



Submitted by MCD
Date 10/29/15
Received by KC
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TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday – October 13, 2015 at 6:30pm

Present: Chairman – Frederick C. Swensen, Vice-Chairman – Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Clerk – Cynthia B. Cooper and Members – David M. Singer and John P. McGrath. Also present: Town Administrator - Robin L. Craver.

NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

I. Call to Order:

1. Chairman Swensen called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge to the flag, He introduced our newest Student Selectperson, Bailey Ross. Ms. Ross stated that she is a junior at Shepherd Hill and gets involved in the school.
2. Chairman Swensen reminded everyone to treat each other courteously and be acknowledged by the Chair before speaking. Those in attendance are requested to turn off cell phones or put them on vibrate so as not to disrupt the proceedings and remove hats, if any.

II. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of Special Meeting – September 22, 2015. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to accept the September 22, 2015 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion passes with Mr. Singer abstaining.**
2. Minutes of Regular Meeting – September 29, 2015. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to accept the regular meeting minutes of September 29, 2015 as written, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries unanimously.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum:

- Chairman Swensen read the announcements.
- Chairman Swensen said he noticed that we have two new blue spruce trees on the common. Matt Gagner, Freeman Road said we found some trees. It was a little involved to find them. He had the honor of finding the trees for the town and if the board accepts, he would like to donate them to the town. **Motion by Mr. McGrath that we accept Mr. Gagner's very nice offer of the two blue spruce on the common, seconded by Mr. Singer.** Chairman Swensen thanked him for his generous offer. Mr. Gagner thanked Todd Girard for his help picking out the trees and for the Highway Department for digging the holes. **Vote on motion: motion carries.**
- Mrs. Craver stated that we had a call from a resident today stating that she was visited by someone posing as the Town Administrator trying to sell her solar. If anyone is approached, she is asking to try and get the license number and contact the police department.
- Mrs. Craver stated that she received a call today that the Town of Charlton is in the top 50 safest cities in the state. We are number 43 on the list. Chief Pervier stated that in regards to the notification regarding scams, the police went to this person's home and took some information. They did have someone in the area from a firm, Solar City, that was soliciting where there may have been some confusion. He said if someone comes to your door and doesn't have a letter or a

permit from the town, contact the police department so they can intervene and find out what they are doing.

IV. Appointments/Resignations:

1. Appointment to Historical Commission – Rebecca Jha. Mrs. Craver stated that the Board is being asked by the Historical Commission to appoint Rebeca Jha of 10 Downey Lane to the Historical Commission. This appointment is for a three year term which would expire on June 30, 2018. She would recommend the board make the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to appoint Rebeca Jha to the Historical Commission, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries.**
2. Appointment – per diem dispatcher – Eric J. McLaughlin. Mrs. Craver stated that attached you will find a request from Chief Pervier to add one additional per diem dispatcher due to his current staff's inability to cover certain shifts on various days. Therefore, in an effort to avoid unnecessary payment of overtime, an immediate need exists to add the requested positions. In reviewing the Charlton Police Department's current pool of per diem dispatcher applicants, Chief Pervier interviewed and selected Eric J. McLaughlin who is certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an Emergency E-911 Dispatcher, holds current certifications in CPR, First Responder, CJIS and Emergency Medical Dispatch. A complete background check and reference check was conducted and revealed that he has a clean record and a solid background and should be considered for the per diem dispatcher positions. Chief Pervier introduced Mr. McLaughlin. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to appoint Eric McLaughlin as a per-diem dispatcher, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**
3. Resignation – per diem dispatcher – Joseph D. Clem. Mrs. Craver stated that attached is a letter from Joseph D. Clem resigning as a per diem dispatcher with the Charlton Police Department. Mr. Clem states that his full time job with the Auburn Police Department is restricting his availability to assist Charlton with shifts. The Board should accept Mr. Clem's resignation. A letter thanking him for his service is in your sign folder. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to accept per-diem dispatcher Joseph Clem's resignation, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries unanimously.**
4. Resignation – per diem dispatcher – Brian Gonzalez. Mrs. Craver stated that attached is a letter from Brian Gonzalez resigning as a per diem dispatcher with the Charlton Police Department. Mr. Gonzales will be pursuing a career with the Massachusetts State Police. He will be attending their academy in October. The Board should accept his resignation. A letter thanking him for his service is in your sign folder. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to accept the resignation of per-diem dispatcher Brian Gonzalez and wish him good luck in the academy, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:45pm – Government Study Committee – update. Mrs. Craver stated that the Government Study Committee has asked for time on the agenda to provide an update. Steve Coleman and Joshua Evans came forward. Mr. Coleman is the Chairman and introduced the other members present. He stated for the public that the Government Study Committee has been formed and have been meeting for the last three weeks. This committee was approved to evaluate the current form of government that we have and any recommendations for the May town meeting next year. He stated for the public's information that their group is to make a recommendation as to whether or not there should be a change in the form of government we have. He stated that as early as tomorrow they will be meeting with several department heads to see if they have any improvements to recommend. Mr. Coleman stated that regardless if any changes are recommended, some boards and committees may never change. They are hoping to have their written report ready by March so it's out there well in advance of Town Meeting.

Chairman Swensen thanked the committee for their undertaking on this.

7:00pm – Charlton Orchards Fire – Chief’s Report. Chairman Swensen stated that as this is an ongoing investigation by the Worcester County District Attorney’s office, we will not be taking and questions this evening. If there are questions or comments that people would like to make, they are more than welcome to put them in writing. He stated that this is an informational report by the chiefs. Fire Chief Cloutier and Police Chief Pervier came forward. Chief Cloutier provided a copy of the report to the Board. (attached) He reviewed the report. Chief Pervier stated that this was a very big loss to the Benjamin’s. Both departments know that and they take this very seriously. He did state that if anyone out there has information, to please get it to the Police Department, Fire Department or Fire Marshall’s Office. Chief Pervier reviewed his report. (attached) Chief Pervier stated that in the report, it shows the magnitude of the calls. Mr. McGrath stated that Fire Prevention Week is coming up and asked Chief Cloutier what people should know. Chief Cloutier explained that everyone should be testing their smoke detectors and if they are expired to please replace them. Chairman Swensen asked each member of the Board to read each report and send any questions they may have to the Town Administrator. He thanked both chiefs for taking the time to put the reports together. Chairman Swensen stated that since these reports have been provided in open session, they are public record and if anyone would like a copy, they should contact the Selectmen’s office.

VI. New Business:

1. Winter Washed Sand Bid – Mrs. Craver stated that on October 1, 2015 at 2:00pm, sealed bids marked “Winter Washed Sand” were opened and read. One bid was received from Hylka Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$14.15 per ton delivered. The recommendation from Highway Superintendent Foskett and herself would be to award the Winter Washed Sand Bid to Hylka Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$14.15 per ton delivered. Last year, Hylka Construction was awarded the bid in the amount of \$14.20/per ton delivered. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to award the winter washed sand bid to Hylka Construction in the amount of \$14.15 per ton delivered, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries unanimously.**
2. Site Plan Application – The Green Boys Landscaping. Mrs. Craver stated that the Planning Board has provided you with a copy of a site plan submitted by The Green Boys Landscaping to construct an 8,400 sq. ft. office building/garage on property located on Route 20 (Assessors Map 31, Block C, Parcel 6). Said property is zoned Industrial General. You are asked to review and provide comments, if any, no later than Wednesday, October 14, 2015. No comments.
3. Charlton Permanent Fire Fighters Association negotiations – two Selectmen representatives. Mrs. Craver stated that we have been notified by the Charlton Permanent Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 4023 that the current bargaining agreement between them and the town is set to expire on June 30, 2016. They are providing the board with formal notification that the representatives of Local 4023 are prepared to discuss the groundwork, guidelines and schedule for the next negotiations. Prior to starting negotiations, you generally appoint two members of the Board of Selectmen to participate as the Board’s representatives. What is the board’s wishes? Mr. McGrath would volunteer and Mr. Singer as well. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to nominate Mr. McGrath and Mr. Singer as the Board’s representatives to the Charlton Permanent Firefighters Association negotiation team, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries.**
4. Special one day license request – Ashley Berthiaume & Ina Desourcy. Mrs. Craver stated that attached is a request from Ashley Berthiaume & Ina Desourcy for a special liquor license for Wine and Malt beverages to be used on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Clara Barton Center from 4:00pm – 10:00pm for a “25th” Anniversary Celebration. This request has been approved by the Building Commissioner, Fire Department and Police Department. Per the Board’s policy, the license if approved, should be issued for two additional days for the following reasons:
Day 1 – to allow delivery of alcohol to establishment (no sales allowed)

Day 2 – For sale on the approved date and time as listed

Day 3 – To allow for pick-up of any unused alcohol (no sales allowed)

She would recommend the Board approve the special license as requested with the dates on the license to be December 4, 2015 through December 6, 2015. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to approve a special liquor license for the dates of December 4, 2015 – December 6, 2015 to Ashley Berthiaume and Ina Desourcy for an event to take place December 5, 2015 at the Clara Barton Center from 4–10pm, seconded by Mr. Singer.** Chairman Swensen asked Chief Pervier when a name is submitted for the person serving, are any steps taken to make sure the person is certified. Chief Pervier stated that any time someone applies for this type of license, they have to prove they are tip certified. **Vote on motion: motion carries unanimously.**

VII. Old Business:

1. Regional Police Dispatch / update feasibility study. Mrs. Craver stated that as you know, one of your goals is to continue to search for regional projects that either save money or provide efficiencies or both. One of the projects you stated that you were interested in continuing to explore is regional dispatch. As you know, when the subject came up as possibly joining the Webster site, many officials thought that joining with Southbridge and Sturbridge seemed to make better sense due to the proximity, shared Rt. 20 and past partnerships such as Tri-epic. Oxford has also been mentioned as compatible. Thus, to that end, both Chiefs and herself, met with the managers and chiefs of the other 3 towns and agreed to submit a feasibility grant. We are delighted that Kevin Pacios, the past interim manager from Southbridge, has agreed to assist us in the grant writing. He has successfully written 2 prior grants. He recently spent time at the 911 Department offices in Taunton and reviewed every successful grant application for the past three fiscal years and reported, after speaking to the Director, that the 911 Commission (which has approval authority over all grant submissions) is weary of the many feasibility studies they have funded which now “sit on shelves gathering dust”. Their focus currently therefore is to fund existing regional RECC/PSAP’s and to assist them with expansion or modernization. Having said that, the Director indicated that another feasibility study would be looked at favorably if he and the Commission believed that the communities involved were serious about formation as a region. If so, then we have an excellent chance of being funded. Our task therefore will be to submit a good grant application as well as commitment letters that speak to each communities’ commitment to the process and formation of a regional RECC/PSAP. Mr. Pacios strongly urges that the letters you will need to submit with the application be as strong as possible in order to communicate your desire to regionalize. He expects to complete the draft application by early next week and will send a draft to all the towns for review. Then, we will review and make sure the scope of services is complete. She poses two questions to the Board tonight: 1) what is your commitment to a regional dispatch center and 2) if we go forward with the feasibility study, what questions do you have that would need to be answered? The following is a list of questions that were compiled to date from the managers and chiefs.

Questions to be answered in the feasibility study.

1. What radio capabilities and supplies does each community possess?
2. Does the community operate with VHF or UHF capability?
3. What radio redundancy capabilities does the community have?
4. Will the Regional Dispatch Center receive cellular 911 calls?
5. Is there a possibility of "jumping" on to the state police "800" system (other entities currently use this resource along with MSP)
6. How are the future employees benefits to be determined?
7. Does this funding include a 5-10-20 years plan to include potential future costs to the "non-host" communities?

8. Will there be a single RMS or multiple RMS between communities for all disciplines? Will that be funded?
9. How will the host community be determined?
10. How are communication infrastructure needs determined?
11. How does the grant cover the communication infrastructure costs?
12. What is the maximum grant amount allowed?
13. Is there annual grant funding available to sustain and improve on Regional Dispatch Center?
14. Will GPS/AVL be included in all emergency vehicles? What if one entity has it and one does not how is that addresses?
15. Will GPS/AVL for all vehicles be part of the funding?
16. What type of back-up systems and location will there be?
17. Who will handle any 911 overflow?
18. Is a single radio frequency for each discipline discouraged? Less expensive? Separate operational/tactical channels for individual events?
19. Who will develop goals and timelines?
20. Does the grant include hiring process (tests, interviews, psychological and physical examinations, EMD - Fire Dispatch training etc.)
21. Does the grant include accreditation and policy development costs?
22. How will the number of necessary staffing "on-duty dispatchers" be determined? Best Practices, NFPA, ISO, APCO, NAEMD, CALEA, MPAC?
23. Will the dispatch center serve the emergency management needs of the communities?
24. What will the interoperability capabilities be?
25. Will funding cover the cost of connection of all entity mobile data computers?
26. Who will develop operational protocols for the dispatchers? Will each entity have its own or will there be consolidation?
27. What outside regional dispatch studies will be used to assist with the regional effort?
28. What are the implications for each community if dispatchers are removed from stations (i.e. lock up, business phone calls, administration, dark station)?
29. Would adding the center to an existing building or a stand-alone center be preferable? Are any towns planning a renovation of their police or fire stations in the next 3-5 years? Would it make sense to build it then adjacent to the new building?
30. What will be the assumptions when developing a draft budget and will a draft budget/estimated costs be available before each town must commit to the project?
31. What have other towns done regarding existing staff (all go thru a hiring process with no promise of a position; promise all present dispatchers a position)?
32. Does each community have more than one main repeater for their respective radio system. If so, how many? What other backup radio system(s) is/are in place, if any?
33. Does each community have voter stations to enhance their communication capabilities? If so, how many? If not, how many are needed?
34. Are their dead spots or dead zones that currently exist in each community where radio communication is poor or non-existent? If so, how many? What is the longitude and latitude of each of the respective dead spots or zones?
35. What is the annual maintenance budget for each community's radio system?
36. What is the age of each community's radio system? Does it need to be replaced or upgraded?
37. What is the make and model of the base radio or console and portable radios? Are the radios narrow band compliant? Are the radios P25 compliant?
38. Does each community have radio service or maintenance contract with a particular vendor? What does the service or maintenance contract cover? Who is the contracted vendor?

39. What is the Record Management System that each community currently has in place for Police, Fire and EMS.

40. What is the number of 911 calls, regular calls for service and non-emergency calls that each community dispatch center receives on average annually?

41. What other type of calls besides Police Fire & EMS are handled by each community's dispatch center? (Animal Control, Highway, Emergency Management)?

42. What part in the process do towns need to commit fully?

43. What will give the regional "legal statues" to act as a hiring authority so employees will not have to be carried by one of the communities if a "stand alone" center is desired. Will this entity be able to join a retirement system and provide health insurance?

Chief Pervier came forward and stated that Mrs. Craver mentioned the efficiency of operations, which he has come before the board before that he needed more personnel to answer the phone.

Motion by Mr. McGrath to send a strong letter in support of the grant with the Town Administrator creating the letter, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries unanimously.

2. Community Choice Aggregation – update. Mrs. Craver stated that we have received a letter from Hampshire Council of Governments stating that the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) denied our petition for Community Choice Aggregation. Hampshire Council of Governments worked to enroll a total of 51 municipalities in their unique aggregation program of which 35 received denials from the DPU. With that said, Hampshire Council is withdrawing from the aggregation agency business. They are going to focus instead on competitive electricity supply. They know how to design cost saving electricity solutions for municipal aggregations, municipal accounts, non-profits and businesses. Although they disagree with the DPU, they will not be appealing the decision. They are asking us, if our town remains committed to aggregation, to consider Colonial Power Group which is a Massachusetts owned and operated aggregation agency firm. This firm consults with Massachusetts cities and towns to help manage Community Choice Aggregation programs. What is the Board's wishes? Would you like me to look into this further? Mr. Szafarowicz asked if Mrs. Craver has looked into the other group yet and the answer was no, she is waiting for direction from the board. She is a little hesitant to recommend continuing at this time.
3. Special Town Meeting Warrant – motions. Mrs. Craver stated to please find attached the warrant with draft motions for your review. The Finance Committee voted to support Articles 1 through 9, but did not take any action on Articles 10-13 as they are zoning amendments. If the board would like, she would be glad to go through each one as you consider whether you wish to support or make changes to the motions. The Board feels they have already gone through this several times. Mrs. Craver will review the articles and note any changes that have been made.
Article 1 – Appropriation of funds for unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz that the Board supports Article 1, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries unanimously.**
Article 2 - Inter/Intra departmental transfers and/or appropriations for FY2016 budget. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to approve Article 2 as written, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz. Vote on motion: motion carries unanimously.**
Article 3 – Capital Items and related contracts. Mrs. Craver said she received a call today from the Fire Chief who had to put one of his vehicles in to be fixed. He thought it would be about \$7,000 and it's actually around \$50,000. He was trying to have the quote for tonight but she would ask the board to approve this article with his request. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to support Article 3 with the contingency of adding \$50,000 to the fire line due to some emergency repairs, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries.**

Article 4 – Transfer to/from Stabilization funds. **Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to support Article 4 with the contingency on the repairs of the Fire Truck if needed, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries.**

Article 5 – Reauthorization of capital debt. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to approve Article 5 as written, seconded by Mr. Singer, motion carries.**

Article 6 – Donation of Land. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to support Article 6 as written, seconded by Chairman Swensen, motion carries.**

Article 7 – Authorize Selectmen, for and on behalf of the town, to repair town owned South Charlton Reservoir Dam, to assess betterments, etc. and to appropriate funds for same. Mr. Szafarowicz recused himself from the discussion. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to support Article 7 as written, seconded by Mrs. Cooper, motion carries with Mr. Szafarowicz abstaining.**

Article 8 – Municipal Lien authority for outstanding water bills. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to support Article 8 as written, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**

Article 9 – Local Gas Tax – Mrs. Craver explained that the gas tax will allow us to use the money on transportation and bridges. Mr. Singer asked if we should have some number ready if people ask what the tax would be. Also, should we have some sort of estimate of what we are expecting. Mrs. Craver stated that she is still working with Attorney Cosgrove on this. **Motion by Mr. McGrath to support Article 9 and that we go with whatever Town Council’s methodology is to handle this and to add the 3 cents per gallon, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz, motion carries unanimously.**

Article 10 – Zoning Map amendment – Village District boundary expansion

Article 11 – Zoning bylaw revision, Vehicle Garage structure in AG

Article 12 – Petition

Article 13 - Petition

Motion by Mr. McGrath that we support Articles 10 – 13, seconded by Mr. Szafarowicz.

Vote taken – 4 ayes, 1 nay. Mrs. Craver stated that the Chairman still needs to read the warrant with the cable coordinator. Chairman Swensen stated that he could meet with Drew Friday morning to get it done.

VIII Committee Reports:

IX BOS Policy Review:

X. Student Selectperson Report – Bailey Ross presented her first report. She talked about the sports and other groups at school.

X Town Administrator Report: Mrs. Craver reviewed her report. She stated regarding the letter from Oxford for possible shared planning services, the Planning Board is not in favor. Mr. Szafarowicz asked if the Planning Board said why. Mr. McGrath stated that with the cut in hours for the Town Planner that they are struggling to keep up with what they have and that applicants are waiting longer time frames to get things done.

Mrs. Craver stated that she met with the Town Treasurer, Chairman and an auctioneer for town property this year. Town Treasurer Arsenault has been acting as the custodian of tax title properties. He should be appointed annually as the custodian of tax title properties. **Motion by Mr. Singer to appoint Town Treasurer Arsenault as the custodian of tax title properties, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.**

XII Other Business:

Mr. McGrath reminded residents that it’s October so please make sure you have your fire alarms,

smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors up to date.

XIII Next Meeting Announcement:

* Special Town Meeting – Tuesday, October 20, 2015, 7:00pm, Charlton Middle School

* Next Regular Selectmen’s Meeting – October 27, 2015

XIV **Adjourn: Motion by Mr. Szafarowicz to adjourn at 8:15pm, seconded by Mr. McGrath, motion carries.**

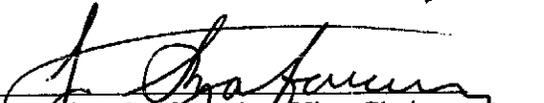
Submitted by:

Mary C. Devlin
Administrative Assistant

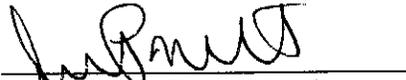
Accepted by:

Frederick C. Swensen, Chairman

Cynthia B. Cooper, Clerk


Joseph J. Szafarowicz, Vice-Chairperson


David M. Singer, Member


John P. McGrath, Member

• G+ T

Rebecca Edwards Oct 9, 2015



Known as a key player in the birth of the country and a great place to enjoy a fresh lobster dinner, Massachusetts is a beautiful state rich in both history and culture. From miles of shoreline to stunning fall foliage, the Bay State is a fantastic place to visit and an even better place to live.

Massachusetts residents are full of pride for their hometowns, their local high school football teams, and the principles upon which America was founded. Strong values and a willingness to pitch in and make a difference helped 36 of these 50 safest cities land a spot on our list for the second year in a row.

How We Chose the Safest Cities in Massachusetts

We looked at the most recent FBI Crime Report statistics from 2013 to determine Massachusetts's 50 safest cities. We eliminated cities with a population below 8,000 residents and any city that did not submit a complete crime report to the FBI.

If your city made list, share the news by embedding the "**Massachusetts Safest Cities**" badge on your site. [Click here to get the code](#), then just copy and paste.

Next, we assessed each remaining city based on the number of reported property crimes (arson, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny-theft) and violent crimes (robbery, murder, aggravated assault, and rape). Finally, to level the playing field for all cities, we determined the chance of these crimes happening out of 1,000 people in each city.

Of the 50 cities that made our list, 49 reported no incidents of murder in 2013, and 40 percent reported fewer than 10 total violent crimes. In addition, 78 percent of the cities on our list had no reports of arson, and 33 cities reported fewer than five incidents of motor vehicle theft.

These 50 cities boast proactive public safety programs and shrewd security initiatives that help their residents feel safe and secure. If you call the Bay State home or if you're considering a move, make sure to look over the cities whose safety records stood out enough to make our list.

Newton is a unique community composed of 13 distinct villages. While each village has its own characteristics, they are all united in the fight against crime. The Community Service Bureau augments law enforcement and provides complete investigative and protective services to citizens regarding juvenile issues, elder care, domestic abuse, and civil rights violations.

Violent Crimes per 1,000: 0.85
Property Crimes per 1,000: 9.29

42. Hanson

Home to Ocean Spray's original cranberry bogs, Hanson is a wholesome, welcoming town. Police programs like TRIAD help the city make sure all residents are looked after. TRIAD is a partnership between law enforcement, support services like the fire department, and the elderly community. The program helps represent elder concerns and sponsors events like the annual TRIAD Senior Safety Fair.

Violent Crimes per 1,000: 1.83
Property Crimes per 1,000: 8.31

43. Charlton

Firefighters in Charlton are known for their quick responses. In 2012, their efforts helped save the historic Charlton Woolen Mill from a five-alarm fire, limiting damage to just one section. Fire safety is emphasized throughout the community with programs like the Arson Watch Reward Program. Residents who have information about suspicious fires can earn rewards of up to \$5,000 from this joint program offered by the fire and police departments.

Violent Crimes per 1,000: 1.66
Property Crimes per 1,000: 8.56

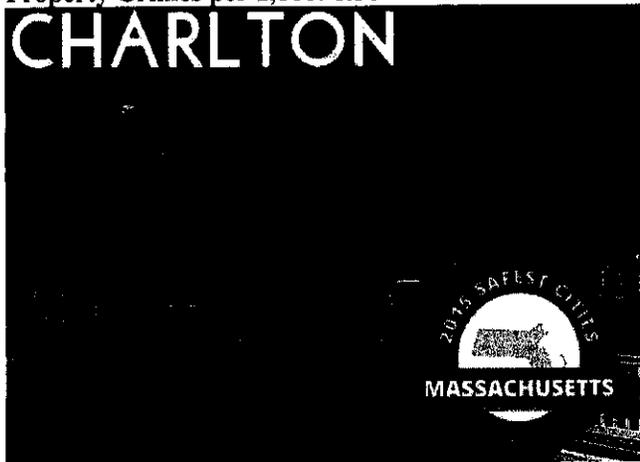


Image: [Marabela](#); Public Domain

44. Melrose

Melrose offers a perfect mix of Victorian charm and lush, open spaces. The Melrose Alliance Against Violence helps preserve an atmosphere of peace and safety for all residents through outreach, education, and community partnerships focused on eliminating domestic violence and bullying.

Violent Crimes per 1,000: 0.75
Property Crimes per 1,000: 9.47

45. Concord

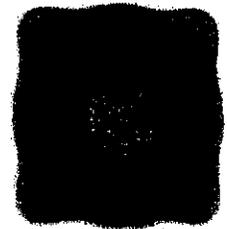


TOWN OF CHARLTON

Fire Department

PO Box 114, Charlton City, MA 01508
Phone 508-248-2299 Fax 508-248-6190

Headquarters Located at 10 Power Station Road



October 13, 2015

Board of Selectmen
Town of Charlton
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01508

Dear Board and Town Administrator Craver,

Enclosed, you will find a copy of the Charlton Fire Department incident report labeled "NFIRS-1 Basic" regarding the structure fire at 44 Old Worcester Road, Charlton, Massachusetts, on August 2, 2015. This report, along with all EMS, fire and hazmat calls for service are required to be submitted to the Fire Marshall's Office and the National Fire Incident Reporting System annually. In this report you will find incident related data as well as a narrative of events, apparatus reports and a list of responders from other departments and agencies. This incident remains under investigation by the Worcester County District Attorney's Office.

During the evening of the fire the personnel on scene acted appropriately according to the departments' mission statement and suggested operating procedures. A fire engine was on scene within 8 minutes of the 2nd alarm being struck. The Department setup an tanker shuttle operation due to the lack of water supply on site. An operation of that nature takes time and resources which came from other communities under our Mutual Aid agreements. The pond on site was not a viable or sustainable water source, due to the inaccessibility, and low water volume in the pond. The closest in-service hydrant was at Main St. and Old Worcester Rd. and was used for the tanker shuttle operation. No fire apparatus went out of service that evening. The footprint and topography of the site made access and apparatus placement an extreme challenge.

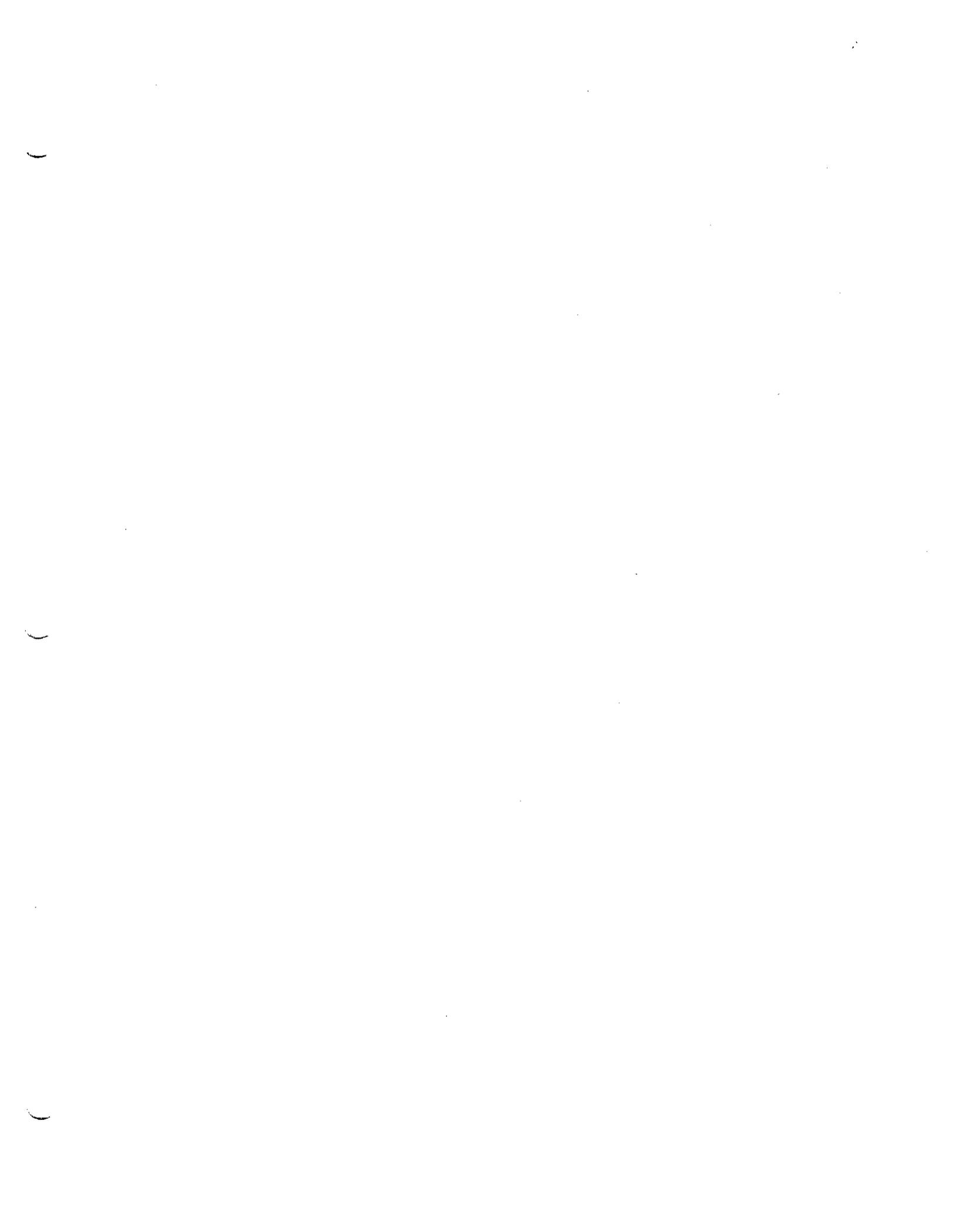
Early warning devices or sprinkler systems make a huge difference during fire events. This building had neither. We encourage homeowners and businesses to check their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure proper operation. If you don't have smoke or carbon monoxide detectors in your home or business, you may contact our fire inspector for further assistance.

If you have further questions regarding this report, they may be sent to the fire department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chief Charles E. Cloutier Jr.
Charlton Fire Department

"Serving with Integrity, Honesty and Compassion"



Town of Charlton Fire Dept.

A	<u>27054</u>	<u>MA</u>	<u>08/02/2015</u>	<u>HQ</u>	<u>0001172</u>	<u>000</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-1 Basic
	FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	
							<input type="checkbox"/> No Activity	

B	Location	<input type="checkbox"/> Address on Wildland Form	Census Tract <u>756100</u>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Street Address		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Intersection	<u>44</u>	<u>Old Worcester</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> In front of	Number Prefix Street	Type Suffix
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rear of	<u>Charlton</u>	<u>MA</u> <u>01507</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Adjacent to	Apt/Suite City	State Zip Code
	<input type="checkbox"/> Directions		
	<input type="checkbox"/> US National Grid	Cross Street, Directions or US National Grid, as applicable	

C Incident Type <u>111</u> Building fire	E1 Dates & Times	E2 Shifts / Alarms	
D Aid Given or Received	Alarm	Mon. Day Year Time	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Received	<u>08/02/15</u> <u>22:29</u>	<u>3</u> <u>0</u> <u>02 S</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Rec'vd	Arrival <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrival	Shift Alarms Dist.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Given	Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Control	E3 Special Studies
	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Given	Last Unit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last Unit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Aid Given	Clear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clear	ID# Value	
<input type="checkbox"/> None			
Their FDID Their State Their Incident <u>0000000</u>	MA Only <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Incident <input type="checkbox"/> Team Mobilized <input type="checkbox"/> Circumstances		

F Actions Taken	G1 Resources	G2 Dollar Loss & Values
<u>11</u> Extinguish	Apparatus Personnel	LOSSES: NONE
Primary Action Taken (1)	Suppression <u>13</u> <u>11</u>	Property <u>52000</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>12</u> Salvage & overhaul	EMS <u>1</u> <u>2</u>	Contents <u>350000</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Action Taken (2)	Other <u>3</u> <u>3</u>	PRE-INCIDENT VALUE
<u>86</u> Investigate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check if counts include mutual aid resources	Property <u>52000</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Action Taken (3)		Contents <u>350000</u> <input type="checkbox"/>

Completed Modules	H1 Casualties	H3 Hazmat Release	I Mixed Use Property
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire-2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	NN <input type="checkbox"/> Not Mixed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure-3	Deaths Inj.	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	10 <input type="checkbox"/> Assembly Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Civ. Casualty-4	Fire Service <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Propane Gas	20 <input type="checkbox"/> Education Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Casualty-5	Civilian <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline	33 <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Use
<input type="checkbox"/> EMS-6		4 <input type="checkbox"/> Kerosene	40 <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazmat-7	H2 Detector	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel Fuel/Fuel Oil	51 <input type="checkbox"/> Row of Stores
<input type="checkbox"/> Wildland-8	Alerted Occupants	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Household Solvents	53 <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed Mall
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apparatus-9	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	7 <input type="checkbox"/> Motor Oil	58 <input type="checkbox"/> Business & Resid.
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel-10	2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Paint	59 <input type="checkbox"/> Office Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Arson-11	U <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	60 <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Use
			63 <input type="checkbox"/> Military Use
			65 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm Use
			00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Mixed Use

1st Company to Arrive <u>F-1</u>	J Property Use	519
Non EMS Call	Food and beverage sales, groce	

K1 Person / Entity Involved **Charlton Orchards Farm &** **(508) 248-7820**
 Business name (if applicable) Phone

Prefix **Nathan** MI **Benjamin** Suffix **JR**
 First Name Last Name

Check if same address as incident **44** **Old Worcester** **RD**
 Number Prefix Street or Highway Street Type Suffix

Post Office Box Apt./Suite/Room **Charlton**
 City

MA **01507**
 State Zip

K2 Owner Same as Person Involved **Charlton Orchards Farm &** **(508) 248-7820**
 Business name (if applicable) Phone

Prefix **Nathan** MI **Benjamin** Suffix **JR**
 First Name Last Name

Check if same address as incident **44** **Old Worcester** **RD**
 Number Prefix Street or Highway Street Type Suffix

Post Office Box Apt./Suite/Room **Charlton**
 City

MA **01507** Insurance Co. _____
 State Zip Total Insurance _____

L Remarks
 Comments for this incident have been printed on an additional comments page.

M Authorization

0004	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	A/C	_____	Suppressio	_____
Officer in charge ID		Curtis, J Meskus	Position or Rank		Assignment	Date
0004	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	A/C	_____	Suppressio	_____
Member Making Report		Curtis, J Meskus	Position or Rank		Assignment	Date

Town of Charlton Fire Dept.

A	<u>27054</u> FDID	<u>MA</u> State	<u>08/02/2015</u> Incident Date	<u>HQ</u> Station	<u>0001172</u> Incident Number	<u>000</u> Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete <input type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> No Activity	NFIRS-2 Fire
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B Property Details B1 <u>0</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Residential No. of residential units in building of origin B2 <u>2</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Bldgs not involved No. of buildings involved B3 <u>0</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Less than one acre Acres burned (outside fire)	C On -Site Materials or Products <input type="checkbox"/> None <u>121</u> Alcoholic beverage On-site materials (1) <u>951</u> Office supplies On-site materials (2) <u>415</u> Cardboard On-site materials (3)	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Bulk storage or warehousing 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Processing or manufacturing 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Packaged goods for sale 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Repair or Service 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Bulk storage or warehousing 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Processing or manufacturing 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Packaged goods for sale 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Repair or Service 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Bulk storage or warehousing 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Processing or manufacturing 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Packaged goods for sale 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Repair or Service
---	--	---

D Ignition D1 <u>40</u> Area of origin Storage area, other D2 <u>UU</u> Heat Source Undetermined D3 <u>UU</u> Item first ignited Undetermined D4 <u>UU</u> Type of material first ignited Undetermined <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to item	E1 Cause of Ignition <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure Report 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Intentional 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Unintentional 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Failure of equipment 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Act of nature 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cause under investigation U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined after invest. E2 Factors Contributing <input type="checkbox"/> None <u>UU</u> Undetermined Factor contributing to ignition (1) _____ Factor contributing to ignition (2) _____	E3 Human Factors Contributing to Ignition 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Asleep <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly impaired by alcohol or drugs 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Unattended person 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Mentally disabled 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Physically disabled 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple persons 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Age was a Factor Estimated age 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female
--	---	--

F1 Equipment Involved in Ignition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <u>NNN</u> None Equipment involved Brand _____ Model _____ Serial # _____ Year _____	F2 Equipment Power _____ Equipment Power Source F3 Equipment Portability 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Portable 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Stationary Portable equipment normally can be moved by one person, is designated to be used in multiple locations.	G Fire Suppression Factors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <u>NNN</u> None Fire suppression factor (1) _____ Fire suppression factor (2) _____ Fire suppression factor (3) _____
--	--	---

H1 Mobile Property Involved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Not involved in ign, burned 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Involved in ign, did not burn 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Involved in ignition and burned	H2 Mobile Property Type & Make Mobile property type _____ Mobile property make _____ _____ Year _____ Mobile property model License Plate Number _____ State _____ VIN Number _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Car Stolen	Local Use <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Fire Plan Available Some of the information presented in this report may be based upon reports from other agencies: <input type="checkbox"/> Arson report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Police report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Coroner report attached <input type="checkbox"/> Other reports attached
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I1 Structure Type 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed Building 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Portable/mobile structure 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Open structure 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Air supported 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Tent 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Open platform (e.g. piers) 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Underground structure 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Connective structure 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other type of structure	I2 Building Status 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Under construction 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In normal use 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Idle, not routinely used 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Under major renovation 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant and secured 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant and unsecured 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Being demolished 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	I3 Bldg Height _____ <u>2</u> _____ Stories at or above grade level _____ <u>0</u> _____ Stores below grade level	I4 Main Floor Size _____ <u>1144</u> _____ Total square feet _____ <u>OR</u> _____ Length (ft) BY Width (ft) <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; float: right;"> NFIRS-3 Structure Fire </div>
---	---	--	--

J1 Fire Origin 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Below grade Story of Fire Origin	J3 No. of Stories Damaged by Flame Count the ROOF as part of the highest story _____ <u>0</u> _____ Number of stories w/ minor damage (1 to 24% flame damage) _____ <u>0</u> _____ Number of stories w/ significant damage (25 to 49% flame damage) _____ <u>0</u> _____ Number of stories w/ heavy damage (50 to 74% flame damage) _____ <u>2</u> _____ Number of stories w/ extreme damage (75 to 100% flame damage)	K Material Contributing Most to Flame Spread No flame spread OR same as material first ignited OR unable to determine _____ <u>K1 17</u> _____ Structural member or framing item contributing most _____ <u>K2 63</u> _____ Sawn wood, including all finished Type of material contributing most
J2 Fire Spread 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to room of origin 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to floor of origin 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to building of origin 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beyond building of origin		

L1 Presence of Detectors N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Present 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Present U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	L3 Detector Power Supply 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Battery only 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwire only 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Plug in 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwire with battery 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Plugin with battery 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Detectors & PS 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	L5 Detector Effectiveness 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Alerted occupants they responded 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Occupants failed to respond 3 <input type="checkbox"/> There were no occupants 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Failed to alert occupants U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined
L2 Detector Type 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Smoke 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Heat 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Combination smoke - heat 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sprinkler, water flow detection 5 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 1 type present 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ U <input type="checkbox"/> Underdetermined	L4 Detector Operation 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Fire too small to activate 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Operated 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Failed to operate U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	L6 Detector Failure Reason 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Power failure, shutoff 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Improper installation or placement 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Defective 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of maintenance, cleaning 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Battery missing or disconnected 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Battery discharged or dead 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined

M1 Presence of Auto. Exting. System N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Present 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Present 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Partial System Present U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	M3 Automatic Extinguishment System Operation 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Operated & effective 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Operated & not effective 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Fire too small to activate 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Failed to operate 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined	M5 Failure Reason 1 <input type="checkbox"/> System shut off 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not enough agent 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Agent discharged but did not reach fire 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Wrong type of system 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Fire in unprotected area 6 <input type="checkbox"/> System damaged 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of maintenance 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Manual intervention 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined
M2 Type of Automatic Extinguishment 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Wet pipe sprink. 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Halogen sys 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dry pipe sprink. 7 <input type="checkbox"/> CO2 system 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Other sprink sys 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Other system 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Dry chem. sys U <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Foam system	M4 Number of Sprinklers _____ <u>0</u> _____	

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Dispatch calls headquarters 22:29 on business line with report of heavy smoke in area of Worcester Road and L Stevens Road, Captain Babineau and FF Kimble (F36) in Forestry 1 (F1) out to investigate. Captain Babineau (C5) reports on cresting hill near L. Stevens Road the fire appear to be larger than a bond fire, orders first and second alarm.

Dispatch relays on fire frequency Officer Watson reports Winery building at Charlton Orchards, 44 Old Worcester Road well involved.

C5 Forestry 1 arrives, C5 reports working fire with radio communication to C4 who is on Berry Corner Road the need for 3rd alarm C4 instructs C5 to strike a 3rd alarm if needed, C5 request 3rd alarm without immediate acknowledgment of request from dispatch. C5 who is incident command at this time orders Engine 2 (E2) to come up road/driveway and take a position to apply deck gun to darken fire down.

Fire alarm inquires if mutual aid is needed, C5 response 3rd alarm had been requested, dispatch states he had not heard request for 3rd alarm C5 reiterated request for 3rd alarm Box 2403

E2 arrives with FF Bjorn (F34) places deck gun in service to darken fire, Assistant Chief Meskus (Car 4) on arrival to approximately 40x55, 2 story wood frame well involved building observes E2 positioned 100 feet from AD corner of building, deck gun flowing approximately 500 GPM having little effect on body of fire, C4 drives past E2 and fire building then backs his vehicle into position approximately 200 feet from the AB corner of the fire building, observe fire building and 2 exposure buildings.

C4 observes a ranch style house approximately 300 feet from the D side of the fire building and 1 story store building approximately 200 feet for the B side of the fire building, at this time fire has over taken the majority of the fire building, no fire visible on the B side which seems to be windowless, primary power and communication overhead lines appear to terminate at pole with transformer 50 feet from AB corner of the fire building, running back down and over E2, this hazard was noted and relayed to operating units, N Grid is an automatic request on 3rd alarm, requested to shut primary down to street.

Mr. Benjamin Sr. is heard repeatedly imploring a fire engine be driven around the back (of the store?) to protect the chicken coop with a 100 or more chickens in it.

C5 reports to C4 building fully involved, no know life hazard defensive operations are in play, C5 is preparing to set up tanker shuttle operation. C4 asked if C5 has done a 360 of the building, C5 in process of same, C5 reports chicken coop more the 100 feet from fire building and the woods will have to catch on fire first before fire reaches chicken coop.

Asst. Chief Meskus assumes command, C5 designated operations.

C5 orders Engine 1 (E1) with a crew of XX and Tanker 2 (T2) crew of XX to establish a bag operation at the lower driveway which is approximately 250 feet from E2. Engine 2 runs out of water before bag operations are online. C5 also has 2.5 inch line stretched from E2 to the D side of the building, and 1.75 inch line stretched to the B side of the building.

C4 consults his street listing for nearby water sources on Old Worcester Road, finds that there is stream access listed at #79 and 87 then inquires with C5 his plans for a fill site, suggests the questionable streams access or the hydrant at Bond Square, consensus it to go with the hydrant. T2 is sent to Bond Square to dress the hydrant and refill.

Drafting primer can be heard trying to prime pump for bag operations, priming seem to be taken excessively long time.

Mr. Benjamin Sr. is still insisting a fire engine be driven around the back (of the

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store?) to protect the chicken coop with 100 or more chickens in it also stating we are doing nothing, that C4 is letting the building burn on purpose, that C4 has had it out for the family for 20 years.

Ms. Benjamin and other family members being vocal about firefighting operations and their perception we are doing nothing, lines are being placed, awaiting the establishment of water supply. Ms. Benjamin strongly suggest the apparatus be brought through the orchard and up to the irrigation pond to be used for water supply, C4 inquires of the status of the pond Ms. Benjamin makes statements to the effect I know all about the pond which I do not. C4 checks with operations on ETA of bag operation in service, reply is soon.

Inspector Ceccarelli (C10) arrives and is assigned safety officer role.

Through the early part of operations some members of the Benjamin family are excited and implore various suggestions for firefighting operations, character and competence of the incident commander. Officer Gaylord and officer Keith XX were to the left of my vehicle attempting to bring order to the situation and explained to the Benjamin family the fire department was doing everything they could to control the situation.

The continuous distractions of the Benjamin family making assertions, suggestions to and about the operations made it difficult to maintain concentration on the operations. To overcome the distractions C4 elects to stay in his closed vehicle with access to resources, good radio communication on both the fire ground and water supply channels. Other companies/ communities arriving

Dispatch informs command that Auburn tanker not available, command request the alarm available tanker.

C4 calls fire alarm and request N Grid ETA need power shut off to street due to electrical hazard, priority for this action

C10 sent to see what are the issue at the dump site with getting prime and water flow establish, report that they are working on it.

Captain Sellers of Oxford was assigned to water supply operations along with Lieutenant Martinelli of Sturbridge controlling the access to the driveway/road. Engine 1 has difficulty obtain prime from bag, additional tankers and engine companies arriving, sever delay in getting water supply established, Oxford engine place in bag to pump in place of Charlton E1, Oxford E2 also has difficulties obtaining prime and continuous water supply.

F34 inquiries for the priority of line flowing once water supply is establish, plan it to concentrate on the B side and BC corner to prevent extension to the store on the B side and woods on the C side.

C4 asked officer Gaylord to walk over to the pond and see if the route was passible, officer Gaylord reports rout passable, however I did not hear confidence in his report if the pond was accessible. Give the risk of committing an engine to a water supply not familiar to me; I elected to stay with the tanker shuttle operation.

C4 Calls water supply for an update on the arrival of water, they are working on it, command relays water is need soon, they can pump off the tankers if needed, and I am becoming concerned with an exposure.

Other assignments

Dudley engine, sent to fill site

Webster Ambulance, stage on Old Worcester Road, medical area

Webster Rescue (WR), stage on Old Worcester Road

Sturbridge tanker, shuttle operations

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Quinebaug tanker shuttle operations

Leicester tanker shutter operation

Leicester engine manpower to scene

Leicester Asst. Chief to accountability/rehab

23:14 C4 calls Chief Cloutier by phone, brief on problems and possible public relations issues, he is responding will arrive as soon as possible, arrives approximately 00:45

Once water supply established attack on fire commences, fire darks down quickly with 2)

1.75 and 1) 2.5" lines.

Fire declared under control at 23:49.

C5 request light be setup for overall operations, Webster Rescues assigned manpower to establish same, converses with C4 for needs, C4 direct to E2 and generator on apparatus.

WR reports all available lights from E2 deployed, asked permission to bring WR vehicle closer to scene, WR officer is confident he can safely bring his apparatus to scene over road and around thru part of the fields. WR vehicle is brought to scene and positioned on A side of structure, deploy both on vehicle lighting and portable lighting, C4 view of scene blocked by WR apparatus.

Fire marshal office requested 00:15, Troupers Mike Riley responding 00:27 and arrived 01:30

00:20 Southbridge Water notified, Hector returned call, reminded me the system is not designed for fire flows, I will keep that in mind. (04:19 water supply reported used approximately 40,000 gallons)

00:45 Chief Cloutier arrives on scene, C4 briefs C1 on conditions on arrival, fire progress, manpower deployment, progress and operations, C1 does 360 of scene works with C5 operations on overhaul.

Difficult overhaul due to metal roofing on building, manpower working hard, 01:59 additional crews called, Dudley released from fill site brought to scene, Brookfield brought in for station coverage, Southbridge move up to scene and East Brookfield called to scene.

Worcester Box 4 requested on 3rd alarm dispatch follow up call at 01:59 on C4 request Worcester Box 4 canteen reports no response of members to page for service, 02:05 call placed for Providence canteen arrive approximately 03:45, 2nd line canteen truck, dispense crackers, coffee, cooled drink and beef stew.

02:32 N grid called to restore power to street, C5 had looked over power supply with owner, N Grid arrives 03:32, power restored shortly thereafter.

04:00 operations winding down, trouper leaves approximately 04:20. Tanker 2 to remain as fire watch, bag operation terminated, mutual aid companies released, hose loaded into C4 pickup for return to station

05:00 Chief does stand up interview for press, 2 Boston stations and possible Worcester station observed along with other press.

05:10 C4 turned command over to C5 and leaves scene.

Charlton engine 2 1

Forestry 1 2

Engine 1 5

Tanker 2 1

Quinebaug T 3

Sturbridge T 2

Sturbridge C3 1

Dudley E2 5

Oxford E2 2

Webster R 6

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Webster Amb 2
Spencer T
Leicester E 6
Leicester T 3

Special call
East Brookfield 5
Southbridge
Brookfield

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FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource		Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken	
Apparatus ID	F-1	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	22:29	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	81	82
Apparatus Type	16	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	22:36		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	86	
Brush truck		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	08:56		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Personnel ID	Name and Rank			Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
1277	Babineau, D. CP			<input type="checkbox"/>	11	12	86	
1548	Kimball, M. FP			<input type="checkbox"/>	11	12	86	

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource		Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken	
Apparatus ID	E-2	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	11	12
Apparatus Type	11	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS		
		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Personnel ID	Name and Rank			Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
1480	Bjorn, M. FE			<input type="checkbox"/>	11	12		

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource		Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken	
Apparatus ID	POV 1	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Suppression	81	
Apparatus Type	99	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS		
		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	00:00		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		
Personnel ID	Name and Rank			Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
0004	Meskus, C. AC			<input type="checkbox"/>	81			

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource	Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken		
Apparatus ID <u>E-1</u>	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	73	76
Apparatus Type <u>11</u>	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	74	
	Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/3/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

Personnel ID	Name and Rank	Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
1189	Arruda, D. FF	<input type="checkbox"/>	73	76	74	
1448	Curtis, B. FF	<input type="checkbox"/>	73	76	74	
1675	Faubert, S. AF	<input type="checkbox"/>	73	76	74	
1748	Messier, M. FF	<input type="checkbox"/>	73	76	74	
1746	Stenman, D. FF	<input type="checkbox"/>	73	76	74	

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource	Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken		
Apparatus ID <u>Mutua</u>	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	73	74
Apparatus Type <u>00</u>	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	76	
	Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/3/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource	Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken		
Apparatus ID <u>C10</u>	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	73	
Apparatus Type <u>60</u>	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS		
	Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8/3/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

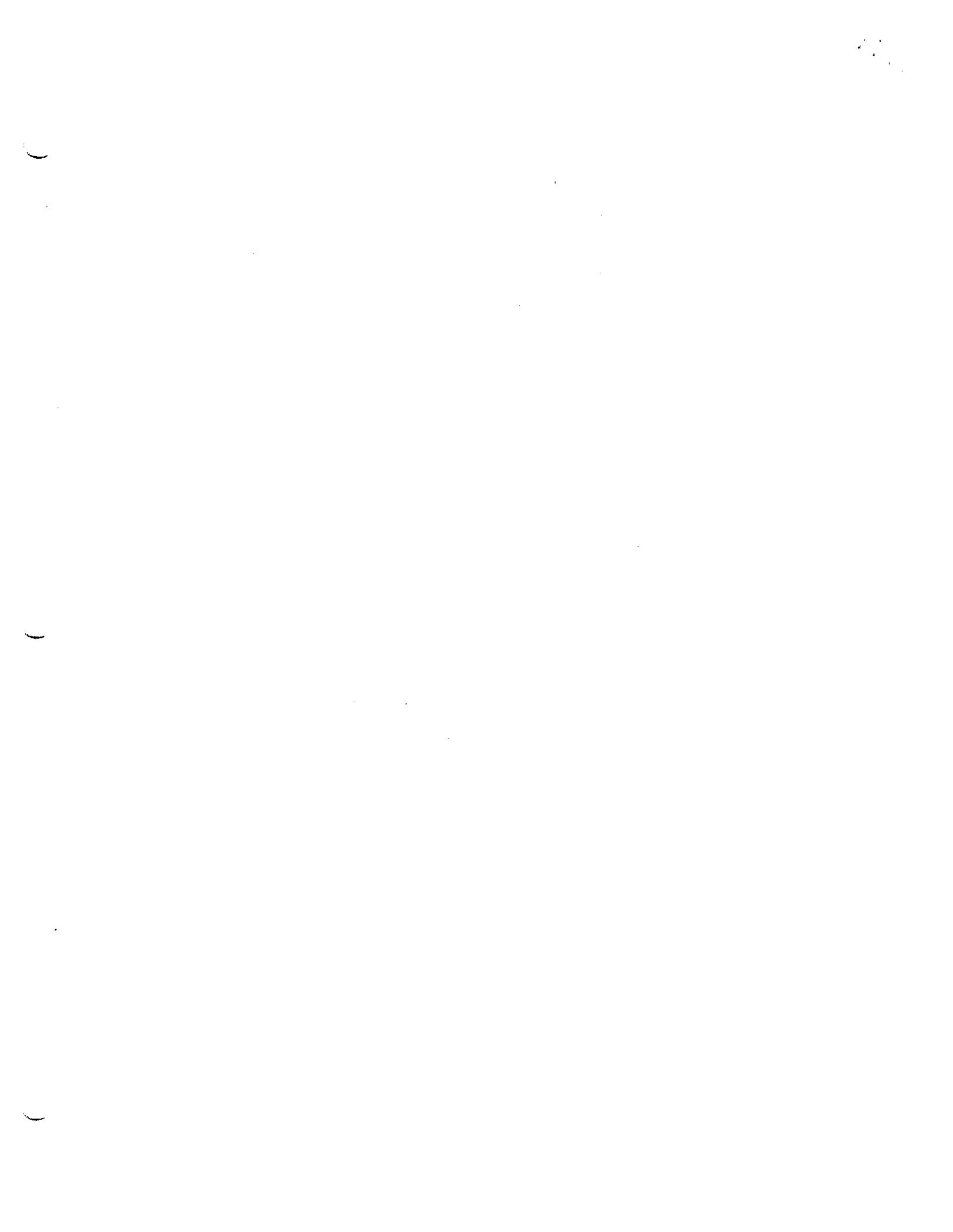
Personnel ID	Name and Rank	Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
1781	Ceccherelli, B. FP	<input type="checkbox"/>	73			

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource		Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken	
Apparatus ID	T-2	Dispatch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suppression	76	73
Apparatus Type	14	Arrival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	74	
		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	00:00		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Personnel ID	Name and Rank			Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
1468	Barton, R. FP			<input type="checkbox"/>	76	73	74	
1837	Wolcott, J.			<input type="checkbox"/>	76	73	74	

A 27054	MA	08/02/2015	01	0001172	000	<input type="checkbox"/> Delete	NFIRS-9 Apparatus
FDID	State	Incident Date	Station	Incident Number	Exposure	<input type="checkbox"/> Change	

B Apparatus or Resource		Dates and Times			Number of People	Use On Scene	Actions Taken	
Apparatus ID	C-1	Dispatch	<input type="checkbox"/> 8/2/2015	00:00	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Suppression	73	83
Apparatus Type	92	Arrival	<input type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	00:49		<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	86	
		Clear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8/3/2015	00:00		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		
Personnel ID	Name and Rank			Off-Duty	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken	Action Taken
0007	Cloutier Jr., C. CH			<input type="checkbox"/>	73	83	86	





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Charlton Orchards – Winery Fire, 44 Old Worcester Road, August 2, 2015

On Sunday, August 2, 2015 at 22:26 Hours, Charlton Emergency Dispatcher – Joseph Fournier, received a 911 call from a female motorists, who was travelling east on Rt. 20, and related that she could see what she described as a massive fire on her right hand side and looks to be bigger than a bonfire. When the dispatcher inquired what her location was, she related that she was across from “CrossFit”, (which is a new gym at 299 Worcester Rd.) and that the fire appeared to be near the apple orchard but that she was not sure as to what the name of the road would be. The dispatcher asked the caller if it was near CVS on Rt. 20 and she related that it was past CVS. The dispatcher asked the caller if that the name of the road was L. Stevens Road but she reiterated that the fire was huge and reiterated that it was near the apple orchard. The initial 911 call from the female motorists who reported the fire near the apple orchard lasted 1:34.

At 22:28 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier made a phone call to the Charlton Fire Department and spoke with Captain Dean Babineau. Dispatcher Fournier advised Captain Babineau, that he had just received a call from a lady who was driving east on Rt. 20 near L. Stevens Road by the apple orchard and saw a fire what she described as being bigger than a bonfire. Dispatcher Fournier asked Captain Babineau if he wanted him to tone out to notify other Charlton Firefighters to respond but was advised that he and the other on duty firefighters would check it out. Captain Babineau further advised Dispatcher Fournier to start a run sheet. Dispatcher Fournier’s conversation with Captain Babineau lasted 0:34.

At 22:29 Hours on 8/2/15, Patrolman Linda Watson exited the Charlton Police Department to investigate the fire that had just been reported on Rt. 20 east of CVS and L. Stevens Road.

At 22:30 Hours on 8/2/15, a second 911 call was received by Dispatcher Fournier from male motorists who was on Rt. 20 who reported that he was just transferred by the Massachusetts State Police to the Charlton Police Department and he is seeing fire sending out a lot of black smoke from the woods and inquired if anyone had

reported this fire. Dispatcher Fournier advised the male caller that he had just received a call about the fire and asked if he could still see flames. The male caller said he could still see flames and a lot of smoke. Dispatcher Fournier interrupts the male caller to respond to Officer Watson's radio call and is informed by Officer Watson that she is now on Rt. 20 heading east by L. Stevens Road and that she will advise. This radio transmission lasted 0:15. Dispatcher Fournier then resumes his conversation with the male 911 caller and asked him if it looks like a bonfire and the male caller responds that it is much bigger than a bonfire, that it is deep in the woods and that there is a lot of black smoke. Dispatcher Fournier then asks the male caller to provide his location and he is unable to relate a definitive location but when asked by Dispatcher Fournier if he is somewhere past CVS and L. Stevens Road, about a half mile (east) and the male caller states that he had just seen the Charlton sign (he was travelling west) and agrees that he is in that general area. Dispatcher Fournier advises the male 911 caller that someone is heading down there to check it out and the male caller states "Please do because it looks pretty big". This second 911 call lasted 1:14.

At 22:32 Hours on 8/2/15, Captain Dean Babineau places a radio call to Charlton Police Dispatch, informing Dispatcher that F1 (CFD Forestry Truck) is on the air and en route to investigate the reported fire on Rt. 20. This radio call lasted 0:20. Officer Watson makes a radio transmission just after Captain Babineau and advised Dispatcher Fournier that she is now across from the Charlton Industrial Park and that she is seeing a lot of black smoke in the sky and that she had not located the fire yet. This radio transmission lasted 0:22.

At 22:33 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson reports that it is across from the Industrial Park, that it looks very big in the sky and that she is now turning on to Old Worcester Road. Hearing Officer Watson's radio transmission, Captain Babineau radios to "Hit the tones for an outside fire invest". These two radio transmissions last 0:18.

At 22:33 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier activates the fire tones and states: Charlton Fire Alarm to Fire Personnel to respond to Rt. 20 east across from the Industrial Park for a fire investigation, smoke being reported and repeats the notice via the radio a second time. This radio transmission lasts 0:30. Sergeant Keith Cloutier reported in early at this time for his 11:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. shift at this time and began to assist Dispatcher Fournier with incoming calls.

At 22:34 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson radios Dispatch to clarify that the fire is on Old Worcester Road. As Officer Watson continued west on Old Worcester Road, she updated Dispatcher Fournier that the fire is where they make wine, that it is a structure fire, fully involved. This radio transmission lasts 0:38.

At 22:34 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier updated responding Charlton Fire Personnel via the fire radio that Officer Watson is reporting a fully involved structure fire. This radio transmission lasted 0:11.

At 22:35 Hours, Patrolman Derek Gaylord who had reported to duty for his 11:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. shift, radioed Patrolman Linda Watson and advised her that he was en route and inquired as to what her exact location was at this time. Officer Watson radioed Officer Gaylord and informed him that she was at the Winery, that the building where they make the wine is fully involved and that she would be knocking on doors. This radio transmission lasted 0:15.

At 22:35 Hours on 8/2/15, Captain Babineau radioed Dispatcher Fournier to strike a 2nd Alarm. This radio transmission lasted 0:15.

At 22:36 Hours on 8/2/15, the Massachusetts State Police 911 Center in Framingham, transferred a cellular call to the Charlton Police Department. The State Police 911 Dispatcher related to Dispatcher Fournier that there was a "House Fire" at 44 Old Worcester Road and that the resident / homeowner is on the phone. The female caller (Sarah Benjamin) conveys that it is "her grandmother's house too and to please hurry." Dispatcher Fournier makes further inquiry about whether or not her grandmother or anyone else is in the house and the female caller (Sarah Benjamin) states that she doesn't know and that their phones are dead. Dispatcher Fournier inquires again to reaffirm where the fire is located by asking if it is her grandmother's house and the female caller (Sarah Benjamin) advises that it's the Charlton Orchards Winery that is on fire and that it is right near her grandmother's house. Dispatcher Fournier advises the female caller (Sarah Benjamin) to stay on the line with him and that everyone is on their way. The female caller (Sarah Benjamin) further relates that the trees are on fire and that if the trees fall onto the house that it will catch the house on fire and will kill her grandmother. Dispatcher Fournier relates to the female caller (Sarah Benjamin) that the officer on scene (Officer Linda Watson) is advising that people are coming out of the house and the female caller (Sarah Benjamin) is heard saying "Go Go Go!", Dispatcher Fournier then asks the female caller if she is a neighbor and to identify herself. The female caller identifies herself as Sarah Benjamin, "we're Charlton Orchards", "Oh my God, Oh My God" and asks "are they helping are they helping?" Dispatcher Fournier then advises Sarah Benjamin that they are on their way and that there is a few of them already there. Sarah Benjamin then exclaims, "Oh my God it's all gone!" Dispatcher Fournier then advises Sarah Benjamin to stay a safe distance away and, that help is on the way. Sarah Benjamin then states, "How did this happen" and that "We just lost everything!" Sarah Benjamin then states, "This is it we're homeless!" Sarah Benjamin further states, "Is this the part where you kill yourself because you are going to be homeless?" Dispatcher Fournier then asks Sarah Benjamin if she is still there, asks her what's going on and what can she see? Sarah Benjamin replies yes,

and then exclaims "Dad (Sarah Benjamin's father, Nathan Benjamin Jr.), it's, Oh my God!" "The fire is literally fucking everywhere!" "It's burning down everything!" "It's literally burning down everything!" "We just lost our entire – we lost everything!" Dispatcher Fournier then asks Sarah Benjamin again, "Is it your house or the winery?" It's the Winery and it's heading toward my grandma's house!" "We are about to lose our shirts." Dispatcher Fournier then asks Sarah Benjamin, "Is your grandmother out of the house and away from the house?" Sarah Benjamin then asks Jill (Her sister Jillian Benjamin) "Is grandma out of the house?" Dispatcher Fournier then asks Sarah Benjamin, to make sure that everyone is out of the house and stays a safe distance away. Sarah Benjamin replies to Dispatcher Fournier, "Everybody is." Sarah Benjamin then asks Dispatcher Fournier, "Where's the fire truck?" "Is he coming?" "There is no fire truck here!" "Are they coming?" Dispatcher Fournier then makes inquiry again with Sarah Benjamin if everyone is out of the house? Sarah Benjamin replies to Dispatcher Fournier, "yes, but where's the fire trucks?" Dispatcher Fournier replies to Sarah Benjamin, "they should be there any second." Sarah Benjamin then exclaims "Oh my God!" Dispatcher Fournier then states to Sarah Benjamin, "they should be pulling in any second." Dispatcher Fournier then asks Sarah Benjamin, "Are they there yet?" Sarah Benjamin replies, "They're not here yet!" Someone then asks Sarah Benjamin a question and she states, "I'm on the phone with them, they're not coming!" Dispatcher Fournier advises Sarah Benjamin, "yes, they are almost there mam, calm down, it's okay, their on their way to help." Sarah Benjamin then exclaims, "Well apparently they're not here yet!" Sarah then yells out, "Where's the fire truck!" "Yes, this is them Mom (Sarah Benjamin's mother, Catherine Benjamin), we're fucking dying!" "We lost everything!" "And they're still not fucking here!" Sarah Benjamin is then heard speaking to someone, possibly her mother, who says: "Sarah..... "Sarah Benjamin exclaims, "No they're not!" The person in the background is again heard to say, "Sarah, Sarah." Sarah Benjamin then exclaims again, "Where are they?" The person in the background is heard to say, ".....he's setting up." We have a volunteer Fire Chief okay"and the conversation between Sarah Benjamin and the second person becomes very garbled. Dispatcher Fournier again advises Sarah Benjamin "they should be there any minute mam, they're almost there okay." Dispatcher Fournier again inquires with Sarah Benjamin, as to whether everyone is out of the house? Sarah Benjamin does not answer Dispatcher Fournier's question but is heard saying to someone in the background, "We just lost everything!" This 3rd 911 phone call lasted 5:16.

At 22:36 Hours on 8/2/15, Captain Dean Babineau in Charlton Fire Department, Forestry 1 fire truck radios Fire Alarm (Charlton Emergency Dispatch) and advises, "Forestry 1 is on arrival; fully involved fire in an out building: Car 5 (Captain Dean Babineau) will have command." Charlton Police Sergeant, Keith Cloutier, who reported early for his 11:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. shift, reported to Dispatch and

assisted Dispatcher Fournier and asked Captain Babineau via the radio, "What is the Box Number?" Captain Babineau replies, "I believe that it is 2402, double check the map." This radio transmission lasted 0:31.

At 22:36 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Linda Watson radios Dispatch to report, "I am being told that there are two (2) people in the house here." This radio transmission lasted 0:06.

At 22:37 Hours, Sergeant Keith Cloutier strikes (Tones) for a 2nd Alarm and advises all Charlton Fire personnel via the fire radio, that there is an active structure fire at 44 Old Worcester Road. Sergeant Cloutier repeats this radio call twice. Car 4 (Assistant Fire Chief Curtis Meskus) radios Fire Alarm (Charlton Emergency Dispatch), to inform them that he is en route. This radio transmission lasted 0:45.

At 22:37 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson radios Dispatch that the people in the house are coming out. This radio transmission lasted 0:05.

At 22:38 Hours on 8/2/15, Captain Dean Babineau, who has command at the fire scene at 44 Old Worcester Road, radios Car 4 (Assistant Fire Chief Curt Meskus), to inform him that he needs to strike a 3rd Alarm. Assistant Chief Meskus radios back to Captain Babineau that if he needs to strike a 3rd Alarm to do so. Captain Babineau radios to Assistant Chief Meskus that the call originally came in as an outside fire. Captain Babineau then radios Fire Alarm to give him a 3rd Alarm. This radio transmission lasted 0:28.

At 22:38 Hours on 8/2/15, Sergeant Keith Cloutier answers a fourth 911 call from a male caller who advises that he was on skype with his at his girlfriend who lives at 44 Old Worcester Road and that he can hear yelling and screaming to call 911. Sergeant Cloutier advises the caller that there is a fire at the aforementioned location, acquires the caller's information and completes the call. This 911 call lasted 0:37.

At 22:39 Hours on 8/2/15, the Massachusetts State Police – Sturbridge Barracks called the Charlton Police Department, spoke with Sergeant Cloutier, asked what the location of the structure fire was and inquired if we could use some assistance. Sergeant Cloutier advised the State Police that the fire was located at 44 Old Worcester Road and that we could use some assistance. Sergeant Cloutier was advised that State Police Cruiser #1827 was in the area and that he would have him respond to 44 Old Worcester Road. This telephone call lasted 0:25.

At 22:39 Hours on 8/2/15, Patrolman Derek Gaylord radioed that 719 was out. This communication meant that he was out at the scene of the fire at 44 Old Worcester Road. This radio transmission lasted 0:03.

At 22:39 Hours on 8/2/15, Command (Captain Babineau) radioed Engine 2. Engine 2 responded and Captain Babineau advised to come up the driveway to set up a tanker shuttle. Engine 2 radioed back to get a better location from Captain Babineau. Captain Babineau radioed that the fire was at Charlton Orchards, the Winery. Engine 2 radioed back to Car 5 (Captain Babineau), to advise him that his radio transmission was unreadable. Captain Babineau radioed back to Engine 2 and advised a second time that the fire was at Charlton Orchards, the Winery building. Engine 2 responded that they received Captain Babineau's radio transmission and asked if he wanted them to come up the driveway to the orchard. Captain Babineau advised Engine 2 to come up the driveway and that he would set them up in allocation to get a deck gun going immediately. This radio transmission lasted 0:48.

At 22:41 Hours on 8/2/15, Car 10 (Charlton Fire Inspector – Brian Ceccarelli) radioed Charlton Fire Alarm to report that he was on the air.

At 22:41 Hours on 8/2/15, Sarah Benjamin called via 911 to the Charlton Police Department. Dispatcher Fournier asked Ms. Benjamin, "What do you see now mam?" "What's going on?" Ms. Benjamin advised Dispatcher Fournier that the entire Winery is ablaze. Dispatcher Fournier interrupts Ms. Benjamin and asks her if everyone is out of the house and she replies, "everyone is out of the house but the fire trucks are still not here". Dispatcher Fournier advises Ms. Benjamin that the fire trucks will be there any second and that our main concern that everyone is out of the house. Ms. Benjamin then advises Dispatcher Fournier that the barn is now on fire and that the fire is closer to her grandma's house than ever now!" Ms. Benjamin reiterates to Dispatcher Fournier, "that the fire is going so fast right now, it's going to reach my Grandma's house!" Sarah Benjamin speaks to her mother (Catherine Benjamin) who is nearby and states, "that it does matter mom, we have no money!" Catherine Benjamin is overheard saying to her daughter Sarah Benjamin that "no one was caught in the fire, calm down, no one is dead!" Sarah Benjamin advised Dispatcher Fournier that she "heard a popping noise, like two bullets – bam, bam" and that she thought it was a hunter or something and then she saw something like orange, that she turned around and said "Holy Crap" that it's (the Winery) is all on fire. Sarah Benjamin then explained that it was approximately five (5) minutes from the time that she heard the popping until the time that she saw a giant flame. Sarah Benjamin then stated that the popping was like something electrical or like somebody shot something. Dispatcher Fournier asked if the building was an older building and Sarah Benjamin advised that the building was built around 2009. Sarah Benjamin then stated to Dispatcher Fournier "Oh my God, there are even more cops now!" Dispatcher Fournier asked Sarah Benjamin at this time, "Do you see the engines yet, are the fire trucks there? Sarah Benjamin replied to Dispatcher Fournier, "No we don't!" Sarah Benjamin then stated to Dispatcher Fournier, "They just, just drived (sic) up the driveway, there here." Sarah Benjamin then stated,

"It's too late, it's too late, this is it." "It's a total loss!" "We lost everything!" "If I wasn't awake watching Girls on HBO, I would have never seen this and then it would have killed grandma!" Dispatcher Fournier responded to Sarah Benjamin's comments and stated, "That I'm glad that you saw it in time and got everybody out." Dispatcher Fournier reassures Ms. Benjamin that they (the fire trucks) should be almost there and Sarah Benjamin states "that they're here now." Dispatcher Fournier asks Sarah Benjamin once more if everyone is out of the house and safe she advised that "everybody is out" and that "they're spraying stuff." In speaking with Sarah Benjamin, Dispatcher Fournier stated the following: "My number one concern was your safety, I'm glad that you guys are okay and they'll take care of the rest okay." If you need any more or anything else, call 911 immediately." "Okay?" Sarah Benjamin replied to Dispatcher Fournier, "Okay." Dispatcher Fournier and Ms. Benjamin then both said goodbye to one another. This 911 call lasted 3:06.

At 22:42 Hours on 8/2/15, Sergeant Keith Cloutier called Command (Captain Dean Babineau) and inquired what his status was and if he wanted him to bring in a mutual aid out of Oxford. Command advised Sergeant Cloutier to bring in whatever is assigned on the 3rd Alarm for this box. Sergeant Cloutier advised Command that no one gave him a 3rd Alarm and we have only received a 2nd Alarm. Command then advises Sergeant Cloutier that per Box 2403 sound a 3rd Alarm. Sergeant Cloutier then strikes the tones for a 3rd Alarm and notifies Charlton Fire Personnel twice, to respond to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. This radio transmission lasted 0:55.

At 22:42 Hours on 8/2/15, Sergeant Cloutier then contacts the Station 21 – Oxford Fire Department via County Band Radio and requested that they send an engine to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. Oxford Fire confirms that they received the request and that they would be sending an engine company to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. This radio transmission lasted 0:25.

At 22:43 Hours on 8/2/15, Engine 1 radios Fire Alarm and advises that they are en route with 5 (Firefighters). Dispatch confirms that Engine 1 signed on and is en route to 44 Old Worcester Road. This radio transmission lasted 0:25.

At 22:44 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier contacts Station 23 – Dudley Fire via County Band Radio and requests that they send an Engine Company to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure Fire, Dudley Fire acknowledges that they have received the request and that they will be sending an engine company to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. Dispatcher Fournier then contacts Station 25 - Southbridge Fire via the County Band Radio and requests that they send an Engine Company to cover Charlton's Fire Station. Southbridge Fire acknowledges the radio request and confirms that they will be sending an engine company to Charlton for

station coverage. Dispatcher Fournier then radioed Station 20 - Auburn Fire for a tanker and did not receive a response. These 3 radio transmissions lasted 0:58.

At 22:44 Hours on 8/2/15, Command (Captain Babineau) advises Engine 1 to come to the top of the driveway at 44 Old Worcester Road and explains how he wants them to set up.

At 22:45 Hours on 8/2/15, Tanker 2 radios Fire Alarm that they are en route with 2 and Dispatcher Fournier acknowledges that they have signed on and are en route.

At 22:45 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier radioed Station 20 – Auburn Fire via the County Band Radio and Auburn Fire did not respond. This radio call lasted 0:11.

At 22:45 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier radioed Station 10 –Leicester Fire Department via County Band Radio and Leicester Fire did not respond.

At 22:46 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier radioed Station 22 – Webster Fire Department via County Band Radio to request that they send an ambulance to stand by at the structure fire located at 44 Old Worcester Road. Webster Fire acknowledged Charlton's request for an ambulance and advised that they would be en route to 44 Old Worcester Road. This radio transmission lasted 0:21.

At 22:46 Hours on 8/2/15, Car 4 (Assistant Charlton Fire Chief Curt Meskus) advised Dispatch that he was on arrival. This radio transmission lasted 0:08.

At 22:46 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier contacted the Auburn Police Department, spoke with Dispatcher Doray and requested that Auburn send a Tanker to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. This phone call lasted 0:58.

At 22:47 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson (705) advised Officer Gaylord (719) via radio that she was clearing the scene at that time.

At 22:48 Hours on 8/2/15, Command radioed Fire Alarm to confirm that they were working off of Box 2403. Dispatcher Fournier confirmed that they were working off of Box 2403 which is a 3rd Alarm and Command requested Dispatcher Fournier go to a 4th Alarm and request additional Tankers. This radio transmission lasted 0:31.

At 22:48 Hours on 8/2/15, Engine 1 radioed Dispatcher Fournier and advised that they were on arrival (44 Old Worcester Road). This radio transmission lasted 0:11.

At 22:48 Hours on 8/2/15, Tanker 2 radioed Command and advised that they were turning on to Old Worcester Road. Command then gave instructions to Tanker 2

with respect to where to set up on the fire ground. This radio transmission lasted 0:30.

At 22:49 Hours on 8/2/15, Auburn Dispatch contacted Dispatcher Fournier by phone and advised that they do not have a Taker or an Engine with a Tank Dump Outlet. This phone call lasted 0:08.

At 22:49Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier radioed Station 26 – Sturbridge Fire over the County Band Radio and requested that they send a Tanker to 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire. This radio transmission lasted 0:24.

At 22:49 Hours, Car 4 (Assistant Chief Meskus) radioed Command (Captain Babineau and asked him is he has done a 360 of the scene and Captain Babineau advised Car 4 that he has not. Car 4 then advised Command that he is on the upper side and that once he does the 360 to come see him. Command advised Car 4 that it would be a while because he was more concerned on water supply. This radio transmission lasted 0:22.

At 22:50 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier radioed Station 11 – Spencer Fire via the County Ban Radio and requested a Tanker for a structure fire at 44 Old Worcester Road. Station 11 Spencer acknowledged the request for a Tanker for 44 Old Worcester Road for a structure fire.

At 22:50 Hours, on 8/2/15 Car 4 radioed Command and discussed the issue of where to obtain their water supply for the fire. Car 4 and Command discussed using a stream near 79 and 80 Old Worcester Road but it was decided that the better option was to use the hydrant at Bond Square. This radio transmission lasted 1:00.

At 22:51 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier contacted National Grid to respond to 44 Old Worcester Road to cut the power that was feeding into the fire scene. National Grid Emergency Operator advised that they would be sending a truck to respond. This phone call lasted 1:16.

At 22:52 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Derek Gaylord (719) radioed Sergeant Keith Cloutier (607) and requested assistance with a small crowd that was being mouthy. Sergeant Cloutier then radioed Officer Linda Watson (705) and directed her to return to 44 Old Worcester Road to assist Officer Gaylord. This radio transmission lasted 1:02.

The following is Officer Gaylord's report narrative relative to the Charlton Orchards Winery Fire:

On Sunday, August 2, 2015, just after 10:30 P.M. (22:30 Hours), I, Officer Gaylord (719), heard Officer Watson (705), radio that she was on arrival at a structure fire at Charlton Orchards, 44 Old Worcester Rd. and responded to the scene to assist.

I arrived and parked my cruiser to the side of the driveway just before the structure that was involved. Upon exiting my cruiser I observed a female yelling at Capt. Babineau and just yelling out "Where are the fire trucks", "Why are there no fire trucks here", and "Why are they not doing anything"? This female was yelling this uncontrollably and saying these things to Capt. Babineau while he was attempting to control the fire operations. At this time he advised the female who was yelling that she needed to move back away from the scene. I advised her that more fire apparatus was on the way and that she needed to remain calm. The female continued to yell, at which time Catherine Benjamin identified herself as her mother and stated that she will take care of her.

Fire apparatus arrived on scene as well as Assistant Chief Meskus. Chief Meskus parked his vehicle just beyond the building involved, facing it and perpendicular to the road. While walking anywhere in this area I could feel the heat coming from the fire. At this time there were several family members about the property on foot and on utility task vehicles.

Multiple fire department personnel were working around this scene and fire apparatus were being used with hoses laid in the area.

Chief Meskus was running this fire ground from his vehicle where he had access to multiple radios, paperwork, and administrative tools.

During this time the residents of this property were walking around the scene and driving off road vehicles around the property. At times, residents were going behind the building that was on fire. F.F. Kimball went behind the building to retrieve one resident who was close to the fire.

Multiple residents stated to me and Chief Meskus that they had 100 chickens in a building behind the fire and they were concerned for them. At this time Chief Meskus window was down and the concern for the chickens was expressed many times. Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin Sr. approached me and Chief Meskus stating that we do not care about the chickens and should be trying to save them. I advised him that everyone on scene were doing the best they could to help.

Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin Jr. seemed to be upset and began questioning actions of the firefighters on scene. At times asking why they were not putting water on the fire and asking why they were "just standing there"? Mr. Benjamin was yelling and

was advised by me that he needed to move back away from the fire scene and needed to try to remain calm.

I radioed dispatch and requested additional officers to assist with the crowd.

Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin then again approached us and yelling that the fire department should be using the pond their property to obtain water. Again, I advised him that everyone is doing the best they could. At this point Mr. Benjamin was at Chief Meskus' window and yelling that he needs to use the pond, and that chickens needed to be saved. I advised him again that he needed to move back away from firefighters and allow them to work. Mr. Benjamin began to move away and I expressed that everyone was doing everything they could to assist. I advised him that this was not the time or the place to have the discussion about how the fire was being fought and that he needed to remain out of firefighters way again. At this point he approached me, inches away, and stated "what the fuck are you going to do about it?" At this point Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin Jr. was hindering the operation of the fire ground and being a disorderly person. I planned to place Mr. Benjamin in custody when his mother and father came (from each side) and put themselves between us and physically were pushing my hands away from his. Patricia Benjamin was stating "Ok we will move back but Mr. Meskus has it out for us." I felt the task of controlling the situation would be more safely performed with additional officers and I subsequently requested dispatch for more help. Mr. Benjamin moved back and proceeded to call Chief Pervier.

Patricia Benjamin walked up to Chief Meskus' window and began to yell at him about how and what he should be doing. I advised her that she needed to move away and stay back. She then began to tell me to "Leave them alone and that Mr. Meskus has it out for them" and that "he is a fucking asshole".

Shortly after, I observed Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin Sr. speaking with F.F. Ceccarelli on the other side of Chief Meskus' vehicle. I heard FF Ceccarelli explain to him what was going on and that everyone was doing the best they could. F.F. Ceccarelli then began to turn around, when Mr. Nathan R. Benjamin Sr. grabbed his arm.

Sgt. Cloutier, Officer Watson and a trooper were on scene at this point. A boundary tape was set up and the residents remained at a safe distance and remained reasonable.

At times I felt concerned for the safety of firefighters on this scene due to the yelling, lashing out and unreasonableness of the Benjamin Family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrolman Derek Gaylord
Charlton Police Department

At 22:53 Hours on 8/2/15, EMD 1 signed on and was en route to 44 Old Worcester Road with 1. This radio transmission lasted 0:13.

At 22:54 Hours on 8/2/15, Nathan Benjamin, Jr. telephoned the Charlton Police Department and spoke with Dispatcher Gail Foley. Mr. Benjamin asked, "Why the Fire Department up here watching my place burn down without putting any water on anything?" Dispatcher Foley advised Mr. Benjamin that she is just a dispatcher and that she was trying to get the people there and that she does not know what they do on scene. Mr. Benjamin went on to say, "That it was no use for the Fire Department and Rescue Units being there because they were not putting any water on it!" Mr. Benjamin then stated, "I'm trying to save my God Dam animals!" Dispatcher Foley advised Mr. Benjamin that she understood and that she is sending the equipment and that he would have to talk to the firefighters. Mr. Benjamin then stated, "I'll go pull him (Assistant Chief Meskus) out of his God Dam truck then you can come and arrest me!" Dispatcher Foley replied to Mr. Benjamin's comment, "I wouldn't." At this point Mr. Benjamin hung up. This phone call lasted 0:45.

At 22:54 Hours on 8/2/15, Car 10 (Charlton Fire Inspector Brian Ceccarelli) advised Fire Alarm that he is on scene. This radio transmission lasted 0:11.

At 22:54 Hour on 8/2/15s, Car 4 (Assistant Chief Meskus) has Command.

At 22:55 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Gail Foley radioed Sergeant Keith Cloutier (^06), to inform him about the call that she had just received from the owner Nate Benjamin.

Dispatcher Foley related to Sergeant Cloutier that Mr. Benjamin was very unhappy about what was going on up there and that she thinks that he is going to go out and cause a problem. Sergeant Cloutier advised Dispatcher Foley that he received her radio transmission and that he is on his way. This radio transmission lasted 0:28.

At 22:55 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson advised Sergeant Cloutier that she is on Old Worcester Road passing the funeral home (Miller's Funeral Home) at this time. Sergeant Cloutier acknowledges Officer Watson's notification as to her location. This radio transmission lasted 0:07.

At 22:56 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Foley radioed Command (Assistant Chief Meskus) to advise him that one of the Tankers that was requested is unavailable and inquired if he wanted her to contact the next Tanker that was listed on the 5th Alarm? Command advised Dispatcher Foley to call the next Tanker listed on the 5th Alarm. This radio transmission lasted 0:20.

At 22:56 Hours on 8/2/15, National Grid contacted the Charlton Police Department and advised Dispatcher Fournier that National Grid's E.T.A for Old Worcester Road would be 25 minutes. This phone call lasted 0:10.

At 22:56 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Foley contacted Quinebaug, CT for their Tanker, due to the fact that Auburn's Tanker is unavailable. This phone call lasted 0:50.

At 22:56 Hours on 8/2/15, Officer Watson (705), radioed Officer Gaylord and inquired where did he need her to go. This radio transmission lasted 0:04.

At 22:57 Hours on 8/2/15, Sergeant Keith Cloutier (607) advised Dispatch that he was on scene and Officer Linda Watson (705) also reported that she was on scene at 44 Old Worcester Road. Sergeant Cloutier then radioed Officer Gaylord (719) and asked him where he needed him. Officer Gaylord requested Sergeant Cloutier to proceed to the top of the driveway, just beyond the house. This radio transmission lasted 0:17.

At 22:58 Hours on 8/2/15, Nathan Benjamin, Jr. contacted me (Chief James Pervier) at home via my cell phone and exclaimed that his business was on fire, that the Charlton Fire Department was just standing around and was not putting any water on the fire and that a Charlton Officer was trying to arrest him. I advised Mr. Benjamin that I had not been informed about any fire at this time, nor did I know why a Charlton Officer would want to try and arrest him, without speaking with the officer. Mr. Benjamin's phone call to me then ended abruptly and I am unaware as to whether he hung up or if one of us lost the cellular connection. The phone call from Mr. Benjamin lasted approximately 0:30.

At 22:59 Hours on 8/2/15, I contacted the Charlton Police Department and spoke with Dispatcher Fournier and with Dispatcher Foley. I first related to Dispatcher Fournier that I had just received from Mr. Nate Benjamin and that he reported to me, the Charlton Fire Department was just standing around, that they were laughing and that they were not putting any water on the fire. I then asked Dispatcher Fournier who was working and he related to me that he and Gail Foley were dispatching. I then asked Dispatcher Fournier as to whom the officers were that were on scene at the fire. Dispatcher Fournier informed me that Sergeant Cloutier, Officer Gaylord and Officer Watson were on scene at the fire. I then spoke with Dispatcher Foley

and she related to me that they have a 3rd Alarm going with a lot of units on scene. I then then advised Dispatcher Foley what I conveyed to Dispatcher Fournier that Mr. Benjamin is stating that the fire department is not putting water on his fire and that they are laughing at him and that they are letting his winery burn. In speaking further with Dispatcher Foley, she was not sure what was transpiring at the fire scene but did articulate that she just heard one of the Tankers over the radio say that they were going back to the hydrant to refill, so that they (the fire fighters on scene) must be putting water on the fire. My phone conversation with Dispatchers Fournier and Foley lasted 3:00.

At 23:00 Hours on 8/2/15, Command is informed that the transformer by the pole is getting hot and that they believe that National Grid still hasn't shut down the power and that people on the fire ground will be potentially compromised. Command is then informed by Oxford Engine 2 via radio that they are on arrival. Command instructs Oxford Engine 2 to dump their water into the fire tank and to send their personnel less two (firefighters) up to the fire. Tanker 2 then radioed Command to advise them that they were en route to the center to refill and that the dump site is narrow and someone needs to ensure that it does not get blocked up. Command then directs Oxford Engine 2 to have one of their officers become dump site command and keep the tankers flowing through the driveway. The various radio transmissions lasted 2:25.

At 23:05 Hours on 8/2/15, Sergeant Keith Cloutier sent me a photo to my cell phone of the fire that was taking place at the Charlton Orchards Winery. It was clear by the photo that Sergeant Cloutier sent me, that the entire winery and contents were unfortunately being consumed by a raging fire.

At 23:05 Hours on 8/2/15, Dispatcher Fournier called National Grid back, informed them that the fire was going to compromise the primary wires and wanted to obtain an updated E.T.A. The National Grid emergency operator then asked Dispatcher Fournier for his call back number and told him that she would call him back with an answer.

This phone call lasted 0:48.

At 23:07 Hours on 8/2/15, Spencer Tanker 1 radioed Dispatch that they have been en route for the past ten (10) minutes. This radio transmission lasted 0:07.

At 23:07 Hours on 8/2/15, Leicester Medic 4 advised Command that they were on scene and were advised to stand by at the end of the driveway. This radio transmission lasted 0:16.

At 23:09 Hours on 8/2/15, an inquiry was made about National Grid's E.T.A. Command spoke with Dispatch via radioed and was informed ten (10) minutes. This transmission lasted 0:30.

At 23:09 Hours on 8/2/15, Quinebaug, Ct reported via phone to Dispatcher Foley that Tanker 283 was en route to Charlton. This phone call lasted 0:36.

At 23:11 Hours on 8/2/15, Dudley Engine 2 radioed Command and advised that they were on arrival with 3 (firefighters). This radio transmission lasted 0:17.

At 23:14 Hours on 8/2/15, Spencer Tanker 1 advises Command that they are on scene. This radio transmission lasted 0:17.

At 23:16 Hours on 8/2/15, National Grid calls Dispatch and spoke to Dispatcher Foley to report that their service truck is on Rt. 20 and that he is almost to the scene of the fire. This phone call lasted 0:15.

At 23:18 Hours on 8/2/15, Command is notified that National Grid is on scene and Command requests that they kill the primary leading up to the fire scene. This radio transmission lasts 0:18.

At 23:20 Hours on 8/2/15, Command directs to send the Dudley Engine to pump the hydrant. This radio transmission lasts 0:12.

At 23:25 Hours on 8/2/15, Webster Rescue radioed Command that they were approximately a half mile away and inquired where Command wanted them to set up. Command advised Webster Rescue to stage at the bottom of the driveway. This radio transmission lasted 0:25.

At 23:32 Hours on 8/2/15, Leicester's Car 3 notified Command that power to the fire is cut. This radio transmission lasted 0:06.

At 23:47 Hours on 8/2/15, Command advised Dispatcher Fournier that the fire is under control. Command also requested Dispatcher Fournier to page out for the 3rd Alarm due to the fact that he did not see the page go out. This radio transmission lasted 0:16.

At 23:48 Hour on 8/2/15s, Dispatcher Fournier advised Command that the 3rd Alarm did go out but Command advised that the Outlook Page did not go out for the 3rd Alarm. Dispatcher Fournier acknowledged that he received Command's directive. This radio transmission lasted 0:16.

At 23:52 Hours on 8/2/15, MEMA was calling on behalf of the State Fire Marshall's Office for an update. Dispatcher Foley provided MEMA with the information about the fire. This phone call lasted 0:56.

At 00:06 Hours on 8/3/15, Officer Linda Watson notifies Dispatch that she is clearing from 44 Old Worcester Road. This radio transmission lasts 0:06.

At 00:07 Hours on 8/3/15, Dispatcher Foley spoke with the Red Cross via phone and conveyed that their services were not needed due to the fact that the fire involved a building and not a residence. This phone call lasted 0:20.

At 00:10 Hours on 8/3/15, Command requests Dispatch to contact the State Fire Marshall's Office for assistance with a fire investigation for a fire in a large building, cause unknown. Radio transmission lasted 0:20.

At 00:13 Hours on 8/3/15, Dispatcher Fournier was able to make notification to the State Fire Marshall's Office and requested the assistance of a fire investigator as per Assistant Chief Meskus' directive. This phone call lasted 0:42.

At 00:20 Hours on 8/3/15, M.S.P. Trooper Michael Riley who is attached to the State Fire Marshall's Office, called to find out some details about the Charlton Orchards Winery fire and advised that he would be en route from Mansfield, MA. This phone call lasted 1:24

At 01:28 Hours on 8/3/15, M.S.P. Trooper Michael Riley who is assigned to the State Fire Marshall's Office is on scene at 44 Old Worcester Road.

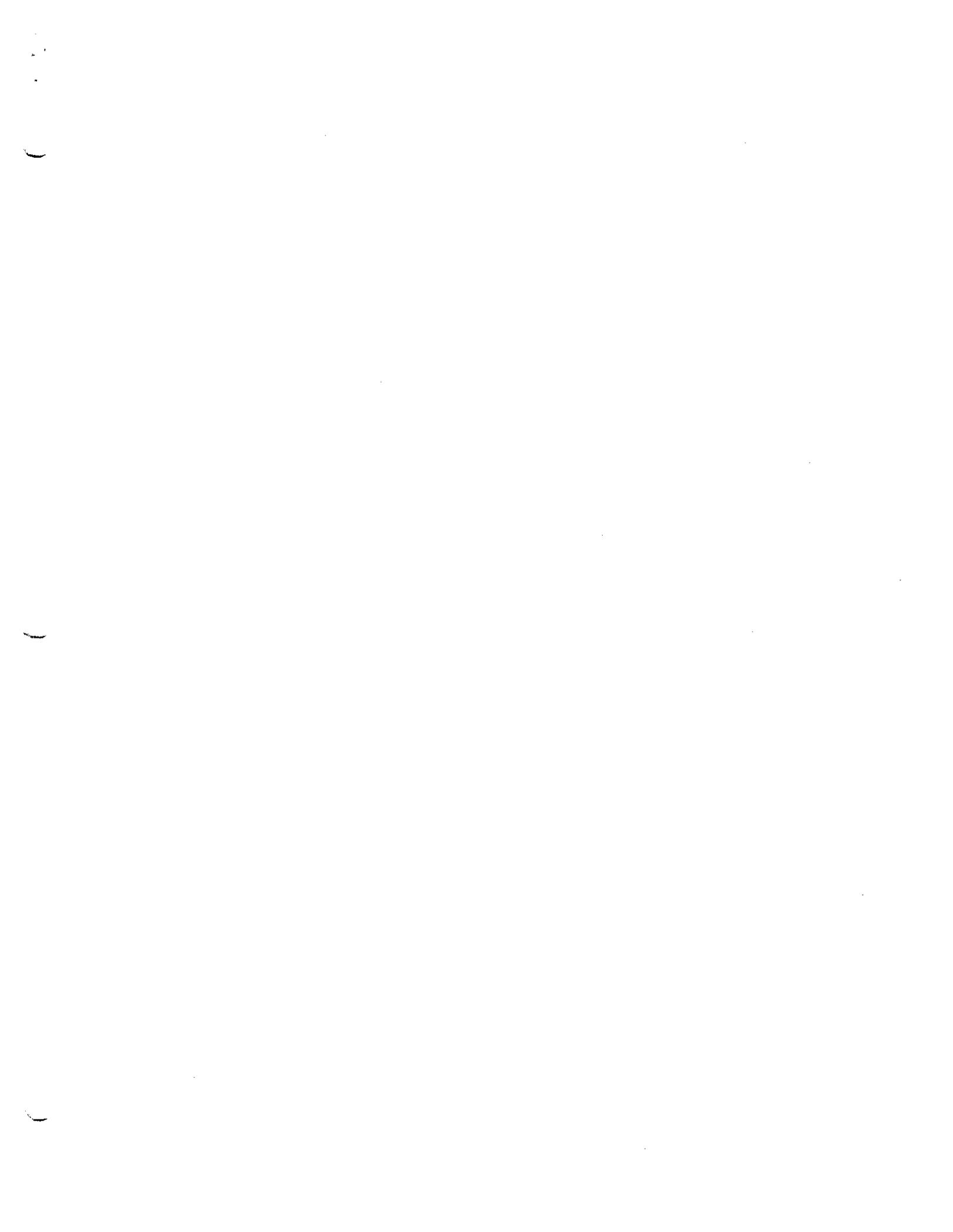
At 02:30 Hours on 8/3/15, Command requests Dispatch to contact National Grid and to have them report back to 44 Old Worcester Road to turn the power back on.

At 3:09 Hours on 8/3/15, Dispatch is notified that National Grid has restored the power at 44 Old Worcester Road.

At 05:00 Hours on 8/3/15, Dispatch is notified that all units except Tanker 2 is clear from 44 Old Worcester Road and that Car 5 (Captain Dean Babineau has Command).

At 05:04 Hours on 8/3/15, Officer Derek Gaylord contacted Dispatch and reported that he was clearing the scene at 44 Old Worcester Road.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chief James A. Pervier
Charlton Police Department



TOWN OF CHARLTON
OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507
WWW.TOWNOF CHARLTON.NET

Phone: (508) 248-2206
Fax: (508) 248-2374

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Robin L. Craver, Town Administrator 

DATE: October 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 10/13/15

Glen Echo Lake Drawdown – We have been notified by the Glen Echo Improvement Association that their quality consultant, Aquatic Controls and in accordance with their current order of conditions, will initiate the drawdown of Glen Echo Lake on October 15, 2015. The drawdown will be at a rate of 1 – 2 inches per day until a level of 4 feet below spillway is achieved. The water will be maintained at that level until a hard freeze (after temperatures have been below 15·F for a period of 5-7 days or after January 15, 2015). The lake will then be allowed to return to its normal level.

Community Compact application - As approved by the Board, I have completed and submitted the Community Compact application for the Town of Charlton which is now with the Division of Local Services for review. A Community Compact creates clear mutual standards, expectations and accountability for both the state and municipalities to create better government for our citizens. We had to choose the best practices that are unique to our municipality and reflects the needs of our community. I have submitted our best practices as: Financial Management – financial policies, Energy and Environment - comprehensive water resource management and Energy and Environment - sustainable development and land protection. After review, we will be notified of the signing of the compact.

Recycling Grant Award – We have been notified by the Department of Environmental Protection that the town has been awarded a Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grant up to the amount of \$1,000.00 for Small Scale Initiative. These funds will be used to purchase white or cherry colored ceramic kitchen composters and two dual composting tumblers. Administrative Assistant Kara Hmielowski worked with the Recycling Committee and submitted the grant application on their behalf and also found a Massachusetts company called Go Green Solutions in S. Grafton Mass, who will be delivering the items.

Town of Oxford – Town Planner – We received a letter from Brian Palaia, Town Manager for Oxford asking if Charlton would be interested in exploring the option of sharing a Town Planner. I have forwarded the letter to the Planning Board and am waiting for a response.

Stafford Street Bridge Project – I received word from Highway Superintendent Foskett that he was notified by Mass DOT of a bridge reconstruction project on the overpass of Rt. 20 (Stafford Street). Work will begin mid-October and be completed in August, 2016. He is meeting with DOT engineers next week and will have more information as well as what the impact of the traffic will be.

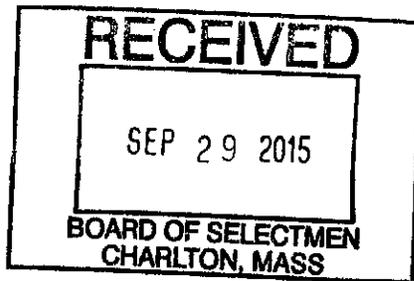


Glen Echo Improvement Association

POST OFFICE BOX 578 • CHARLTON • MASSACHUSETTS • 01508 • info@www.glenecholake.org

*Took
nowak
8/23*

September 23, 2015



Town of Charlton
Board of Selectmen
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507

To whom it may concern,

As recommended by our water quality consultant, Aquatic Controls, and in accordance with our current Order of Conditions, we request initiating a drawdown of Glen Echo Lake on October 15, 2015.

Per our Order of Conditions (#128-1073), the drawdown will be at a rate of 1-2 inches per day until a level of 4 feet below spillway is achieved. The water will be maintained at that level until a hard freeze, i.e., after the temperatures have been below 15°F for a period of 5-7 days or after January 15, 2015, based on the recommendation and notification of Aquatic Controls. The lake will then be allowed to return to its normal level.

Please contact me at nowak151@verizon.net or (508) 248-4832 if we need to attend any meetings to obtain approval for the drawdown.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline M Nowak
President, Glen Echo Improvement Association

cc: Charlton Conservation Commission

Craver, Robin

From: Sean R. Cronin <croninse@dor.state.ma.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 3:16 PM
To: Craver, Robin
Subject: Community Compact Application

Dear Robin Craver,

Thank you for completing the Community Compact application for Charlton. Your application is now with the Division of Local Services for review.

According to your submission the Best Practices you will commit to are:

Best Practice #1 - Financial Management

Financial Policies // Best Practice: Sound financial policies provide important structure and consistency around local fiscal policy decisions and are documented and adhered to. This best practice is achieved by evidence of documented fiscal policies including reserve levels, capital financing, and use of Free Cash.

Best Practice #2 (optional) - Energy and Environment

Comprehensive Water Resource Management // Best Practice: There is a plan to supply and conserve water, manage stormwater, and treat and reuse wastewater; The MA Water Conservation Standards are being implemented; Municipal regulations promote green infrastructure and the use of low impact development techniques; An Enterprise Fund or other mechanism is in place to fund maintenance and replacement of water infrastructure.

Best Practice #3 (optional) - Energy and Environment

Sustainable Development and Land Protection // Best Practice: There is a Master, Open Space and Recreation, or other Plan to guide future land conservation and development; Smart growth consistent zoning has been adopted (e.g. techniques in the MA Smart Growth/Smart Energy Toolkit); Investments in infrastructure and land conservation are consistent with the MA Sustainable Development Principles.

As part of the review process, the Division of Local Services may be contacting Robin Craver with follow-up questions. Once the review of your application is complete and the best practice area(s) are agreed upon, I will be in touch regarding the signing of the Compact. We are looking forward to working with your community as you continue to strive toward excellence!

Sincerely,

Sean Cronin
Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services
Division of Local Services

TA report



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

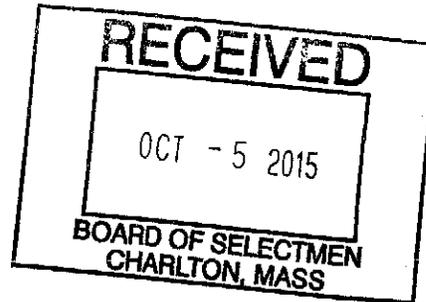
One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner



September 30, 2015

Mr. Rick Swensen
Chair, Board of Selectmen
Town of Charlton
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507

Dear Mr. Swensen,

Congratulations! It is my pleasure to inform you that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has awarded the Town of Charlton a Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Municipal Grant. The Town of Charlton will receive up to \$1,000 for a Small-Scale Initiative.

Please note, awards for the following grant categories are being evaluated (Mattress Recycling Initiative, SMART/PAYT, Curbside Recycling/Food Waste Carts, Drop-off Equipment, School Recycling Assistance, Waste Reduction Enforcement Coordinator, Waste Reduction Projects, Organics Capacity Projects) and will be announced separately.

The Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) was created under 310 CMR 19.300-303 and the Green Communities Act, which directs a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Waste Energy Certificates to recycling programs approved by MassDEP. The SMRP solicitation, issued April 1, 2015, offered funding to cities, towns and regional entities - as well as certain non-profit organizations that provide services to them - for recycling, composting, reuse and source reduction activities that will increase diversion of municipal solid waste and household hazardous waste from disposal.

The terms and conditions of your grant are outlined in the attached document, which contains key dates and deadlines specific to your award. This information has also been provided to the municipal recycling contact copied below. Should you have any questions, please call Tina Klein at (617) 292-5704.

Thank you for your commitment to advancing recycling and waste reduction in Massachusetts. Together our efforts will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve natural resources and save energy, while also supporting jobs and reducing disposal costs for waste generators and municipalities.

Sincerely,

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

cc: Kara Hmielowski, Administrative Assistant



MassDEPNEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 30, 2015

CONTACT:
Ed Coletta 617-292-5737

Baker-Polito Administration Awards \$1.4 Million to 216 Municipalities for Recycling Grants

Funds Invested Will Maximize Recycling, Composting and Waste Reduction Efforts

BOSTON – The Baker-Polito Administration today announced more than \$1.4 million in Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grants to 216 municipalities and regional solid waste districts to help maximize recycling, composting and waste reduction programs.

“Some of the most important environmental protection work happens every day in communities across the Commonwealth,” said **Governor Charlie Baker**. “With this assistance, we are ensuring that local officials, residents and small business owners can continue to protect our neighborhoods and natural resources.”

“Recycling and waste reductions efforts are critical to our goal of reducing the waste stream,” said **Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. “These grants bring much needed assistance to municipalities that struggle to educate residents about why recycling can make a difference in their communities and bottom line.”

Out of 216 awardees, 137 communities qualified for the SMRP’s “Recycling Dividends Program” (RDP) and will receive payments ranging from \$1,200 to \$66,000, for a total of \$1.18 million statewide. The RDP recognizes municipalities that have implemented policies and programs proven to maximize materials reuse and recycling, as well as waste reduction. Communities that earn RDP payments must reinvest the funds in their recycling programs for things such as new recycling bins or carts, public education and outreach campaigns, collection of hard-to-recycle items and the establishment of recycling programs in schools, municipal buildings and other public spaces.

“The Baker-Polito Administration is committed to reducing trash disposal by 30 percent below 2010 levels, which is about 2 million tons per year.” said **Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton**. “Every ton of material that is recycled instead of disposed as trash puts resources back into the Massachusetts economy and supports local businesses throughout the collection, processing and manufacturing chain. The RDP helps communities leverage the benefits of increased recycling for a healthier economy and environment.”

As part of the SMRP, all 210 municipalities that also applied for “Small-Scale Initiative Grants” were awarded funding. These population-based grants range from \$500 to \$2,000 each and help communities purchase modest, but critical recycling materials and outreach tools needed to



MassDEP NEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

sustain their existing recycling program or to facilitate new, low-cost initiatives. Both of these SMRP programs are administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

“These new funds give communities the opportunity to make critical investments in their recycling programs, capturing more materials that can be reused, and helping them to reduce their waste disposal costs,” said **MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg**. “This is another example of this Administration’s commitment to building strategic partnerships with our local communities.”

The RDP was rolled out in 2014 as the newest initiative under MassDEP’s Sustainable Materials Recovery Program, which was created by the Green Communities Act of 2008. The Act requires that a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Waste Energy Certificates (WECs) be directed to recycling programs approved by MassDEP.

“I would like to commend the Baker-Polito Administration on their continued support of the environment,” said **Senator Anne Gobi, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture**. “Promoting recycling and waste reduction is vital to a sustainable future. It is tremendous to see such a large increase in municipalities receiving grants.”

“This is great news for Fall River and New Bedford,” said **Representative Paul A. Schmid, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture**. “Thank you to the Baker Administration for recognizing the recycling efforts in both Fall River and New Bedford and for providing the resources for their continued success.”

See a list of the SMRP grant awards here: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/recycle/reduce/m-thru-x/smrp2015.pdf>

The WEC payments received by MassDEP are deposited into the SMRP Expendable Trust, which is used to fund grants, technical assistance and education to help communities, businesses and institutions increase recycling and reduce waste.

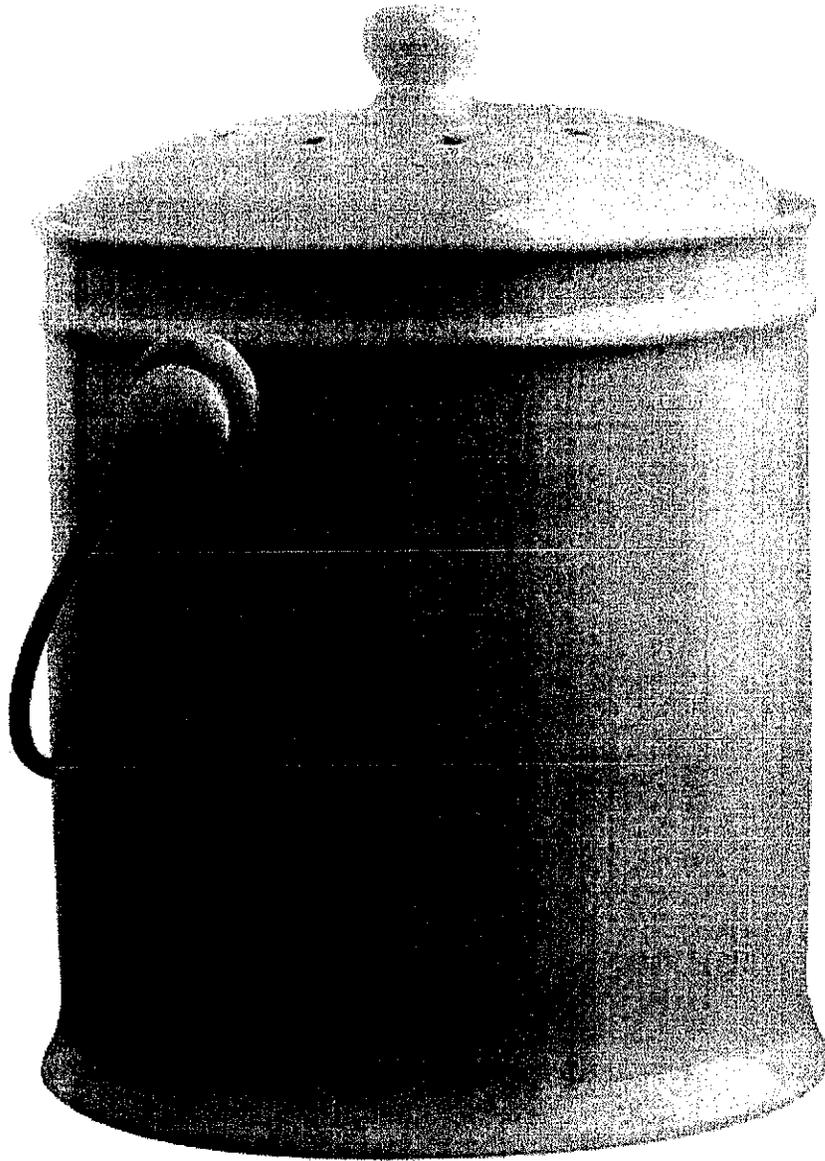
MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

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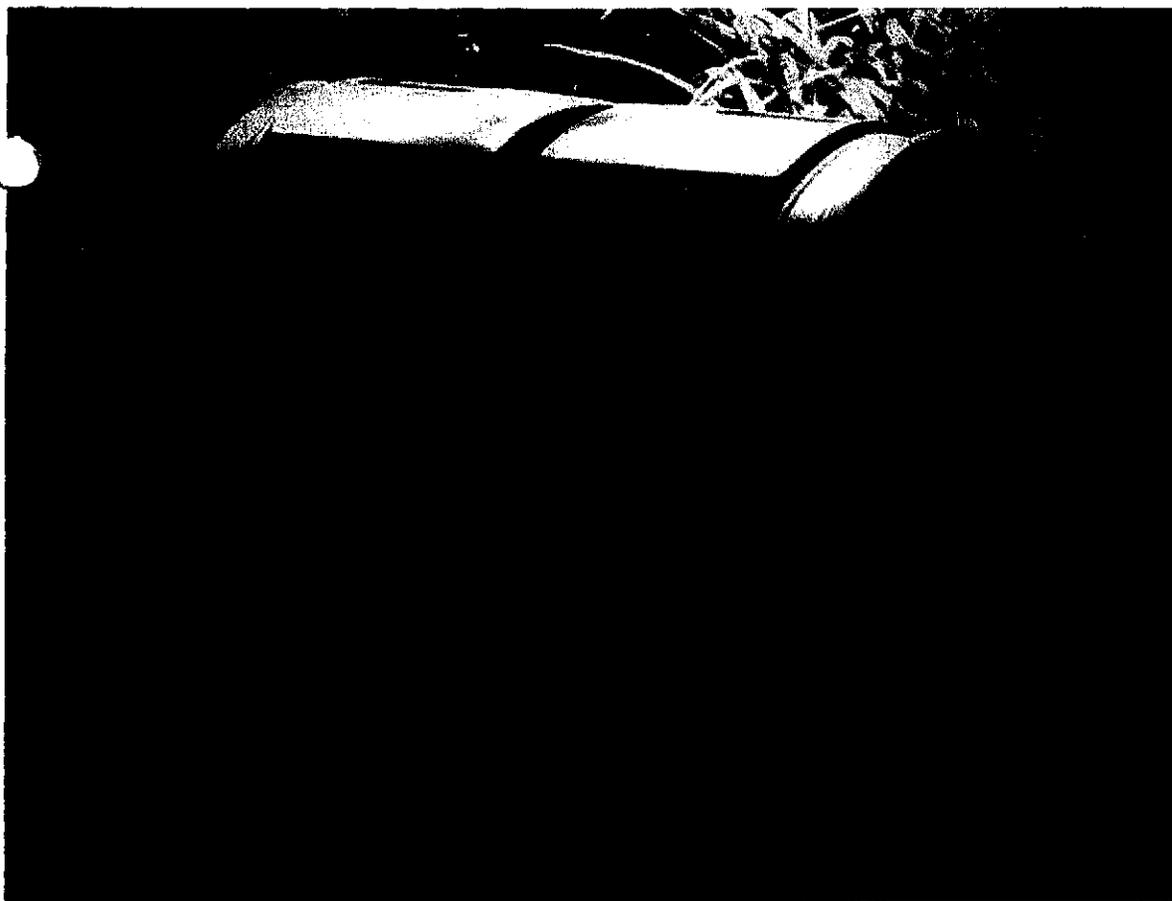
40 Years Cleaner, 40 Years Greener
MassDEP Celebrates Four Decades of Environmental Progress

MassDEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program - September 2015

Municipality	RDP Payment	Small Scale Payment	Total
Town of Abington	\$4,800	\$1,250	\$6,050
Town of Acton	\$3,200	\$1,250	\$4,450
Town of Adams		\$750	\$750
Town of Agawam		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Amesbury		\$1,250	\$1,250
Town of Amherst	\$6,000	\$1,500	\$7,500
Town of Andover		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Arlington	\$18,000	\$1,500	\$19,500
Town of Ashby	\$2,000	\$500	\$2,500
Town of Ashfield	\$1,600	\$500	\$2,100
Town of Ashland		\$1,250	\$1,250
Town of Athol	\$1,400	\$1,000	\$2,400
City of Attleboro	\$17,500	\$1,500	\$19,000
Town of Auburn	\$5,600		\$5,600
Town of Avon		\$500	\$500
Town of Ayer	\$2,200	\$750	\$2,950
Town of Barnstable	\$9,000	\$1,500	\$10,500
Town of Barre	\$1,800	\$750	\$2,550
Town of Belchertown	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$2,800
Town of Bellingham		\$1,250	\$1,250
Town of Belmont		\$1,250	\$1,250
Town of Bernardston	\$1,400	\$500	\$1,900
City of Beverly		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Billerica		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Blackstone	\$2,800	\$750	\$3,550
Town of Bolton	\$1,200	\$500	\$1,700
Town of Bourne		\$1,250	\$1,250
Town of Boxford	\$4,400	\$750	\$5,150
Town of Braintree		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Brewster	\$5,200	\$1,000	\$6,200
Town of Bridgewater		\$1,500	\$1,500
City of Brockton	\$28,000	\$2,000	\$30,000
Town of Brookline	\$17,500	\$2,000	\$19,500
Town of Buckland	\$1,200	\$500	\$1,700
City of Cambridge	\$60,000	\$2,000	\$62,000
Town of Charlemont	\$1,600	\$500	\$2,100
Town of Charlton		\$1,000	\$1,000
Town of Chatham	\$5,200	\$750	\$5,950
Town of Chelmsford		\$1,500	\$1,500
Town of Cheshire	\$1,200	\$500	\$1,700
Town of Chesterfield	\$1,600	\$500	\$2,100
City of Chicopee	\$18,000	\$2,000	\$20,000
Town of Clarksburg		\$500	\$500
Town of Clinton		\$1,000	\$1,000
Town of Cohasset	\$6,000	\$750	\$6,750
Town of Colrain	\$1,800	\$500	\$2,300
Town of Concord	\$3,600	\$1,250	\$4,850
Town of Conway		\$500	\$500



Ceramic kitchen composter



dual composting tumbler



Town of Oxford

Brian M. Palaia

Town Manager

325 Main Street

Oxford, Massachusetts 01540

manager@town.oxford.ma.us

Telephones:

(508) 987-6030

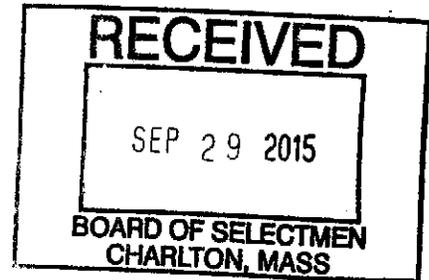
(508) 987-6031

Fax: (508) 987-5868

TA Report

September 24, 2015

Robin Craver, Town Administrator
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507



Dear Robin:

The Town of Oxford has been sharing a Town Planner with Dudley until recently. Their Town Planner moved on to take another position and now Oxford is without a Town Planner.

We were using her services one day a week plus support for Planning Board meetings. We would like to increase the amount of time we have a planner but we do not necessarily need one full time. I am looking for someone who can handle quality control for our land management office, guide the technical review process, guide our master plan update (which will be handled by an outside vendor), and support economic development goals.

Please let me know if you would be interested in exploring sharing a Town Planner. I can be reached at 508-987-6030.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Palaia
Town Manager

Devlin, Mary

From: Craver, Robin
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 5:49 PM
To: Devlin, Mary
Subject: FW: stafford st. bridge project

Please add to my ta report

Sincerely,

*Robin Leal Craver, Town Administrator
Town of Charlton
37 Main Street
Charlton, MA 01507
508-248-2206 office
508-243-3905 cell*

*Effective July 1, 2014, new town hall hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday – 7:30am – 5:00pm
Tuesday – 7:30am – 7:00pm
Friday - closed*

From: Foskett, Gerry
Sent: Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:31 AM
To: Craver, Robin
Subject: stafford st. bridge project

FYI Robin, mass dot just notified me of a bridge reconstruction project on the overpass of rt. 90 (Stafford st) Work will begin mid October and be completed in august 2016. I am meeting with DOT engineers next week to get more info as well as what the impact to traffic will be. I do know it will involve getting bridge down to one lane with a working light on each end. Will advise.