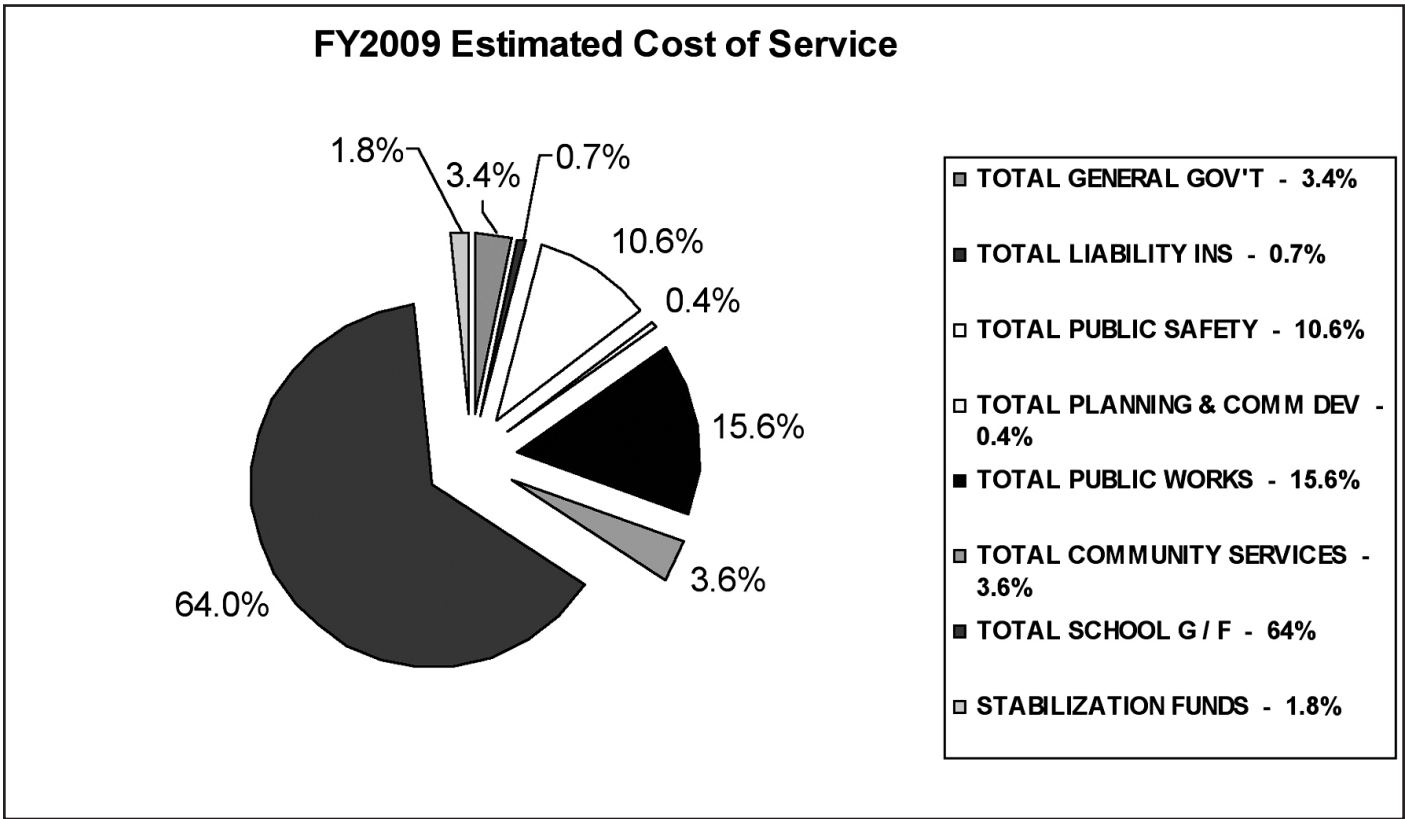
The Capital Planning Committee recommends the town engage in a contract to install a fiber optic network to schools and key town buildings. The annual cost to the town for system support will be \$50,000; for the schools \$60,000. Included in the budget are funds for system support with an expected implementation in mid-year.

Elections

The budget has increased to cover the cost of the state primary and presidential elections.

Schools

The School Committee submitted a general fund budget request of \$28,280,191; the recommended budget is \$28,120,311. The FY09 school budget includes new positions, not included in the FY08 budget, related to special education services, as well as a new fulltime speech pathologist, and a part-time psychologist.

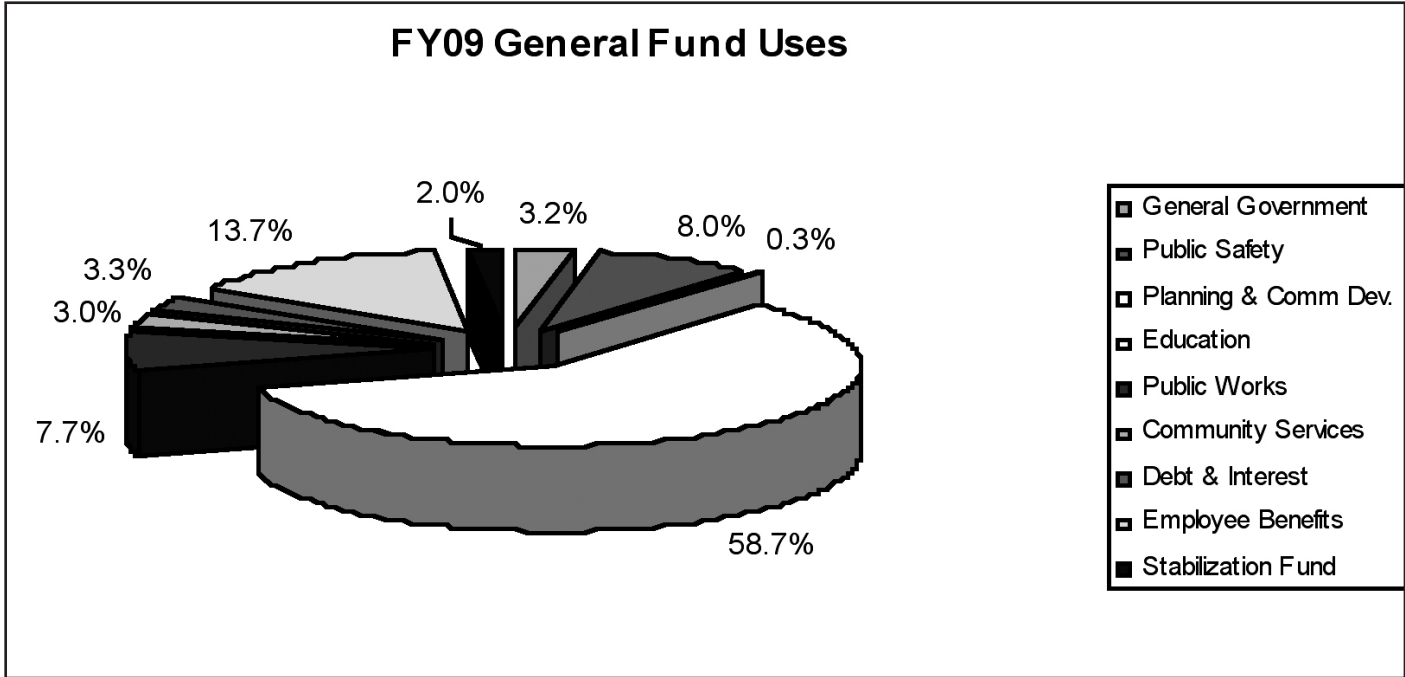


Summary

The Fiscal Year 2009 budget maintains existing service levels, with previously identified changes. The overall FY09 proposed budget increased by 5.86% from the FY08 adjusted budget. This includes all operations and all appropriations, including enterprise accounts, offsets and special revenues. As earlier stated, the general fund is principally limited by Proposition 2½: the override in November of 2008 has made it possible to maintain services. The apportionment of available general funds among major categories is as follows:

General Fund Appropriation	FY08 to FY09	FY07-FY09 (2 year trend)
Municipal	4.80%	8.09%
Education	5.84%	13.41%
Employee Benefits/Liability Insur.	3.94%	8.87%
Curbside Waste Removal Subsidy	-3.76%	-7.60%

FY09 General Fund Uses



General Government

	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Select Board / Town Manager	155,648.17	183,582.12	183,002.50	190,430.00	190,430.00
Moderator	172.00	100.00	175.00	175.00	175.00
Law Department	111,600.00	146,465.37	100,600.00	100,600.00	95,600.00
Department of Administration & Finance					
Accounting	247,706.46	277,148.52	292,853.29	305,074.00	294,424.00
Independent Audit	21,500.00	22,000.00	28,000.00	28,500.00	28,500.00
Human Resources	96,063.79	105,433.49	108,887.00	133,160.00	115,901.00
Assessors	134,487.12	128,736.89	124,485.00	152,480.00	126,055.00
Treasurer/Collector	202,991.71	259,796.11	251,367.00	262,132.00	260,132.00
Information Technology Administration	135,064.17	129,827.08	131,964.00	181,578.00	165,286.00
Town Clerk	78,318.94	97,471.34	99,481.00	105,888.00	105,001.00
Elections & Registration	32,846.21	54,868.64	34,600.00	41,600.00	38,900.00
Finance Committee Expense	210.00	220.00	225.00	250.00	250.00
Reserve Fund (transfers)	0.00	0.00	82,250.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	1,216,608.57	1,405,649.56	1,437,889.79	1,601,867.00	1,520,654.00
<u>OTHER SERVICE COSTS</u>					
Employee Benefits (estimated)	162,503.00	216,267.30	225,000.00	239,660.00	232,000.00
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	11,428.76	9,500.00	15,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
Debt Service	2,131.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	1,392,671.33	1,632,416.86	1,678,889.79	1,860,527.00	1,771,654.00
Total Full Time Equivalents	18.91	18.91	18.91	19.91	18.53
Non-Benefited Full Time Equivalents included above		0.75	0.75	0.25	0.50

	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Non-Budget Expenditures					
Election & Registration	0.00	2,700.00	1,350.00	2,700.00	2,700.00

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
BUDGETED REVENUES				
Property Taxes (inc Tax Lien receipts)	32,186,192.70	32,509,823.69	35,956,387.00	36,983,572.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	2,297,089.50	2,078,194.23	2,070,000.00	2,150,000.00
Penalties / Interest on Taxes	176,500.08	121,864.94	120,000.00	150,000.00
Interest Income	406,958.81	658,572.96	632,000.00	470,000.00
Select Board	84,117.15	209,690.43	180,000.00	193,600.00
Collector's Fees	12,409.70	22,052.86	27,000.00	27,000.00
Town Clerk	25,265.25	29,716.70	27,200.00	27,200.00
State Receipts	5,630,195.11	6,018,874.41	6,142,920.00	6,334,080.00
All Other	133,408.03	214,970.15	0.00	0.00
TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUES	40,952,136.33	41,863,760.37	45,155,507.00	46,335,452.00

General government services provide policy and management direction to town departments, and support function to all operations. Services include management and fiscal oversight, legal counsel, accounts payable, account receivable, collections, property valuation, investment and fund management, recruitment, payroll and benefit administration, information technology and systems management support, voter registration and elections, and vital records management.

In the Department of Finance and Administration, Human Resources is responsible for payroll and employee benefits for more than 800 current employees, benefits for more than 600 retirees, and an annual payroll in excess of \$30 Million. The Assessors office assesses more than 5,400 parcels of land, with a combined valuation of \$2.1 Billion. The Treasurer/Collectors office issues 54,000 bills annually and annually manages \$120 Million in transactions. In FY 07, the Collector's office collected \$222,000 in unpaid back taxes: to date the FY08 collection is \$268,000, for an overall collection rate of 98.4% for the fiscal year. Purchasing processed 100 contracts with an overall value of \$5,636,862. The Town Clerk registered 11,453 voters and 5,013 dogs and processed 3,800 recycling permits.

The FY09 budget includes funds for maintenance and system support of the proposed fiber optic network recommended by the Capital Planning Committee.

Public Safety	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Police Department	2,354,701.55	2,300,668.66	2,349,460.00	2,459,116.00	2,443,594.00
Fire & Emergency Medical Services	1,598,580.21	1,683,963.96	1,767,120.00	1,838,219.00	1,858,011.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	3,953,281.76	3,984,632.62	4,116,580.00	4,297,335.00	4,301,605.00

OTHER SERVICE COSTS

Employee Benefits (estimated)	765,405.00	912,577.20	960,000.00	1,053,885.00	1,040,000.00
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	135,270.84	116,630.00	160,000.00	170,000.00	170,000.00
Debt Service	461,891.00	509,375.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	5,315,848.60	5,523,214.82	5,236,580.00	5,521,220.00	5,511,605.00

Total Full Time Equivalents	54.79	55.79	55.79	55.79	55.79
Non-Benefited Full Time Equivalents included above	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94

Non-Budget Expenditures					
Police	147,141.96	21,046.55	70,814.43	43,400.00	43,400.00
Fire / EMS	51,564.12	7,800.00	7,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
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BUDGETED REVENUES

Police Department	81,102.00	89,695.22	93,200.00	100,000.00
Fire Department	15,766.80	16,756.21	14,000.00	14,000.00

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
Ambulance	507,736.60	440,717.43	443,730.00	467,375.00
Other	434.00	353.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUES	605,039.40	547,521.86	550,930.00	581,375.00

Public safety services include police, fire, emergency medical services, emergency planning and response, animal control, and school crossing guards. Federal and state agencies are compelling communities to place increasing emphasis on emergency planning, so more staff time and resources are being directed are emergency planning. These departments have been active in school security planning and exercises, continuing work on the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, and on-going public safety programs during the past budget year.

The Police Department has a staff of 30, down from 32 in 2004, and from 35.5 in 2000. In FY07, the department responded to 15,000 incidents, compared to 15,437 in FY 06. These include: 1,264 alarm calls 997 accident investigations 1,919 motor vehicle stops 66 arrests. The Fire Department is staffed by 22 full-time employees, providing 24 hour services. In FY07, the Department responded to 1,941 calls: 1,285 for Emergency Medical services, 656 fire-related. The Department conducted 462 inspections, and 52 public education sessions. The emergency notification system was utilized 204 times, making a total of 21,676 calls.

No service changes have been planned as part of this budget.

Dept. of Planning & Community Development	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Planning Board	5,757.73	9,625.00	7,905.00	65,845.00	8,845.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	4,908.12	3,115.17	4,000.00	5,000.00	4,000.00
Department of Inspection & Zoning Enforcement	123,114.28	130,950.44	133,767.00	139,546.00	139,546.00
Conservation Commission	7,379.94	7,068.35	7,755.00	9,947.00	8,947.00
Historic Commission	0.00	200.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Historic District Commission	40.00	200.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	141,200.07	151,158.96	153,527.00	220,438.00	161,438.00

OTHER SERVICE COSTS

Employee Benefits (estimated)	29,497.00	34,079.91	35,800.00	39,869.75	39,869.75
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	1,537.54	1,236.00	1,750.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Debt Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	172,234.61	186,474.87	191,077.00	262,307.75	203,307.75
Total Full Time Equivalents	1.94	1.94	1.94	2.94	1.94
Non-Benefited Full Time Equivalents included above	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33
Non-Budget Expenditures Conservation Comm.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
BUDGETED REVENUES				
Conservation Commission	50.00	125.00	0.00	50.00
Planning Board	1,825.00	1,250.00	1,000.00	1,250.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	6,000.00	4,655.00	4,500.00	4,575.00
Building Department	129,488.00	152,810.00	154,400.00	155,925.00
Weights & Measures	1,633.00	4,989.00	4,500.00	5,000.00
TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUES	138,996.00	163,829.00	164,400.00	166,800.00

The Department of Planning and Community Development includes the functions of planning, zoning enforcement and appeal, building and code enforcement, historical resources activities, and conservation activities. All land use permit applications are processed through this office, and it is often the first stop for contractors and builders and for developers. The department is comprised of volunteer boards and commissions and has a total staff of 1.94, including the Commissioner of Buildings and two part-time clerical positions. The town manager has served as the Director since charter implementation.

Dept. of Public Works	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Administration & Streets	1,005,705.10	1,124,215.09	1,158,079.00	1,250,621.00	1,213,604.00
Snow & Ice Removal	110,923.84	79,006.75	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Grounds Maintenance	387,165.55	318,267.22	418,145.00	507,605.00	474,205.00
Building Maintenance	636,725.97	902,180.62	1,175,455.00	1,213,540.00	1,209,794.00
Sanitation / Recycling	1,026,999.99	1,030,704.27	992,500.00	1,016,489.00	1,016,489.00
Water	1,160,452.26	1,233,915.28	1,538,658.00	1,861,969.00	1,626,879.00
Sewer	939,693.06	1,047,115.17	1,498,545.00	1,925,846.00	1,920,756.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	5,267,665.77	5,735,404.40	6,881,382.00	7,876,070.00	7,561,727.00
OTHER SERVICE COSTS					
Employee Benefits (estimated)	373,193.00	466,009.51	500,000.00	539,735.00	539,735.00
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	31,524.64	36,835.00	37,500.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
Debt Service (Numbers included above)	0.00	9,752.34	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	5,672,383.41	6,248,001.25	7,418,882.00	8,455,805.00	8,141,462.00
Debt Service for information only	0.00	9,752.34	390,890.00	415,075.00	415,075.00
Total Full Time Equivalents	34.75	37.75	37.75	38.75	38.75
Non-Benefited Full Time Equivalents included above	4.00	4.45	4.45	4.45	4.45
Non-Budget Expenditures					
Administration & Streets	4,818.63	8,803.09	3,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Recycling	86,037.56	32,863.34	75,000.00	85,000.00	85,000.00
	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue	

BUDGETED REVENUES

Leaf Bags	12,040.00	9,910.00	9,500.00	12,500.00
Refuse Bags	0.00	63,998.51	63,500.00	70,000.00
Recycling Permits	110,127.00	94,135.00	93,500.00	93,500.00
Other Recycling	67,452.85	109,600.06	109,500.00	152,000.00
Water	1,290,471.90	1,154,137.84	1,617,014.00	1,626,879.00
Sewer	1,161,245.58	1,076,186.67	1,498,545.00	1,920,756.00
Other	480.00	9,690.00	9,000.00	8,500.00
TOTAL BUDGETED REVENUE	2,641,817.33	2,517,658.08	3,400,559.00	3,884,135.00

The Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance and repair of town infrastructure, including buildings, roads, drainage, parks, fields, grounds, transfer station and water and sewer systems, including related environmental compliance and safety. This department also administers the town's Environmental Management System.

The department maintains and prepares 65 athletic fields based on sport seasons mows 111 acres per week, in season maintains/repairs 96 miles of streets maintains/repairs 13 buildings totaling 767,000 s.f. maintains more than 99 miles of water and 80 miles of sewer lines, 2 sewer lift stations and one water lift station. In FY08, the department resurfaced the Bliss Road/Bliss Court/Williams Street area and a section of Shaker Road replaced 350 water meter heads and 18 hydrants conducted leak detection on the water systems repaired the irrigation system well pump serving the upper athletic field at LHS inspected 2,000 feet of sewer lines cleared 35 sewer blockages collected 4.2 million pounds of leaves and 732,000 pounds of wood waste flushed 195 miles of water mains repaired 25 leaking mains painted 250 crosswalks and striped 180,000 ft of pavement.

The FY 09 budget includes funding for additional required water testing an additional position dedicated to sewer system maintenance increases in cost to purchase water (\$24,000) from and wastewater treatment (\$182,500) by Springfield: additional funding for athletic field maintenance through reallocation from other departments, in conjunction with the repair of irrigation systems being recommended in the capital budget. Optimal field maintenance will not be possible without significant infusion of funds. A separate "ideal" field maintenance budget is being developed for presentation the Select Board and School Committee to present the full cost of field maintenance in the event the town wants to pursue funds necessary to maintain athletic fields at an appropriate level.

Community & Cultural Services	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Parks & Recreation	462,443.18	482,895.83	489,599.00	580,769.00	531,228.00
Storrs Library	587,889.92	617,097.23	629,120.00	664,645.00	664,645.00
Adult Center & Council on Aging	152,548.50	159,063.48	163,741.00	180,097.00	172,443.00
Veterans	5,246.08	5,225.31	5,963.00	6,138.00	5,738.00
Health	63,405.25	57,509.83	61,674.00	65,362.00	65,362.00
Cultural Council	1,000.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	1,272,532.93	1,322,591.68	1,350,897.00	1,497,811.00	1,440,216.00

OTHER SERVICE COSTS

Employee Benefits (estimated)	316,586.00	335,247.40	382,000.00	390,666.15	390,666.15
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	37,786.00	35,651.00	43,406.00	48,000.00	48,000.00
Debt Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	1,626,904.93	1,693,490.08	1,776,303.00	1,936,477.15	1,878,882.15

Total Full Time Equivalents	43.50	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00
Non-Benefited Full Time Equivalents included above	5.91	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00

Non-Budget Expenditures

Parks and Recreation	1,151,536.42	1,274,982.08	1,296,684.95	1,528,625.00	1,528,625.00
Storrs Library	20,077.87	43,683.23	42,567.67	40,000.00	40,000.00
Adult Center & COA	25,529.65	118,138.00	122,441.00	38,841.00	38,841.00
Health	29,356.16	12,249.86	12,513.18	11,572.92	11,572.92
Cultural Council	4,054.59	1,082.60	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00

Additional funds not reported to

Town from outside entities					
Storrs Library	8,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Adult Center & COA	77,977.00	80,000.00	83,600.00	83,600.00	83,600.00

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
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BUDGETED REVENUES

Health Permits & Fees	39,340.18	33,480.35	31,800.00	32,000.00
Recreation Fee Reimbursement	266,410.61	306,067.14	300,000.00	326,400.00
Facility Rentals	22,704.89	14,450.02	20,000.00	12,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	328,455.68	353,997.51	351,800.00	370,900.00

Community Services includes those services that enhance the quality of community and cultural life, beyond core services. Storrs Library maintains a collection of more than 90,000 items, with a circulation of more than 200,000. Inter-library loans increased from 6,575 in FY05 to 13,500 in FY08. The library supports school summer reading requirements through its collections. State library aid supports technology improvements, and various funds administered by the Board of Trustees support book purchase standards required by the state, and special programs.

Parks and Recreation administers rental of town facilities, including the Community House, and promotes Longmeadow's system of parks, athletic fields and recreation areas. Programming and operations are largely offset by fees. In the past year, sport and day camps served more than 1,000 children more than 10,500 patrons visited the pools summer concerts reached a record attendance of 800 and 190 families were served by day care and extended day care programs. In FY2008, 10 tennis courts were resurfaced, Laurel Park dam was repaired, and an athletic fields plan was developed jointly with DPW and the school. In 2007, the Council on Aging/Adult Center provided services to 1,905 of the 3,809 residents over 60, or 49% of the elderly population. Annual services include 14,119 meals served to 571 individuals in the nutrition program 2,994 participants in health and wellness screening programs and 656 case management home visits. The COA works with the Public Health Director on elderly health matters.

The Public Health Department's charge is to preserve, protect and promote the public health, safety and well-being of town residents. Some of the Health Director's duties include health emergency planning and preparedness, enforcement of state sanitation codes regarding food service establishments, summer camps, and septic systems, administers the town's flu clinic, enforces the state tobacco laws, and investigates reports of communicable diseases. The department performed more than 1,500 inspections and public health services activities.

Schools	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Administration	1,827,880.82	1,157,535.53	2,996,589.00	1,464,924.00	
Instructional Development	330,437.79	275,418.32	375,461.00	383,757.00	
Pupil Services	5,485,560.12	4,607,899.32	6,694,144.00	9,345,775.00	

	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Technology	286,914.86	193,458.61	359,088.00	491,661.00	
Maintenance	2,361,232.14	261,585.75	2,145,073.00	189,492.00	
Blueberry Hill Center	2,219,429.14	2,252,821.57	2,139,966.00	2,456,450.00	
Wolf Swamp	2,318,344.57	2,331,035.03	2,108,706.00	2,356,595.00	
Glenbrook	1,990,583.57	2,216,453.21	1,988,491.00	2,240,220.00	
Williams	2,427,835.61	2,590,063.53	2,229,005.00	2,518,496.00	
LHS	2,101,121.70	2,285,637.58	2,201,609.00	2,350,260.00	
	6,058,040.29	6,461,281.55	6,136,486.00	7,076,746.73	
TOTAL SCHOOL DEPT BUDGET (all funds)	27,407,380.61	24,633,190.00	29,374,618.00	30,874,376.73	30,714,496.73
Non-General Fund Sources	3,028,807.72	2,670,645.00	2,804,929.00	2,594,186.73	2,594,185.73
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (Gen Fund only)	24,378,572.89	24,322,394.00	26,569,689.00	28,280,190.00	28,120,311.00

OTHER SERVICE COSTS

Employee Benefits (estimated)	2,654,582.92	2,756,507.89	2,887,775.00	3,081,484.10	2,898,229.10
Retiree Benefits (estimated)	706,819.79	738,608.99	770,000.00	820,000.00	820,000.00
Debt Service	2,134,612.00	1,600,990.00	1,599,265.00	1,591,415.00	1,591,415.00
TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	32,903,395.32	29,729,296.88	34,631,658.00	36,367,275.83	36,024,140.83
Total Full Time Equivalents (excl. Food Service)			423.69	437.85	437.85
Total Full Time Equivalents (Food Service - fee based)			25.81	25.81	25.81
Non-Budget Expenditures	1,769,334.34	1,975,191.00	1,840,907.14	2,051,649.73	2,051,649.73

	FY06 Actual Revenue	FY07 Actual Revenue	FY08 Estimated Revenue	FY09 Estimated Revenue
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BUDGETED REVENUES

School (Federal Medicare Reimbursement)	162,356.61	92,496.04	92,000.00	92,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE	162,356.61	92,496.04	92,000.00	92,000.00

Energy and fuel costs are up for the schools, as in other departments, due to rising costs. Contract settlements have been reached and are included in the proposed budget. Funds are included for maintenance and system support of the proposed fiber optic network. The requested school budget includes 14.16 additional positions beyond the adopted FY08 budget, most of which are associated with special education services. Additionally, two grade 3 teacher positions have been eliminated (1-Center School 1-Wolf Swamp School) and those costs reallocated to fund added staffing in math and special subjects at the elementary schools, and one full time grade 1 teaching position at Wolf Swamp School in accordance with the School Committee's objective of maintaining low class sizes. The complete report on the requested school budget is on-line at the school department website. The recommended budget is based on available funds within the overall general fund.

Debt Service/Employee Benefits/Liability Insurance	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
Debt Service	2,596,502.76	2,111,365.00	1,600,265.00	1,592,415.00	1,592,415.00
Liability Insurance	137,022.87	298,420.96	335,000.00	351,750.00	339,500.00
Employee Benefits	5,019,979.81	5,449,292.93	5,993,856.00	6,441,500.00	6,238,500.00
TOTAL DEBT / EMP BEN/ LIAB INS APPROPRIATION	7,753,505.44	7,859,078.89	7,929,121.00	8,385,665.00	8,170,415.00

The Town has \$16.66 Million in outstanding bonds: \$11.59 for school projects \$4.21 for Wheelmeadow Sewer: \$ 860,000 for water line replacement on York, Wenona and Greenacre.

Of 645 eligible employees, 406 are enrolled in town health insurance, 286 school employees and 114 municipal. 18 cafeteria workers account for \$240,000 of these benefits the proposed budget includes use of \$20,000 from the cafeteria revolving fund to offset some of this cost. Health insurance cost increases have moderated somewhat during the past two years.

Grand Totals	FY06 Actual Expended	FY07 Actual Expended	FY08 Appropriations as Modified	FY09 Budget Request	FY09 Budget Recommended
TOTAL					
GENERAL GOV'T APPROPRIATION	1,216,608.57	1,405,649.56	1,437,889.79	1,601,867.00	1,520,654.00
TOTAL					
PUBLIC SAFETY APPROPRIATION	3,953,281.76	3,984,632.62	4,116,580.00	4,297,335.00	4,301,605.00
TOTAL					
PLANNING & COMM DEV APPROPRIATION	141,200.07	151,158.96	153,527.00	220,438.00	161,438.00
TOTAL					
PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATION	5,267,665.77	5,735,404.40	6,881,382.00	7,876,070.00	7,561,727.00
TOTAL					
COMMUNITY SERVICES APPROPRIATION	1,272,532.93	1,322,591.68	1,350,897.00	1,497,811.00	1,440,216.00
TOTAL					
SCHOOL G / F APPROPRIATION	24,378,572.89	24,322,394.00	26,569,689.00	28,280,190.00	28,120,311.00
TOTAL					
DEBT SERVICE / EMPLOYEE BENEFITS / LIABILITY INSURANCE APPROPRIATION	7,753,505.44	7,859,078.89	7,929,121.00	8,385,665.00	8,170,415.00
GRAND TOTAL: APPROPRIATIONS	43,983,367.43	44,780,910.11	48,439,085.79	52,159,376.00	51,276,366.00

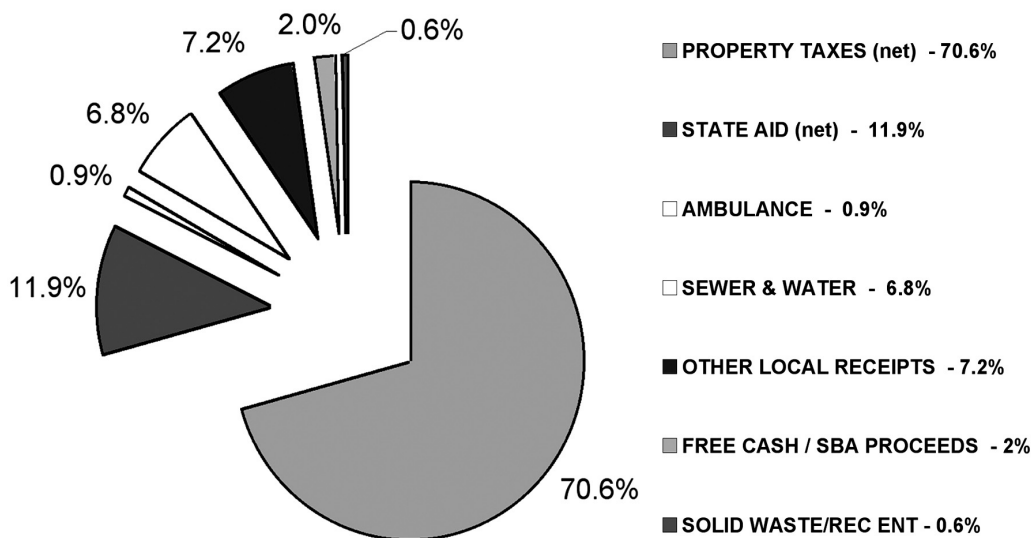
FY09 Operating Budget – Sources & Uses

Estimated Uses

Estimated Sources

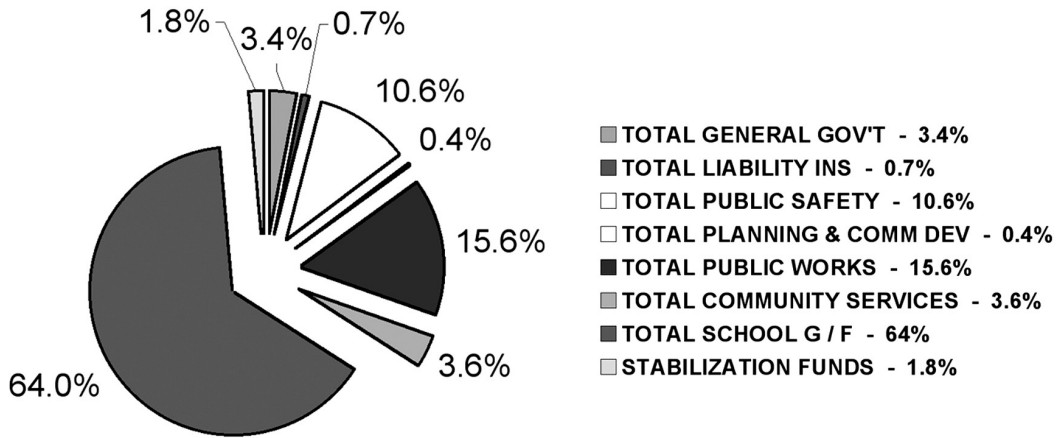
		Raise & Appropriate	Water	Sewer	Ambulance	Waste Recycling
FY09 Operating Budget	51,276,366 =	46,933,356	1,626,879	1,920,756	467,375	328,000

FY09 Estimated Funding Sources



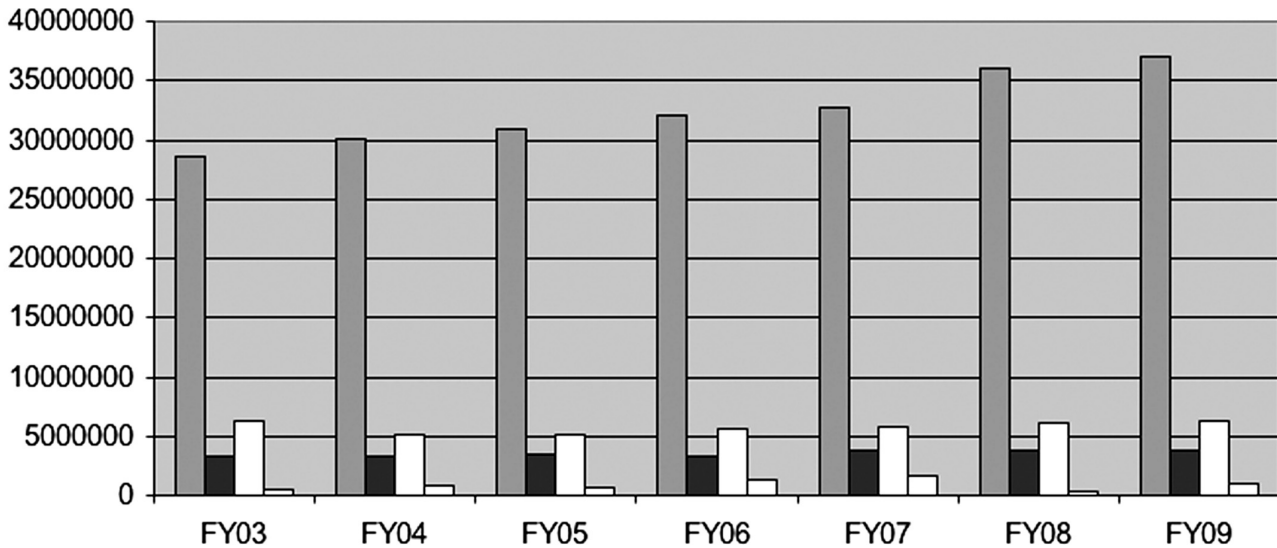
PROPERTY TAXES (net) - 70.6%	36,858,572.00	70.6%
STATE AID (net) - 11.9%	6,216,824.00	11.9%
AMBULANCE - 0.9%	467,375.00	0.9%
SEWER & WATER - 6.8%	3,547,635.00	6.8%
OTHER LOCAL RECEIPTS - 7.2%	3,770,000.00	7.2%
FREE CASH / SBA PROCEEDS - 2%	1,027,960.00	2.0%
SOLID WASTE/REC ENT - 0.6%	328,000.00	0.6%
	52,216,366.00	100.0%

FY09 Estimated Cost of Service



TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T - 3.4%	1,771,654.00	3.4%
TOTAL LIABILITY INS - 0.7%	339,500.00	0.7%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY - 10.6%	5,511,605.00	10.6%
TOTAL PLANNING & COMM DEV - 0.4%	203,307.75	0.4%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS - 15.6%	8,141,462.00	15.6%
TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES - 3.6%	1,878,882.15	3.6%
TOTAL SCHOOL G / F - 64%	33,429,955.10	64.0%
STABILIZATION FUNDS - 1.8%	940,000.00	1.8%
	52,216,366.00	100.0%

FY03-FY09 SOURCES



Funding Source - General Fund

	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09
Property Taxes	32,044,418 75.91%	32,776,692 74.35%	35,956,387 77.68%	36,983,572 76.86%
Local Receipts	3,310,000 7.84%	3,805,000 8.63%	3,780,600 8.17%	3,770,000 7.84%
State Aid	5,565,441 13.18%	5,774,112 13.10%	6,142,920 13.27%	6,334,080 13.16%
All Other Sources	1,292,255 3.06%	1,731,007 3.93%	408,325 0.88%	1,027,960 2.14%
	42,212,114 100.00%	44,086,811 100.00%	46,288,232 100.00%	48,115,612 100.00%

TOWN OF LONGMEADOW • ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday • April 29, 2008 • 7:00 p.m. • Longmeadow High School

WARRANT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, HAMPDEN, ss

To Town Clerk Katherine Ingram, or any of the Constables of the Town of Longmeadow, in said County:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Longmeadow, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the GYMNASIUM of the LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL in said Town on TUESDAY, the TWENTY-NINTH day of APRIL, 2008, at seven o'clock in the evening and if the GYMNASIUM of the LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL, shall not, in the opinion of the Moderator, be adequate to contain such Inhabitants who shall meet, then to meet also in the AUDITORIUM and such other locations in the LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL as the Moderator deems appropriate, at such time and place then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1.

To hear and act on the reports of all officers and committees whose duty it may be to report at said meeting as printed in the Annual Town Report, or take any other action relative thereto.

Hearing and acting on the reports of Town Officers was historically one of the purposes of an Annual Town Meeting. This article is included to allow Town Meeting attendees to ask questions on reports appearing in the Annual Town Report and provides boards/committees an opportunity to make verbal reports to Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 2.

To see if the Town will vote to choose three trustees to administer the William Goldthwait Bequest, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Goldthwait Bequest is an endowment fund left to the Town of Longmeadow for assistance to "the worthy poor of Longmeadow". The Board of Trustees administers this fund and makes expenditures, from the accruing interest, for applicants experiencing financial hardship. The trustees are chosen annually by Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum \$398,236, or a greater or lesser sum, to pay for unanticipated FY08 special education costs, or

take any action relative thereto.

This article addresses shortfalls in the FY08 school budget.

Recommendation Of The Finance Committee To Be Made At Town Meeting

ARTICLE 4.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$54,018, or a greater or lesser sum, for the FY08 snow and ice removal deficit, or take any other action relative thereto.

Towns may overspend snow and ice removal budgets, but must still make provisions to cover these expenses through an appropriation. In this case, the Town is asking the approval of Town Meeting to cover the cost by amending the FY 2008 budget. Snow removal costs for FY 2008 are \$54,018 in excess of the appropriation, as of March 24.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 5.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$12,000 to pay for the remaining portion of the cost of the tri-ennial revaluation of property, or take any other action relative thereto.

The bid for this required work came in \$12,000 in excess of the budgeted amount.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 6.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$31,880 to pay for carpet and tile replacement in Williams Middle School, or take any other action relative thereto.

This appropriation will pay for work already performed, due to unforeseen cost overruns.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 7.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2009 operating budget, and to fix the salary and compensation of the Moderator at \$100 and the Select Persons at \$2,000 each, and to provide for a reserve fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

An annual operating budget must be adopted and funded for the fiscal year beginning on

July 1, 2008. The budget was approved by the Select Board and reviewed by the Finance Committee, as required under the Charter. The budget as printed is a balanced budget as required under the General Laws and the Town Charter. The Finance Committee will present its recommendations to Town Meeting.

Recommendation Of The Finance Committee To Be Made At Town Meeting

ARTICLE 8.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$825,000, or a greater or lesser sum, from free cash to the Operating Stabilization Fund, with the intent that this sum is set aside to "bridge" the anticipated revenue gap in fiscal year 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article sets aside funds from the November 2007 override to bridge the anticipated revenue gap in the FY 2010 budget. A 2/3 vote is required to transfer funds into and out of the Operating Stabilization fund.

Recommendation Of The Finance Committee To Be Made At Town Meeting

ARTICLE 9.

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund for the School Department, pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E? , said fund to receive commissions paid by Pepsi for sales from vending machines located in various locations under the jurisdiction of the School Department, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer and with payments from the fund to be expended by the School Department, up to the limit to be established by the Town, to support the school lunch and athletic programs and other school-related activities, or take any other action relative thereto.

Massachusetts General Laws requires revenues to be deposited in the General Fund in most cases. Adoption of this provision will allow the School Department to keep and expend these funds solely for school purpose without turning them over as general revenue, as was the original intent of the vending agreement. Pepsi revenues will be \$13,250 in FY09.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 10.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds to be received from the state for

highway improvements under the authority of M.G.L. Chapter 90, or any other applicable laws, and to authorize the Select Board, if necessary, to apply for, accept, expend and borrow in anticipation of state aid for such projects, or take any other action relative thereto.

The state annually allocates to the Town a sum of money to be spent on Town roads. This amount must be appropriated by Town Meeting. The Town spends the money first and is reimbursed by the state upon completion of the project. Amount is unknown at the time of publication.

ARTICLE 11.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$940,000 and transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$200,630, or greater or lesser sums, for the following capital projects:

- \$37,375 the purchase of a maintenance truck
- \$22,500 for the purchase of a maintenance service van
- \$84,000 for the purchase of a front end loader
- \$45,000 for the purchase of a portable wood chipper
- \$61,125 for the replacement of hydrants, water valves and meters
- \$17,500 for the repairs to the roof of the Greenwood Park pool building
- \$35,000 for the purchase and installation of snow guards on the roofs of Town Hall and the Community House
- \$48,000 for the phase II of the high school security system
- \$25,000 for repairs to the Russell Field and High School practice field sprinkler systems
- \$60,000 for phase II of replacement of the Glenbrook School exterior doors
- \$40,000 for the replacement of the clock and bell systems of the high school and both middle schools
- \$60,000 for the replacement of carpeting for the High School Tech Center and Library
- \$25,000 for Phase IV of the replacement of carpeting in Center School
- \$25,000 for the replacement of carpeting in Williams School
- \$30,000 for the replacement of the exterior courtyard doors at Longmeadow High School
- \$30,000 for the replacement of flooring (carpets) in Town Hall and Greenwood Center
- \$75,000 for the installation of fiber optics network connectivity for town and school buildings
- \$78,630 for the purchase and installation of a replacement filter for Reynolds Pool
- \$70,000 for the construction of a splash pad at Greenwood Park pool
- \$271,500 for the purchase of the core of a town-wide radio communications system

and that all unspent funds from these projects are to be returned to the capital stabilization account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 12.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$40,000 to the Ambulance fund as repayment for the FY08 payment toward the purchase of a rapid response fire engine, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 13.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$35,000 to the FY2008 Finance Committee Reserve Fund for repayment of emergency repairs to the Glenbrook School heating system, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 14.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$51,500 from the Ambulance Fund for the purchase of the radio communications system, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 15.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$42,000 from the Water Enterprise fund toward the purchase of a front end loader, and that any unspent appropriation be returned to the Water Enterprise Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 16.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$42,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund toward the purchase of a front end loader, and that any unspent appropriation be returned to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 17.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$255,000 to be repaid from sewer receipts for the purchase of a sewer jet cleaner/inspection system, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

Articles 11 through 17 – the Capital Planning Committee annually evaluates capital needs of the community and recommends projects for funding. Capital Planning Committee has posted its complete report on their recommendations on the town website at www.longmeadow.org. The list above has been approved by the Select Board. A 2/3 vote is required to transfer funds in and out of the Capital Stabilization Fund. A 2/3 vote is required to authorize borrowing.

ARTICLE 18.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Reserves the sum of \$80,000 for engineering and design services for replacement of approximately 1,500 feet of sewer on a portion of Maple Road and for the length of Longfellow Drive, with the intent that these funds will be restored to the Sewer Reserve when the entire project is funded, or take any other action relative thereto.

This area was identified by the Town's consultants, Tighe and Bond, as an area where sewer lines need to be replaced, due to deterioration of lines and a history of sewer back-ups.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 19.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Reserves the sum of \$30,000 to evaluate the condition of the North Interceptor Sewer from Emerson Road to Western Drive, with the intent that these funds will be restored to the Sewer Reserve when the entire project is funded, or take any other action relative thereto.

This line was identified by Tighe and Bond as needing evaluation due to age of the line, sewer overflows and lack of access for routine maintenance.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 20.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$100,000 for repair of the Longmeadow High School roof, provided that this appropriation shall be contingent on passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion, or take any other action relative thereto.

Two sections of the roof were identified last summer as needing repair. The first section was repaired; this will repair the second section. A 2/3 vote is required to authorize borrowing.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 21.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$375,000 for repair of the Greenwood Center roof, provided that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion, or take any other action relative thereto.

There is significant deterioration and leaking occurring in the roof and repairs are urgently needed. This project has been recommended by the Capital Planning Committee to be paid for through a debt exclusion override. A 2/3 vote is required to authorize borrowing.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 22.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,192 from the FY2009 Community Preservation local surcharge and trust fund for administration costs for the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide the Community Preservation Committee with funds to assist in administration of projects and activities.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 23.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project for rehabilitation of the Community House, including rehabilitation of the exterior trim and replacement of the balustrade in an amount of \$115,000 to be funded using \$23,279 from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account and \$91,721 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account, provided that release of funds will be contingent on the granting of a certificate of appropriateness by the Historic District Commission for the replacement of the balustrade, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would use CPA funds to supplement a state tourism grant to complete the rehabilitation of the exterior of the Community House and to replace the balustrade which was destroyed in a storm. This project will stabilize and prevent further deterioration of the exterior of the Community House until a complete restoration is completed.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 24.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project to preserve Town vital records in an amount of \$7,467 to be funded from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide CPA funds to preserve the birth, death, and marriage records of Longmeadow. Some of these records date back hundreds of years. These are the most commonly used Town records.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 25.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project to create a recreation patio at the Council on Aging’s Longmeadow Adult Center in an amount of \$16,800 to be funded from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account provided the following conditions are met: materials and surface must be made of environmentally friendly materials; location must receive prior approval by the Longmeadow Tree Committee; and that the

Parks and Recreation Department shall verify to the CPC in writing that the above conditions have been met, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide CPA funds to create an outdoor recreation area adjacent to the Longmeadow Adult Center consisting of a patio, table, and chairs. There is presently no outdoor recreation area there.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 26.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project to create a recreation area with outdoor game tables at the Council on Aging’s Longmeadow Adult Center in an amount of \$2,500 to be funded from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance account, provided that the following conditions must be met: the location must receive prior approval by the Longmeadow Tree Committee; and that the Parks and Recreation Department shall verify to the CPC in writing that the above conditions have been met, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide CPA funds to create an outdoor recreation area adjacent to the Longmeadow Adult Center through purchase and installation of game tables.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 27.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project to preserve a minimum of 150 historical images in an amount of \$42,168 to be funded from the Undesignated Fund Balance account, on the condition that the Longmeadow Historical Society agrees to the following:
Town of Longmeadow will own the negatives created from the original images;
Storage of negatives will be in a location conducive to preservation;
Priority will be given to images of Longmeadow;
Prints and digital images will be made available for public use; and
Ownership of all prints and software will revert to the Town of Longmeadow should the Longmeadow Historical Society dissolve; and that

The Longmeadow Historical Society shall verify to the CPC in writing that the above conditions have been met, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide CPA funds to preserve glass plate images of pictures taken between 1910 and 1925. These glass plates are presently stored in the basement of Storrs House. They are in danger of deteriorating if not preserved. This project will allow greater access to the images by both historians and the general public as the images will be available online.

Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 28.

To see if the Town will vote to fund the Community Preservation Project for preservation and restoration of Colony Hills’ streetlights and street signs in an amount of \$52,000 to be funded from the Community Preservation FY09 Anticipated Revenues provided that the Colony Hills Neighborhood Association agree in writing to the following conditions: documentation of ownership of the street lights and street signs by the Colony Hills Neighborhood Association; Colony Hills’ neighborhood becomes a local historic district pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40C, within 24 months after approval of this project by Town Meeting; and that the Colony Hills’ Neighborhood Association shall verify in writing that the above conditions have been met, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would provide CPA funds to preserve and restore the historic streetlights and street signs in the Colony Hills neighborhood. These lights and signs are a distinctive feature of neighborhoods designed by Frederick Law Olmstead (who also designed Laurel Park and Central Park in New York City). They have deteriorated over time. These funds would repair, when possible, and replace, if necessary, some of the lights. Requiring the neighborhood to become an historic district will ensure the repaired lights are maintained in the future.

Not Recommended By The Finance Committee

ARTICLE 29. By Petition

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Longmeadow Home Rule Charter enacted 3/9/04 and revised 6/28/07 as follows:

Section 3-1(a) shall read “The offices to be filled by the voters shall be the select board, school committee, planning board, moderator, water and sewer commission, and housing authority and such members of any regional authorities or districts as may be established by statute or interlocal agreement.”

Section 3-2 is amended to delete the words “The select board shall be the water and sewer commissioners of the town.”

The following is added:

**Section 3-7
Water and Sewer Commission**

(a) Composition and Term –
There shall be a water and sewer commission consisting of three members elected for three-year terms arranged so that as nearly an equal number of terms as possible shall expire each year.

(b) Powers and Duties –
The water and sewer commission shall have those powers and duties given to water and

sewer commissions under the constitution and general laws of the Commonwealth, except those powers and duties specifically assigned by this charter to the town manager, and shall also have such additional powers and duties as may be authorized by the charter, by by-law, or by other vote of town meeting.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Recent events have shown that the members of the Select Board do not have the time or expertise to oversee the town's water and sewer infrastructure. This article amends the Town Charter to establish an independently elected three-member water and sewer commission.

ARTICLE 30. By Petition

To see if the Town will vote to petition the General Court for passage of special legislation which would authorize the placement of the following referendum question on the ballot for the election of Town officers in 2009, or take any other action relative thereto: "Shall the fluoridation of the public water supply for domestic use in the Town of Longmeadow be discontinued?"

This article offers the small, noble group of Town Meeting attendees the opportunity to enact the eminent democratic ideal of protecting minority rights against tyranny by the majority. Last spring's 34% vote represents several thousand fellow citizens imploring against this oppressive, inefficient and expensive state sponsored forced medication.

ARTICLE 31. By Petition
To see if the Town will vote to direct the Water & Sewer Department to update 2002 fluoridation program cost estimates of \$30,000 per year and begin listing "Total Fluoridation" as derived from the summation of the cost of two separate line items "materials" and "labor" in the annual Town Budget as reported to all Town Meetings after July 1, 2008, or take any other action relative thereto.

Until such time as a majority of Longmeadow's honorable citizens act against minority oppression, all citizens deserve the right to the financial transparency of fluoridation's rising costs which for too long has been hidden in the water and/or sewer – we don't even know which or perhaps both – budgets!

ARTICLE 32. By Petition

To see if the Town will vote to require all commissaries, restaurants and establishments utilizing the Towns water supply without filtration to produce/prepare food for public consumption to prominently display at each public entrance the following warning in one inch (1") minimum lettering; "Fluoridated Water Used on Premises", "Fluoridated Water Facility", or other similar wording approved by the Board of Health, for the duration of the Towns water fluoridation program, or take any other action relative thereto.

Until such time as a majority of Longmeadow's honorable citizens act against minority oppression, the Town is liable for warning citizens and guests of the anomaly of the Town's isolated fluoridation program

among the large majority of Western Massachusetts communities, including abutting communities, which do not fluoridate.

AND you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in five (5) public places in said Town seven (7) days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF fail not and make due return of the Warrant with your doings thereon unto the Town Clerk at or before the time of holding said meeting.

Given UNDER our hands this 7th day of April, 2008, A.D.

SELECT BOARD OF LONGMEADOW

Hal. W. Haberman, Chair Person
Kathleen E. Grady, Vice Chair Person
Paul P. Santaniello, Clerk
Brian M. Ashe
William G. Scibelli

Note: This publication is for informational purposes only. The Town makes no representation that this is the legal document. The legal warrant is posted and is on file with the Town Clerk's office.

Rules of Procedure Used at Town Meeting

from Moderator Michael N. Kallock

Following are rules of procedure used by Moderator Michael Kallock at Annual and Special Town Meetings. These 'housekeeping' rules cover ordinary issues that arise at Town Meeting and work in concert with our by-laws. The discretion of the Moderator, as well as the tradition of the Town by prior Moderators, in procedural matters, cover the rest. Wherever possible the Moderator will explain to Town Meeting his rulings, keeping in mind the flow of the debate and eye on the clock.

1. Those speaking at Town Meeting must identify themselves by name and address.
2. All questions and discussions must be directed through the Moderator.
3. All motions or amendments must be in writing.
4. Only those who are Longmeadow residents are allowed to be in the floor of Town Meeting. Visitors and the press must be seated in the designated areas.
5. Town Meeting members must be seated in order to be counted, except where chairs are unavailable. In situations where space prevents being seated or for other reasons, members are requested to notify the counters in order to be counted.
6. No one is to be allowed into the gymnasium once debate is concluded and voting is in progress.
7. Only those members issued a colored card may vote at Town Meeting. Members voting shall raise this card so that it may be seen by both the Moderator and the counters.
8. In the discretion of the Moderator, all questions or doubts on vote results announced by decision of the Moderator shall be resolved in favor of a standing or "hand" count. Such questions or doubts must be made immediately following announcement of the vote by the Moderator.
9. No one may speak more than twice on any given question until others have had an opportunity to speak, except for clarification or explanation. No one may speak more than three times on any given question without leave of Town Meeting.
10. There will be no distribution, dissemination or solicitation of any materials of any kind within Town Meeting without first obtaining permission from the Moderator.