

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS FOR 2009

This past September the Assessors office moved out of the Trailer #2 and back into the newly renovated Town Hall. Our offices are located on the third floor, don't worry there is an elevator.

During the previous year we completed an interim adjustment to value. This adjustment is based on analysis of the sales data from calendar years 2007 and 2008. This resulted in a decrease of approximately 3% in the overall value of the Town. While values were relatively stable during that period we were able to reduce them slightly and still meet State mandated guidelines. Doing this enables us to keep values more in line with current market conditions. FY2010 property values are available in the Assessors office as well as online at [www.visionappraisal.com](http://www.visionappraisal.com)

This past year we also began a new cyclical re-inspection program. We would like to thank the townspeople for their cooperation during these inspections. We realize that they can be an inconvenience; however they are necessary in order to meet the State standards for data quality and save the Town the expense of a full measure and list program.

The reorganization of the cycle has been a great success. To date our Data Collector has set a record pace and visited nearly half the Town. We hope to complete the cycle this year and then return to a more level pace. We appreciate your continued cooperation and support.

This year we received 56 applications for abatement; of which 55 were settled successfully within the Assessors office and without use of Counsel. One case was unable to be settled and has been heard by the Appellate Tax Board. Attorney Ellen Hutchinson tried the case for the Town, while all additional work, including an Appraisal of the property were performed in house by Town staff. We are currently waiting for what we believe will be a favorable decision for the Town.

Our staff members will continue to take advantage of available educational programs with the goal of improving our knowledge and skills. This past year the Principal Assessor

completed Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers courses 2 and 5. In the year to come she will continue to take the necessary coursework towards obtaining her Massachusetts Accredited Assessors designation. Training of the Department staff also began this year with Data Collector Tammis Sprague completing Department of Revenue Course 101.

Our office is open 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday thru Friday. We have hard copies of property record cards, maps and Taxpayer Informational Booklets. Our taxpayer access terminal has been reinstalled. You can also now find exemption/abatement applications and the Town maps online by visiting the Assessors department webpage on the Town's website [www.westtisbury-ma.gov](http://www.westtisbury-ma.gov). Please visit the office if you have any questions, concerns or would like to know more about what we do. We look forward to helping you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia E. Mitchell, Chair  
Robert Mone, Member  
Michael Colaneri, Member  
Kristina West, Principal Assessor  
Pamela K. Thors, Administrative Assistant  
Tammis Sprague, Data Collector

<b>TAX RECAPITULATION</b>	<b>FY2009</b>	<b>FY2010</b>
	(1/1/2008	(1/1/2009
	Tax Date)	Tax Date)

TAXABLE VALUE BY CLASS

Residential	\$2,519,426,031	\$2,443,116,150
Commercial	\$58,877,969	\$65,375,950
Industrial	\$4,139,100	\$4,130,500
Personal Property	\$29,622,558	\$29,931,001
<b>TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE</b>	<b>\$2,612,065,658</b>	<b>\$2,542,553,601</b>

ANNUAL TAX LEVY

Appropriations	\$15,262,829.75	\$14,507,446.83
Other Local Expenditures	\$626,783.09	\$683,204.09
State & County Assessments	\$218,977.00	\$229,420.00
Overlay	\$96,086.32	\$115,146.22
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$16,204,676.16</b>	<b>\$15,535,217.14</b>

Total Estimated Receipts & Available Funds	\$5,025,035.14	\$4,195,428.08
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NET AMOUNT

TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION

<u>(TOTAL LEVY)</u>	\$11,179,641.02	\$11,339,789.06
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TAX RATE ALL CLASSES

(Net Amount to be

Raised divided by Total Taxable Value)

\$4.28	\$4.46
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