



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TOWN OF
HINSDALE
MASSACHUSETTS



For the Year Ending
DECEMBER 31, 1954

Surveyor of Lumber
SUMNER GEER

Board of Finance

WILLIAM E. MORGAN, Chairman	Term expires 1954
STANLEY H. RICE	Term expires 1954
CLIFFORD FRALEY	Term expires 1954
ALLYN W. SMITH	Term expires 1955
GARRETT F. COLLINS	Term expires 1955
HARRY E. FRESHLER	Term expires 1955
JOSEPH BLAKE	Term expires 1956
ROY C. BARNES, Jr.	Term expires 1956
FRANK E. BAUMANN	Term expires 1956

Custodian of the War Memorial
MARION L. RANSFORD

Moth Superintendent
ALLYN W. SMITH

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Art. 1—To choose a Moderator to preside at the meeting.
- Art. 2—To choose and elect by Official Ballot the following officers:
One Selectman for three years
Town Clerk for one year
Treasurer for three years
Tax Collector for three years
Assessor for three years
Member of School Committee for three years
Auditor for one year
Tree Warden for one year
Three members of Finance Board for three years
Four Constables for one year
and to appoint a committee of three to bring in a list of all minor Town Officers.
- Art. 3—To act upon the reports of the Selectmen, the School Committee, and other elected or appointed officers of the Town.
- Art. 4—To see if the Town will vote to accept the list of Jurors presented by the Selectmen.
- Art. 5—To see if the Town will vote to give the Tax Collector the same powers Town Treasurers have by law when appointed Collector of Taxes.
- Art. 6—To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue or reimbursement of the financial year beginning January 1, 1955 and to issue a note or notes therefor payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44, General Laws.

- Art. 7—To see if the Town will vote to constitute the Board of Selectmen the Board of Public Welfare for the year 1956 and to authorize an annual salary of \$50 for each member for attendance at meetings and \$50 additional for the District Representative for attendance at District meetings.
- Art. 8—To see if the Town will vote to have the cash in the Treasury transferred to help defray the expenses of the ensuing year.
- Art. 9—To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Overlay Reserve surplus fund the sum of \$1,500.00 for a Reserve Fund.
- Art. 10—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300.00; this sum and the amount of Dog Tax money refunded by the County to be given to the Hinsdale Free Public Library.
- Art. 11—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300.00 for road work on the Sky View Grove development at Ashmere Lake.
- Art. 12—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300.00 for work on the Plunkett Lake Road.
- Art. 13—To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,000.00 from the Road Machinery Fund for Road Machinery Maintenance.
- Art. 14—To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$4,000.00 from the Road Machinery Fund to purchase a truck with snow plow and sand spreader.
- Art. 15—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate money for the following purposes:

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1. Schools	\$83,119.00
2. School Lunch Program	1,725.00
3. Old Age Assistance	25,000.00
4. Aid to Dependent Children	4,000.00
5. Disability Assistance	3,000.00
6. General Relief	5,000.00
7. Soldiers' Relief	700.00
8. Welfare Administration	1,750.00
9. Highways, Chapter 81 Maintenance	2,775.00
10. Chapter 90 Construction Old Dalton Rd.	1,500.00
11. Chapter 90 Construction, New Windsor Rd.	1,500.00
12. Chapter 90 Maintenance	1,000.00
13. Snow Roads	10,000.00
14. Purchase of Snow Fence	280.00
15. Bridges	800.00
16. Town Officers' Salaries	6,060.00
17. Election Officers	75.00
18. Board of Registrars	200.00
19. Police	200.00
20. Fire Department	2,000.00
21. Forest Fires	150.00
22. Tree Warden	500.00
23. Gypsy Moth Control	400.00
24. Dutch Elm Disease Control	210.00
25. Street Lighting	3,200.00
26. Cemetery	400.00
27. Public Dump	200.00
28. Town Use of Water	62.50
29. Town Hall Maintenance	1,000.00
30. Heating Fire Station and Garage	550.00
31. Tax Collector's Expenses	215.00
32. Tax Titles	300.00
33. Assessors' Expenses	200.00
34. Printing	600.00
35. Miscellaneous	500.00
36. Surety Bonds of Treasurer, Tax Collector and Clerk	300.00
37. Berkshire Co. Retirement System Assessment	413.22
38. Workmen's Compensation Insurance	1,000.00
39. Fire Insurance Premiums	250.00
40. Recreation	300.00
41. Baseball Field	75.00
42. Memorial Day Observance	100.00
43. Notes	29,000.00
44. Interest	2,550.00
45. Rent for Storage of Equipment	180.00

- Art. 16—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for Civilian Defense.
- Art. 17—To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to arrange for installation of two street lights on Buttermilk Road and one with Individual control at the spring near Plunkett Reservoir.
- Art. 18—To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appointment of a Committee to establish a system of zoning and building permits.
- Art. 19—To see if the Town will vote to require transient vendors to register with the Town Clerk and obtain a license at a minimum fee of \$2.00 annually
- Art. 20—To see if the Town will vote to require licensing of motorboats operated on the waterways within the Town and to authorize the Selectmen to make Regulations for such operation, and to levy fines for infractions thereof.
- Art. 21—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$150 for repairs to the roof of the Fire Station.
- Art. 22—To see if the Town will vote to establish a salary of \$100 for a Veteran's Agent.
- Art. 23—To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for constructing and equipping shower rooms in Kittredge school.
- Art. 24—To do and transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

PROPOSED LIST OF JURORS

To be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting to be held on
February 14, 1955

Bellinger, Willys M.	Gas Dealer
Carmel, Louis J.	GE
Dehey, Thomas	Postmaster
Fraley, Clifford	GE
Galok, Stanley F.	A. H. Rice & Co.
Geer, Holland	Collector
Jenks, Herman	Farmer
Kirchner, Alfred G.	Carpenter
LeBeau, Sterling	GE
Levernoch, Howard	Gasoline Dealer
Lyman, Edward W.	Dalton-Hinsdale Bus Line
Marshall, Theron B.	N. E. Tel. & Tel.
Mongue, Augustus	Farmer
Olds, Howard E.	GE
Phillips, Cedric	Plumber
Prew, Robert	Pittsfield Grain Co.
Rice, Stanley H.	Barber
Scott, Ernest	Truck Driver
Smith, Allyn W.	GE
Wallin, Carl A., Sr.	Dalton-Hinsdale Bus Line
Wechter, Joseph A.	Underwood Typewriter
Zauche, Louis	Farmer

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

To our Friends and Neighbors:

The two most outstanding events of the year 1954 unquestionably are the celebration of the Town's 150th Anniversary and the construction of a major addition to Kittredge School. The first is a symbol of our respect for the past and a salute in passing to our forbears who established this pleasant hamlet in the Berkshire Hills; and the second may be looked upon as our part in continuing to progress and build upon the foundations laid by our predecessors.

The need for increased educational facilities is a healthy sign that Hinsdale is growing. Lacking vast mineral deposits or other valuable natural resources, let us consider that our wealth is in our children. Here, indeed, is a field of investment which, properly cultivated, will bear the fruit of future great men and women and we may be thankful for the opportunity to provide the best possible means for their development.

It is worthwhile to note that rearrangement of the financing of the school project was accomplished principally through the efforts of Mr. Roy C. Barnes, Jr. who perceived that by using a greater portion of our available funds and borrowing a reduced amount, we could utilize the 50% reimbursement of building cost afforded by the state Building Assistance Commission to pay for the new addition in five years instead of twenty, thereby saving about \$30,000 in interest charges. A special town meeting was called in May to accomplish this.

The only other special meeting was in November to transfer small amounts to various accounts.

New equipment purchased during the year were a snow plow for the pay loader, an adding machine for the Board of Assessors, and a second-hand typewriter for the Treasurer. The Road Machinery Fund was bolstered by the sale of the old crawler type tractor for \$650.

It is proposed in 1955 to purchase another new dump truck. The earnings of the present truck and the tractor have resulted in a sufficient balance in the Machinery Fund that we can pay this year's operating costs (Road Machinery Maintenance), this year's payment on the Highway Equipment loan, and still have enough to pay cash for a new truck similar to the present one, completely equipped with a snow plow and a sand spreader.

Your Board of Selectmen, speaking for themselves as well as for the rest of the family of elected officers, expresses its appreciation for your support and confidence and wishes to reaffirm its pledge to serve the best interests of our Town.

Respectfully submitted,

THERON B. MARSHALL
PAUL A. MEYERS
STANLEY F. GALOK

Selectmen of Hinsdale.

ADDITION TO SCHOOL

Appropriation, June 15, 1953		\$185,000.00
Raised by:		
Sale of Postwar Bonds	\$ 21,500.00	
Transfer of Available Cash	33,500.00	
Borrowing	130,000.00	
Total	\$185,000.00	
Added appropriation, April 2, 1954	22,000.00	
Total		\$207,000.00
Expended 1953		3,062.50
Balance brought forward 1954		\$203,937.50
Paid to:		
George E. Emerson, Contractor	\$135,431.76	
Bradley & Gass, architects	8,967.29	
Hinsdale Leaf Mold Co., land	2,250.00	
Harold Miner, land	500.00	
Pittsfield Grain Co., drain tile	536.94	
Total 1954 Expenditures		\$147,685.99
Balance carried forward to 1955		\$56,251.51

PRELIMINARY SCHOOL PLANS

Appropriation Balance brought forward from 1953	\$329.72	
Transferred from Reserve Fund December 31, 1954	4.64	
Total		\$334.36
Paid to:		
F. W. Dodge Corp., advertising	\$ 32.80	
Berkshire Evening Eagle, advertising	21.63	
Earl C. Suitor, Comm. expenses	61.61	
Elaine R. Blake, traveling expenses	18.57	
Commonwealth of Mass., cert. of notes	130.00	
American Bank Note Co.	69.75	
Total Expenditure		\$334.36

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Appropriation	\$26,000.00
Expenditures from Appropriation	26,000.00
Balance 12/31/54	none
Federal Grant balance 1/1/54	10,363.63
Federal Grants received	18,389.90
	<hr/>
Total Federal Grants for year	\$28,753.53
Expenditures from Federal Grants	19,778.95
	<hr/>
Balance in Federal Grants 1/1/55	\$8,974.58
	<hr/>
Recoveries on liens	5,433.88
	<hr/>
Federal Grant account	2,038.87
Commonwealth	2,126.01
Local share	1,063.00
Legal fees	206.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,433.88
Received from other towns	\$ 604.44
Received from Commonwealth	18,097.42
Net cost to Town (Expen. less receipts and refunds)	8,687.19

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Appropriation	\$6,000.00
Expenditures from appropriations	6,000.00
	<hr/>
Federal Grant balance 1/1/54	3,715.03
Federal Grants received	2,986.40
Cancelled checks	79.50
	<hr/>
Total	\$6,780.93
Expenditures from Federal Grants	1,290.53
	<hr/>
Balance 1/1/55	\$5,490.40
	<hr/>
Received from Commonwealth	2,175.07
Estimated Receipts from Federal Grants	355.00
Estimated Receipts from Commonwealth	1,156.24
Actual cost to Town after Reimbursements from Federal and State	2,129.06

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

Appropriations	\$6,000.00
Expenditures from Appropriation	2,567.07
	<hr/>
Balance to be returned to General Funds	\$3,432.93
Federal Grant balance 1/1/54	2,963.73
Federal Grants received	1,633.42
	<hr/>
	\$4,597.15
Expenditures from Federal Grants	1,051.66
	<hr/>
Balance 1/1/55	\$3,545.49
Recovery on lien awaiting Federal and State Distribution	623.25
Received from Commonwealth	1,556.38
Estimated Receipts from Federal Grants	104.40
Estimated Receipts from Commonwealth	59.94
Actual cost to Town after Federal and State Reimbursements	1,011.29

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Appropriations	\$5,000.00
Refunds	164.60
Special Appropriation	300.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,464.60
Expenditures	4,925.02
	<hr/>
Balance returned to Town General Funds	\$539.58
Recovery	\$4,777.33
This account to be credited in Town General Funds.	

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

Balance 1/1/54	\$137.28
Received Federal Grants	72.10
	<hr/>
	\$209.38

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN ADMINISTRATION

Balance 1/1/54	\$47.04
Received Federal Grants	10.70
	<hr/>
	\$57.74
Expenditures for legal fees	35.00
	<hr/>
Balance 1/1/55	\$22.74

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

Balance 1/1/54	\$7.50
Received from Federal Grants	9.10
	<hr/>
Balance 1/1/55	\$16.60
Received from Commonwealth	4.55

VETERANS' AID
(SOLDIERS' RELIEF)

Appropriation	\$250.00	
Transferred from Reserve Fund October 13	275.00	
Transferred from Reserve Fund December 31	18.51	
	<hr/>	
Total		\$543.51
Expenditure for aid (5 cases)		\$543.51

WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation	\$2,200.00
Paid to Treas. Eastern Berkshire Welfare District	\$2,200.00

CHAPTER 81 MAINTENANCE

Appropriation	\$ 2,775.00	
State	10,175.00	
	<hr/>	
Total		\$12,950.00

Labor:

Patrick J. Butler, Supt.	\$1,296.30
Daniel O'Brien	1,166.40
John Wagner	1,215.00
William Eberhard	1,009.80
Frank Page	813.05
Edward Martin	349.60
Stephen Zalenski	420.90
Peter Tefts	13.50
Kenneth Grover	333.50
Archie Eastland	4.60
David Butler	89.00
Frederick Pomeroy	9.20
	<hr/>

Total Labor \$6,720.85

Equipment:

Patrick J. Butler, truck	\$ 439.00	
Anthony Cormier, truck	161.50	
William C. Steele, truck	195.50	
Joseph Cormier, truck	102.00	
Arthur Moon, truck	118.00	
David Butler, truck	2.00	
Town of Hinsdale, truck	813.00	
Town of Hinsdale, tractor	1,610.00	
Town of Middlefield, grader	44.00	
Roy Whitaker, bulldozer	64.00	
Conrad Arndt, shovel	52.00	
Rolland Construction Co., shovel	172.80	
Cummington Garage, power broom	42.00	
Donald Alderson, mower	98.00	
Herman Jenks, mower	35.00	
D. M. Estes, spreader	8.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Equipment		\$3,956.80

Material and Supplies:

Leona Fassell, gravel	\$ 22.00	
William E. Morgan, gravel	270.80	
Edward Guyer, gravel	81.60	
Lane Construction Co., Steamix	318.44	
John McGill, tools	114.65	
John's Bldg. Supply, blocks	20.00	
McMahon Bros., spraying	500.91	
Berkshire Mill Supply, Calcium chl.	231.28	
Berkshire Gravel Co., stone	376.66	
Frissell's Market, tools	5.88	
Koppers Co., tar	242.26	
L. P. Adams Co., cement	29.60	
Carr Hardware Co., flares	26.00	
A. Leo Nash, gratings	32.20	
	<hr/>	
Total Material and Supplies		\$2,272.28

Total Expenditure

 \$12,949.93

**CHAPTER 90—CONSTRUCTION
OLD DALTON AND NEW WINDSOR ROADS**

Appropriation—Old Dalton Road	\$1,500.00	
New Windsor Road	1,500.00	
County	3,000.00	
State	6,000.00	
	<hr/>	
Total		\$12,000.00

Labor:	
Patrick J. Butler, Supt.	\$491.55
Daniel O'Brien	444.15
John Wagner	454.95
William Eberhard	427.95
Frank Page	364.55
Edward Martin	152.95
Stephen Zalenski	10.35
Archie Eastland	13.80
Peter Tefts	12.00
Clifford Avery	9.20
David Butler	10.80
	<hr/>
Total Labor	\$2,392.25

Equipment:	
Patrick J. Butler, truck	\$ 164.50
Anthony Cormier, truck	760.75
Joseph Cormier, truck	497.75
Arthur Moon, truck	573.75
William C. Steele, truck	369.75
Clifford Avery, truck	15.00
William Avery, truck	68.00
Rowland Armacost, truck	318.50
Town of Hinsdale truck	530.00
Town of Hinsdale, tractor	868.00
Roy Whitaker, bulldozer	1,896.00
Conrad Arndt, bulldozer	111.00
D. M. Estes, spreader	9.00
Town of Middlefield, grader	44.00
	<hr/>
Total Equipment	\$6,226.00

Materials and Supplies:

Mrs. Thomas McDermott, sand	\$ 446.55
Koppers Co., tar	1,578.92
Frissell's Market, tools	8.93
John McGill, tools	13.00
Berkshire Gravel Co., stone	603.56
A. Leo Nash, gratings	529.21
Edward Guyer, gravel	201.60

Total Material and Supplies	<u>\$3,381.77</u>
-----------------------------	-------------------

Total Expenditure	<u>\$12,000.02</u>
-------------------	--------------------

CHAPTER 90—CONSTRUCTION
PERU ROAD SPECIAL

State Grant	\$25,000.00
-------------	-------------

Labor:

Patrick J. Butler, Supt.	\$652.50
Daniel O'Brien	560.25
John Wagner	618.30
William Eberhard	560.25
Frank Page	494.50
Edward Martin	382.95
David Butler	31.50
Peter Tefts	12.00
Ira Markham	14.00

Total Labor	<u>\$3,326.25</u>
-------------	-------------------

Equipment:

Patrick J. Butler, truck	\$ 784.00
Anthony Cormier, truck	1,173.00
Arthur Moon, truck	867.00
Joseph Cormier, truck	582.50
William C. Steele, truck	697.00
William Avery, truck	238.00
George Torrey, truck	170.00
William Cullett, truck	153.00
Henry Snyder, truck	176.00
William F. Morgan, truck	34.00
Town of Hinsdale, truck	784.00
Town of Hinsdale, tractor	1,064.00
Town of Middlefield, grader	44.00

PLUNKETT RESERVOIR ROAD

Appropriation		\$300.00
---------------	--	----------

Labor:

Patrick J. Butler, Supt.	\$17.40	
Daniel O'Brien	16.20	
John Wagner	16.20	
William Eberhard	16.20	
Kenneth Grover	4.60	
Frank Page	13.80	
Stephen Zalenski	4.60	
Edward Martin	9.20	
	<hr/>	
Total Labor		\$89.00

Equipment:

Patrick J. Butler, truck	\$ 6.00	
Town of Hinsdale, truck	24.00	
Town of Hinsdale, tractor	42.00	
Anthony Cormier, truck	34.00	
Joseph Cormier, truck	34.00	
Arthur Moon, truck	34.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Equipment		\$174.00

Material:

Edward Guyer, gravel	\$27.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Material		\$27.00

Total Expenditure		\$299.20
-------------------	--	----------

SNOW ROADS

Appropriation	\$10,000.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund December 31	196.41
	<hr/>
Total	\$10,196.41

Labor:

Patrick J. Butler, Supt.	\$1,226.70
Daniel O'Brien	1,115.10
John Wagner	1,182.60
William Eberhard	973.35

Stephen Zalenski	\$ 75.90
Frank Page	128.80
Anthony Cormier	167.90
Dennis McGill	6.90
Alexander Ethier	10.35
Edward Martin	87.40
John Kowski	36.80
Edward Banduski	55.20
David Butler	13.80
James Cormier	36.80

Total Labor

\$5,117.60

Equipment:

Patrick J. Butler, truck	\$ 447.00
Anthony Cormier, truck	90.50
Joseph Cormier, truck	22.50
Arthur Moon, truck	861.00
Harold Miner, truck	93.50
Walter Fassell, truck	21.25
William C. Steele, truck	8.50
Herman Jenks, tractor	172.00
Conrad Arndt, tractor	404.50
Town of Hinsdale, tractor	833.00
Town of Hinsdale, truck	1,296.00
Town of Washington, plowing	55.00
Mass. Dept. Pub. Works, plowing	445.41

Total Equipment

\$4,720.16

Materials:

Berkshire Gravel Co., sand	\$345.20
L. P. Adams, cement	2.40
Carr Hardware Co., wire	11.05

Total Material

\$358.65

Total Expenditure

\$10,196.41

PURCHASE OF SNOW FENCE

Appropriation	\$280.00
Paid to Eastern Equipment Sales Co.	244.55