TOWN OF ASHBY, MASSACHUSETTS Annual Financial Statements For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen Town of Ashby, Massachusetts

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Ashby, Massachusetts, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Ashby's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Ashby, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis, appearing on the following pages, is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards Board*. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Greenfield, Massachusetts

Melanson Hath & Company, P.C.

January 22, 2009

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Town of Ashby, we offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Ashby for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

A. OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements comprise of three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

<u>Government-wide financial statements</u>. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of our finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities include general government, public safety, education, public works, health and human services, culture and recreation, employee benefits, and intergovernmental. The business-type activities include transfer station activities.

<u>Fund financial statements</u>. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds and fiduciary funds.

<u>Governmental funds</u>. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

An annual appropriated budget is adopted for the general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are maintained as follows:

Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as businesstype activities in the government-wide financial statements. Specifically, enterprise funds are used to account for transfer station operations.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the business-type activities reported in the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The proprietary fund financial statements provide separate information for the transfer station operations, which is considered to be a major fund.

<u>Fiduciary funds</u>. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

<u>Notes to financial statements</u>. The notes provide additional information that are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary

information which is required to be disclosed by the *Governmental Accounting* Standards Board.

B. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the total of assets exceeded liabilities by \$ 7,616,197 (i.e., net assets), an increase of \$ 184,629 in comparison to the prior year.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$ 1,642,300, a decrease of \$ (114,389) in comparison with the prior year.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$ 468,983, an increase of \$ 179,244 in comparison with the prior year.

C. GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The following is a summary of condensed government-wide financial data for the current and prior fiscal years.

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>		Business-Type <u>Activities</u>				<u>Total</u>				
	2008		2007		2008		<u>2007</u>		2008		2007
Current and other assets Capital assets Noncurrent assets	\$ 2,427,714 6,084,112 36,803	\$ -	2,071,702 5,806,494 75,056	\$	27,326 - -	\$	25,081 - -	\$	2,455,040 6,084,112 36,803	\$	2,096,783 5,806,494 75,056
Total assets	8,548,629		7,953,252		27,326		25,081		8,575,955		7,978,333
Long-term liabilities outstanding Other liabilities	249,839 708,756	_	263,542 281,987	_	- 1,163	_	- 1,236	_	249,839 709,919	-	263,542 283,223
Total liabilities	958,595		545,529		1,163		1,236		959,758		546,765
Net assets: Invested in capital assets, net Restricted Unrestricted	6,125,525 781,288 683,221	_	6,004,542 710,220 692,961	-	- - 26,163	_	- - 23,845	-	6,125,525 781,288 709,384	_	6,004,542 710,220 716,806
Total net assets	\$ 7,590,034	\$	7,407,723	\$	26,163	\$	23,845	\$	7,616,197	\$	7,431,568

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>		Busines: <u>Activi</u>		<u>Total</u>		
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	
Revenues:							
Program revenues:							
Charges for services	\$ 193,010 \$	184,656	\$ 16,222 \$	13,064	209,232	\$ 197,720	
Operating grants and contributions	192,374	168,985	-	-	192,374	168,985	
Capital grants and contributions	513,610	377,087	-	-	513,610	377,087	
General revenues:							
Property taxes	3,997,700	4,085,586	-	-	3,997,700	4,085,586	
Excises	336,151	340,502		-	336,151	340,502	
Penalties and interest on taxes	23,576	41,763	-	-	23,576	41,763	
Grants and contributions							
not restricted to specific							
programs	582,935	545,378	-	-	582,935	545,378	
Investment income	17,108	19,071	965	1,257	18,073	20,328	
Miscellaneous	161,099	5,148	-	-	161,099	5,148	
Extraordinary item -							
Loss on purchase of fire truck	-	(348,092)		-	-	(348,092)	
Total revenues and							
extraordinary item	6,017,563	5,420,084	17,187	14,321	6,034,750	5,434,405	
Expenses:							
General government	566,455	588,902	-	-	566,455	588,902	
Public safety	839,581	855,762	-	-	839,581	855,762	
Education	2,857,776	2,736,161	-	-	2,857,776	2,736,161	
Public works	1,043,931	813,311	-	-	1,043,931	813,311	
Human services	28,648	23,855	-	-	28,648	23,855	
Culture and recreation	98,745	79,946	-	-	98,745	79,946	
Employee benefits	353,282	332,042	-	-	353,282	332,042	
Miscellaneous	20,384	-	-	-	20,384	-	
Intergovernmental	26,450	20,202	-	-	26,450	20,202	
Transfer station			14,869	20,065	14,869	20,065	
Total expenses	5,835,252	5,450,181	14,869	20,065	5,850,121	5,470,246	
Change in net assets	182,311	(30,097)	2,318	(5,744)	184,629	(35,841)	
Net assets - beginning of year	7,407,723	7,437,820	23,845	29,589	7,431,568	7,467,409	
Net assets - end of year	\$ _7,590,034 \$	7,407,723	\$ <u>26,163</u> \$	23,845	\$ <u>7,616,197</u>	\$ <u>7,431,568</u>	

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, total net assets were \$ 7,616,197, an increase of \$ 184,629 from the prior year.

The largest portion of net assets, \$ 6,125,525, reflects our investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery and equipment). These capital assets

are used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

An additional portion of net assets, \$ 781,288, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets, \$ 709,384, may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

<u>Governmental activities</u>. Governmental activities for the year resulted in an increase in net assets of \$ 182,311. Key elements of this decrease are as follows:

Excess of tax collections compared to budget Excess of State and local revenues over budget	\$	24,022 29,827
Budgetary appropriations under-expended by departments		234,032
Use of free cash as a funding source / use		(184,077)
Excess of prior year encumbrances to be spent in the		
current year over current year encumbrances spent		
in the subsequent year		(4,029)
Stabilization fund transfers out over investment revenue		
and transfers in		(72,595)
Non-major fund expenditures and transfers out over revenues		
and transfers in		(123,569)
Capital asset additions funded by grants and general fund appropriations		449,187
Capital asset dispositions		(6,000)
Current year depreciation (not budgeted for)		(165,569)
Other timing differences	_	1,082
Total	\$_	182,311

<u>Business-type activities</u>. Business-type activities for the year resulted in an increase in net assets of \$ 2,318, all of which was the result of user fee revenues in excess of expenditures.

D. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

<u>Governmental funds</u>. The focus of governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$ 1,642,300, a decrease of \$ (114,389) in comparison with the prior year. Key elements of this decrease are as follows:

General fund revenues and transfers in in excess of		
expenses and transfers out	\$	99,775
Stabilization fund net results of gain on invest-		
ments, user fee revenue and transfers in over transfers out		(90,595)
Non-major governmental funds excess of expenditures and		
transfers out in excess of revenues and transfers in	_	(123,569)
Total	\$_	(114,389)

The general fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance of the general fund was \$ 468,983, while total fund balance was \$ 532,560. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unreserved fund balance represents 9.1 percent of total general fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 10.4 percent of that same amount.

The fund balance of the general fund increased by \$ 99,775 during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this change are as follows:

Excess of tax collections compared to budget	\$	24,022
Excess of State and local revenues over budget		29,827
Budgetary appropriations under-expended by departments		234,032
Use of free cash as a funding source / use		(184,077)
Excess of prior year encumbrances to be spent in the		
current year over current year encumbrances spent		
in the subsequent year	_	(4,029)
Total	\$_	99,775

<u>Proprietary funds</u>. Proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the business-type activities reported in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail.

Unrestricted net assets of the enterprise funds at the end of the year amounted to \$ 26,163, an increase of \$ 2,318 in comparison with the prior year. Other factors concerning the finances of proprietary funds have already been addressed in the entity-wide discussion of business-type activities.

E. GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Differences between the original budget and the final amended budget resulted in an overall increase in appropriations of \$ 111,979. Major reasons for these amendments include:

- \$ 34,582 increase in general government expenditures.
- \$ 77,397 increase in public works expenditures.

The entire increase was funded from free cash.

F. CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

<u>Capital assets</u>. Total investment in capital assets for governmental activities at year end amounted to \$6,084,112 (net of accumulated depreciation), an increase of \$277,618 from the prior year. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and system, improvements, and machinery and equipment.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- Depreciation expense: \$ (165,569).
- Equipment and vehicle purchases: \$ 127,080.
- Construction in progress (library): \$ 184,036.
- Public safety building construction in progress: \$ 14,903.
- Property acquired through foreclosure: \$ 123,168.
- Disposition of obsolete property: \$ (6,000).

Additional information on capital assets can be found in the footnotes to the financial statements.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Ashby's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Ms. Nancy Haines Town Accountant Town of Ashby 895 Main Street Ashby, MA 01431

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2008

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business-Type <u>Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS			
Current:	A 4 007 000	Ф 07.000	¢ 4604304
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 1,667,068	\$ 27,326	\$ 1,694,394 56,460
Investments	56,469	-	56,469
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:	404.000		104,266
Property taxes	104,266	-	29,222
Excises	29,222	-	9,399
Departmental and other	9,399	-	1,514
Loans receivable	1,514	-	417,751
Intergovernmental	417,751	-	142,025
Due from other funds	142,025	-	142,020
Noncurrent:			
Tax liens and foreclosures, net of allowance	0.400		2,183
for uncollectibles	2,183	-	34,620
Loans receivable, net of current portion	34,620	-	4,454,575
Land and construction in progress	4,454,575	-	1,629,537
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	1,629,537		1,020,007
TOTAL ASSETS	8,548,629	27,326	8,575,955
LIABILITIES			
Current:			
Warrants payable	460,568	1,163	461,731
Accounts payable	51,446	-	51,446
Accounts payable Accrued payroll and withholdings	40,717	_	40,717
Due to other funds	142,025	_	142,025
Current portion of long-term liabilities:	112,020		·
Landfill closure	14,000	_	14,000
Noncurrent:	,		
Deferred revenue	-	-	-
Landfill closure	249,839	-	249,839
Editatii doddio			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	958,595	1,163	959,758
NET ASSETS			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	6,125,525	-	6,125,525
Restricted for:			
Grants and other statutory restrictions	180,429	-	180,429
Permanent funds:			
Nonexpendable	435,168	-	165,691
Expendable	165,691	-	435,168
Unrestricted	683,221_	26,163	709,384
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$_7,590,034_	\$26,163	\$_7,616,197

TOWN OF ASHBY MASSACHUSETTS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

			Program Revenues		Net (Expenses) F	Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Assets	nges in Net Assets
		Charges for	Operating Grants and	Capital Grants and	Governmental	Business- Type	
	Expenses	Services	Contributions	Contributions	Activities	Activities	<u>Total</u>
Governmental Activities:		00000	0.00 BED	€	(508 769)	·	(508 769)
General government Public safetv	\$ 566,455 839.581	\$ 22,033 126,094		· ·	_	· · ·	
Fducation	2.857,776	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	6,013	•	(2,851,763)		(2,851,763)
Public works	1,043,931	40,325	11,268	509,307	(483,031)	ı	(483,031)
Health and human services	28,648	3,010	3,300	4,303	(18,035)		(18,035)
Culture and recreation	98,745	748	51,751		(46,246)		(46,246)
Employee benefits	353,282	1	ı	1	(353,282)	1	(353,282)
Intergovernmental	20,384		1	1 :	(20,384)		(20,384)
Miscellaneous	70,430		1		(50,100)		(50,100)
Total Governmental Activities	5,835,252	193,010	192,374	513,610	(4,936,258)	1	(4,936,258)
Business-Type Activities: Transfer station	14,869	16,222	1	1	•	1,353	1,353
Total Business-Tvoe Activities	14,869	16,222	1	1	ı	1,353	1,353
	\$ 5 850 121	\$ 209 232	\$ 192,374	\$ 513.610	(4.936.258)	1,353	(4,934,905)
וסומו	- 11						
		General Revenue	les:				
		Property taxes			3,997,700	•	3,997,700
		Excises			336,151	1	336,151
		Penalties, inter	Penalties, interest and other taxes		23,576	•	23,576
		Grants and co	Grants and contributions not restricted	ס	100.001		582 035
		to specific programs	ograms		002,300	- 965	18.073
		Investment income	ome		17,100		16,019
		Miscellaneous			660,101		660,101
		Total general revenues	venues		5,118,569	965	5,119,534
		Change in Net Assets	et Assets		182,311	2,318	184,629
		Net Assets:				0.00	000 700 1
		Beginning of year	ear		1,401,123	23,845	0000,100,7
		End of year			\$ 7,590,034	\$ 26,163	\$ 7,616,197

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2008

Total Governmental <u>Funds</u>	\$ 1,667,068 56,469	364,288 37,855 23,811 142,025 417,751 36,134	\$ 2,745,401		\$ 460,568 51,446 40,717 426,345 142,025	1,121,101	36,914 26,663 435,168	468,983 463,874 27,007 165,691	1,624,300	\$ 2,745,401
Nonmajor Governmental <u>Funds</u>	\$ 804,439 56,469	36,134	\$ 897,042		\$ 7,932 44,681 36,134	88,747	435,168	180,429 27,007	642,604	\$ 731,351
Stabilization	\$ 425,470 -	1 1 1 1 1 1	\$ 425,470		\$ - 142,025	142,025	1 1 1	283,445	283,445	\$ 425,470
Chapter <u>90</u>	· · ·	417,751	\$ 417,751		\$ 410,986 6,765 -	417,751	1 1 1	1 1 1 1		\$ 417,751
General	\$ 437,159 -	364,288 37,855 23,811 142,025	\$ 1,005,138		\$ 41,650 40,717 390,211	472,578	36,914 26,663	468,983	532,560	\$ 1,005,138
ASSETS	Cash and short-term investments Investments	Receivables: Property taxes Excises Departmental and other Due from other funds Intergovernmental	TOTAL ASSETS	LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	Liabilities: Warrants payable Accounts payable Accrued payroll and withholdings Deferred revenues Due to other funds	TOTAL LIABILITIES	Fund Balances: Reserved for: Encumbrances Expenditures Perpetual (nonexpendable) permanent funds	Unreserved: Undesignated, reported in: General fund Special revenue funds Capital project funds Permanent funds	TOTAL FUND BALANCES	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2008

Total governmental fund balances	\$ 1,624,300
 Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. 	6,084,112
 Revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting, net of an allowance for uncollectibles, and are not deferred until collection. 	145,461
 Long-term liabilities, (landfill closure) are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds. 	<u>(263,839)</u>
Net assets of governmental activities	\$ <u>7,590,034</u>

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Total Governmental <u>Funds</u>	\$ 4,007,621 345,470 23,576 118,587 1,223,847 32,968 16,836 51,996 30,184 37,930 5,889,015	513,476 908,850 2,857,776 1,013,335 28,648 281,203 353,282 20,384 26,450 6,003,404	(114,389)	178,678 (178,678) - - (114,389)	1,738,689
Nonmajor Governmental <u>Funds</u>	\$ - - 11,555 131,605 - - 18,804 30,184 37,390	1,109 95,478 4,285 9,881 4,764 211,140 - - 26,450 353,107	(123,569)	1,307 (1,307)	931,864
Stabilization	16,084		16,084	35,346 (142,025) (106,679)	374,040 \$ 283,445
Chapter 90	509,307	509,307	ı		·
General	\$ 4,007,621 345,470 23,576 107,032 582,935 32,968 16,836 17,108 5,134,086	512,367 813,372 2,853,491 494,147 23,884 70,063 353,282 20,384	(6,904)	142,025 (35,346) 106,679	\$ 4 \ \(\tau \)
	Revenues: Property taxes Excises Penalties, interest and other taxes Charges for services Intergovernmental Licenses and permits Fines and forfeits Investment income Contributions Miscellaneous Total Revenues	Expenditures: Current: General government Public safety Education Public works Health and human services Culture and recreation Employee benefits Intergovernmental Miscellaneous Total Expenditures	Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses): Transfers in Transfers out Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Equity, at Beginning of Year, as reclassified Fund Equity, at End of Year

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	\$ (114,389)
 Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense: 	
Capital outlay purchases	449,187
Dispositions	(6,000)
Depreciation	(165,569)
 Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are fully deferred in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. Therefore, the recognition of revenue for various types of accounts receivable (i.e., real estate and personal property, motor vehicle excise, etc.) differ between the two statements. This amount represents the net change in deferred revenue. 	5,379
 Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities, such as landfill closure costs, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds. 	<u>13,703</u>

See notes to financial statements.

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 182,311

GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES, AND EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Variance with	Final Budget Positive (Negative)	\$ (7,119) 4,876 30,717 12,461 1,408 (1,664) 1,608	29,827	33,616 29,933 147,200 9,650 2,403 1,000 1,451 8,779 - - 234,032
	Actual <u>Amounts</u>	\$ 3,983,599 345,470 23,576 107,032 582,935 32,968 16,836 17,108 142,025 214,082	5,466,171	493,305 821,371 2,853,491 494,147 21,283 79,698 - - 20,384 353,282 35,346 30,005 5,202,312
Amounts	Final <u>Budget</u>	\$ 3,983,599 352,589 18,700 76,315 570,474 31,560 18,500 15,500 142,025 214,082	5,436,344	526,921 851,304 2,853,491 641,347 30,933 82,101 1,000 21,835 362,061 35,346 30,005
Budgeted Amounts	Original <u>Budget</u>	\$ 3,983,599 352,589 18,700 76,315 570,474 31,560 18,500 15,500 142,025 102,103	5,324,365	492,339 851,304 2,853,491 563,950 30,933 82,101 1,000 21,835 362,061 35,346 30,005
		Revenues and Other Sources: Taxes Excise Penalties, interest and other taxes Charges for services Intergovernmental Licenses and permits Fines and forfeits Investment income Miscellaneous Transfers in Other sources	Total Revenues and Other Sources	Expenditures and Other Uses: General government Public safety Education Public works Health and human services Culture and recreation Debt service Intergovernmental Employee benefits Transfers out Other uses Total Expenditures and Other Uses Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2008

Business-
Type Activities
Enterprise Funds
Transfer Station

<u>ASSETS</u>

Current: Cash and short-term investments	\$_	27,326
TOTAL ASSETS		27,326

LIABILITIES

Current:	4.400
Warrants payable	1,163_
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,163

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	<u>26,163</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 26,163

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Business- Type Activities
	Enterprise Funds
	Transfer Station
On weather Development	
Operating Revenues:	Ф 40.000
Charges for services	\$ <u>16,222</u>
Total Operating Revenues	16,222
Operating Expenses:	
Salaries and wages	3,600
_	·
Operating expenses	11,269_
Total Operating Expenses	14,869_
Operating Income	1,353
Nonoperating Revenues:	
•	965
Investment income	
Total Nonoperating Revenue	965
Change in Net Assets	2,318
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	23,845
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ <u>26,163</u>

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Business- Type Activities Enterprise Funds Transfer Station
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:	
Receipts from customers and users	\$ 16,222
Payments to vendors and employees	(14,942)
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	1,280
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:	
Investment income	965
Net Cash Provided By Investing Activities	965
Net Change in Cash and Short-Term Investments	2,245
Cash and Short-Term Investments, Beginning of Year	25,081
Cash and Short-Term Investments, End of Year	\$
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash	
Provided by Operating Activities:	
Operating Income	\$ 1,353
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net	
cash provided by operating activities:	
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Warrants payable	233
Accrued payroll	(306)
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	\$1,280

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2008

ACCETO	Agency <u>Funds</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 13,483
Total Assets	\$ <u>13,483</u>
LIABILITIES	
Warrants payable	\$ 3,634
Accrued payroll Other liabilities	40
Total Liabilities	\$ 13,483

Town of Ashby, Massachusetts

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Town of Ashby (the Town) conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

A. Reporting Entity

The government is a municipal corporation governed by an elected Board of Selectmen. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the government and applicable component units for which the government is considered to be financially accountable. In fiscal year 2008, it was determined that no entities met the required GASB-39 criteria of component units.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

Fund Financial Statements

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual govern-

mental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

C. <u>Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement</u> Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*, as are the proprietary and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

Amounts reported as *program revenues* include (1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, (2) operating grants and contributions, and (3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as *general revenues* rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes and excises.

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers property tax revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting; however, landfill closure expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

The government reports the following major governmental funds:

- The *general fund* is the government's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.
- The Chapter 90 local road program accounts for State aid made available to municipalities under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90,

Section 34 for local road construction, preservation and improvement projects.

• The stabilization fund, an account authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B from which the Town can appropriate funds for any legal purpose.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the enterprise fund are charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989 generally are followed in both government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The government has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

The government reports the following major proprietary fund:

• The *transfer station enterprise fund*, which accounts for operations of the Town's transfer station and supporting infrastructure.

D. Cash and Short-Term Investments

Cash balances from all funds, except those required to be segregated by law, are combined to form a consolidation of cash. Cash balances are invested to the extent available, and interest earnings are recognized in the General Fund. Certain special revenue, proprietary, and fiduciary funds segregate cash, and investment earnings become a part of those funds.

Deposits with financial institutions consist primarily of demand deposits, certificates of deposits, and savings accounts. A cash and investment pool is maintained that is available for use by all funds. Each fund's portion of this pool is reflected on the combined financial statements under the caption "cash and short-term investments". The interest earnings attributable to each fund type is included under investment income.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the proprietary fund considers investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

E. Investments

State and local statutes place certain limitations on the nature of deposits and investments available. Deposits in any financial institution may not exceed certain levels within the financial institution. Non-fiduciary fund investments can be made in securities issued by or unconditionally guaranteed by the U.S. Government or agencies that have a maturity of one year or less from the date of purchase and repurchase agreements guaranteed by such securities with maturity dates of no more than 90 days from the date of purchase.

F. Property Tax Limitations

Legislation known as "Proposition 2 1/2" limits the amount of revenue that can be derived from property taxes. The prior fiscal year's tax levy limit is used as a base and cannot increase by more than 2.5 percent (excluding new growth), unless an override or debt exemption is voted. The actual fiscal year 2008 tax levy reflected an excess capacity of \$ 2,828.

G. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Property, plant and equipment of the primary government is depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings	40
Building improvements	20
Vehicles	5 - 10
Office equipment	5 - 15
Computer equipment	5 - 10

H. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities.

I. Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose.

2. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

A. Budgetary Information

At the annual town meeting, the Finance Committee presents an operating and capital budget for the proposed expenditures of the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The budget, as enacted by town meeting, establishes the legal level of control and specifies that certain appropriations are to be funded by particular revenues. The original budget is amended during the fiscal year at special town meetings as required by changing conditions. In cases of extraordinary or unforeseen expenses, the Finance Committee is empowered to transfer funds from the Reserve Fund (a contingency appropriation) to a departmental appropriation. "Extraordinary" includes expenses which are not in the usual line, or are great or exceptional. "Unforeseen" includes expenses which are not foreseen as of the time of the annual meeting when appropriations are voted.

Departments are limited to the line items as voted. Certain items may exceed the line item budget as approved if it is for an emergency and for the safety of the general public. These items are limited by the Massachusetts General Laws and must be raised in the next year's tax rate.

Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund and Proprietary Fund. Effective budgetary control is achieved for all other funds through provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws.

At year end, appropriation balances lapse, except for certain unexpended capital items and encumbrances which will be honored during the subsequent year.

B. <u>Budgetary</u> Basis

The General Fund final appropriation appearing on the "Budget and Actual" page of the fund financial statements represents the final

amended budget after all reserve fund transfers and supplemental appropriations.

C. Budget/GAAP Reconciliation

The budgetary data for the general fund is based upon accounting principles that differ from generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Therefore, in addition to the GAAP basis financial statements, the results of operations of the general fund are presented in accordance with budgetary accounting principles to provide a meaningful comparison with budgetary data.

The following is a summary of adjustments made to the actual revenues and other sources, and expenditures and other uses, to conform to the budgetary basis of accounting.

General Fund	Revenues and Other <u>Financing Sources</u>	Expenditures and Other <u>Financing Uses</u>
Revenues/Expenditures (GAAP basis)	\$ 5,134,086	\$ 5,140,990
Other financing sources/uses (GAAP basis)	142,025	35,346
Adjust tax revenue to accrual basis	(24,022)	-
Reverse beginning of year appropriation carryforwards from expenditures	-	(40,943)
Add end of year appropriation carryforwards to expenditures	-	36,914
Recognize use of fund balance as funding source/use	214,082	30,005
Budgetary basis	\$5,466,171	\$5,202,312

D. Deficit Fund Equity

The following fund had a deficit as of June 30, 2008:

Police Special Detail \$ (2,825)

The deficits in this fund will be eliminated through future departmental revenues.

3. Cash and Short-Term Investments

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Town's deposits may not be returned to it. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55 limits deposits "in a bank or trust company or banking company to an amount not exceeding sixty

percent of the capital and surplus of such bank or trust company or banking company, unless satisfactory security is given to it by such bank or trust company or banking company for such excess."

As of June 30, 2008, \$ 316,531 of the Town's bank balance of \$ 1,910,436 was exposed to custodial credit risk as uninsured, uncollateralized, and collateral held by pledging bank's trust department not in the Town's name.

4. Investments

A. Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. For short-term investments that were purchased using surplus revenues, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55 limits investments to the top rating issued by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSROs).

The Town's investments of \$ 56,469, as of June 30, 2008, are comprised of mutual funds which are not subject to credit rating.

B. Custodial Credit Risk

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g. broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. The Town does not have policies for custodial credit risk.

C. Concentration of Credit Risk

The Town places no limit on the amount the Town may invest in any one issuer. The Town has no investments in any one issuer (other than mutual funds) that represents 5% of more of total investments.

D. Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates.

Information about the sensitivity of the fair values of the Town's investments to market interest rate fluctuations is as follows:

			Exempt
	Fair		from
Investment Type	<u>Value</u>		<u>Disclosure</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 56,469	\$	56,469
Total	\$ 56,469	\$_	56,469

E. Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in foreign exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Town does not have policies for foreign currency risk.

5. Taxes Receivable

Real estate and personal property taxes are levied and based on values assessed on January 1 of every year. Assessed values are established by the Board of Assessor's for 100% of the estimated fair market value. Taxes are due on a quarterly basis and are subject to penalties and interest if they are not paid by the respective due date. Real estate and personal property taxes levied are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year they relate to.

Fourteen days after the due date for the final tax bill for real estate taxes, a demand notice may be sent to the delinquent taxpayer. Fourteen days after the demand notice has been sent, the tax collector may proceed to file a lien against the delinquent taxpayers' property. The Town has an ultimate right to foreclose on property for unpaid taxes. Personal property taxes cannot be secured through the lien process.

Taxes receivable at June 30, 2008 consist of the following:

Real Estate				
2008	\$	101,855		
2007 and prior		3,502		
				105,357
Personal Property				
2008		1,134		
2007 and prior		335		
	_			1,469
Tax Liens and Foreclosures				257,462
Total			\$_	364,288

6. Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The receivables reported in the accompanying entity-wide financial statements reflect the following estimated allowances for doubtful accounts:

	<u>Governmental</u>
Property taxes - current	\$ 2,560
Tax liens and foreclosures	255,279
Title V Septic Loans	10,840
Excises	8,633
Ambulance	3,572

7. Intergovernmental Receivables

This balance represents reimbursements requested from Federal and State agencies for expenditures incurred in fiscal 2008.

8. Interfund Fund Receivables/Payables

Although self-balancing funds are maintained, most transactions flow through the general fund. In order to obtain accountability for each fund, interfund receivable and payable accounts must be utilized. The following is an analysis of the June 30, 2008 balances in interfund receivable and payable accounts:

	Due From	Due To
<u>Fund</u>	Other Funds	Other Funds
General Fund	\$ 142,025	\$ -
Stabilization Fund	-	142,025
Total	\$ <u>142,025</u>	\$ 142,025

9. Loans Receivable

This balance represents loans to taxpayers for septic improvements granted under a State-sponsored Title V loan program.

10. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2008 was as follows:

Governmental Activities:		Beginning Balance (Restated)	Increases		<u>Decreases</u>	Ending <u>Balance</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated: Buildings and improvements Machinery, equipment, and furnishings	\$	4,910,246 1,692,071	\$ 123,168 127,080	\$	- \$ (6,000)	5,033,414 1,813,151
Total capital assets, being depreciated		6,602,317	250,248		(6,000)	6,846,565
Less accumulated depreciation for: Buildings and improvements Machinery, equipment, and furnishings	_	(4,271,793) (779,666)	 (45,609) (119,960)		- 	(4,317,402) (899,626)
Total accumulated depreciation	_	(5,051,459)	 (165,569)			(5,217,028)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net		1,550,858	84,679		(6,000)	1,629,537
Capital assets, not being depreciated: Construction in progress Land	_	2,874,636 1,381,000	 198,939	-	<u>.</u>	3,073,575 1,381,000
Total capital assets, not being depreciated		4,255,636	 198,939		-	4,454,575
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$_	5,806,494	\$ 283,618	\$	(6,000) \$	6,084,112

Depreciation expense was charged to functions of the Town as follows:

Governmental Activities:		
General government	\$	46,979
Public safety		56,348
Public works		60,664
Culture and recreation		1,578
Total depreciation expense - governmental activites	\$_	165,569

11. Warrants and Accounts Payable

Warrants payable represent 2008 expenditures paid by July 15, 2008 as permitted by law. Accounts payable represent additional fiscal year 2008 expenditures expected to be paid in fiscal year 2009.

12. <u>Deferred Revenue</u>

Governmental funds report *deferred revenue* in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period.

The balance of the General Fund deferred revenues account is equal to the total of all June 30, 2008 receivable balances, except real and personal property taxes that are accrued for subsequent 60 day collections.

13. Long-Term Debt

A. Changes in General Long-Term Liabilities

During the year ended June 30, 2008, the following changes occurred in long-term liabilities:

							Equais
	Total			Total		Less	Long-Term
	Balance			Balance		Current	Portion
Governmental Activities:	July 1, 2007	<u>Additions</u>	Reductions	June 30, 2008		<u>Portion</u>	June 30, 2008
Landfill closure	\$ 277,542	\$ -	\$ (13,703)	\$ 263,839	\$_	(14,000)	\$ 249,839

14. Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Care Costs

State and Federal laws and regulations require the Town to place a final cover on its landfill site when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for thirty years after closure.

The \$ 263,839 reported as landfill liability at June 30, 2008 represents the estimated cost of monitoring the landfill for the next 22 years, less \$ 44,161, which represents the unexpended balance of the landfill capping project which the Town is required to keep in escrow per the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. This amount is based on what it would cost to perform all closure and post-closure care in 2008. Actual cost may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations.

15. Restricted Net Assets

The accompanying entity-wide financial statements report restricted net assets when external constraints from grantors or contributors are placed on net assets.

Permanent fund restricted net assets are segregated between nonexpendable and expendable. The nonexpendable portion represents the original restricted principal contribution, and the expendable represents accumulated earnings which are available to be spent based on donor restrictions.

16. Reserves of Fund Equity

"Reserves" of fund equity are established to segregate fund balances which are either not available for expenditure in the future or are legally set aside for a specific future use. The following types of reserves are reported at June 30, 2008:

Reserved for Encumbrances - An account used to segregate that portion of fund balance committed for expenditure of financial resources upon vendor performance.

Reserved for Expenditures - Represents the amount of fund balance appropriated to be used for expenditures in the subsequent year budget.

Reserved for Perpetual Funds - Represents the principal of the nonexpendable trust fund investments. The balance cannot be spent for any purpose; however, it may be invested and the earnings may be spent.

17. Commitments and Contingencies

<u>Grants</u> - Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the Town expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

18. Pension Plan

The Town follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 27, Accounting for Pensions for State and Local Government Employees, with respect to the employees' retirement funds.

A. Plan Description

The Town contributes to the Middlesex County Retirement System (the "System"), a cost-sharing multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan administered by a county retirement board. The System provides retirement, disability and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws assigns the System the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions of the plan, and grant cost-of-living increases, to the State legislature. The System issues a publicly available financial report which can be obtained through the Middlesex County Retirement System, 40 Thorndike Street, New Superior Courthouse - 3rd Level, Cambridge, MA 02141.

B. Funding Policy

Plan members are required to contribute to the System at rates ranging from 5% to 11% of annual covered compensation. The Town is required to pay into the System its share of the remaining system-wide actuarially determined contribution plus administration costs which are apportioned among the employers based on active covered payroll. The contributions of plan members and the Town are governed by Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Town's contributions to the System for the years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 were \$ 114,360, \$ 106,328, and \$ 96,163 respectively, which were equal to its annual required contributions for each of these years.

19. Risk Management

The government is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the government carries commercial insurance. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the previous year and have been no material settlements in excess of coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

20. <u>Beginning Fund Balance Reclassification</u>

The Town's major governmental funds for fiscal year 2008, as defined by GASB Statement 34, have changed from the previous fiscal year. Accordingly, the following reconciliation is provided:

	Fund Equity		
	June 30, 2007		Fund Equity
	(as previously		June 30, 2007
	reported)	Reclass.	(as restated)
Stabilizational fund	\$ -	\$ 374,040	\$ 374,040
Library Renovations	327,815	(327,815)	-
Non-Major Governmental Funds	978,089	(46,225)	931,864
Total	\$ 1,305,904	\$	\$ <u>1,305,904</u>