

REPORT OF THE EMERGENCYMANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

There were no significant events in 2008 that required activation of the Weston Emergency Management System. The Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) was recently reviewed by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (M.E.M.A.), and we are in the process of updating this plan with the Town's Emergency Management Team and representatives from M.E.M.A. This plan will be critical to the Town in the event of a natural disaster or other emergencies in Town.

Members of the Emergency Management Team cannot stress enough the importance of people being prepared in the case of an emergency. The first thing is to have a plan. This plan should include a 72 hour emergency kit which should include some of the basic items to get you through the first 72 hours of an emergency. Information on this kit as well as other topics can be found on the Town's web site or through the American Red Cross and the Massachusetts or Federal Emergency Management Agencies' web sites.

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

In calendar year 2008 the Weston Fire Department responded to 2,152 calls for service. We were fortunate to have only had one large loss; however, this should not lead to complacency. As a department we cannot stress enough the importance of making a conscious effort to protect ourselves from the dangers of fire including installing and testing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and having and practicing a home escape plan.

We have always felt that it is easier to prevent a fire than extinguish one. As such, prevention remains a core component of our mission. We continue to conduct school visits and required fire safety inspections. These inspections include oil burning equipment, liquefied propane installations, home fire and carbon monoxide alarms, fuel tank removals and blasting operations. In addition, quarterly inspections of nursing care and other facilities were conducted as required by law.



The 2007 Town Meeting approved the purchase of a new aerial ladder which was placed in service in October 2008. Also the town approved a new engine at the December Special Town Meeting and the truck should be in service by March 2009.

While our
Emergency

Ambulance Service accounted 46.3% of our call volume, the department's Emergency Medical Technicians and First Responders continue to provide critical care to the residents and visitors of Weston. We are fortunate to have both Emerson Hospital and American Medical Response

Ambulance as Advanced Life Support providers to the community; however, it is critical that we take steps to ensure that this level of care remains available for the community in both a timely and cost effective manner. We encourage residents wishing to take a class in CPR or to learn more about defibrillators to contact the Fire Department.

We look back with gratitude to all of those who have supported and assisted this department in many ways. Citizen support and cooperation is essential if we are to continue to keep our Town fire safe and maintain an effective level of service.

Fire incidents	62
Ambulance incidents	996
Other Emergency Services	1,094
Total	2,152
In 2008 the Weston Fire Department responded to 228 Bell Alarms and 1,924 Still Alarms for a total of 2,152 incidents; Of the 996 Emergency Ambulance Incidents, 805 were medical emergencies and 191 were motor vehicle accidents.	

Mutual Aid	Incidents
Received from neighboring communities	372
Provided to our neighbors	142

Comparison of Alarms Answered - 10 Year Period			
1999	1,773	2004	2,007
2000	1,883	2005	2,023
2001	2,080	2006	1,934
2002	1,803	2007	1,990
2003	1,990	2008	2,152
10 Year Average			1,964
5 Year Average			2,021
3 Year Average			2,025

Permits Issued Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws	
Burning	426
Blasting	11
Carpet Installation	0
Sprinkler	3
LP Gas Storage	17
Tank Truck Inspections	4
Explosives Storage	1
Flammable Liquid Storage	0

Underground Tank Removal	11
Oil Burner Installations/Alterations	8
Alarm Systems - New Construction	124
Fire Alarm Systems - Residential Sales	0
Ansul Fire Suppression	1

Fiscal Year 2008 Revenue Turned Over to the Town Treasurer	
Fees for Ambulance Services Rendered	\$363,012.42
Fees for Services to Mass. Turnpike Authority	\$800.00
Fees for Permits	\$19,200.00
Master Box Fees	\$18,900.00
Other Revenues Received	\$8,636.24
Total Revenue Fiscal Year 2008	\$391,648.66

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Mission Statement:

To ensure public safety, health and welfare insofar as they are affected by building construction, through structural strength, adequate means of egress facilities, sanitary conditions, light and ventilation, energy conservation and fire safety; and, in general, to secure safety to life and property from all hazards incident to the design, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, demolition, removal, movement and/or use or occupancy of detached one-and two-family dwelling buildings, structures or premises.

These goals are accomplished through the enforcement of building, electrical, mechanical and fire protection codes for residential and commercial construction. The Inspectional Services Department is staffed by one full-time Building Inspector, one part-time Deputy Building Inspector, and part-time Plumbing and Electrical Inspectors. Departmental staff receive applications for permits, review plans to ensure compliance with applicable codes, issue permits for construction and perform inspections to ensure work is performed in compliance with approved plans and in compliance with applicable code provisions.

Enforcement of the Town's zoning bylaw is also a function of this department. Applications for permits are reviewed for compliance with provisions of the zoning for all districts in the town and to verify allowable use and occupancy. Staff also perform investigations and respond to complaints to ensure that activities, including those other than construction, are not in violation of the zoning bylaw. The department continues its public education efforts about the provisions of the current zoning bylaw as well as making recommendations for future changes and improvements.

This department is also responsible for the periodic inspection and certification of certain buildings and structures. These include annual inspections of public and private schools including Regis College, daycare facilities, residential apartment buildings, indoor and outdoor grandstands, fire escapes, banquet facilities and other places of assembly. The department issues approximately 85 certificates of inspection annually.

The Town's Weights and Measures inspection program is also administered by the Department of Inspectional Services. The department performs annual inspection and responds to complaints of fuel pumps, scales and scanners. The Town currently has approximately 50 devices requiring inspection and certification.

New single family construction activity was similar to the previous year with 37 permits issued in FY08 compared to 41 in FY07. The Highland Meadows development is progressing steadily with all units in phase one permitted and the completion of two units and the community building.

Commercial activity increased this year by more than doubling the number of permits issued in FY07. Included in those permits was the three phase expansion and renovation of the Epoch Senior Living Facility. Phase one of the project was completed opening 19 units, community and dining rooms, and new kitchen facilities.

In 2008, a total of 575 building permits, 569 electrical permits, and 632 plumbing permits were issued.

On the next two pages, please find the Calendar Year 2008 and Six Year Summary Report.

REPORT OF THE PARKING CLERK

Vehicles violating town and/or state parking regulations may be ticketed by the Police Department. If a ticket remains unpaid and no request for a hearing has been made to the Parking Clerk within 21 days, additional fines may be imposed (in Weston there is a \$5.00 late fee for each unpaid violation) and, after notice to the vehicle's owner, the ticket is marked at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Once a vehicle has been marked at the Registry, the owner may not renew or his or her driver's license or vehicle registration until all fines and late fees plus a \$20.00 penalty have been paid and a release has been issued by the Parking Clerk.

Safety issues and traffic circulation are of primary concern in establishing and enforcing parking restrictions. Of greatest importance is the ability of emergency vehicles to gain unimpeded access to all areas of the town as needed.

Massachusetts law prohibits parking within 10 feet of a fire hydrant or 20 feet of an intersection, in crosswalks, on State Highways or in handicapped spaces without a handicap license or placard. Town regulations include a two hour time limit for parking in the town center, a prohibition on parking on any Town Road unless there is a 10 foot wide lane for traffic flowing in each direction, restrictions on where parking is permitted at the Weston Public Schools, the Kendal Green train station and other town facilities, and restrictions on parking on various streets due to safety considerations.

Tickets may be paid at the Treasurer and Collector's Office.

Questions may be addressed to the Parking Clerk at Town Hall or to the Police Department. Information is also available at www.weston.org.

Parking Activity for the Year Ended June 30, 2008			
Tickets issued	212	Fines levied	\$3,240.00
Tickets paid	220	Total fines collected	\$3,870.00
Tickets dismissed	2	Fines dismissed	\$30.00
Tickets adjusted	7	Fines adjusted	\$35.00

REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department continues to seek ways to work more efficiently while maintaining or improving our effectiveness. Because of our partnership with the Fire Department and Department of Public Works we are researching and preparing for a combined dispatch center. The hope is to streamline the dispatch operation as well as improve communications between our departments by putting the dispatch function under one roof. Regionalization is a concept that is not new to us as the Police Department has partnered with other towns in this area to put together groups made of personnel of the respective departments, pooling resources that would be a cost burden if we were to be responsible for putting them in place by ourselves.

Improving use of technology is an important goal of police. Unfortunately, whenever something good comes along there are always those who would turn it into something bad. Credit card and identity theft are the fastest growing crimes in the world and by far the most prevalent crimes that our police department deals with. Please be aware of internet scams - when someone you don't know sends you an email making an offer that seems too good to be true, that's because they want your information, your money or both. Know who you are dealing

with on-line and do not give out any personal information, especially related to finances unless you are on a secure website and are sure of whom you are dealing with.

As part of the design process for a new DPW facility, the Permanent Building Committee initiated a feasibility study for the Police Station, since both departments share the same site. They will be working with the Police Department to identify options and plan for a new police station in the future.



2008 was a time of transition for the department, starting with the retirement of Deputy Chief Roland Anderson. Rollie was known by many for his dedication to duty, tireless investigations and his wealth of knowledge that was sought after by police agencies from all over the country. We continue to add new police officers to our department, replacing members who have retired. Robert Powell graduated from the Police Academy in May; Jeremy Girouard was previously employed by the Vermont State Police and brings with him four years of experience in patrol and investigatory knowledge that will be a

real asset to our department; Dan Costa and Mike Rizzitello entered the Police Academy in November with an expected graduation date of April, 2009. With the transition has come a new sense of teamwork. Recognition is due to a number of officers who volunteered and worked hard this year to put together our entrance exam and hiring process.

As always, thank you to Weston residents for your support and help over the past year. We realize that it is only through a partnership with the community that we can work toward our mission of protection of lives and property in Weston. You turn our few eyes and ears into many and we urge you to call whenever you suspect a problem.

2008 Police Department Statistics	
Automobile accidents investigated	401
Persons reported injured	107
Accidents involving bicycles	2
Accidents involving pedestrians	1
Accidents - fatal	
Accidents involving deer	30
Burglar alarms investigated	1314
Officers responding to burglar alarms	2628
Complaints and investigations (excluding dog)	13575
Complaints referred to Dog Officer	110
Animal complaints investigated by Police Officer	160
Report of dog bites	4
Domestic abuse orders	17

Emergency orders served	1
Orders violated	1
E911 Emergency calls recorded	1441
Fire department, assist on calls	842
Lockouts, auto/home	15
Lost property found in Weston	18
Obscene & harassing phone calls reported	25
Radar/Directed patrol assignments	879
Suspicious activity, MV's, person	343
Sudden deaths investigated	3
Traffic warnings forwarded to Registry	1548
Civil citations forwarded to Registry	1297
Acts of vandalism reported	38
Mailbox damage	36
Identity theft, unlawful credit card use	24

Major Crimes Reported to Police in 2008	
Assault and battery	8
Burglaries reported	20
Forcible entry	3
Attempts	2
Larcenies	32
Motor Vehicle Violation/Complaints in 2008	
Disobey signs, signals, markings	9/\$120.00
Tinted window	3/\$750.00
Fail to keep right	6/\$300.00
Fail to keep right, view obstructed	33/\$1,535.00
Fail to yield at intersection	81/\$855.00
Stop sign violation, Town road	147/\$4,320.00
Not wearing proper seatbelt restraint	82/\$1,695.00
Operating, no license/registration in possession	80/\$1,365.00
Fail to report name/address change	8/\$70.00
Fail to signal before stopping/turning	5/\$2,000.00
Fail to stay in marked lanes	87/\$2,500.00
Non-inspected motor vehicle	754/\$15,300.00
Operating, after license suspended	161/\$4,350.00
Operating, uninsured motor vehicle	63/\$1,900.00
Operating, no display of registration sticker	11/\$70.00
Defective equipment	403/\$3,030.00
Operating unregistered motor vehicle	60/\$3,900.00

Operating, violation of Town-by-laws	50/\$645.00
Operating, violation of DPW rules/regulations	3/\$60.00
Speeding	832/\$41,320.00
Fail to stop - red light	49/\$4,320.00
Miscellaneous	650/\$12,325.00

Adult Arrests and Other Court Cases in 2008		
	Male	Female
Dangerous assault	1	1
Assault and battery domestic	2	
Violation 209A	1	
Trespassing	1	
Larceny	3	
Minor transporting alcohol	1	
Operating under the influence of alcohol	11	5
Operating after license suspended	47	2
Operating without a valid license	12	
Drug & narcotics violation	11	1
Receiving stolen property	1	
Open and gross	1	
Warrants served	19	3
Miscellaneous	3	
Total	114	12
Juvenile Investigations/Complaints*	Male	Female
Child in need of services	1	1
Disorderly/disturbance	13	3
Drug offenses	12	1
Domestic complaints	8	5
Vandalism	5	4
Liquor violations/poss./use	45	38
Pellet gun	7	
Possession of dangerous weapon	1	
Runaway	1	
Miscellaneous	25	10
*For the purpose of this report, juvenile matters are reported for ages 7 through 17. State reporting is for ages 7 through 16.		
Juvenile court appearances	55	
Settled at school or family level	69	
Referred to outside agency	7	

Disposition of Arrests in 2008	
Dismissed - court cost	37
Arrest turned over to other PD	12
Guilty	29
Cont without a finding	16
Cont without a finding court cost	18
Cases cont until 2009	14

Revenues Generated by the Police Department in Calendar Year 2008	
Parking Fines Paid	\$4,055
Second District Court of Eastern Middlesex at Waltham-Fines and Assessments	\$15,252
Requests for copies of reports - insurance companies, etc.	\$1,573
Fees collected for issuance of firearms permits	\$950

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER

2008 was a year of transition. Officer Keith Kasprzak was promoted to Sergeant, and Officer Kellie Moloney began training as the new Community Services Officer. 2008 also brought an expansion to the duties of the CSO. Officer Moloney will, in addition to her responsibilities as School Resource Officer be involved with the Council on Aging and other civic groups in the community. Officer Moloney attended a nationally recognized School Resource Officer seminar in December and plans to utilize the new knowledge and information in her role within the schools. Officer Moloney is excited to be able to bring new energy and ideas to the job.

Much time and effort was spent drafting and implementing lockdown procedures with some public and private schools. These efforts have proved to be a great success; faculty and students, police and fire departments have worked well together to make these drills a success. It is hoped that by the end of this school year all schools will have an emergency plan in effect.

This year's police interns, Sara Bendetson and Joseph Duffy both successfully completed the police internship. We set up ride-alongs with the Massachusetts Environmental Police, Middlesex County Sheriff's Department and Registry of Motor Vehicles. They patrolled the streets of Weston with our officers, spent time at the firing range, witnessed court cases in District and Superior Courts and dispatched in our 9-1-1 center.

Safety day at Weston Recreation Camp was a huge hit! Campers of various ages were able to hear safety tips and speak directly with officers from the Weston Police, Weston Fire Department, Middlesex County Sheriffs Department and North Andover Police Department's K9 and handler.

REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS: Please adhere to NO PARKING areas in front of the schools and never mix cars and school buses in pick-up/drop-off areas. Officer Kellie Moloney is available Monday - Friday (7AM -3PM) at 781-893-4800.

REPORT OF THE SIDEWALK & TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Committee did not have a very active year for a variety of reasons. The ranks of our Committee have been depleted by people moving, resigning and deaths. We sadly note the passing of Bill McCarthy early last year. He was a long time and committed member. The Board of Selectmen has recently sought new volunteers for the Committee which is certainly appropriate.

We continue to address traffic problems as they arise. Perhaps the greatest concern to the Town is the development of the former Mass Broken Stone property and two substantial projects just over the line in Waltham adjacent to Route 128.

Our top sidewalk priority continues to be the completion of a footpath on Ash Street to Newton Street; however, the Selectmen feel it prudent to wait on these plans until the disposition of the Case Estate property becomes clearer.