

HEARINGS, MEETINGS, LICENSES
3-23-09

**2008
Soule Homestead
Volunteer Hours**

Soule Homestead Education Center Selectmen's Report March 23, 2009

Volunteer Category	# People Involved	Total Hours Donated
	2008	2008
Animals (Kathy Heimerdinger1050)	9	1200
Board of Directors	12	600
Various Sub-Comittees	10	300
Building Maintenance	8	40
Concert Set Up / Clean Up	8	168
Educational Program Assistance	10	500
Food Pantry Donations	4	8
H F Planning Committee	10	120
Harvest Fair (2 day event)	60	360
Holiday Fair	8	60
Legal	3	9
Music Committee	8	48
Nature Trail	2	10
Pumpkins & Mums Sales	4	12
Sheep Day	8	60
Unscary Halloween Party	7	28
Workshop Teachers	13	201
Yard Work & Snow Removal	6	300
TOTALS	190	4024

Additional Information		
71 Adult Workshops	13 Instructors	401 Attended

4 events:		
Sheep Day		125 Attended
Harvest Fair (2 Days)		1200 Attended
Unscary Halloween		104 Attended
Holiday Fair		70 Attended

7 Summer Concerts	Average 36 / wk	252 Attended
Current Membership: Apx. 300		

2008 PROGRAM SUMMARY
Soule Homestead Education Center

- 1 **School and Group Visits:** In 2008, 961 children and 215 adults attended educational programs or birthday parties at Soule Homestead Education Center. (In 2007 1,634 children and 568 adults attended.) Scout, Day Care, Home School, and Public Schools groups from the towns of: Middleboro, Bridgewater, Hanson, Holbrook, Lakeville, Mattapoisett, Plymouth, Plympton, Randolph, Raynham, and Rochester attended Children's Programs in 2008.
- 2 **Workshops:** In 2008 Soule Homestead Education Center had 71 workshops with 401 people participating. (In 2007, 37 workshops with 312 people). Subjects such as Quilting, Basket Weaving, Candle Making, Star Gazing, Wood Carving, Organic Gardening, Chair Caning, Pottery, Landscape Painting and Rug Braiding were offered.
- 3 **Community Gardens:** 8 families, and 2 groups cared for Community Garden plots in 2008. Middleboro High School special needs students again planted and cared for a 20' x 60' pumpkin patch. Soule Homestead has provided a safe open air learning environment for these children for over 15 years at no charge to the Town of Middleboro. Groups participating in children's education programs also worked in areas of the Community Garden.
- 4 **School Vacation Activities:** February, April, & Summer Vacation activities were well attended.
- 5 **Summer Folk Concerts:** S.H.E.C. hosted 7, Saturday evening folk concerts in July and August featuring local performers. Between 40 - 50 people attended each night. We have a well-organized music committee made up of 7 area residents.
- 6 **Earth Day / Sheep Day:** Over 100 people attended this event. Among the many activities, Rich Seaman of Sheepdog Junction gave a sheep dog herding demonstration and shearer, Andy Rice, educated and entertained as he worked.
- 7 **Harvest Fair / Folk Festival:** Our major annual fundraising event on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20 & 21, 2008 went very well. Over 1000 people enjoyed the family fun, educational exhibits, vendors, hay rides and folk music. Over 80 people volunteer to help with the Fair, including high school civic groups, Boy Scouts, and Middleboro Youth Hockey.
- 8 **Unscary Halloween Party:** About 70 people participated in our old fashion Unscary Halloween Party for young children. This event features: children's crafts, candy in the haystack, story in the barn, and a hay ride.
- 9 **Holiday Fair & Wreath Workshop:** Over 100 people attended, buying gifts, & baked goods. We had 3 sessions of our Christmas Wreath Workshop.
- 10 **Birthday Parties:** About 95 people attended various birthday parties in 2008.
- 11 **Outreach Programs:** S.H.E.C. visited 2 outreach sites with educational programs in 2008.
- 12 **Nature Hikes / Owl Prowls:** We had 1 owl prowl in 2008. 16 people joined us for this event. Our nature trail has new educational signs and plant identification markers.

Also

S.H.E.C. hosted monthly meetings of a local Daisy Troop.
We held a Valentine's Fundraising Dance at Town Hall.

2009 PROGRAM PLAN

1. School and group educational programs
2. Adult workshops
3. Community gardens
4. School vacation activities for children (Feb, April, Summer)
5. Summer folk concerts
6. Earth Day / Sheep Day, 1st Weekend in May
7. Harvest Fair and Folk Music Festival, 3rd weekend in Sept.
8. Unscary Halloween Party, last Sat. in Oct.
9. Holiday Fair, 1st Sat. in Dec.
10. Birthday parties
11. Outreach programs
12. Nature Hikes / Owl Prowls

The Homestead is open free to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, closed Mondays and holidays. For more info call; (508) 947 6744, or visit www.soulehomestead.org.



Soule Homestead Education Center

2009 Farm Plan

During the year 2009 land use at the Homestead will consist of the following:

1. The eastern most fields along Soule Street (approximately 10 acres) including portions of land in Plympton will continue to be used by Richard Seaman of Sheepdog Junction for raising sheep, to train Border Collies and other herding breeds. Richard will give demonstrations at Soule Homestead Education Center's Earth Day/Sheep Day and Harvest Fair events.
2. 5 Acres, across the wetlands, 1/4 mile directly north of the barn, will continue to be used by S.H.E.C. director, Frank V. Albani, Jr. of Golden Rule Farm for certified organic vegetable production. Frank also has a small garden and greenhouse close to the barn. Frank has been growing for market at Soule Homestead since 1996, his work is often involved with Children's Education Programs at the farm.
3. Dave Purpura, of Middleboro, will be growing certified organic vegetables on three acres adjacent to Frank. Dave also has land and a CSA program on Fuller St.
4. Rick Burnet and Dave Detterman of Plympton again plan to raise 8 – 10 grass fed beef cattle on the fields to the west of the barn.
5. Soule Homestead's sheep & goats continue to use the small east field, adjacent to the house and barn, as well as the areas directly behind the barn. The Poultry Barn is directly west of the main barn. The pens connected to the poultry barn allow our poultry to have outdoor access. Kathy Heimerdinger is our primary animal caretaker and our most generous volunteer.
6. All fields not in other uses are cut for hay under contract with Rick Burnet.
7. The community garden area offers approximately 15 plots to area organic gardeners for a nominal fee. We once again have a section of the community garden area set aside, as the Middleboro High School special needs pumpkin patch. We have worked with the special needs group at no charge to the Town, for about 15 years.
8. The compost area next to the community garden area allows us to recycle animal bedding and manure, and we encourage local residents to drop off their bagged leaves in the fall.
9. Organic Land Management practices are followed on the entire property.

The farm buildings will be used as follows:

Main barn: Lower level, classroom, office & storage.

1st Floor: Animal stalls and tool storage.

Loft: Hay Storage.

16x24 Outbuilding east of barn --sheep housing.

20x55 Outbuilding west of barn --poultry barn.

16x20 Outbuilding north of barn—equipment storage.

Soule Homestead Education Center 2008

Financial Basics

Jan-Dec 2008

Budget	\$89,100
---------------	-----------------

Income

98% of Income is from 5 major areas

1	Harvest Fair, Spec. Events	\$30,581	33%
2	Membership & Donations	\$27,642 *	29%
3	Program Fees	\$15,516	17%
4	Rent	\$17,290	18%
5	Grants	\$1,450	2%
		Total	\$92,479

*Apx. \$9,000 of \$27,624 was donated by Board of Directors for Expansion Project

Expenses

95% of Expenses are in 7 major areas

1	Staff	\$33,569	41%
2	Maintenance, Repair, Cap. Imp.	\$12,368 *	15%
3	Harvest Fair & Special Events	\$8,013	10%
4	Lease/Taxes/Insurance	\$10,228	12%
5	Utilities/Sanitation	\$6,150	7%
6	Office / Program Supplies	\$4,768	6%
7	Feed & Vets	\$2,617	3%
		Total	\$77,713

* Does not include \$6,000 budgeted annually for Facilities Expansion Project

Soule Homestead Education Center

2008 Maintenance / Capital Improvements Report 2009 Maintenance / Capital Improvements Plan

2008	Value
Yard work: lawn & snow plowing	\$2,500.00
Repaint classroom	\$500.00
Replace classroom carpet	\$3,840.00
Repair pellet stove	\$226.00
Replace furnace in farmhouse	\$3,350.00
Replace emergency exit signs / service fire extinguishers	\$300.00
Repair work 1st floor apt (windows/paint)	\$800.00
Total	\$11,516.00

2008 Facilities Expansion Project

Architectural Concept Drawings	\$4,000.00	Paid for
Structural measurements and calculations	\$800.00	Donated
Architectural Building Plans	\$1,760.00	Paid for
 Budgeted Capital Improvement Funds 2005-2008	 \$24,000.00	
Other Donations Secured in Writing	\$50,000.00	
Other Donations Secured Verbally	\$20,000.00	
 Outstanding Grant Requests:		
Makepeace Neighborhood Fund	\$10,000.00	
Mass Cultural Council Facilities Fund	\$120,000.00	

2009 Timeline Phase 1 (complete exterior bathroom / kitchen section, Aprox. Cost \$100,000)

March - April

Obtain building permit (subject to approval of gray water septic design)

May- June

Demolish existing addition to barn (bathroom / kitchen section) dispose of material

Excavate for foundation (bathroom / kitchen section)

Form / Pour foundation (bathroom / kitchen section)

Slab prep - Compact soil, Insulate, Lay out radiant heat tubing, Lay out 6' x 6" wire

Pour slab (entire project)

Rough frame (bathroom / kitchen section)

Set columns & beams, frame 1st floor deck

July

Install composting toilet tanks

Complete framing bathroom / kitchen section

August

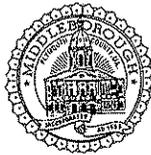
Complete exterior shell bathroom / kitchen section

Roofing, Trim, Doors, Windows, Siding

Install bathroom / kitchen rough plumbing

Phase 2 Complete the interior Bathroom / Kitchen section (Aprox. Cost \$60,000)

*Incorporated 1669
336 Years of Progress*



CRANBERRY CAPITAL
OF THE WORLD



Town of Middleborough
Massachusetts

Town Manager

508-947-0928
FAX 508-946-2320

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen

cc: Finance Committee, All Department Heads, Superintendent of Schools

From: Charles J. Cristello, Town Manager 

Date: March 20, 2009

Subject: **FY 2010 Budget Recommendation**

Enclosed please find my budget recommendations for FY 2010 on the attached spreadsheet. I expect to have the individual budget spreadsheets in time for your meeting on Monday evening. As you can see I have asked all departments, including the school department but excluding veterans' and rubbish, to make 3 ½ % reductions in their budgets to close a \$1.3 million dollar deficit.

I am assuming that we will be using the remainder of our certified free cash (\$697,774), the remainder of the FAM funds (\$573,776), a portion of the stabilization trust debt fund (\$370,850) and health care savings (\$450,000) to bring the deficit down to \$1.3 million. Unfortunately, use of one-time revenue will leave us with a structural deficit for FY 2011 which we will have to manage.

I am not counting on any revenue from a meals tax or increased hotel motel tax which was included on the Governor's Cherry Sheet. It is still not clear whether the legislature will agree with that approach. I am also not including the \$562,000 in additional Chapter 70 School Aid that the Governor announced yesterday. Again, it is far from certain whether the legislature will agree to increase Chapter 70 aid while the projected state deficit increases. The House Ways and Means budget is due to be released during the third week of April. It is possible that by mid-April the legislature will agree on a local aid resolution that will settle some of these uncertainties. It is also possible that the legislature will release a 'Municipal Relief Package' at that time which may also include some financial assistance to municipalities. Should the local aid picture change as the result of legislative action, either positively or negatively, we may have to revisit these budget recommendations.

You will be hearing the School Department's budget request on April 27th. According to Superintendent Sullivan, the budget I am carrying in the Five Year Forecast for the School Department, which is also the figure upon which I based the 3 ½ % reduction, underfunds the level-funded budget needs of the School Department by approximately \$600,000. I am hopeful that the use of stimulus funds and a local aid increase will combine to reduce or eliminate that gap.

I look forward to discussing these recommendations with you on Monday.

FY2010 Budget Recommendations and Reductions

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>3.50%</u> <u>Reductions</u>	<u>FY 2010</u> <u>Recommended</u>
General Govern					
Finance Committee	3,875	1,220	5,095	178	4,917
Selectmen	50,732	9,800	60,532	2,119	58,413
Town Manager	186,985	10,467	197,452	6,911	190,541
Town Accountant	124,644	1,226	125,870	4,405	121,465
Assessors	261,083	13,400	274,483	9,607	264,876
Treasurer & Collect	377,679	85,450	463,129	16,210	446,919
Law Department	60,000	84,500	144,500	5,058	139,443
Information Techno	149,535	166,403	315,938	11,058	304,880
Town Clerk	154,773	5,830	160,603	5,621	154,982
Elections & Registr	11,447	19,950	31,397	1,099	30,298
Conservation Com	99,589	1,081	100,670	3,523	97,146
Planning Board	182,238	5,032	187,270	6,554	180,716
Zoning Board	31,733	1,240	32,973	1,154	31,819
Administrative Offic	28,228	134,159	162,387	5,684	156,703
Building Departme	340,849	8,224	349,073	12,218	336,855
Sealer Weights & M	5,752	768	6,520	228	6,292
Animal Control	85,434	11,820	97,254	3,404	93,850
Health Department	306,093	4,975	311,068	10,887	300,181
Council on Aging	456,443	97,720	554,163	19,396	534,767
Veterans' Services	47,425	305,599	353,024	0	353,024
Library	464,420	125,830	590,250	20,659	569,591
Park Department	264,268	41,305	305,573	10,695	294,878
Historical Commiss	1,400	400	1,800	63	1,737
Total General C	3,694,625	1,136,399	4,831,024	156,730	4,674,294
Police Departm	3,595,860	113,377	3,709,237	129,823	3,579,414
Fire Departme	2,516,552	129,100	2,645,652	92,598	2,553,054
DPW Administratio	0	21,678	21,678	759	20,919
DPW Highway	924,052	256,078	1,180,130	41,305	1,138,825
DPW Tree Warden		12,300	12,300	431	11,870
DPW Insect & Pest		1,000	1,000	35	965
DPW Rubbish Rerr	227,670	172,805	400,475	0	400,475
Total DPW	1,151,722	463,861	1,615,583	42,529	1,573,054
Total Town De	10,958,759	1,842,737	12,801,496	421,680	12,379,816
Total Transpor	0	2,407,367	2,407,367	0	2,407,367
Total School D	20,855,279	4,510,292	25,365,571	887,795	24,477,776
Total 3 1/2 % Reductions				1,309,475	

FIVE YEAR FORECAST

3/20/2009

	ACTUAL	ESTIMATE	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
	FY 08	FY 09	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2014
SOURCES								
Tax Levy	25,253,490	26,500,879	27,964,549	29,113,663	30,291,505	31,498,792	32,736,262	
Levy	631,337	662,522	699,114	727,842	757,288	787,470	818,407	
2 1/2 % increase	616,052	801,148	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	
New growth	366,006	460,055	397,572	332,361	263,257	198,413	140,610	
Debt exclusions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Capital exclusions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Override	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Tax Levy	26,866,885	28,424,604	29,511,235	30,623,866	31,762,049	32,934,675	34,145,279	
Other Revenue	19,797,796	20,376,768	19,437,628	19,437,628	19,437,628	19,437,628	19,437,628	
State Aid (net)	N/A	1,456,732	1,456,732	1,456,732	1,456,732	1,456,732	1,456,732	
SBAB Reimbursement	6,696,000	6,700,000	6,400,000	6,528,000	6,658,560	6,791,731	6,927,566	
Local Receipts	1,233,045	600,000	697,774	0	0	0	0	
Free cash	1,323,837	4,969,932	5,406,070	5,499,256	5,593,160	5,643,551	5,769,302	
Water and Wastewater	1,187,217	4,683,431	5,119,988	5,119,988	5,119,988	5,119,988	5,119,988	
Offsets	235,000	781,164	573,776	0	0	0	0	
FAM	0	320,000	370,850	358,700	347,000	330,681	319,462	
Fund 53/Debt Stabilization	30,472,895	39,888,027	39,462,818	38,400,304	38,613,068	38,780,311	39,030,678	
Total Other Revenue	57,339,780	68,312,631	68,974,053	69,024,169	70,375,117	71,714,986	73,175,956	
Total Sources								
57,339,780	68,312,631	68,974,053	69,024,169	70,375,117	71,714,986	73,175,956		
USES								
State assessments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Overlay	0	722,309	560,000	560,000	400,000	350,000	350,000	
Other expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	0	722,309	560,000	560,000	400,000	350,000	350,000	
Appropriations	67,398,526	67,398,526	69,430,079	71,615,070	73,311,976	74,931,175	77,105,077	
Article 2	0	0	247,916	823,380	1,052,210	1,285,617	1,523,693	
Article COLA's @2%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Trash Disposal	0	0	55,996	0	0	0	0	
Other articles	0	0	69,733,990	72,438,450	74,364,186	76,216,792	78,628,770	
Total approp.	67,398,526	67,398,526	69,733,990	72,438,450	74,364,186	76,216,792	78,628,770	
Total Uses	67,398,526	67,398,526	69,733,990	72,438,450	74,364,186	76,216,792	78,628,770	
EXCESS (Shortfall)	57,339,780	68,120,835	70,293,990	72,998,450	74,764,186	76,566,792	78,978,770	
	191,796	191,796	(1,319,937)	(3,974,280)	(4,389,070)	(4,851,806)	(5,802,814)	

ARTICLE 2 - DETAIL

	ACTUAL FY 08	BUDGET FY 09	FORECAST FY 2010	FORECAST FY 2011	FORECAST FY 2012	FORECAST FY 2013	FORECAST FY 2014
SALARIES & WAGES - TOWN							
General Government	0	3,589,411	3,705,164	3,705,164	3,705,164	3,705,164	3,705,164
Police	0	3,519,403	3,595,860	3,595,860	3,595,860	3,595,860	3,595,860
Fire	0	2,384,349	2,516,552	2,516,552	2,516,552	2,516,552	2,516,552
Public Works	0	1,124,975	1,151,682	1,151,682	1,151,682	1,151,682	1,151,682
Total Town Salaries	0	10,618,138	10,969,258	10,969,258	10,969,258	10,969,258	10,969,258
Other Town Expenses @+2%	0	1,755,289	1,842,737	1,879,592	1,917,184	1,955,527	1,994,638
TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES	0	12,373,427	12,811,995	12,848,850	12,886,442	12,924,785	12,963,896
WATER AND WASTEWATER							
Salaries & Wages @2%		1,181,874	1,260,235	1,241,706	1,272,749	1,304,568	1,337,182
Expenses		3,788,058	4,145,835	4,257,549	4,320,411	4,338,983	4,432,120
Transportation @5%		4,969,932	5,406,070	5,499,256	5,593,160	5,643,551	5,769,302
EDUCATION COSTS							
Salaries & Wages @ 2%		20,446,352	20,855,279	21,272,385	21,697,832	22,131,789	22,574,425
Other Expenses @+2%		4,421,855	4,510,292	4,600,498	4,692,508	4,786,358	4,882,085
Transportation @5%		2,292,730	2,407,367	2,527,735	2,654,122	2,786,828	2,926,169
TOTAL EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES	0	27,160,937	27,772,938	28,400,617	29,044,462	29,704,975	30,382,679
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
Health Insurance @10%		10,255,433	10,815,323	11,896,855	13,086,541	14,395,195	15,834,714
Retirement		3,385,373	3,501,494	3,572,898	3,572,898	3,572,898	3,572,898
Workmen's Comp		620,846	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
FICA @ 5%		510,644	514,589	540,318	567,334	595,701	625,486
Unemployment		175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		14,947,296	15,406,406	16,585,072	17,801,773	19,138,794	20,608,099
DEBT SERVICE							
New Debt Service	0	5,864,664	5,718,082	5,974,348	5,684,177	5,227,464	5,097,066
UNCLASSIFIED							
CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	2,082,270	2,039,949	2,039,949	2,039,949	2,039,949	2,039,949
WASTE TRANSFER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	0	67,398,526	69,430,079	71,615,070	73,311,976	74,931,175	77,105,077

Incorporated 1669
336 Years of Progress



CRANBERRY CAPITAL
OF THE WORLD



Town of Middleborough

Massachusetts

Town Manager

508-947-0928
FAX 508-946-2320

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Charles J. Cristello, Town Manager 
Date: March 20, 2009
Subject: Follow Up to Trash Fee and Recycling Cost Analysis

During our discussion of my Trash Fee Analysis at your meeting on February 23, 2009 you asked for information on the actual number of customers paying the fee and on the number and types of exemptions given. I have attached a summary sheet prepared by Highway Superintendent Donald Boucher with the answers to those questions. There are currently 4,897 customers who pay the trash fee. The 2006 estimate was 4,700. There are 43 households eligible for the veterans' exemption and 171 households eligible for the low-income elderly exemption.

As I explained on February 23rd, the trash fee of \$54 a quarter was set prior to the introduction of the sticker fee and was not reduced when the sticker fee was added. We are currently collecting approximately \$40,000 annually from the sticker fee, which is partly the reason we have generated a surplus over the past two years. I am recommending that you reduce the trash fee by \$2 per quarter to \$52 which would reduce trash fee revenue by approximately \$40,000 annually. This will bring our revenues more in line with current expenditures.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION SURVEY

Total Eligible Units	6,419 Units
Single Family Homes	5,373
Trailers (Not In Parks)	106
2-Family Homes	314 x 2 = 628 Units
3-Family Homes	104 x 3 = 312 Units
TOTAL UNITS	6,419
Total Billed Customers	4,897 (\$264,420.00 Quarterly)
Homes On Stickers	704 (Homes-Not Units)
Veterans Exemptions	43
Chapter 41C Exemptions	171
TOTAL CUSTOMERS	5,815