

## INTRODUCTION

The type and adequacy of facilities and services a town provides often affects just how well a town functions. Added levels of service required by residential, commercial, and industrial growth places greater demands on existing facilities and services. More children enter local schools, greater volumes of waste need to be disposed of, and more calls are made for fire, police, and ambulance protection services. Roads require maintenance and upgrading, as do existing public water and sewer facilities. Therefore, as a town grows, so must the level of facilities and services provided.

This section of Wilton's Master Plan looks at existing town facilities and services the Town provides for its residents. Also addressed are anticipated needs to meet existing deficiencies and provide for future levels of growth. The Town adopted an Impact Fee Ordinance in 2001 and the Planning Board adopted the Impact Fee Schedule in 2004 and amended it in 2014. These fees are designed to offset the impact of additional development upon the School System, Fire Department and road maintenance. If a town grows differently than predicted, its Master Plan must be adjusted to meet those different needs.

It is important for towns to plan in advance for the public facilities and services it will need to service future growth. In New Hampshire the required plans for guiding growth are the Master Plan and the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). A Master Plan is intended to cover a ten to fifteen-year planning horizon. Some of the recommendations resulting from the Master Plan process are implemented over a five-year period in the Capital Improvements Plan.

This Section does not provide the financial analysis as found in the CIP, but helps to define the goals and priorities on which the CIP is based. The Town should consider developing a more formalized CIP process in the future.

## WILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Similar to many small town rural fire departments, Wilton's Fire Department is made up of a small force of local residents. They operate the firefighting equipment and answer all of the calls for assistance. The Wilton Fire Department is considered a volunteer organization. The firefighters only receive a small reimbursement once a year, dependent upon what rank they hold. At the present time, there are 24 volunteer firefighters. A full roster for the department would have a total of 33 members.

### Fire Department Calls

Over the past decade the call volume has remained steady at around 130 to 160 calls each year. This does not include the inspections or permits which are done weekly. The Fire Department responds to various types of calls such as brush, car, chimney, electrical and structure fires. The Department also assists on ambulance calls, motor vehicle accidents, illegal burning, propane releases and false alarms just to name a few. Wilton provides mutual aid assistance to Lyndeborough, Milford, Mont Vernon, Temple, Mason, Greenville, Greenfield and Peterborough Fire Departments.

## Fire Department Response Time

Even with the current call volume there is a struggle, especially during the day time calls, to be able to provide the man power needed to fight the fires. This is due to the fact that the firefighters are working out of town or their employers are not willing or able to support this activity at the current time.

Providing one full time employee would make response time during the day much quicker. This person can be on scene to investigate and request assistance as needed and allow firefighters that need to leave work only when it is absolutely necessary. Keeping to a minimum of full or part time employees while still using the volunteer system in place for years will help keep costs at an affordable level.

## Fire Department Vehicles

At the present time we have the following vehicles in service:

- 3 Engines (1964), (1987), (2007 )
- 1 Tanker Truck (1994)
- 1 Rescue Vehicle (2015)
- 1 Ladder Truck (1980)
- 1 Forestry Truck (1984)

Fire trucks are very expensive; therefore the Department has set up a rotation schedule of roughly 25 years. The Department has been using the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to set aside money each year to help level out the costs to the taxes, allowing it to keep updating the fleet without costly financing. The next scheduled replacement will be for the 1964 Engine. This truck was been skipped over in the past years because there was no physical room to house it. Now that the new station has been built, there is room for its replacement.

As far as to adding to the fleet in the coming years, 2 items are foreseen. The first is to purchase a pickup/utility truck. The second is an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) which would allow firefighters to get around in the woods. With an extensive trail system in town the ATV would be used for brush fires as well as an emergency rescues from the woods.

## Water supply

In the village district there are pressurized hydrants. On the outskirts of Town water holes, dry hydrants and/or cisterns must be utilized. As developments are being proposed at the Planning Board or the Building Permit level the Department looks carefully at each project to determine how the water will be made available in case of a fire. It is up to the developer, along with consultation and guidance from the fire chief, to provide a suitable location that will ultimately help not only that immediate project but the surrounding area. This has been made a top priority in recent years due to the current laws in place and water accessibility or lack of in the outreaching areas. In the village area an expansion of the water system should become a priority for the Town and the Wilton Water Works in the coming years.

## Recommendations for the future

- 1) Enforce the building code to prevent fires, save lives, and protect the towns property
- 2) Work with the Budget Committee and the Planning Board to better facilitate the Capital Improvements Program.
- 3) Gradually increase the operating budget to increase training and more maintenance.
- 4) Periodically review to see if the time and need has come for a small, full daytime, fire force.
- 5) Maintain and improve the water systems in place and add new as needed for buildings.
- 6) Continue the Inspection Program.
- 7) Increase Public Education and awareness through demonstrations and lectures in the school systems and media exposure.
- 8) Purchase a pickup truck and ATV.

## WILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Wilton Police Department consists of seven full-time officers, four part-time officers, two part-time administrative assistants, and a full-time attorney prosecutor. The seventh officer and prosecutor positions were added in 2011 in response to significant increases in calls for service and court cases along with an increased need for specialized legal knowledge that is required to prosecute district court cases. The prosecutor is also contracted to provide prosecution services to a neighboring town. The Department provides 24 hour/7day coverage and currently handles over 11,000 calls for service annually. The Chief feels that the Department is adequately staffed for current conditions.

### Facilities and Equipment:

The Police Department moved into a newly constructed building in 2003. The building is 3309 square feet and is centrally located to town. The building has a modern office and booking facilities as well as an emergency stand by generator allowing it to be fully functional during any emergency. The building is equipped with up-to-date computer, phone, and radio systems. A secure impound lot and storage container are also located behind the building.

The Department presently has four cruisers (one four wheel drive SUV and three sedans) which are replaced on a rotational basis. The cruisers are appropriately equipped with standard police related equipment and laptop computers.

### Recommendations:

1. The current police facility is adequate but may need to be reconfigured or expanded to accommodate future growth.
2. Staffing and vehicle levels are also adequate but may need to increase to accommodate future growth.

## TOWN OF WILTON AMBULANCE

The Town of Wilton Ambulance provides pre-hospital emergency medical care to the Towns of Wilton, Lyndeborough, and Temple 24 hours a day. The Wilton Lyndeborough Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association started in March 1974 to handle pre-hospital emergency care in the towns of Wilton and Lyndeborough. In 1997, the Town of Temple joined the association forming the Wilton Lyndeborough Temple Emergency Medical Service Association. In January 2007, the Town of Wilton assumed responsibility for the operation of the ambulance service. The Association remained in place due to owning the building that houses the ambulance service and as a benevolent association. In 2010 the name of the service was changed to the Town of Wilton Ambulance.

The ambulance operation is mainly funded through two funding streams; billing for service and taxation. If possible, the service also looks for grant funds to help offset the amount needed to be raised via taxation. The Town of Wilton Ambulance directly bills private insurance companies, Medicare, and Medicaid for services. If a patient does not have insurance, or is unable to pay for their service, they are able to contact the billing service and work out a payment plan or ask for a hardship request. The ambulance association can receive donations, and these are used for equipment purchases, building improvements, and other items/reasons.

The Town of Wilton Ambulance presently has the following staff: Chief of Department, 10 Paramedics, 3 Advanced EMT's (AEMT)/EMT-Intermediates (EMT-I), 13 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and 2 Driver/Non-Medical Providers. The Chief of Department is a full time salaried position that covers daytime responses during the week. The Chief of Department is the only full time employee. During the weekdays, there is also a paid EMT or EMT-I/AEMT with the Chief of Department. On nights and weekends, there is a Paramedic and an EMT or AEMT/EMT-I on call. The Driver/Non-Medical position is a volunteer position that was created in 2011 to bring on non-EMS providers. Once a Driver/Non-Medical member is cleared to drive, they may attend an EMT class. Once they complete the EMT class, the member must give the Town of Wilton Ambulance one year of service in return. This has proven very productive and has produced several long term EMT's for the service.

The service has two advanced life support ambulances, a 2007 Ford E450 Medtec Ambulance and a 2014 Ford F450 PL Custom Ambulance. Both ambulances are housed in the Wilton Forest Road facility. The primary ambulance is staffed with a scheduled crew. The second ambulance is staffed by off duty personnel that may be available when a call comes in. The service continues to request Capital Reserve Fund allocations from its member towns to pay for ambulance replacement and major equipment purchases.

The call volume for the Town of Wilton Ambulance in 2014 was 454 calls for service, which is up 5.3% from the year before. Call volumes have continued to rise even higher in 2015 with a total of 473 calls which was up another 4% from 2014. Presently there are no medical facilities, nursing homes, and only one senior housing facility in the service area. If an additional one of these facilities is ever built in the coverage area, there will be a dramatic increase in call volume increasing overall expenses. As the area develops, and traffic increases in the Route 101 and Route 31 corridors, call volumes will also continue

to rise. The Town of Wilton may have to look at expansion of per-diem hours and/or hiring additional full time providers to assist with covering the ambulances. In the near future, the station may need to expand as room is needed for staffing, etc. An additional garage bay may be needed in the distant future to house a Paramedic Intercept Vehicle. There should not be a need for a third ambulance for the foreseeable future (at least 25-30 years, if not more).

Radio communications are also a concern. The Town of Wilton Police, Fire, and Ambulance are dispatched via the Milford Area Communications Center (MACC Base). The towns of Lyndeborough and Temple Fire Departments are dispatched via Southwest New Hampshire Fire Mutual Aid Dispatch (SWNH Dispatch) in Keene, and the Lyndeborough and Temple Police Departments are dispatched via Hillsborough County Sherriff's Office. This can get confusing when calls are dispatched. Presently the ambulance has to speak with two dispatch centers (MACC Base and SWNH Dispatch) whenever responding to a call in Lyndeborough or Temple.

The other issue with radio communications is limited availability due to the terrain and lack of radio coverage in the member towns. Presently MACC Base has antenna sites for the ambulance on Pead Hill in Wilton and the Milford Town Hall. When a call is received, members should be calling in via radio to discuss their status. Due to the marginal coverage, they need to call in via cell phone. These limitations are also inhibiting radio communications while traveling to the station or on scene when responders are in personal vehicles. This could be a serious provider issue if there is a violent situation and the responding provider cannot be reached. Each ambulance has been equipped with an on board repeater that boosts the power of the portable twenty times to come out at the strength of the ambulance radio.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Periodically evaluate the need to hire additional full time and per diem staff. As Wilton, Lyndeborough, and Temple continue to grow, the Department's on-call manpower will face an increasing demand for its services. It is presently at its tipping point.
2. Continue to add to the Capital Reserve Fund for the anticipated replacement of the existing ambulances. Work with the CIP Committee in the annual updating of this document.
3. Continue to add to the Capital Reserve Fund for the anticipated replacement of the existing major equipment (cardiac monitors, etc). Work with the CIP Committee in the annual update of this document.
4. Consider the fiscal impact of proposed developments that increase the demand for pre-hospital emergency care, for example, housing developments, medical facilities, nursing homes, etc.
5. Maintain and improve the force of EMS providers. These people greatly improve the Town of Wilton Ambulance's capability at a minimal expense, and because of personal involvement provide superior care and support. The Town of Wilton Ambulance should continue to recruit providers, train providers and reward them with public recognition, adequate equipment and appropriate compensation.

## TOWN HALL

Along with a 2500 square foot movie theater, Wilton houses its Town Office facilities in the Town Hall Building located at 42 Main Street. Built in 1885, Wilton's Town Hall provides 4970 square feet of office space for Town government services, including tax collecting, vehicle registration, dog licensing, building permits, maintaining vital statistics and other Town related services. Of this total amount, 1600 square feet is being used for office space, 100 square feet for storage (Town vault and storage closet, 1512 square feet for a meeting room (old courtroom), and two handicapped accessible bathrooms in the Town Offices and two bathrooms for the Wilton Town Hall Theatre.

### Staff

To oversee the day to day operations of all Town Departments and services for residents, Wilton employs one full time Town Administrator. To run the Town Office, Wilton employs one full time Town Clerk/Tax Collector and one part-time Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector. The Selectmen's Office employs one full-time Administrative Assistant and one full-time Selectmen's Assistant. Also employed at the Town Hall are a part-time Building Inspector, a part-time Welfare Director, and a contracted Assessor. Also making use of the office space are the clerks for the Planning and Zoning Boards and the Water and Sewer Commissions.

### Recommendations:

1. Continue on-going improvements by insulating the entire Town Hall.
2. Develop a plan to renovate the north side of Town Hall.
3. To improve and/or replace the heating system.
4. Develop a long-term plan to update or replace the current roof.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wilton Public Works is responsible for the Highway Department, Recycling Center, Cemetery maintenance, Parks and Recreation, as well as maintaining Town infrastructure (drainage, water and sewer). The Public Works Department employs nine full time employees, four work at the recycling Center, four work for the Highway Department, and one Director. The Department also employs two to four seasonal employees for the maintenance of the cemeteries and parks. The work force is adequate at the present time.

## HIGHWAY

The Highway Department building was built in 1956 and is constructed with five bays: three are used for truck and equipment storage; one is rented by the Wilton Water Works; and all are unheated. The last and main bay is heated with a wood stove and supplemented with propane to prevent pipes from

freezing when not occupied. This bay is used for a multitude of uses including equipment repairs, restroom facilities, the Director's office, and a break room. Storage space for equipment and vehicles is at a minimum, and it is recommended to construct a new facility or add additional storage and office space in the near future.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Evaluate the need for additional storage and office space at the Highway Department building, in the near future.
2. All highway six wheel dump trucks should be replaced every fifteen to twenty years and are listed on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan for rotation.
3. All heavy equipment should be replaced as needed dependent upon usage and repair costs and are also listed on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan for rotation.
4. The backhoe should be replaced with a comparable excavator and trailer (2016).

### **RECYCLING CENTER (SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL)**

Wilton's solid waste is disposed of at the Regional Recycling Center, which serves the five town area of Greenville, Lyndeborough, Mason, Temple, and Wilton. The Transfer station was ordered to remove the incinerator, so all non-recycled materials or "burnables" are now transported to another landfill facility. The majority of the solid waste which is brought into the facility is considered recyclables. Items such as glass, textiles, paper, food and yard wastes, metals, and plastic are trucked off site by Waste Management for reimbursement. At present time we have one forty-two yard compactor for burnables and two open top containers. Both open top containers should be replaced with hydraulic compactors. The main building is showing its age and needs refurbishing by replacing the windows and doors and insulating the office etc.

Though it may not be a profit making operation, the Recycling Center does save the participating towns money in that the recycling operation generates income (approximately \$100,000 or 19% of the Center's operating budget). In addition, what is recycled does not have to be trucked to a landfill that is becoming more expensive every year. The Center's main costs result from a small staff, and facility and equipment maintenance. Recently the annual operating costs have ranged from \$500,000 to \$525,000 per year. The costs are paid proportionately between each of the participating Towns. Each community pays its portion based upon their percentage of the population for the five towns involved. The 2014 proportion figures (population and percent) are presented in the table below:

**TABLE IV-11: MEMBER TOWN POPULATION AND COST ALLOCATION FIGURES**

<b>Town</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Percent Of Total</b>
Greenville	2105	20.61
Lyndeborough	1683	16.48
Mason	1382	13.53
Temple	1366	13.38
Wilton	3677	36.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,213</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Wilton Recycling Center FY 16 Proposed Budget*

The Recycling Center has added many improvements since it began and now includes storage bins, loading docks and sheds, 2 skid steers, back hoe, 2 balers and 1 50-yard compactor.

### **Recommendations**

1. Continue to educate the public as to the benefits of recycling: it generates income, saves on landfill space and costs, saves on trucking costs, recycles still useful material resources, etc.
2. Continue to financially support the Wilton Recycling Center by funding the existing operations, maintaining or adding equipment, expanding services provided, adding staff, etc.
3. Start or continue a recycling program in each of the five area town's school systems.
4. Replace the two open top containers with hydraulic compactors.

### **CEMETERIES**

There are a total of four cemeteries located within the Town of Wilton. Based on past figures, the annual maintenance cost for these cemeteries has been between \$28,000 and \$30,000.

**TABLE IV-3: WILTON CEMETERIES STATISTICS**

Name of Cemetery	Size (Acres)	Plots remaining
Laurel Hill	10	450
South Yard	3	300
Vale End	6	496
Mt. Calvary (Catholic Church)	10	600

**TABLE IV-4: ANNUAL NUMBER OF BURIALS, 1994–2015**

1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
39	23	36	28	38	33	30	22	22	33	39
2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
38	26	19	20	28	20	25	21	21	20	35

## Recommendation

1. Periodically evaluate the availability of existing cemetery space and purchase additional land to provide space for future needs.
2. Replace the Cemetery Department storage facility at the Laurel Hill Cemetery.

## PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES INCLUDING CONSERVATION LANDS

By providing recreation facilities and conservation lands, a town gives its residents the opportunity to enjoy themselves and the natural resources within the community. Wilton is very fortunate to have recreational facilities and areas of forest, open space, and water resources within its boundaries in which to take advantage. Wilton's recreation facilities have not changed significantly since the original master plan was prepared (four additional tennis courts were added at the High School along with a soccer field, a baseball diamond, and a quarter mile track). Wilton's existing recreation facilities are listed below. Some of the areas listed are also considered conservation lands due to the natural resources they contain. These have been listed here as well as in the Natural Resources Section because of the dual-purpose recreation conservation uses they support.

<b>Goss Park</b>	An 18 acre complex located off of NEW HAMPSHIRE Route 31 in the northern section of Town. Owned and operated jointly with the Town of Lyndeborough, the park and Youth Center provide facilities for swimming, tennis, volleyball, boating, crafts, picnicking as well a playground. The Wilton-Lyndeborough Youth Center is operated through Town appropriations, in addition to individual and corporate donations.
<b>Monument Park</b>	Located on the Souhegan River near the center of Town, the monuments in the park honor local men who have fought in wars.
<b>Carnival Hill</b>	A 36 acre area that includes athletic fields, basketball courts, a picnic area and has historically been the location of winter recreational activities such as sledding.
<b>Whiting Park</b>	This small park is adjacent to the Florence Rideout Elementary School playground and is also used by the school.
<b>Main Street Park-Lot 48</b>	Located in the middle of Main Street, this parcel functions as a small gathering space for community events and residents.
<b>Elementary School</b>	The schoolyard has playground equipment, and the school has a gym.
<b>Wilton-Lyndeborough High School</b>	Various field sports (baseball, track, field hockey, and soccer), and hardcourt sports (tennis (4) and basketball), are played on the school's facilities. The school also has a gym.
<b>Russell-Abbott State Forest</b>	Hiking, picnicking, and hunting, among other daytime activities are allowed in the 656 acre State Forest. However, campfires and barbecues are prohibited. The State Forest is located in the southern section of Town to the east of NEW HAMPSHIRE Route 31. Part of the State Forest is in the Town of Mason.
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forest Lands	A 300+ acre tract of land located partially within the Towns of Wilton and Temple. The tract includes a pond, wetland areas, forests, and other natural resources that provide fishing, canoeing, and hiking recreation opportunities for the public.
<b>Burns Hill Town Forest</b>	A small, less than 10 acre Town-owned forest, located near the WLC School, which can be used for short hikes during the day. Fires of any kind are prohibited in the forest.
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests <b>Heald Tract</b>	A 1,500+ acre tract of land located partially within the Towns of Wilton and Temple. The tract Lands include a pond, wetland areas, forests, and other natural resources which provide fishing, and hiking opportunities for the public.
Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests <b>Wilton Forest</b>	A small 46 acre tract of land situated off NH Route 31 South on both sides of the Souhegan River near the Town well.

<p>Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests <b>VonFelsinger Forest</b></p>	<p>A 118 acre forest situated off NH Route 31 South on the easterly side of the Souhegan River.</p>
<p>Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests <b>Everett Forest</b></p>	<p>A 40 Acre Forest situated off NH Route 31 South adjacent to the Wilton Forest.</p>
<p><b>Frog Pond</b></p>	<p>Includes a .6 mile walking loop that allows for activities such as picnicking, hiking, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. Dogs on leashes are also allowed to stroll the loop.</p>
<p><b>High Mowing/Frye Conservation Land</b></p>	<p>151 acres near High Mowing School that includes a large field, views, wooded areas, agriculture, trails for passive recreation, cross country skiing and snowmobiling.</p>
<p>Nature Conservancy <b>Sheldrick Forest</b></p>	<p>A 227 acre tract that includes about 4 miles of trails which allow you to observe the natural beauty of the forest. This tract also connects to Heald which offers about another 6 miles of hiking trails.</p>

**Recommendations**

1. The Town could develop additional amenities such as hard courts, playgrounds, picnic area, basketball courts, and outdoor ice arenas.
2. Develop other types of recreational facilities as the Town’s population grows and disperses, or as public demand warrants.
3. Incorporate into the Town’s Subdivision Regulations for the provision of recreation land, pocket parks and facilities within future major developments.
4. Evaluate the current Zoning Ordinance and consider a zoning amendment to allow for additional commercial recreational uses, such as a driving range.

**WILTON WATER WORKS**

Wilton Water Works was established in 1905 by the New Hampshire Legislature. The Wilton Water Works are currently using two wells that supply the 600,000-gallon storage tank on Abbot Hill. In 1995 the State mandated water quality standards required the absence of bacteria or the presence of chlorine in the extremes of the water lines. A change in the billing process to a metered system was

completed in 2000. This system encourages water conservation. There are approximately 863 billable water meters in the Town of Wilton.

The Town's current surface water supply system can now provide an average daily total of approximately 900,000 gallons of potable water. The average daily demand on the system has been estimated at 250,000 gallons. Presently, the water system's metering devices are insufficient to provide an accurate estimate of use. A reserve capacity of roughly 650,000 gallons now exists and is available to be utilized. Current users of the Town's water supply system include approximately 900 residential households, 25 non-residential users and 2 town schools. With the water supply capacity now available, the Town's water supply system has the capability to permit an expansion of service to any location where adequate water pressure can be maintained.

In 2012, the Wilton Water Works hired a full time Water Superintendent. In 2013, the water system infrastructure was improved from Madison Street east to the Pine Valley Mill building. This was completed to accommodate improvements at the Mill including fifty additional residential units. In 2014, the Wilton Water Works also receive two grants. One grant was used to purchase a generator at the pump station, which can be used to power the pump stations during power outages. The second grant was for GIS mapping of the water works infrastructure. The Wilton Water Works may consider water rate increases to plan for significant infrastructure improvements in the future, as needed.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Determine appropriate areas for expansion of the water supply system. The water supply distribution system should be extended to provide service to potential problem areas (failing septic systems, higher density development needing fire protection, etc.), or areas where future development should be directed.
2. Developers should pay all costs of upgrading and extending the water system associated with their developments. Coordinate expansion efforts with private developers to make efficient use of areas now being considered for development.
3. Adequately protect existing surface and groundwater sources for the Town's water supply system, and plan where future water supply needs will come from. Continue to monitor high and low water levels of the aquifer.
4. Locate a second storage tank on high ground, at either Whiting Hill Road or Dale Street. This will improve fire flows and water quality in these two areas.
5. Replace the undersized and unlined 6 and 8 inch water mains, in excess of 95 years old, to improve quality and fire protection.
6. Replace the 6 inch main that crosses the river from the Recycling Center to Intervale Road by the Sewer Pumping Station. It is unlined pipe in excess of 90 years old and has very little coverage or protection in the river bed.
7. Establish a capital improvements fund to upgrade water system components as necessary.

8. Continue to replace four water hydrants and 25 water meters on an annual basis.

## WILTON SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Town of Wilton signed an updated inter-municipal cooperative agreement with the Town of Milford in March of 2015 to purchase a specified amount of the sewage treatment capacity of the Milford Waste Water Treatment Facility. This new agreement is in effect for twenty years or until the Town of Wilton reaches the reserved capacity. Managed by the Wilton Sewer Commissioners, the Town's sewer system is presently supporting 540 billable units, a combination of residential, commercial, industrial and municipal users.

According to the agreement, Wilton has 320,000 GPD of total fixed capacity at the Milford Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Town's total current average daily demand is about 135,000 GPD, and the average daily demand of Wilton users is about 120,000 GPD or about 40% of their allotted capacity, the difference between the two figures being groundwater infiltration into the piping system.

A pump station, where sewerage is pumped to gravity lines feeding into the Milford Wastewater Treatment Facility, is housed in a 152 square foot building located on Mill Street. About 40 square feet of space is used for storage and the remainder houses the pumping equipment. The station was originally constructed in 1982 and equipment installed for a cost of slightly more than \$200,000. There is about 400 square feet of parking available at the site. The Wilton Sewer Commissioners have stated that the present facility is adequate for existing and future needs.

A second pump station, located near the intersection of New Hampshire Route 101 and Intervale Road, is housed in a 143 square foot building. About the same distribution of building space is used in this building as in the Mill Street Pump Station mentioned above. There is also about 200 square feet of parking available at this site. The Wilton Sewer Commissioners have stated that this facility is adequate for existing needs. The only foreseeable need for expansion of this facility would be to accommodate an intensive industrial or office park facility further west along New Hampshire Route 101.

Equipment used to pump and meter sewage flow passing from the pump stations to the Milford Waste Treatment Facility include the following:

- Two 10 HP, 140 GPM Vertical Centrifugal Sewage Pumps
- Two 5 HP, 325 GPM Vertical Centrifugal Sewage Pumps
- Two 30 KW Emergency Generators
- One 1,000,000 GPD Digital Flow Meter with Transmitter and Remote Recorder
- Two High Level, Low Level Power Failure Alarm System with Remote Alarm at Base 500.

The equipment listed above was purchased new when the sewer system was constructed and a new digital flow meter was installed in 2014. The equipment is in good working order and no additional equipment is anticipated.

The Sewer Department is managed by the Sewer Commission, which is comprised of three elected commissioners serving three year terms. The Department of Public Works provides labor and equipment as needed to maintain daily needs, and outside contractors are also utilized as needed. The Sewer Commissioners have stated that this service arrangement meets current needs however it is likely that a full time staff person may be needed in the future.

The Sewer Department recently purchased Waterpoint Software and a GPS capable tablet to map the entire sewer system. In 2013 the Maple Street sewer main was replaced in an effort to upgrade that section of town. Continued upgrades will be made to the Maple Street project in 2016. It has been determined that the Maple Street improvement project should be extended to the east, due to excessive infiltration of groundwater.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Periodically evaluate the sewer collection system and level of service provided to the Town. Determine appropriate areas for expansion of the system providing service to potential problem areas or areas where future development should be directed.
2. Developers should pay for upgrading or extending the sewer system associated with their developments. Coordinate expansion efforts with private developers to make efficient use of areas now being considered for development.
3. Continue with the existing agreement with the Town of Milford to use the Milford Waste Water Treatment Facility, and monitor Wilton's share of the facilities capacity. Cooperate with Milford to provide the existing level of sewer service and expand as necessary.
4. Work towards the possibility of billing based on meters.
5. Define the process for approval and installations of new sewer hook-ups and sewer expansions.
6. Extend the Maple Street sewer main further east of the 2013 improvements.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The municipal school system is in many ways the most vital and important element of community life. Residents of the community as a whole are entrusted with the responsibility of providing public education for all children. The major thrust of public education is to provide the basic knowledge and learning skills that will foster life-long individual development and productivity.

As such, the municipal school system represents a significant commitment of resources to provide facilities, staff, and materials that will enhance the educational experience for the community's youth. In Wilton, as is most likely the case in all municipalities, schools demand the most substantial expenditures of any government service.

## Florence Rideout Elementary School (FRES)

The Florence Rideout Elementary School provides education for students in grades 1–5 and the developmentally handicapped that reside in Wilton and Lyndeborough. The elementary school building is also used for non-school functions such as meetings, etc. The school facility is located on a 1.6-acre parcel of land situated between Livermore, Tremont, and Park Streets. The site accommodates a single building and parking for at least 52 cars. Adjacent to this site is the 2.6-acre Whiting Park and Playground, which is used by the School for a recreation area.

The original school building was constructed in 1895, with additional space constructed in 1930 and most recently completed a renovate/build project in 2015. The building is a total of 51,000 square feet in size. The school facility includes space for classrooms, a gymnasium and stage, administrative and health offices, a cafeteria, and storage. The capacity of the school is rated at 375 pupils, with 222 enrolled as of September 2015. Past enrollment figures are presented below. The School Board feels that the space available is adequate for present enrollment. Enrollment projections are calculated by the School Board. However, it is difficult to project public school enrollments for Wilton, based solely on population projections. There is a private school located in Wilton that does attract new families who want their children to attend it.

Current staffing of the Elementary School totals 43 employees and includes 24 professional employees (14 classroom teachers, 2.5 special education teachers, 1 gym health instructor, 1 music teacher, 1 art teacher, 1 principal, 1 nurse, 1 guidance counselor and .5 reading specialist), and support staff (2 administrative assistants, 1 librarian, 2 Title I tutors, 9.5 instructional assistants, 2.5 custodians and 2 cafeteria workers). The School Board also feels that the current level of staffing is adequate for present and near future needs.

### Recommendations:

1. **Add bleachers to the school gym.**

**TABLE IV-5: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS**

Year	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2004-2005	0	41	40	59	50	34	43	54	321
2005-2006	0	40	42	44	53	52	33	42	306
2006-2007	0	36	44	40	44	53	52	34	303
2007-2008	0	27	37	45	41	43	55	53	301
2008-2009	0	35	31	38	48	42	39	53	286
2009-2010	0	40	35	32	33	42	44	42	268
2010-2011	7	29	42	32	29	34	38	44	255
2011-2012	10	28	37	37	30	29	35	35	241
2012-2013	12	42	36	35	37	32	27	0	221

* 6th grade moved out of Elementary Schools and went to Middle School									
2013-2014	14	28	45	31	31	31	29	0	209
2014-2015	15	33	30	38	30	36	32	0	214
**2015-2016	0	0	46	47	51	33	45	0	222
**Pre-K and K moved to Lyndeborough Central School & Lyndeborough Elementary Students grades 1 thru 5 were moved to FRES									

### Wilton Lyndeborough Cooperative Middle School-High School (WLC)

The WLC School provides education for grades six through twelve. The WLC School facility is located on a 54.6-acre parcel of land located west of the downtown area off Burns Hill Road. A single story 55,000 square foot brick building was built in 1970 to house all administrative, class, and other rooms. An additional two-story building to house a middle school and a new high school science wing totaling 34,000 square foot brick building was built in 1999. In 2011 it was voted and agreed upon that grade 6 be relocated to the Middle School along with grades 7 and 8.

The site also includes enough parking for over 100 cars, and a ten-acre athletic area with fields for baseball, softball, soccer, track, and four tennis courts. The capacity of the present facility as of 2015 is 372.

A history of the School’s enrollment is presented below.

**TABLE IV-6: HISTORICAL MIDDLE SCHOOL-HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS\***

2005	389	2011	338
2006	397	2012	320*
2007	386	2013	360
2008	374	2014	334
2009	360	2015	316
2010	359		

\*Grade 6 relocated from elementary schools to middle school fall of 2012

Source: SAU63\*

Current staffing of the Middle School-High School 2.0 Administrative persons, 2.6 Administrative Assistants, 2.0 School Counselors, 6.9 Support Staff, 33.0 Teachers and 9.3 Paraprofessionals.

## THE WILTON PUBLIC AND GREGG FREE LIBRARY

The Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library, constructed in 1908 and given to the Town by David Gregg, occupies a 0.8 acre lot located on Forest Street. The Library is listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings. The Library has had handicapped access to the main floor of the building since 1988 via a building project funded by Federal, State, and local funds. A lift has made all floors of the library accessible. Additional parking at the rear of the building (on Gregg Street) was also added at this time.

The building is a 4875 square foot building with 308 square feet used for storage, 240 square feet for restrooms, and the remaining space for reference materials, historical library collection, and the circulating collections.

### Library Collection

The Library collection numbers 21,927. These materials include fiction and non-fiction books for adult and juvenile collections as well as the following:

- 52 print periodicals ( 44 adult, 8 juvenile)
- Access to 40 Nook periodicals online
- 1,473 videos (1,239 adult, 234 juvenile)
- 702 audio (506 adult, 196 juvenile)
- 6 newspapers
- Inter-library loan privileges which allow lending from any reciprocating library in New Hampshire including universities and colleges. The Library is pleased to take part in these services which extend the range and scope of the collections.

The electronic collection includes:

- Access to 7,470 downloadable audio book titles online
- Access to 12,601 downloadable ebook titles online
- Access to online reference databases

### Automation

The Library uses an online integrated library system which allows patrons to manage their accounts online. The Library has provided internet access to its patrons since 1997. Computer skills and internet training sessions are conducted on an ad hoc basis as well as by appointment by staff members. The library provides 11 public computers, an iPad, Nook and Kindle for public use. Wi-fi is available in the building and 24/7 on the grounds and in the parking lot.

The library is a member of the New Hampshire Downloadable Books consortium which provides access to downloadable books and magazines. In addition, Ebsco Explora, Britannica School Edition, Britannica Image Quest, MedlinePlus and The Wall Street Journal are available through the library website, which also hosts calendars of events and information about library services.

**TABLE IV-7: WILTON PUBLIC - GREGG FREE LIBRARY  
USAGE STATISTICS, 2015**

<b>2015</b>	<b>Juvenile/Teen</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Downloadable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Circulation	10549	14449	2570	27568
Computer use				1430 user sessions
Database usage				1847

### **Library Facility**

The renovation of the Library's first and second floors was completed in 2014. In 2015 a complete foundation drainage system, new sewer lines and new water lines and valves were installed. In 2016, landscaping of the grounds disrupted by the drainage system project will be done. Research into adaptation of the one pipe steam heat system to heat the lower level more efficiently is in progress. Slate roof replacement is planned for 2025.

### **Library Staffing**

- Director
- Youth Services Librarian
- Adult Services Manager/Technical Services
- Library Assistant: Circulation and Outreach
- Library Assistant: Information Technology
- Library Assistant: Youth Services
- Library Assistant: Substitutes (2)
- Pages (3)

### **Volunteers**

It should be recognized here that the Friends of the Wilton Library and other volunteers donate many hours of service to the Library. Volunteers provide support to the staff by raising funds for library programs, donating funds for a museum pass reimbursement program and volunteer hours to assist in special projects.

### **Recommendations:**

- Landscaping to mitigate disruption by drainage, sewer and water projects, planned for 2016.
- Modify the existing heating system.
- Work toward an energy efficient library building.
- Conduct annual roof maintenance with replace the roof in 2025
- Renovation of Children's Library to modify shelving, seating, flooring and paint planned for 2016.

**TABLE IV-12: SUMMARY OF CHAPTER RECOMMENDATIONS**

<b>Fire Department</b>	
1.	Enforce the building code to prevent fires, save lives, and protect the Town's property.
2.	Work with the Budget Committee and the Planning Board to better facilitate the Capital Improvements Program.
3.	Gradually increase the operating budget to increase training and more maintenance.
4.	Periodically review to see if the time and need has come for a small, full daytime fire force.
5.	Maintain and improve the water systems in place and add new ones as needed for buildings.
6.	Continue the Inspection Program.
7.	Increase Public Education and awareness thru demonstrations and lectures in the school systems and media exposure.
8.	Purchase a Pickup Truck and an ATV.
<b>Police Department</b>	
1.	Consider expansion or reconfiguration of the Police Facility.
2.	Evaluate future staffing and vehicle needs.
<b>Wilton Ambulance</b>	
1.	Evaluate the need for additional staff.
2.	Continue adding to the Capital Reserve Fund for ambulance and major equipment replacement; Coordinate with the CIP Committee.
3.	Consider the fiscal impacts of proposed developments.
4.	Maintain and enhance EMS Providers.
5.	Identify a location for a new long term home for the Wilton Ambulance facility.
<b>Town Hall</b>	
1.	Insulate the entire Town Hall.
2.	Improve the handicap access to Town Hall.
3.	Develop a plan to renovate the North side of Town Hall.
4.	Improve and/or replace the heating system.
5.	Develop a long term plan to repair/replace roof.
6.	Hire a Town Administrator.

<b>Department of Public Works/Highway</b>	
1.	Evaluate the need for additional storage and office space at the Highway Department building.
2.	All highway six wheel dump trucks should be replaced every fifteen to twenty years.
3.	All heavy equipment should be replaced as needed dependent upon usage and repair costs.
4.	The backhoe should be replaced with a comparable excavator and trailer.
<b>Recycling Center (Solid Waste)</b>	
1.	Continue to educate the public on the benefits of recycling.
2.	Continue to financially support the Wilton Recycling Center.
3.	Develop a plan for the future of the Recycling Center due to a potential loss of participating towns.
4.	Start or continue a recycling program in each of the five member Town's school systems.
5.	Replace the 2 open top containers with hydraulic compactors.
<b>Cemeteries</b>	
1.	Evaluate the availability of existing cemetery space and purchase additional land to accommodate
2.	Replace the Cemetery Department storage facility at the Laurel Hill Cemetery.
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Facilities Including Conservation Lands</b>	
1.	Develop facilities such as hard courts, playgrounds, picnic areas, basketball courts, and outdoor ice arenas.
2.	Develop additional recreational facilities as public demand warrants.
3.	Incorporate into the Town's Subdivision Regulations the provision of recreation land, pocket parks and facilities within future major developments.
4.	Evaluate the current Zoning Ordinance and consider a zoning amendment to allow for additional commercial recreational uses, such as a driving range.
<b>Wilton Water Works</b>	
1.	Identify areas for expansion of the water supply system.
2.	Work with developers to expand the systems as opportunities arise.
3.	Protect existing surface and groundwater sources for the water supply system. Plan for future water supply. Monitor aquifer levels.
4.	Add a second storage tank on high ground.
5.	Replacement of undersized and unlined water mains.
6.	Replace the 6 inch water main which crosses river from the Recycling Center to Intervale Road.
7.	Establish a Capital Improvements Fund to upgrade the water system.
8.	Continue to replace 4 water hydrants and 25 water meters annually.

<b>Sewer Department</b>	
1.	Periodically evaluate the system and identify areas for service expansion.
2.	Coordinate service expansion as development occurs, and ensure developers contribute to the cost.
3.	Continue the agreement with the Town of Milford to utilize its Waste Water Treatment Facility and monitor Wilton's usage.
4.	Explore the feasibility of billing based on meters.
5.	Define the process for approval and installations of new sewer hook-ups and sewer expansions.
6.	Extend the Maple Street sewer main further east of the 2013 improvements.
<b>Public Schools</b>	
1.	Add bleachers to the Florence Rideout Elementary school gym.
<b>Library</b>	
1.	Install landscaping to mitigate disruptions from drainage, sewer and water projects planned for 2016.
2.	Improve the existing heating system.
3.	Replace the library roof planned for 2025.
4.	Renovate the Children's Library planned for 2016.
5.	Work towards an energy efficient building.
<b>General Recommendations</b>	
1.	Develop a new comprehensive Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that can easily be updated on an annual basis.
2.	As part of the CIP, gradually expand facilities to keep pace with growth.
3.	Consider the impact of specific development proposals on Wilton's community facilities and services.
4.	Whenever feasible, community services should be provided on a regional basis to minimize costs and/or ensure a higher level of service.
5.	Participate in regional planning efforts, since growth in neighboring communities has a significant impact on Wilton's community facilities and services.