NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-SIX, FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 15, 1946. TOGETHER WITH OTHER ANNUAL REPORTS AND PAPERS RELATING TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE CITY

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Nineteen hundred forty-six, fifty-third annual report of receipts and expenditures of the City of Laconia, New Hampshire for the year ending February 15, 1946. Together with other annual reports and papers relating to the affairs of the city by Various

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VARIOUS

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NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-SIX

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

CITY OF LACONIA

NEW HAMPSHIRE

FOR

YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 15, 1946

TOGETHER WITH OTHER ANNUAL REPORTS
AND PAPERS RELATING TO THE
AFFAIRS OF THE CITY





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MAYORS

City incorporated by Act of Legislature, Approved March 24, 1893. First organization of city government, May 3, 1893

*Charles A. Busiel	1893-94
*Samuel B. Smith	1895-96
*Charles L. Pulsifer	1897-98
*Edmund Tetley	1899-00
*Jared A. Greene	1901-02
*Woodbury L. Melcher	1903-04
*Benjamin F. Drake	1905-06
William F. Knight	1907-08
*Alfred C. Wyatt	1909-10
*George H. Saltmarsh	1911-12
*George B. Cox	1913-14
George P. Munacy	1915-16
Clarence E. Rowe	1917-18
*John A. Mitchell	1919-20
Lewis H. Wilkinson	1921-22
Charles H. Perkins	1923-24
*George E. Stevens	1925-26
Charles J. Hayford	1927-28
Charles O. Hopkins	1929
*Charles E. Carroll	1930-31-32-33-34-36
Walter E. Dunlap	1935
Edward J. Gallagher	1937-38
Robinson W. Smith	1939-40-41-42-43-44
Malcolm E. Barney	1945-46

^{*}Deceased





Hon: Malcolm E. Barney Mayor

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE

HON, MALCOLM E. BARNEY

Members of the Council and Visiting Officials:

I believe it is fitting and proper at this time that we all rise for a moment and pay silent tribute to the Laconia men and women of the armed services who have given their all and also to our citizens who have been called to the great beyond.

It is indeed a great honor to be elected Mayor of our beautiful city. The fact that I was nominated by both Republicans and Democrats is very gratifying and I shall do my best to prove that your confidence was not misplaced,

When I think of the mon who have held this office since 1893, I feel humble indeed and realize that only by hard work, careful deliberation, and good council will this administration be able to take its place among the effective administrations of the preceding years.

CITY FINANCES

Our city's finances are in a very sound condition and the serial debt at this time is less than one per cent of the total valuation. This new administration starts the fiscal year of 1945 with nearly as large a balance as the outgoing administration had starting the year of 1944.

Improvements

On March 23, 1937, Edward J. Gallagher, in his inaugural address, spoke of Lake Winnisquam pollution. At that time it seemed probable that the National Water Resources Board might at his request include this Pollution Project in their program.

That was eight years ago, however, and Laconia has grown steadily. The pollution has increased correspondingly and I believe this is one of our immediate problems. Public rest rooms are another necessity which will have to be considered in the near future.

A new fire station, new lockup, public auditorium and several other needed improvements will probably have to await the advent of a new City Hall. The parking situation in Laconia is acute and will become more so every year. This problem requires a careful study and I shall appoint a committee within the next few weeks for this purpose.

Nearly everyone wants improvements but we must all realize that improvements mean either a higher tax rate, a bond issue or both.

Departments

During my four years in the council I felt the various City Departments were all endeavoring to give the city of Laconia their best efforts.

I think the Street Department is to be congratulated for their fine work this winter under trying conditions. There is no doubt the purchase of the snow loader was a great step forward in this department's equipment and I believe that to keep up with the advance of the times it is necessary to buy more new equipment for this department and this I recommend. Other changes will be made in equipment and personnel in the several city dedepartments.

Schools

Our schools rank very well compared with the other cities of New Hampshire. We have two men comparatively new to our schools: Headmaster Willis B. Gifford and Superintendent Rhoden B. Exidy. Both of these men should be highly commended for their work.

You will probably see some expansions and improvements in our schools in the near future.

The locker shower situation which was brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council a year ago should be remedied at once if for sanitary reasons alone, and I recommend this work be started immediately.

Parks

We have in Laconia three Park-Playground combinations which are being developed progressively each year. These three are: Opechee Park, Leavitt Park and Wyatt Park.

I believe Pearl Street grounds also have great possibilities and recommend their development.

The Weirs plays a very important part in our summer business and its development should be carefully studied and improvements made.

Alport

We have a fine two-strip airport ready to use and have at present two schools for student filers located there. Namely, the Bugbee Flying Service and Skyhaven, Inc., both of whom are doing a fine job and are very progressive in the interests of aviation.

This airport has cost the City of Laconia less than \$9,000; but the cost of building was approximately half a million, financed almost entirely by Federal funds.

The Airport policies and finances are handled by an Airport Authority composed of five men, all of whom are vitally interested in the future of aviation and who fully believe that the future of our whole region depends on the development of successful airlines to or through Laconia using our airport.

War

The war with Germany is apparently nearly over and I hope when the day arrives the observance of the Victory will be tempered with the thoughts of the many men and women who have paid the supreme sacrifice for our security.

I hope all churches will be open and services will be held during the entire day.