

**BILLS**  
**7-26-10**

Massachusetts Municipal Association

One Winthrop Square  
Boston, MA 02110  
(617) 426-7272 \* Fax (617) 695-1314

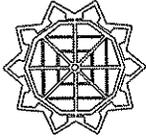
# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/1/2010	MMA 14972

Bill To
Town of Middleborough 10 Nickerson Ave. Middleborough, MA 02346

Qty	Item	Description	Rate	Amount
	Annual Dues	Annual Dues 7/1/10-6/30/11	2,631.00	2,631.00
		DATE <u>7.26.10</u> INVOICE _____ ACCT. NO. <u>01.122.573100</u> ACCT. NAME <u>Dues</u> VENDOR _____ VOUCHER _____ AMOUNT <u>\$2,631.00</u> APPROVED BY _____		
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,631.00</b>





**MASSACHUSETTS  
MUNICIPAL  
ASSOCIATION**

ONE WINTHROP SQUARE, BOSTON, MA 02110  
617-426-7272 • 800-882-1498 • fax 617-695-1314 • www.mma.org

June 29, 2010

Mr. Charles Cristello  
Town Manager  
Town of Middleborough  
10 Nickerson Ave.  
Middleborough, MA 02346

Dear Mr. Cristello,

Enclosed with this letter is the invoice for the Town of Middleborough's membership in the Massachusetts Municipal Association for fiscal year 2011, which began on July 1, 2010.

Your membership in the MMA ensures that cities and towns in Massachusetts have a clear and effective voice fighting for you when municipal issues are being debated on Beacon Hill and in Washington. With your membership for fiscal 2011, the MMA will keep you up to date on key legislative and regulatory activities at the state and federal levels. As an MMA member, you will stay connected to a diverse array of meetings, workshops and professional development activities, and to the special services offered to our member cities and towns.

The MMA has frozen dues for next year, and we note that in six of the past nine years the MMA has had no dues adjustment at all, reflecting our commitment to provide high quality services at very low cost.

The past year has been extraordinarily challenging for local government, and the value of your membership in the MMA has never been clearer. Working tirelessly with local officials, we have leveraged the strength of cities and towns to engage with the Governor, legislators and state officials on every key issue. The MMA has been successful in protecting millions for cities and towns, although the road to a full fiscal recovery is still a long one.

Since beginning the greatest economic recession in eighty years, the MMA has won a number of major victories, including: winning passage of the **first-ever local option meals tax**; winning the first **increase in the local hotel-motel tax** in over 20 years; **closing the century-old telecom tax loophole** on poles and wires; **defeating the union-backed plan to impose binding arbitration** on cities and towns in the area of health insurance; and when the loss of nearly \$700 million in expected federal aid derailed the state budget process and triggered widespread cuts in the past two weeks, **the MMA protected local aid from another round of last-minute deeper-than-expected cuts** in the final version of the state budget.

The MMA is your voice leading the fight to protect Chapter 70 education aid, increase Chapter 90 road monies, boost the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes program, fund regional school transportation reimbursements, allocate special education costs, unravel the Quinn Bill funding problems created by the state, fix the deeply flawed charter school funding system, and much more. It is clear that the MMA has protected an enormous amount of local aid for your community, as the cuts would have been much deeper without our advocacy. Yet we know that this is not enough. The MMA is devoted to protecting localities, and we know that winning permanent local aid commitments and securing real management tools are essential to our state's economic success, and to your ability to move your community forward.

Listed below are a just a few of the activities the MMA has worked on in the past two years:

- **The MMA led the fight for local option taxes and management reforms** to give cities and towns important revenue options beyond the overburdened property tax, and to provide important management powers and greater home rule power. The local meals tax and increase in the hotel-motel tax were signed into law one year ago today;

• From Chapter 70, to Lottery Aid and Additional Assistance, PILOT funds, Charter School Reimbursements, Regional and Regular School Transportation, and scores and scores of accounts in between, **the MMA is clearly the dominant advocate for nearly \$5 billion in local aid for cities and towns;**

• The MMA won the release of **\$150 million in Chapter 90 local road funds for fiscal years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, a 25% increase**, and is pressuring state transportation and finance leaders to build on this success and bring the Chapter 90 program up to **\$175 million in future years;**

• In addition to advocacy on state budget issues, the **MMA is leading the battle to tackle the huge issue of municipal health insurance costs**, authoring major legislation that would give cities and towns control over the design of local health insurance plans outside of collective bargaining, and defeating the costly and unworkable scheme that would impose binding arbitration on cities and towns;

• The MMA serves as the primary counter-balance to aggressive public sector unions on civil service, collective bargaining, public retirement and other important labor-management issues, and **is championing real mandate relief and reform;**

• In the midst of a national crisis in insurance, the MMA-created **Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) has saved its member cities and towns millions of dollars annually** through its health, dental, long-term disability, workers' compensation, and property and casualty programs. MIIA is the strongest and most stable municipal insurer in the state, and has seen record growth in membership because of its well-deserved reputation for value, stability and service;

• The MMA communicates through a **state-of-the-art electronic advocacy system to instantly inform and mobilize thousands of local officials** on key matters and priorities before the Legislature and the Governor, and is leading the way in using technology to make sure that the communities of Massachusetts are heard on Beacon Hill;

• The MMA membership services program sponsors **workshops and training sessions for members throughout the year**, and also organizes regular meetings of the MMA affiliate groups as a way for local officials to meet with their colleagues, and **meet with hundreds of local officials in regional legislative breakfast meetings each spring and fall;**

• The MMA has taken the initiative to partner with Northeastern University to form the **Massachusetts Municipal Leadership Academy**, to immediately expand upon our member education programs and deepen training and learning opportunities for local officials at all levels, with a long-range vision of linking our programs with accredited public management and leadership certificate and graduate degree programs.

• MMA publications include its monthly flagship, *The Beacon*, the quarterly *Municipal Advocate* and regular updates on activities on Beacon Hill affecting local government through *Action Alerts* and legislative bulletins;

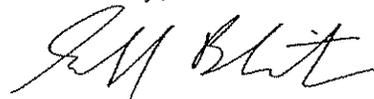
• The MMA's **Web site (www.mma.org)** has been redesigned to offer the latest in news and information, as well as a rich array of materials and resources, with a growing state-of-the-art members' section to share important updates and calls for action; and

• Each year in January, the MMA organizes the two-day **MMA Annual Meeting and Trade Show, the largest yearly gathering of local officials in New England**, offering a wide array of workshops and education sessions. The annual achievement awards provide recognition for local leaders who have been innovative in governing or managing their communities.

**The MMA is your organization!** We consist of you and thousands of your municipal colleagues from hundreds of communities across the state. With your continued membership, active participation and leadership, we will continue to advance the many vital causes of local government in Massachusetts. With the global, national and state economies in extreme distress, your membership is more important than ever. We look forward to working with you, and as always, remain at your service.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Geoffrey C. Beckwith  
Executive Director