

Town of
MARSHFIELD
VERMONT

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TOWN OFFICERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31
2019



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TOWN OFFICERS

Moderator Michael Caccavo

Town Clerk & Treasurer Bobbi Brimblecombe

Selectpersons

Term Expires 2020 Rich Baker
Term Expires 2021 Christopher Martin
Term Expires 2022 Laurie Colgan

School Directors

Term Expires 2020 (appointed) Erin Barry
Term Expires 2020 (appointed) Manny Sainz
Term Expires 2020 Patrick Healy

Auditors

Term Expires 2020 Thomas Maclay
Term Expires 2021 Audrey Huntington
Term Expires 2022 Doris Dufresne

Listers

Term Expires 2020 Kathleen Hayes
Term Expires 2021 Meg Eberhardt
Term Expires 2022 Michele Gonzales

Collector of Delinquent Taxes Bobbi Brimblecombe

First Constable Shawn Codling

Second Constable James Arisman

Budget Committee

Term Expires 2020 Thomas Maclay
Term Expires 2021 Betsy Brigham
Term Expires 2022 Doris Dufresne
Term Expires 2023 Deanna Martin
Term Expires 2024 Michael Caccavo

Library Trustees

Term Expires 2020 vacant
Term Expires 2021 Cathy Chodorkoff
Term Expires 2021 vacant
Term Expires 2022 Anne Reed
Term Expires 2022 Sonia Carrasco

Town Juror Michael Caccavo

Town Agent Michael Caccavo

Cemetery Trustees Board of Selectpersons

Justices of the Peace (Elected at General Election)

James Arisman, Christopher Bellamy, Lawrence Black, Lois Burnham, Ellen Halperin, Judy Henkin, Mary Leahy

Appointed by Selectpersons

Planning Commission*

Term Expires 2020 vacant
Term Expires 2020 Aaron Ingham
Term Expires 2021 Robin Schunk
Term Expires 2022 Jonathan Williams
Term Expires 2022 vacant

* The Town Selectpersons and Village Trustees are Ex-officio members.

Development Review Board

Term Expires 2020 Gary Leach
Term Expires 2021 James Arisman
Term Expires 2021 Jenny Warshow
Term Expires 2022 Jon Groveman
Term Expires 2022 Les Snow

Zoning Administrator (Term expires 4/15/2022) Mitch Osiecki

Representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Term expires May 2020 Robin Schunk

Representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Transportation Advisory Committee Robin Schunk

Representative to Northeast Kingdom Waste Mgmt District vacant

Conservation Commission

Term expires 2020 Sarah Norton
Term expires 2020 Rachel Rudi
Term expires 2021 Allen Banbury
Term expires 2021 Steve Fiske
Term expires 2021 Bob Popp
Term expires 2022 Anne Miller
Term expires 2022 Taber Allison
Term expires 2023 Anne Reed
Term expires 2023 Ed Jalbert

Energy and Climate Change Committee

Amanda Carlson, Wes Cate, Anne Miller, Nick Seifert, Rebecca Wigg

Stranahan Stewardship Committee

- Term expires 2021 Brett Engstrom
- Term expires 2021 Michael Sabourin
- Term expires 2021 Jenny Warshow
- Term expires 2022 Ellen Cooke
- Term expires 2022 Sarah Fowler
- Term expires 2022 Sarah Galbraith
- Term expires 2022 Rich Phillips

Recreation Committee

Drew McNaughton, Pam Quinn, Brad Washburn

Fire Chief Will Schwarz

Fire Warden (Term expires 6/30/2020)..... Thomas Maclay

Health Officer (Term expires 06/30/2022)..... James Arisman

Cemetery Sexton Joe Mangan

Pound Keeper Cheryl McQueeney (dogs), CVHS (cats)

Dog Officer Kathleen Hayes

Fence Viewers

Chris Bellamy, Dennis Ducharme, Richard Phillips

Tree Warden Ronald Smith

Inspector of Lumber, Shingles & Wood Dennis Ducharme

Weigher of Coal Albert St. Cyr

Assistant Town Clerk Winnie Valenza
(Appointed by the Town Clerk)

Road Foreman Timothy Ksepka

Road Crew Shane Brickey
Scott Ciampi

Village Clerk Meg Eberhardt

Village Trustees

Justin Campbell, Ian Covey, Nancy Davila-Groveman, Josh Reil, Rebecca Wigg

TOWN MEETING 2019

Moderator Michael Caccavo opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at Twinfield Union School. During the course of the open meeting, 121 out of 1141 voters checked in. The rules were waived by unanimous consent and several non-residents were allowed to speak. Representative Janet Ancel spoke about the issues that the legislature is working on. Senator Andrew Perchlik spoke about his work on the education and transportation committees, including advocating for lead testing in schools, and work on Act 46, school consolidation. He is also advocating for fixing up Route 2. Representative Ancel and Senator Perchlik read a resolution honoring Thomas Maclay for his many years of service to the Town, on the Fire Department and as an Auditor and Town Moderator, and to the State, including the dry hydrant program. Tom spoke about how satisfying it has been to serve his community, and he urged those present to volunteer for the Town. Jon Copans from the Vermont Council on Rural Development spoke about the Climate Economy Model Communities Program. Two communities are chosen each year, and Marshfield and Plainfield submitted a joint application and have been chosen as one of the communities. The Council will work with the communities on grass roots programs to improve the local economy in a time of climate change. He commended our strong track record combatting climate change.

Moderator Caccavo led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance, and then read announcements. He reviewed the rules governing town meeting.

Article 1. To elect the following Town Officers:

Moderator	1 year	<i>Michael Caccavo</i>
Town Clerk	1 year	<i>Bobbi Brimblecombe</i>
Town Treasurer	1 year	<i>Bobbi Brimblecombe</i>

Selectperson 3 years

Aaron Ingham nominated Jonathan Williams. Merv Spooner nominated Laurie Colgan. Jonathan declined the nomination, in favor of his role on the Planning Commission. Jim Barlow moved to have the clerk cast one ballot for Laurie Colgan. Tom Maclay seconded – all in favor.

Laurie Colgan

Auditor 3 years

Doris Dufresne was nominated. Tom Maclay moved to have the clerk cast one ballot for Doris Dufresne. Tim Maclay seconded – all in favor.

Doris Dufresne

Lister 3 years ***Michele Gonzales***

Collector of Delinquent Taxes 1 year ***Bobbi Brimblecombe***

First Constable 1 year ***Shawn Codling***

Second Constable 1 year ***James Arisman***

Town Juror 1 year ***Michael Caccavo***

Town Agent 1 year ***Michael Caccavo***

Budget Committee Member 5 years ***Michael Caccavo***

Library Trustee 3 years ***Sonia Carrasco***

Library Trustee 3 years ***Anne Reed***

Article 2. To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

School Director 3 years

Chris Martin nominated James Barlow. Erin Barry nominated herself. Each candidate spoke. Voters cast paper ballots:

James Barlow	67
Erin Barry	34
Blank	<u>1</u>
Votes cast	102

James Barlow

Article 3. To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

Chris Martin acknowledged Bob Light's 24 years of service to the Town as Zoning Administrator. The Fire Department gave service awards to Jacob Gouge, 10 years, Darrell Burkhalter, 30 years, and Timothy Morris, 30 years.

Article 4. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$1,105,147 as the Selectboard Budget. Said amount made up as follows: \$735,458 to be raised in taxes; \$288,068 from other income; and \$81,621 previous year surplus to be applied. Said budget amount to be allocated as follows:

- \$280,578 for the payment of indebtedness and general expenses (\$155,138 from taxes and surplus, and \$125,440 from other income);
- \$649,023 for the support of highways and bridges (\$552,526 from taxes and surplus, and \$96,497 from other income);
- \$69,082 in support of the Marshfield Fire Department (all from taxes and surplus);
- \$46,100 in support of Emergency Services;
- \$15,230 in support of the Planning and Zoning Department (\$12,735 from taxes and surplus, \$2,495 from permit fees);
- \$1,900 in support of the Marshfield Recreation Committee (all from taxes and surplus);
- \$43,234 in support of the Old Schoolhouse Common (\$33,167 from building lease/rentals and other

income, \$30,469 allocated from other town departments, \$20,402 used to lower taxes).

Allen Banbury moved the article as printed. Tim Maclay seconded – all in favor. Adam Davis asked how this budget compares to last year. Bobbi explained that the budget for expenses is up 0.3% but the surplus from the prior year is lower than last year, so taxes will increase more than the 0.3%. Diana Batzel asked the Board to explain the emergency services. Chris Martin explained that we changed from Cabot Ambulance to the East Montpelier Ambulance Service. The East Montpelier service is not completely volunteer, so the difference is noticeable. The Board decided to put the ambulance service in the Selectboard budget, rather than voting it as a separate article. Last year, we funded Cabot and the Plainfield Fast Squad for a full year and East Montpelier for 6 months. This year we included East Montpelier and the Plainfield Fast Squad for the full year. Chris noted that Cabot did not request funds this year, and we are not aware what their plans are.

All in favor.

Article 5. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$78,954 in support of the Jaquith Public Library.

Tim Maclay moved to accept the article as printed. Barbara Bendix seconded. A voter asked to hear from Library Director Susan Green. Susan thanked voters for all of the support that the library has been given in the past. She stated that programs and circulation are up, and the appropriations request is down a little due to a surplus. Lawrence Black suggested that in the future if we have a surplus, it should be spent on books. Sarah Norton thanked the library for all of the wonderful programs. Laurie Martin asked if the library borrows books from either the Twinfield or Plainfield libraries. Susan explained that they can borrow books from anywhere through the interlibrary loan program. She explained that you can also use Libby or Listen Up Vermont to get e-books on a variety of devices, and patrons should call the library if they want more information.

All in favor.

Article 6. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$6,455 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society.

Merv Spooner moved to accept this article as printed. Tim Maclay seconded. Laurie asked what the money is used for. (Rent). Will Schwarz asked who is in charge of the Society. Bobbi explained that Jenny Warshow is the President but she is out of town and not able to come to the meeting. Judith Henkin asked what the activities are. Tracy Hambleton explained that they hold quarterly events, and have displays in the Hap Hayward Center. They will be working to digitize their collection in the coming year.

All in favor.

Article 7. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$14,000 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries.

Merv Spooner moved to accept this article as printed. Tim Maclay seconded. Lucy Blue asked if there has been any consideration of green burials. Chris Martin stated that no one has approached the Selectboard about it. Marilyn Davis explained that you can get a biodegradable urn, so that you are not putting wood or metal into the ground. Adam Davis asked whether this amount covers the cost of repairing broken gravestones. Chris Martin explained that the Board has been using funds from the cemetery account for maintenance, and the appropriation has only covered the mowing. Jonathan Williams explained that the Vermont Old Cemeteries Association has grant money available for some work. Chris admitted that the Selectboard struggles with how much to spend each year on the cemeteries. Betsy Brigham suggested that the Board should do an inventory of all of the work that needs to be done in each cemetery, and make it public, so that perhaps volunteers can do some of it. Chris explained that the Cemetery Sexton gives the Selectboard a list every year. One of the jobs that could be done by volunteers is painting the cemetery fence. It's not a difficult job, but would be expensive if we had to pay someone to do it. Laurie Martin asked whether volunteers would be covered by the Town's insurance. Bobbi will check.

All in favor.

Article 8. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,333 as its share of the cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

Tim Maclay moved to accept this article as printed. Tom Maclay seconded. Merv Spooner stated that he has used the bus. Lani Seifert asked if we know how many riders there are from Marshfield. Steve Fiske stated that he rides, and there are 3-4 people on the 6:00 and 8:15 buses, and the 6:45 bus is full, around 20 people. Pam Quinn stated that they are a one-car family because of the bus. Betsy Brigham stated that students are able to take part in after-school activities because of the bus. Nancy Davila-Groverman feels that with climate change, here is one way that we can reduce our carbon footprint. She wishes there was service on the weekends. Joyce Cusimano has been riding for a few years, and she has seen ridership increase; she noted that they now have a bigger bus.

All in favor.

Article 9. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$13,207 to be allocated as follows:

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 575
Central VT Council on Aging	\$ 1,400
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	\$ 3,200
Circle fka Battered Women's Services	\$ 350
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 300
Friends of the Winooski	\$ 300
Good Beginnings	\$ 300
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 882
Home Share Now	\$ 200
Onion River Food Shelf	\$ 1,000
Our House	\$ 100
Peoples Health and Wellness	\$ 400
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$ 100
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 3,000
Twinfield Learning Center	\$ 200

Twinfield Together Mentoring Program	\$ 250
VT Association of Conservation Districts	\$ 100
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 150
VT Center for Independent Living	\$ 150
Washington County Youth Services Bureau	<u>\$ 250</u>
Total	\$13,207

Tim Maclay moved to accept the article as printed. Merv Spooner seconded. Nancy Davila-Groverman asked who makes the decision about what to put on the warning for this article. Mike Caccavo explained that the requests are submitted to and reviewed by the Budget Committee. Central Vermont Adult Basic Education did not submit a request to the Committee this year, but did a petition instead. The Selectboard chose to include them in this article, rather than doing a separate article. Doug LaPoint noted that there are organizations that received money last year but not this year. Mike stated that those organizations did not submit a request this year. Beth Stern explained that sometimes non-profits have other funding sources, and sometimes they decide that the amount of work required to get on the warning is not worth the amount that they would receive. She spoke about the programs provided by the Central Vermont Council on Aging, and stated that they need volunteers to serve as senior companions. Laurie Martin asked whether we know if the townspeople are using the services. Mike explained that the Committee asks for that information. Some organizations tell them the number of residents, and others just confirm that the services are being utilized.

All in favor.

- Article 10.**
- a. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes;
 - b. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to spend unanticipated funds such as grants and gifts;
 - c. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide funds for the amounts previously voted;

- d. To see if the Town will vote to have the Town taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, August 16, 2019, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers; and
- e. To see if the Town will vote to have the School taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, November 15, 2019, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers.

Merv Spooner moved to accept this article as printed. Tim Maclay seconded. Marilyn Davis pointed out that August 16th is Bennington Battle Day. Bobbi stated that the Town Office will be open that day.

All in favor.

Article 11. To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Tamara McKee would like to request a speed study for Route 2 in Marshfield Village. She would like to see more signs. Wes Gate suggested that radar signs would be more effective, and they work in Plainfield. Jonathan Williams explained that the Town applied to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) for a grant for a Complete Streets assessment, to include the siting of radar signs. He noted that there was a speed study on Route 215, the Cabot Road, which showed that 90% of cars are exceeding the speed limit. He feels that we should apply for grants for traffic calming and signs. He noted that striping on the Cabot Road was done this year, and this gives the impression of a narrower road and should cue people to slow down.

Dan Chodorkoff stated that Route 2 is a mess, and he wonders if there is anything that we can do. Chris stated that Andy Perchlik spoke about it at the beginning of the meeting and will push to get it fixed. He noted that we don't have a representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) so we have no voice. The TAC advises CVRPC on transportation projects. He feels that having a stronger voice might be able to move our projects higher

on the priority list. Laurie Martin noted that speeding is a problem on back roads too, not just on the main roads.

Rich Phillips stated that we have been doing projects to lower our carbon footprint. He noted that Congress hasn't accomplished anything at the federal level. Things have moved slightly at the state level but individual change is needed to solve this issue. He urged people not to point to others but make the changes yourselves. He noted that the Model Communities program will help us figure out what else we can do.

Rich feels that we need more people to participate in town meeting. He noted that last year, we talked about having a committee to improve attendance. He feels the Selectboard needs to appoint a committee. Lucy Blue feels that we should hold town meeting on a different date than Plainfield, so that people on the Plainfield end of town can go to both meetings.

Fred Wilber noted that the Martin Covered Bridge and the Orton Barn are symbols of our town. He noted that the barn has started to fall down, and that is a concern.

Betsy Brigham noted that last year, we had the same discussion about attendance, and had a vote to recommend putting it on the warning. She wants to know what happened. Chris Martin stated that it just fell through the cracks. Nancy Davila-Groverman suggested reaching out to youth. She noted that there were not a lot of young people at town meeting, and we need to get them interested in governance.

Adam Davis explained that he avoids driving on Route 7 because of the speed traps. He worries that if we create an overly enforced speed zone, people might avoid Marshfield and seek an alternate route. Allen Banbury asked if the electronic radar signs are expensive. He is also concerned about noise and jake brakes. He asked if there will be signs posted related to jake brakes. Chris explained that the last quote we had for radar signs was approximately \$8,000 each, and he doesn't know how much maintenance they require. He explained that we would need the state's permission to locate them on Route 2. He also explained

that we don't have a noise ordinance yet, but one has been proposed by the Planning Commission.

Bill Bound asked how we regulate overweight trucks on town roads, because the culvert on Lower Depot Road is getting crushed. Chris explained that they are supposed to get an overweight permit. Bobbi stated that the logger that she has seen coming down Lower Depot Road does not have an overweight permit, but if Bill can get the name of the company, we can follow up with the state. Susan Green is concerned that there is a corporation operating on Depot Hill, referring to the sugaring operation. She stated that the logging and jake brakes are coming from there. She noted that this operation is bigger than anything Marshfield has experienced before. She acknowledged that the town does not have jurisdiction, and they do not need permission for anything they are doing because it falls under agriculture. She is fearful that the operation could get even larger. They are going to sugar 5,000 acres. She stated that the activity is very loud and invasive, and not what people knew when they moved here. Mary Leahy has seen the impact of that company on the area. She noted that when there is no chance at town meeting to effect the kind of change that people really want to see, it discourages people from attending. Bobbi urged people to research and follow bill S.106, which proposes a pilot project to allow self-governance in 10 Vermont towns. Nancy Davila-Groverman asked whether there is any teeth to the enforcement of overweight permits. Chris explained that the Agency of Transportation has an enforcement division but we have had varying success getting them to come.

Justin Campbell spoke regarding attendance. He noted that the Village of Marshfield has had some issues that brought people out to participate. He noted that every board has vacancies. He feels that self-governance is about showing up and taking part in meetings all year long, not just town meeting.

Pam Quinn asked who is in charge of town projects, noting that many people do not know where to go if they are interested in something. Chris Martin suggested that they should come to the Selectboard. Beth Stern asked whether the Selectboard is going to do a study about town meeting this year, since it was dropped last year. Laurie Colgan explained that the person who had originally

volunteered to head the committee has since moved away. Merv Spooner stated that the Town tried moving the meeting to Saturday once but it did not work.

Jim Barlow stated that there is a lot of speeding on the Beaver Meadow Road, and it is not just kids. He would like people to remember that when you are driving, you are driving by your neighbors. He wants to encourage better behavior.

Kathleen Hayes asked whether we need another motion. Mike explained that we don't need one, since this is advisory only, but it would be acceptable to make one. Kathleen moved that there shall be an article on next year's Warning offering options for the voters to select a date and time for Town meeting 2021 – Saturday, Sunday or Monday evening prior to town meeting day, or the traditional Tuesday morning, and to research ways to generate more interest in town meeting, particularly among young people.

Laurie Martin thanked people who volunteer, and town employees. She noted that attendance is down everywhere, including school sporting events. Pat Mayhew feels that in this time of alienation, town meeting is worthwhile so that we can talk to each other and this is important.

Wes Cate explained that he grew up in Hartford, VT, and he started going to town meeting at the age of 6. He wonders why Twinfield students are not here. Bobbi explained that when her daughter was in junior high, they did a unit on federal government, but when she offered to help them learn about local government, the teacher stated that they did not have time.

Bobbi noted that other towns have changed the date of town meeting, and their participation has not increased. Mike Caccavo concurred – at the moderator's workshop, he has learned that different dates mean a different mix of people, but not more people.

Rich Phillips noted that if all positions are filled, we have 110 volunteers. They will be recognized at a breakfast in the spring. He suggests signing people up for committees while they are at town meeting.

Rebecca Allen stated that this is her first time attending town meeting, because it is the first time she has had the day off from work.

Rich Baker noted that the problem with voting at town meeting to change the date of town meeting is that the people who will be voting on the change are the people who can be here on a Tuesday.

Joyce Cusimano suggested that the problem could be transportation, particularly for elderly people.

Betsy Brigham asked if we could do an Australian Ballot vote to ask about changing town meeting. Bobbi explained that we can only decide public questions at an open meeting, unless we change to Australian Ballot for all public questions. She suggested doing a survey.

Dan Chodorkoff stated that this is the first time town meeting has ever ended this early, and a typical meeting lasts longer. An evening meeting would end far too late.

Jim Barlow envisions a day-long celebration of all things Marshfield, ending with town meeting.

The motion carried (not unanimous).

Graham Unangst-Rufenacht works in the state house. He noted that Act 250 revisions are currently being debated in the House Natural Resources Committee, and people can go and testify. He noted that participation is down everywhere. He feels like there could be a coordinated effort to make Town Meeting Day a state holiday, but he acknowledged that it wouldn't help people who wouldn't be able to give up a day's pay.

Mike Caccavo noted that he drove here by himself, as did many other people, and he encouraged everyone to offer a ride next year on Front Porch Forum. He likes to contrast Marshfield with Barre where his Secretary lives. She is very envious of our town government. Our Selectboard sits here at the meeting and faces the voters, while in Barre the budget goes up 5% a year and the City Council discourages participation. He feels that our

Selectboard is very responsive because they have to answer to the voters in person.

At 12:08, Rich Phillips moved to adjourn. Tim Maclay seconded – all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe
Town Clerk

Marshfield, Vermont, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on March 5, 2019.

Attest, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The Marshfield Budget Committee met on December 17th to review draft budgets from the Selectboard and the Jaquith Public Library, and to review & discuss requests for support from non-profit organizations. Based on our review of budget drafts, the budget committee recommends that the Library reduce their request to no more than \$83,000. The Committee discussed the town budget with the Selectboard but the budget was not complete at the time of the meeting.

The Budget Committee receives requests from many non-profit organizations that provide service to citizens of Marshfield. Requests are submitted prior to our annual meeting, and must include the organization's impact on Marshfield (description of the service provided and number of residents served) plus a current budget. Representatives are invited to attend our meeting to provide additional information and respond to questions from the Budget Committee. In deciding how to allocate funds, committee members consider the impact of services on residents, the uniqueness of services provided, and prior years' allocations. While recognizing the importance of municipal support to the sustainability of these non-profits, we strive to support the vital services they provide and at the same time minimize budget increases from year to year. We recommend supporting these:

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	575
Central Vt Council on Aging	1,400
Central Vermont Home Health	3,200
Circle fka Battered Women's Svc	350
Family Center of Washington Cty	300
Friends of the Winooski	300
Green Mountain Transit	882
Green Up Vermont	100
Onion River Food Shelf	1,100
Our House	100
People's Health & Wellness	300
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	100
Twin Valley Seniors	3,000
Twinfield Mentoring Program	250
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually	150
Vt Ctr for Independent Living	150
VT Rural Protection Task Force	100
Washington County Mental Health	800
Washington Cty Youth Serv Bureau	250

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Betsy Brigham, Doris Dufresne, Thomas Maclay
(Michael Caccavo and Deanna Martin absent)

2019 AUDITORS' REPORT

As directed by 24 VSA §1681, the Auditors have examined the financial records of the Town and the supporting data. We believe that all records and accounts contained herein are a true and accurate account of the Town's financial affairs.

State Law 24 VSA §1684 requires that the Auditors publish a statement showing the condition of the Town's indebtedness, trust funds, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit. A list of these follows:

- Assets -

	Interest Rate	Balance
Cash on Hand		258.58
General Fund - Sweep Account	1.82%	572,402.15
Union Bank Money Market		11.78
Union Bank Insured Cash Sweep	2.14%	362,489.26
Fire Dept. Investments	3.06% - 3.2%	13,155.00
A/R Delinquent Taxes	12.00%	100,831.71

- Indebtedness -

	Interest Rate	Balance
Truck Loan – 2016	1.45%	22,000.00
Truck Loan – 2018	2.00%	45,000.00
Loader Loan - 2018	2.00%	88,000.00

The investments of the Cemetery Fund and Jaquith Library appear with their reports.

The Auditors wish to thank Bobbi and Winnie for their cooperation in helping us audit the town records.

BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2019

	<u>General</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
- Assets -			
Cash on Hand	258.58		258.58
Sweep Account		572,402.15	572,402.15
Insured Cash Sweep	262,629.81	99,859.45	362,489.26
Money Market	11.78		11.78
Fire Dept Invest Account		13,155.00	13,155.00
Credit with GMP	0.13		0.13
Delinquent Taxes	100,831.71		100,831.71
Reserve for Del Taxes	(100,831.71)		(100,831.71)
Hollister Hill Apts Mortgage		326,500.00	326,500.00
Total Assets	262,900.30	1,011,916.60	1,274,816.90
- Liabilities -			
Damage Deposit	1,296.54		1,296.54
Performance Bond	500.00		500.00
Prepayments	6,775.73		6,775.73
Education Tax Owed	135,881.94		135,881.94
Cemetery Funds in Bank Acct	21,424.78		21,424.78
Payroll Liabilities	35.13		35.13
Loader Loan		88,000.00	88,000.00
2016 Truck Loan		22,000.00	22,000.00
2018 Truck Loan		45,000.00	45,000.00
Total Liabilities	165,914.12	155,000.00	320,914.12
- Fund Balances -			
Fund Balances, 12/31/18	107,509.65	718,922.98	826,432.63
2018 Surplus Applied to Taxes	(81,620.61)		(81,620.61)
2019 Surplus/(Deficit)	71,097.14	137,993.62	209,090.76
Fund Balances, 12/31/19	96,986.18	856,916.60	953,902.78
Liabilities + Fund Balance	262,900.30	1,011,916.60	1,274,816.90

TOWN ASSETS

Property:		Cost
Mears property	37 acres	7,500
Old Town forest	50 acres	195
Gravel pit	4 acres	1,000
Railroad depot	8.1 acres	2,000
Thorndike property/Martin Covered Bridge Park	70 acres & bridge	1,321
Anderson lot	1.05 acres	1,455
Virginia Stranahan Town Forest	619.6 acres	0
Town garage		41,000
Salt Shed		51,722
Old village school lot & bldg	3 acres	1
Fire station and land	2.20 acres	81,000
Total Property		187,195

Equipment - major:		
2011 Ford pickup		39,604
2015 International dumptruck		112,448
2016 International dumptruck		134,767
2018 International dumptruck		101,730
2007 Challenger tractor & mower		70,000
2013 John Deere grader		188,000
2018 Komatsu loader		140,238
2004 John Deere excavator		66,977
Trailer for excavator		8,170
Pressure washer & trailer		7,745
Generator		1,299
2011 chipper		17,900
Sander		4,045
York rake (2009)		5,195
Tools		9,979
Solar Panels at Old Schoolhouse		63,448
Generator at Old Schoolhouse Common		10,052
Roller shelves (6)		3,100
Computers and printers		12,458
Office equipment		15,615
Office furniture		840
Air conditioners (2)		987
Total Equipment		1,014,597

TOWN ASSETS

	<u>Cost</u>
Fire Station Improvements	
Security System	9,377
Air Vacuum System	15,912
Sprinkler System	15,577
Total Fire Station Improvements	40,866
Fire Station Equipment	
Standby generator	14,369
Communications equipment	25,010
Computers	4,162
Uniform washer	3,795
1937 Chev. Amer. LaFrance pumper	4,353
1991 Ford L-8000 pumper	99,168
1996 Ford LN 8000 tanker	83,531
Total Fire Station Equipment	234,388
TOTAL	1,477,045

SELECTBOARD REPORT

The selectboard had a busy year in 2019 with several long meetings and some additional meetings had to be scheduled to keep up with town business, presentations and requests. As we look back on the year, the focus was mostly on the support and improvement of our infrastructure.

Our road crew, Road Foreman Tim Ksepka, Scott Ciampi, and Shane Brickey worked diligently to improve the drainage and erosion control on several segments of our roads including Taylor Farm Road and Brook Road. The State program, Municipal Roads General Permit required by Act 64, is mandated for all towns and is intended to achieve significant reductions in stormwater-related erosion from municipal roads, both paved and unpaved. Municipalities are required to inventory all of their roads and to develop and implement a customized, multi-year plan to stabilize the road drainage system up to new Vermont Road and Bridge Standards established by the Departments of Transportation and Environmental Conservation, as well as to make any additional corrective measures to reduce erosion as necessary to the water quality restoration efforts. This includes required work on ditches, culverts, crowning of roads, and bank stabilization. As part of this plan, our town is required to pay the State an annual permit fee of \$1350, which follows an initial permit application review fee of \$640. Needless to say, the additional cost of labor and materials is significant, and the permit requires the road crew to prioritize the mandated work over other projects throughout the town.

One of the items included in the highway budget request for 2020 is a 50% of the cost of a hydro-seeder that will be used following drainage improvements to help ensure the embankments are well seeded and mulched to improve growth of vegetation for bank stabilization. We want to make sure that work done is not washed away by the heavier than normal rainstorms we have been experiencing of late. The remaining 50% will be budgeted for 2021. Grants-in-Aid opportunities are carefully monitored by our highway team to enable us to take advantage of additional financial support whenever possible.

Our team of Listers created a draft RFP for an anticipated Town-wide reappraisal to be conducted in the next few years. The document was reviewed and distributed by the board in December. The RFP process, training and work take a considerable amount of time so we won't expect the work to commence for at least a couple of years. Our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) has been below 90% for the past few years. The Common Level of Appraisal is the state's method of ensuring that the town pays its fair share of education property tax. The State requires towns with a CLA below 85% or above 115% to conduct a reappraisal. Our number was at 89.58 percent for 2020. A lower CLA occurs when the property sale prices over a three-year period are higher than the Listers' appraised value of property.

We have tried to maintain a cost-effective and reasonable budget in spite of factors that feel out of our control. We are presenting a Selectboard budget to you for the operations of the town offices, fire and highway departments, emergency services, zoning and planning, recreation committee and the Old School House Common with an increase of \$51,741 in spending, or 4.68%. Due to a lower carryover from the prior year, we will need to raise an extra \$62,059 in taxes. If all articles are approved, the increase in taxes will be \$70,532. This will result in a tax increase of 8.24% if the grand list remains unchanged. Over the last several years, the Town's grand list has not increased at the same rate as necessary expenses.

NET BUDGET AND ESTIMATED TAX RATE

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Administration	158,480	148,929	150,927	144,461	150,085	165,755	155,138	150,916
Highways	505,636	520,748	515,435	516,663	502,374	537,019	552,526	599,711
Natural Disasters	1,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Department	58,142	58,037	63,548	63,548	63,647	67,832	69,082	72,119
EMS	14,000	20,500	20,500	20,500	20,500	43,500	46,100	47,318
Planning & Zoning	18,202	18,534	16,347	19,445	19,642	15,336	12,735	7,738
Recreation	3,140	2,790	3,950	2,250	2,250	1,900	1,900	1,900
Buildings & Grounds	14,826	17,609	5,933	5,209	-4,472	-16,797	-20,402	-11,087
Total Selectboard Budget	773,627	787,147	776,640	772,076	754,026	814,545	817,079	868,615
Less Disaster Funds	-22,473	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Selectboard Budget	751,154	787,147	776,640	772,076	754,026	814,545	817,079	868,615
Less Surplus/Plus Deficit	-135,661	-95,863	-112,909	-107,861	-109,847	-122,967	-81,621	-71,097
Total Tax, Selectboard Budget	615,492	691,283	663,731	664,215	644,179	691,578	735,458	797,518
Jaquith Library	65,383	75,000	74,850	76,822	79,850	80,713	78,954	82,727
Historical Society	4,375	5,501	8,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455
History Center	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cemeteries	6,500	8,000	8,500	8,500	8,600	8,600	14,000	10,500
Other Appropriations and Bus	18,315	18,915	19,915	20,415	21,165	21,615	21,540	29,740
Total Taxes to be Raised	710,065	803,699	775,451	776,407	760,249	808,961	856,407	926,940
Tax Rate	0.6096	0.6813	0.6567	0.6508	0.6341	0.6710	0.7089	0.7681 *

*estimate

TAXES NEEDED FOR INDIVIDUAL WARNING ARTICLES

	Taxes Needed	Effect on Tax Rate	Taxes for \$100,000 Property	Taxes for \$150,000 Property	Taxes for \$200,000 Property
Article 4	Selectboard Budget *	0.6608	\$ 660.80	\$ 991.20	\$ 1,321.60
Article 5	Jaquith Library	0.0685	\$ 68.55	\$ 102.82	\$ 137.09
Article 6	Historical Society	0.0053	\$ 5.35	\$ 8.02	\$ 10.70
Article 7	Cemeteries	0.0087	\$ 8.70	\$ 13.05	\$ 17.40
Article 8	Commuter Bus	0.0069	\$ 6.90	\$ 10.36	\$ 13.81
	Radar Speed Signs	0.0066	\$ 6.63	\$ 9.94	\$ 13.26
Article 9	Other Appropriations	0.0111	\$ 11.11	\$ 16.66	\$ 22.22
	Total	0.7681	\$ 768.04	\$ 1,152.05	\$ 1,536.08
	Every \$10,000 in the budget	0.0083	\$ 8.29	\$ 12.43	\$ 16.57
	For a penny on the tax rate	0.0100	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00

* The Selectboard budget includes Highways, General Government, the Town Office, the Fire Department, Emergency Services, the Old Schoolhouse Common, Employment Taxes and Benefits, and Zoning and Planning. This chart assumes no increase in the grand list.

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

General Fund

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Income				
Previous Year Surplus				
Surplus Non-highway	88,189	22,484	22,484	69,122
Surplus Highway	34,778	59,137	59,137	1,976
Total Surplus	122,967	81,621	81,621	71,097
Selectboard Managed Income				
Property Taxes	804,829	860,407	893,138	931,440
Natural Disasters	6,771	0	0	0
Town Office	13,908	12,790	13,132	13,205
General Government	106,477	106,500	113,858	112,315
Highways	96,996	96,497	103,108	99,297
Buildings & Grounds	56,515	63,636	64,149	56,136
Zoning/Planning	810	2,495	2,600	2,820
Total Selectboard Income	1,086,305	1,142,325	1,189,985	1,215,213
Total Income	1,209,273	1,223,946	1,271,605	1,286,310
Expense				
Selectboard Managed Expenses				
Natural Disasters	550			
Town Office	108,453	117,267	111,520	119,599
General Government	50,215	51,508	45,976	52,718
Highways	574,878	649,023	653,658	699,008
Buildings & Grounds	43,266	43,234	43,729	45,049
Fire Department	65,746	69,082	63,721	72,119
Emergency Services	43,500	46,100	46,100	47,318
Zoning/Planning	12,566	15,230	8,243	10,558
Recreation	1,497	1,900	1,125	1,900
Employee Benefits/Insurance	109,597	109,653	105,487	108,619
Total Selectboard Expenses	1,010,269	1,102,997	1,079,559	1,156,888
Other Appropriations	95,768	99,409	99,409	107,682
Outside Agencies	21,615	21,540	21,540	21,740
Total Expense	1,127,652	1,223,946	1,200,508	1,286,310
Surplus	81,621		71,097	

PROPERTY TAXES

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Land Use Change Tax	1,160		3,924	
Town Taxes				
Town Taxes Collected	760,165	856,407	789,601	926,940
State Adjustments - Town Tax	5,650		27,025	
Total Town Taxes	765,815	856,407	816,626	926,940
Education Taxes				
Education tax prior year	223 *			
Education Tax Collected	1,602,835		1,671,063	
State Adjustments - School Tax	22,770			
Annual Adjust - Prev Yr Ed Tax	34,423		22,987	
School Tax Administration Fee	4,061		4,083	
Revised Homestead Bill Fees	795		495	
Education Tax Liability	(1,804,882)		(1,813,803)	
Total Education Taxes	(139,774)		(115,176)	
Delinquent Tax Income	171,799		181,262	
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	5,830	4,000	6,502	4,500
	804,829	860,407	893,138	931,440

* due to delays at the VT Tax Department

TAXES ASSESSED – 2019

Taxable Grand List as of the Date of Town Tax Rate Setting: \$120,822,000

Setting the Town Tax Rate:

Amount of Taxes Needed 856,407.39
 Divided by Grand List (in 100ths) 1,208,220.00
 Equals Town Tax Rate 0.7089

Setting the Local Agreement Rate:

Value of Exempt Property@30,000 per veteran 300,000
 Multiplied by Homestead Education Rate 1.9275
 Value of Exempt Property@30,000 per veteran 90,000
 Multiplied by Non-Residential Education Rate 1.7916
 Equals Amount of School Tax to Make Up 7,394.94
 Divided by Grand List Equals Local Rate 0.0061

Total Tax Rate, Homestead Property

Town 0.7089
 Local Agreement 0.0061
 School 1.9275
 Total 2.6425

Total Tax Rate, Non-Residential Property

Town 0.7089
 Local Agreement 0.0061
 School 1.7916
 Total 2.5066

	Homestead Education	Non Residential Education	Late Homestead Filing Penalty	Total School Taxes	Total Taxes
Taxes Billed ¹	1,537,642.53	732,626.98	3,802.64	2,274,072.15	3,137,007.58
Taxes Paid To Treasurer	-789,601.45			-1,671,062.79	-2,460,664.24
State Adjustments	-27,262.38			-463,539.44	-490,801.82
Unpaid as of due date	46,071.60			139,469.92	185,541.52

¹ Reflects changes to the Grand List after the tax rate was set

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Balance Due</u>
2017	334.95	334.95	0.00
2018	96,217.35	96,217.35	0.00
2019	<u>185,541.52</u>	<u>84,709.81</u>	<u>100,831.71</u>
Balance due	282,093.82	181,262.11	100,831.71

COMPARISON OF DELINQUENT TAX ACCOUNTS IN PRIOR YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Taxes Billed During Year</u>	<u>Amount of Taxes Turned Over to Collector</u>	<u>Balance of Delinquent Tax Account Dec. 31</u>
2019	3,137,007.58	185,541.52	100,831.71
2018	3,006,347.87	199,854.59	95,901.68
2017	2,847,544.30	115,057.97	67,845.95
2016	2,801,942.12	148,741.17	81,977.61
2015	2,800,159.48	123,209.64	81,999.59
2014	2,830,897.81	112,371.00	71,213.79
2013	2,591,841.78	124,607.17	63,282.49
2012	2,440,175.38	130,583.26	50,186.68
2011	2,412,330.10	128,344.17	40,804.94
2010	2,416,810.10	128,555.83	52,669.60
2009	2,276,189.13	158,765.64	56,338.54
2008	2,135,705.29	121,715.21	43,113.12
2007	1,940,836.23	112,870.08	104,445.90
2006	1,780,415.91	111,521.09	74,050.39
2005	1,665,353.22	124,952.07	55,491.38
2004	1,621,502.81	111,298.79	48,333.68
2003	1,771,745.16	130,883.32	61,038.67
2002	1,542,907.66	100,234.17	62,778.52
2001	1,463,678.32	108,203.40	66,822.09
2000	1,275,939.37	122,526.25	65,963.94
1999	1,149,456.77	112,632.76	66,014.55
1998	1,166,789.54	93,957.85	68,078.83
1997	1,138,613.48	102,635.59	84,822.26
1996	1,205,525.84	109,367.50	84,162.17

FYI - The delinquent tax collector received \$ 14,565 in fees in 2019.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
General Government Income				
Interest Income	13,162	13,000	14,006	15,815
Current Use Refund	70,451	73,000	74,281	73,000
Vermont Forests & Parks	20,061	18,000	23,799	22,000
Traffic fines	460	500	442	500
Stranahan Town Forest Income	1,644	2,000	2,279	2,000
to Stranahan Fund	(822)	(1,000)	(1,140)	(1,000)
Miscellaneous Income	150	0	75	0
Lister Training Grant	1,370	1,000	116	0
Total General Government Income	<u>106,477</u>	<u>106,500</u>	<u>113,858</u>	<u>112,315</u>
General Government Expenses				
Town Officer Expenses				
Delinquent Tax Collector	13,686	10,500	14,565	11,000
Delinquent Tax Penalty	(13,686)	(10,500)	(14,565)	(11,000)
Lister Wages	10,631	12,000	10,190	12,240
Selectboard Stipend	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Health Officer Stipend	650	500	350	500
First Constable Stipend	125	125	125	125
Second Constable Stipend	125	125	125	125
Fire Warden Stipend	25	25	25	25
Auditors Stipend	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
BCA Stipend	384	250	130	500
Social Security	1,793	1,663	1,786	1,725
Medicare	419	1,324	418	403
Retirement	1,004	781	1,083	839
Mileage	769	500	1,069	1,000
Total Town Officer Expenses	<u>19,226</u>	<u>20,593</u>	<u>18,601</u>	<u>20,782</u>
Lister Services/Supplies	1,620	1,000	612	1,000
Health Officer expense	0	100	0	100
Energy Committee	83	500	334	500
Conservatin Commission	363	300	0	300
County Tax	10,431	11,000	10,709	11,000
Town Officers' Liability Ins.	2,787	2,073	2,073	2,100
General Liability Insurance	875	(2,483)	(2,484)	(3,798)
Employment Practices Ins.	2,173	2,144	2,144	2,259
Interest-Tax Anticipation Note	6,704	8,500	8,019	10,575
Bank Service Charge	78	75	68	75
Legal Services	1,569	2,000	70	2,000
VLCT Dues	2,850	2,926	2,926	3,045

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Solid Waste	0	1,430	1,429	1,430
Traffic Control/Law Enforcement	769	1,000	945	1,000
9-1-1 Signs/Expenses	80	100	54	100
Repeater Station	250	250	250	250
Miscellaneous/Unbudgeted	357	0	227	0
Total General Government Expenses	50,215	51,508	45,976	52,718
Net Income	56,262	54,992	67,882	59,597

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS and INSURANCE

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Employee Expenses				
Employee Recognition	0	0	142	50
Workmen's Compensation	14,486	15,743	15,859	16,391
Unemployment Insurance	350	148	148	672
Health Insurance	93,043	91,012	88,333	89,756
Training	1,718	2,500	1,005	1,500
Benefits Administration	0	250	0	250
Total Employee Expenses	109,597	109,653	105,487	108,619

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT

Vital Records

New vital records laws took effect July 1st. We can now issue a birth or death certificate for a birth or death that happened anywhere in the State, but only to immediate family or legal representatives. Anyone looking for a copy of the record must bring photo ID.

We are no longer printing the lists of births, deaths, and marriages, due to concerns about identity theft. We had 3 marriages, 12 babies were born, and we lost 7 residents in 2019.

Voter Registration

You can register to vote online at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us> or in person at the Town Clerk's Office. You can register to vote at the polls, but I encourage you not to wait until Town Meeting Day because you may have to wait for a break in the open meeting until an election official is available.

My Voter Page

Every voter can access information about their polling hours and locations at <http://mvp.sec.state.us>. This is a great way to request an absentee ballot or notify us of a change of address.

Elections

For the Presidential Primary happening on Town Meeting Day, you will be asked which party's ballot you want, and your choice will be recorded. This is required by the national parties in order for our primary to count. In the August primary for state offices, you will be given all of the ballots and you will make a secret choice and return the other ballots unvoted. This election follows state rather than federal rules.

Tax Payments

We are happy to accept prepayments for property taxes at any time; some taxpayers find it easier to make monthly payments ahead of when the bill comes. We can also debit your bank account on the due date – let us know if you would like to sign up for that program.

School Tax

You will see on the balance sheet that we have set aside money that we will owe the school. The money is due in March, 120 days from our last tax due date. In the past we have always paid the school on December 31st but due to an error at the tax department, the initial cash flow report that we received was not correct. The education department refused to correct the report but recommended that we hold the funds for the full 120 days instead. The report will be corrected in April during the final reconciliation from the state.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Town Office Income				
Office Fees	11,613	10,575	11,028	11,000
Dog Licenses	1,685	1,800	1,634	1,700
Marriage Licenses	100	90	30	70
Liquor Licenses	510	325	440	435
Total Income	<u>13,908</u>	<u>12,790</u>	<u>13,132</u>	<u>13,205</u>
Town Office Expense				
Town Office Staff Expenses				
Clerk/Treasurer	45,125	46,388	46,388	47,316
Assistant	28,401	30,108	29,328	30,710
Additional Wages	42	100	25	100
Social Security	3,969	4,743	4,105	4,838
Medicare	928	1,109	960	1,131
Retirement	5,377	5,395	5,631	5,949
Mileage	515	500	409	500
Total Staff Expenses	<u>84,357</u>	<u>88,343</u>	<u>86,846</u>	<u>90,544</u>
OSC Allocation	11,174	11,174	11,174	11,174
Cleaning Service	625	650	650	650
Postage	1,974	1,500	1,071	1,700
Supplies	2,045	2,000	1,914	2,000
Telephone	1,379	1,400	1,415	1,425
Computer Expense	3,215	7,600	5,256	7,300
Office Equipment	737	1,160	507	1,156
Town Report	2,096	2,100	1,963	2,100
Advertising	161	250	36	250
Printing	0	250	0	250
Elections Expense	570	600	113	750
Alarm System	120	240	574	300
Total Expenses	<u>108,453</u>	<u>117,267</u>	<u>111,520</u>	<u>119,599</u>
Net Cost	94,546	104,477	98,387	106,394

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Highway Department Income				
Grants-In-Aid	9,700	9,200	11,100	12,000
Highway/State Aid	84,999	85,000	85,801	85,000
Curb cut permits	0	0	105	0
Plowing/Sanding Other To	2,297	2,297	2,297	2,297
Insurance Proceeds	0	0	3,805	0
Total Income	<u>96,996</u>	<u>96,497</u>	<u>103,108</u>	<u>99,297</u>
Highway Department Expenses				
Highway Staff Expenses				
Road Crew Wages	191,746	183,534	178,949	196,203
Social Security	11,328	11,379	10,595	12,165
Medicare	2,649	2,661	2,478	2,845
Retirement	10,860	11,419	11,247	12,495
Mileage	1,226	1,500	1,063	1,500
Pagers	241	400	277	400
Uniforms	2,210	2,340	2,278	2,400
Other	60	0	90	0
Total Staff Expenses	<u>220,321</u>	<u>213,233</u>	<u>206,977</u>	<u>228,008</u>
Garage Expenses				
Generator	0	4,500	0	4,500
Electricity	1,374	1,600	1,406	1,600
Heating Oil	5,118	6,000	5,969	6,000
Building Maint.	4,514	7,000	4,330	4,000
Supplies	940	1,000	1,168	1,000
Telephone	1,241	1,600	1,145	1,600
Rubbish Removal	916	900	960	900
Fuel Tank	50	50	50	50
Safety Equipment	412	2,000	0	2,000
Insurance	1,511	2,635	2,635	2,655
Miscellaneous	1,470	2,000	308	2,000
Total Garage Expenses	<u>17,546</u>	<u>29,285</u>	<u>17,971</u>	<u>26,305</u>
Equipment/Maintenance				
2018 International	2,013	3,000	1,841	4,000
2011 Pickup	1,444	1,600	351	1,600
2012 International	6,805	0	0	0

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
2015 International	4,186	4,000	7,164	6,000
2016 International	3,297	4,000	6,518	6,000
2013 Grader	2,142	3,500	4,872	4,500
2000 Loader	1,709	0	0	0
2018 Loader	81	1,000	715	1,000
2004 Excavator	1,626	2,000	1,015	2,000
Tractor/Mower	1,600	2,500	307	2,500
Trailer for Excavator	166	500	136	1,000
Sanders	124	2,000	1,724	2,000
Plows	1,263	2,500	2,329	2,500
Chain Saws	0	500	134	500
Chipper	0	1,000	0	1,000
Tire Chains	4,602	6,000	9,245	9,000
Compressor	35	400	189	400
Tools	609	1,000	1,846	1,000
to Equipment Fund	80,000	80,000	80,000	82,800
Hydroseeder	0	0	0	7,500
Grant to Equip. Fund	9,700	9,200	11,100	12,000
Vehicle Insurance	8,656	8,205	7,341	7,205
Miscellaneous	3,793	2,000	759	2,000
Accident Repair	0	0	3,005	0
Total Equip./Maint.	<u>133,851</u>	<u>134,905</u>	<u>140,591</u>	<u>156,505</u>
Materials				
Staymat	51,827	95,000	95,150	100,000
Stone	1,964	3,000	6,953	5,000
Winter Sand	80,876	70,000	71,866	70,000
Salt	18,812	17,000	22,442	19,000
Salt reimb. Twinfield	(8,380)	0	0	0
Chloride	8,718	17,000	17,361	19,000
Equip./Vehicle Fuel	30,111	30,000	41,358	36,000
Grease & Oil	2,244	2,000	413	2,000
Welding Supplies	705	600	465	600
Cold Patch	456	500	456	500
Erosion Control	647	1,500	657	1,500
Mulch Hay	1,122	1,000	1,086	1,000
Miscellaneous	112	1,000	864	1,000
Total Materials	<u>189,212</u>	<u>238,600</u>	<u>259,070</u>	<u>255,600</u>

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Highway Infrastructure				
Roads Permit Fee	640	2,000	1,350	1,590
Culverts	0	14,000	14,087	14,000
Road Signs	346	1,000	1,184	1,000
Guardrails	1,200	3,000	0	3,000
To Paving Account	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
To Bridge Account	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Private Contracts	3,262	4,500	3,928	4,500
Total Infrastructure	<u>13,948</u>	<u>33,000</u>	<u>29,049</u>	<u>32,590</u>
Total Highway Expenses	574,878	649,023	653,658	699,008
Net Cost	477,883	552,526	550,550	599,711

WINTER SAND POLICY

The Town of Marshfield makes sand available to Town residents to help them with icy sidewalks and driveways. Residents will find the sand pile outside the Town Garage gate on School Street. The sand is supplied only for Town residents and only for use at their home. Landlords and businesses should arrange for sand spreading from a number of local contractors.

Because the sand is intended for home use, residents are asked to limit themselves to collecting two buckets per trip. It is highly recommended residents pick up their sand now and before a storm so they do not need to drive on icy roads. During a storm, the Road Crew is busy maintaining the roads and might not be able to restock the pile. Sand is piled outside the Town Garage gate for 24/7 access. The public must not enter the Town Garage yard to find sand or salt.

On another note, please remember that it is illegal to plow snow across a town road. The snow that is left in the road will freeze, causing a dangerous situation for other drivers and for the snow plow. Under 19 VSA §1105, you could be fined \$1,000 plus damages and legal fees.

WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN

1. The Winter Parking Ordinance is in effect from November 1st to April 30th. No vehicles are to be parked on town roads during these months. **VEHICLES WILL BE TOWED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE.**
2. Plow routes are set up to open the major traffic routes and school bus routes first. The road crew usually starts operations at 3:30 a.m. to have these roads clear by 7:00 a.m. In most cases there will be no maintenance between 8:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m.
3. Each road crew member has a specific route that takes approximately 4½ hours to complete. After 16 hours on the job, they are required to stop operations and take off a minimum of 6 hours.
4. The Town does not plow Class IV and private roads and certain Class III roads, or sections thereof, as set forth by statute.
5. Salt will be applied to paved roads with a minimum amount of sand added as necessary. (Salt is not effective when the road temperature is below 20 degrees). Sand will be applied to gravel roads.
6. Please note: according to 23 VSA §1126, it is illegal to plow snow from private property on or across public highways.
7. The road crew makes every effort to avoid mailboxes. However, because of snow conditions or oncoming traffic, the plows occasionally hit them. The Town has permitted mailboxes to be located in the Town right-of-way. If the mailboxes are damaged as a result of snow or ice clearing operations, the Town will not repair them.

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT FUND PROJECTION

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Balance, January 1	19,674	25,675	6,510	11,804	25,743	18,996	36,128	37,818	10,842	2,373
Appropriation	80,000	82,800	85,284	87,843	90,478	93,192	95,988	98,868	101,834	104,889
Grants-In-Aid	11,100	12,000								
Extra for Hydroseeder		7,500	7,500							
Interest	402	514	130	236	515	380	723	756	217	47
Purchases:										
Pickup		(20,000)					(20,000)			
a. Purchase truck in 2014, 2020, 2026		(110,000)						(120,000)		
b. Purchase truck in 2015, 2021, 2027			(110,000)						(120,000)	
c. Purchase truck in 2017, 2023, 2029					(110,000)					
Purchase Grader										
Purchase/Overhaul 2004 Excavator					(120,000)					
Purchase Hydroseeder		(15,000)								
Loans:										
a. Borrow for truck in 2014, 2020, 2026		85,000	80,000					50,000	60,000	
b. Borrow for truck in 2015, 2021, 2027										
c. Borrow for truck in 2017, 2023, 2029					95,000					
Borrow for Excavator					95,000					
Payments:										
a. Pmt on 2014/2020/2026 truck loan	(22,440)		(18,700)	(18,360)	(18,020)	(17,680)	(17,340)		(11,000)	(10,800)
b. Pmt on 2015/2021/2027 truck loan	(22,661)	(22,319)		(17,600)	(17,280)	(16,960)	(16,640)	(16,320)		(13,200)
c. Pmt on 2017/2023/2029 truck loan	(16,200)	(15,900)	(15,600)	(15,300)	(20,900)	(20,500)	(20,140)			
Pmts on loader	(24,200)	(23,760)	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)					
Balance, December 31	25,675	6,510	11,804	25,743	18,996	36,128	37,818	10,842	2,373	44,550

VT-ALERT

The Marshfield Fire Department and Marshfield Selectboard encourage all residents to register for notifications through VT-ALERT. In the event of an emergency, the Fire Department will issue an alert through the VT-ALERT system.

Vermont Emergency Management launched VT-ALERT in 2013 as a means of reaching Vermonters directly with emergency information via their cell phones, email, or home phones. The system allows users to choose which alerts they receive, how they receive them, and for which specific geographic area.

VT-ALERT is used by the state and local responders to notify the public of emergency situations. Those include, but are not limited to, evacuation information; chemical spills; shelter-in-place alerts; severe weather advisories; boil water advisories, and roadway interruptions. Residents can tailor the alerts to specific locations, types of alerts and on which devices they will be notified.

Vermont Emergency Management has partnered with Everbridge to provide Vermonters with enhanced capabilities to prepare themselves for emergencies, including:

- Users can download, and receive alerts via the Everbridge mobile app or continue to get them via SMS/TEXT, E-Mail, Mobile Phone, Work or Home Phone, and TTY/TDD Devices.
- Users can prioritize notifications by specifying the order of communication type and method.
- VT-ALERT also allows users to list up to five (5) additional locations in Vermont for which they want to receive alerts. These locations may include, for example, towns where other family members live, or where children attend school.

In order to get alerts, residents should register with the system at the following website: www.vtalert.gov

****Please Note:** you can set quiet hours for most alerts that are not urgent. When you set up your alerts click on the ones you want and be sure to set "Quiet Hours" for things like Weather Watches and Weather Advisories. If you don't, you will likely get periodic phone calls in the middle of the night for non-emergency notifications, for which you have signed up.**

MARSHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Marshfield Fire Department has been serving our area for 110 years as an all-volunteer organization. For nearly half of those years, Tim Maclay has been an active member, serving as chief since 2006. It was with regret that we accepted his resignation as chief in 2019. Tim continues to be an active member, helping our community just as he always has, but with a different colored helmet. We thank Tim for his many decades of service to our town.

Filling his shoes is Will Schwarz, who brings many years of experience as Marshfield Assistant Chief and as an instructor at the Vermont State Fire Academy. He also serves on the Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team and Plainfield Fast Squad, and has much expertise in motor vehicle rescue.

Putting out fires is only a small part of what we do. Thanks to fire education, better construction methods, and other factors, we don't see the volume of structure fires that we did just a few decades ago. As equipment, communications, and training continue to improve, the job of a rural firefighter keeps changing. Constant training is vital, as the calls we respond to are fewer in number but potentially more hazardous.

In 2019 the Marshfield Fire Department responded to 76 calls.

Motor Vehicle Accidents	21
Structure Fires	6
Chimney Fires	0
Alarm Activations	19
Vehicle and Electrical Fires	8
Furnace Malfunctions	0
Service Calls	2
Grass/Brush Fires	0
Hazardous Conditions	13
Agricultural Fires and Accidents	1
False Alarms	2
Medical Assists	3
Search and Rescue	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>76</u>

Our thanks to the people of Marshfield for a year without any chimney or grass fires. Please continue to keep those chimneys clean and check with our Fire Warden before burning outdoors. Even when there is snow on the ground, an outdoor fire can lead to a call from a passer-by. A quick phone call to our warden can avoid a dramatic response from the fire department.

Motor vehicle crashes accounted for about a quarter of our calls in 2019. Considering that many of the remaining calls were simple alarm activations and other false alarms, crashes account for about half of what we do. In previous years we have noticed an increase in crashes when Route 2 is

smooth. We don't miss the potholes, but please slow down, be alert, and above all, wear your seat belt. Today's vehicles are safer than ever in a crash situation, but only if you stay in your seat.

Far too many communities across our state and country are struggling to recruit volunteers for their fire departments. Marshfield is no exception. If current trends continue, small-town volunteer fire departments may one day exist only in memory. If you have ever considered joining, please come by and see what it's all about. If you have never considered joining, please do. Not every firefighter joins to fulfill a childhood dream, and many find great satisfaction in serving. You don't have to rush into burning buildings or respond to every call. There is a great need for people to just be available and help do what needs to be done, whether it's washing a truck, doing paperwork, or holding a stop sign. Come and see us at the station. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 7 PM.

That being said, we were excited to have several new volunteers join us in 2019. With minimal training but great attitudes and willingness, they are already an asset to our department, and we thank them for their service. Our junior program is active as well, and we commend junior firefighter Nicole Gouge for graduating from the Vermont Fire Cadet Academy, an intense week-long training for teens interested in the fire service. She has been invited to return next year as a lieutenant and looks forward to helping guide the cadets of 2020.

We rebuilt our 1992 engine in 2018, and it continues to serve us well. Several improvements were made which allow us to use it as our primary response vehicle to both crashes and fires. Our water tanker will soon be rebuilt as well. These trucks are older than some of our members, but have everything we need to respond to a great variety of situations.

Village residents may occasionally hear us testing our siren at the station. In the event of a major emergency affecting the village, we will sound the siren continuously for five minutes at a time, and we will publish an alert through the VT-ALERT system. If you hear the siren being sounded continuously, please check the VT-ALERT website for information and instructions. Only if you have no access to the website, you may call the firehouse for information and instructions at 426-3809. We want to avoid having everyone calling the fire station at the same time, so please be proactive and register for the alerts today. Instructions for signing up for VT-ALERT may be found on page 39.

As always, the members of Marshfield Fire are very grateful for your continued support as we help protect lives and property in our community and surrounding towns. It is an honor to serve and represent our community through our local fire department.

Respectfully submitted,
Will Schwarz, Chief Tim Morris, Assistant Chief Jacob Gouge, Assistant Chief

FIRE DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Fire Dept Administration				
Worker's Compensation	739	1,700	885	1,700
Fireman's Disability	1,760	2,100	1,737	2,100
Office Supplies	146	500	492	500
Operating Supplies	61	50	65	50
Dues & Subscriptions	272	400	133	300
Liability/Vehicle Ins.	6,857	7,200	7,016	7,200
Total Administration	<u>9,835</u>	<u>11,950</u>	<u>10,328</u>	<u>11,850</u>
Firefighting				
Operating Supplies	549	1,000	341	1,000
Repairs & Maintenance	136	450	185	450
Small Tools & Equip.	3,555	200	14	200
Hose	625	600	1,735	600
Pers. Protective Gear	4,278	3,000	742	3,000
Contract Services	0	100	0	100
Breathing App. Maint.	110	1,200	1,342	1,200
SCBA Equipment	2,872	0	1,349	0
Repairs	0	100	0	100
Total Firefighting	<u>12,125</u>	<u>6,650</u>	<u>5,708</u>	<u>6,650</u>
Fire Prevention				
Operating Supplies	0	150	0	150
Books, Handouts	100	150	0	150
Total Fire Prevention	<u>100</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>300</u>
Fire Department Training				
Operating Supplies	0	300	0	300
Books, Training Aids	0	100	0	100
Contract Services	0	275	250	600
Total Training	<u>0</u>	<u>675</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Fire Dept Communications				
Operating Supplies	391	1,000	1,432	1,500
Repairs & Maintenance	253	0	0	0
Copmuters	0	200	0	200
Capitol West	15,853	18,000	16,617	18,400
Radio/Pager Repairs	872	1,000	0	1,000
Total Communications	<u>17,369</u>	<u>20,200</u>	<u>18,049</u>	<u>21,100</u>

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Station				
Capital Improvements	0	0	814	0
Heating Oil	1,454	1,500	1,736	1,750
Operating Supplies	0	250	98	250
Repairs & Maintenance	361	300	261	500
Small Tools & Equip.	0	200	12	250
Telephone	1,700	1,800	1,731	1,800
Insurance	1,008	1,507	1,507	1,519
Contract Services	1,073	900	1,091	1,100
Electricity	1,869	1,750	1,712	1,750
to FD Building Fund	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
Total Fire Station	9,965	10,707	11,462	11,419
Trucks/Fire Fighting/Rescue				
Operating Supplies	0	500	0	500
Repair & Maintenance	1,352	3,000	2,924	3,000
Tools & Equipment	0	100	0	100
Hose/Ladder Testing	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,200</u>
Total Trucks/Fire/Rescue	1,352	3,600	2,924	4,800
To FD Equipment Fund	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total Expenses	65,746	69,082	63,721	72,119

EMERGENCY SERVICES

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Emergency Services				
Cabot Ambulance	18,000	0	0	0
East Montpelier Ambulance	20,000	40,600	40,600	41,818
Plainfield Fast Squad	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>5,500</u>
Total Emergency Services	43,500	46,100	46,100	47,318

FIRE WARDEN

This year we issued over 100 permits. I appreciate those folks who call in and ask for permits. We had no reported fires this year. Grass fires and brush fires require a lot of man power to extinguish. That is something we are short of in our department during the day time. It would be best to refrain from burning in the spring when wildland fire conditions are at their best. I would like to thank those folks who call for a permit.

Permits cover the burning of brush and natural wood only. Painted materials, furniture, tires and similar materials are prohibited by state law. These materials have to go to designated sites.

Fire wardens are given daily weather reports and fire danger reports. We know when it is not safe to burn and stop issuing permits. So please call before you burn. We will issue a permit if conditions are safe.

If you have questions about brush burning and would like to have us inspect the site before you burn please call us, we will gladly visit the site and offer our suggestions.

Please call when you want to burn. It only takes a phone call. The permit system keeps the Fire Department alert to places where burning is taking place and may save the department a run.

I need to emphasize that the fire department has very few volunteers, especially during the day time. Please think about joining the department and become a volunteer.

Contact me at 426-3265 or Tim Maclay at 454-7853.
Tom Maclay, Fire Warden

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT

This report is written in dedication and memory of William H. George, our fellow firefighter, brother and friend who fell ill and passed away on 1/3/2020. Bill will be forever remembered for his passion, dedication and commitment to help make East Montpelier Fire Department what it is today. Bill committed 40 years, serving our communities and educating new fireman as a State Fire Instructor. He always strived to be the best. Cheers to you our friend.

Where does time go? It seems like 2019 has gone by very fast leaving us looking in the rear view mirror at our busiest year ever. As we continue to grow and see increased call volumes we are expanding our daily day and night coverage crews allowing us to provide the best community service possible. East Montpelier Fire and Ambulance personnel are continually challenged with a wide spectrum of calls from house fires to hazmat calls, from water rescue to simply the person that fell down, bicycle accidents to cars rolled over down the embankment, drug overdoses to cardiac arrest. The men and women are working hard to train and prepare themselves to face tomorrow.

In October we were fortunate to have the opportunity to do a live controlled burn in Calais. The family did all of the required work to get the house ready and we were able to get 4 hours of valuable training teaching our members how fire acts and how to control the fire. We were joined by Woodbury Fire Department. In November we hosted a National Fire Academy class on Strategic Operation and Tactics. The two day class was attended by 30 Firefighters from around the State. 2019 brought us the upgrade of our two ambulances. EFMD purchased a used ambulance from Williston Fire and a new demo ambulance from FESCO Emergency Equipment. With the upgrades both trucks are 4 X 4 allowing us better access to you in the winter. The vendor took both of our used trucks in trade allowing us to finance a reasonable loan on the demo truck and outright purchase the used trucks. Both trucks are paid for from revenue brought in by the ambulance. Stop in and check them out we are open 24/7.

The Local Boy Scout Troop has been adopted by East Montpelier Fire Department as their Charter Sponsor. We are proud to see the development of our young men growing into men and our Cub Scouts growing into young men. We are honored to be able to support these two groups and their growth to make our communities a better place.

Thank you for support as we move into the future. The times we are in are challenging and the work of being a firefighter and EMT is not easy. It takes a lot of commitment and time from our men and women. They always appreciate your kind words and notes that are sent in thanks. We read all of them and take them to heart. Stop in for a visit even if just to say hello.

Have a safe 2020, remember to check your smoke and CO detectors, clean your chimneys and check in on your neighbors!

Chief Ty Rolland
President Toby Talbot

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
Old Schoolhouse Common

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Buildings & Grounds Income				
Allocations from Other Budgets				
Town Clerk's Office	11,174	11,174	11,174	11,174
Library	12,840	12,840	12,840	12,840
Historical Society	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455
Total Allocations	30,469	30,469	30,469	30,469
Lease Income - Businesses				
Rebop Records	4,692	4,692	4,692	4,692
Food Shelf	5,016	5,016	5,016	5,016
Sunwise Surveying	4,788	4,788	4,788	4,788
Blachly/Ducharme	4,548	4,548	4,548	4,548
Village Office	4,548	4,548	4,548	4,548
Total Business Leases	23,592	23,592	23,592	23,592
Generator Grant	0	7,800	7,883	0
Gymnasium	1,413	1,000	1,325	1,250
Bandstand Rental	18	25	35	25
Meeting Room	175	100	161	150
Kitchen	175	100	100	100
Community Dinners	400	400	400	400
Tables and Chairs	274	150	169	150
Other Income	0	0	15	0
Total Income	56,515	63,636	64,149	56,136
Buildings & Grounds Expenses				
Staff Expenses				
Wages	4,671	6,879	5,658	7,011
Social Security	285	427	344	435
Medicare	67	100	80	102
Mileage	34	0	39	50
Total Staff Expenses	5,056	7,406	6,122	7,598

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
Old Schoolhouse Common

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Net Cost of Electricity				
Electricity Used	4,282	4,000	4,545	4,200
Solar Meter Charge	228	240	238	240
Electricity Produced	(3,693)	(3,600)	(4,098)	(4,000)
Solar Incentive	(1,424)	(1,500)	(1,498)	(1,500)
Net Cost of Electricity	<u>(608)</u>	<u>(860)</u>	<u>(814)</u>	<u>(1,060)</u>
Building Maintenance	544	2,500	760	2,500
Heating Oil	324	500	1,181	1,000
Emergency Generator	10,052	0	357	400
Propane for Generator	352	0	40	75
Pellet Fuel for Boiler	4,926	5,000	5,645	5,000
Propane for Cooking	310	350	270	350
Janitorial Supplies	586	600	551	600
Heating Repairs	33	500	3,818	1,000
Solar Panel Expenses	0	50	0	50
Contract Labor	2,090	3,000	2,860	3,000
Custodial Services	2,983	4,289	3,310	4,500
Alarm System	312	625	594	650
Insurance	5,134	7,021	7,021	7,093
Rubbish Removal	1,548	1,600	1,564	1,700
Water Expense	2,095	2,150	2,091	2,090
Sewer Expense	2,928	2,928	2,928	2,928
Elevator Maintenance	1,346	2,500	2,281	2,500
Advertising	160	0	0	0
To Building Fund	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Postage	7	0	0	0
Radon Testing	75	75	150	75
Bus Shelter	13	0	0	0
Total Expenses	<u>43,266</u>	<u>43,234</u>	<u>43,729</u>	<u>45,049</u>
Net Cost	(13,249)	(20,402)	(20,420)	(11,087)
Cost including allocations in other department budgets	17,220	10,067	10,049	19,382

PLANNING AND ZONING

The Marshfield Planning Commission has been busy in the last year. Now that the newly revised Marshfield Town Plan has been approved and adopted, the Planning Commission has been working its way through the reading and revising of the Marshfield Zoning Regulations, which are in need of an update. Proposed changes to the current setback distance for the town's Agricultural & Rural Residential District and the Forestry & Conservation District (changing the setback distance from 600 to 750 feet) would be part of this overall revision, which must be formally approved by the Selectboard and/or voters at next year's town meeting.

With Bob Light stepping down from the role of Zoning Administrator, the Marshfield Planning Commission fulfilled its statutory duty by managing the interviewing of candidates for the position. The Planning Commission conducted several interviews, and passed along its recommendations to the Selectboard, which subsequently approved the hiring of Mitch Osiecki as the town's new Zoning Administrator. The Planning Commission would like to thank Bob for his years of service to the town, and welcomes Mitch in his new role.

As always, the Planning Commission welcomes your feedback and participation in our work, and encourages residents to attend our regular meetings. The Planning Commission is also looking for new members! Please consider attending a meeting if you are interesting in serving.

The Planning Commission meets every first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Old School House Common.

Summary of Zoning Activity for 2019

In 2019, 23 zoning permits were approved covering 36 projects. Several permits included multiple projects, such as a single family dwelling and a garage.

A summary of approved projects for the year:

4	Single-Family Dwellings
1	Manufactured Home
14	Accessory Structure (garage or carport)
4	Accessory structure (workshop/shed/woodshed)
6	Addition (dwelling or camp)
6	Addition (porch/deck/sunroom)
1	Change of use (garage to single-family dwelling)

If you are thinking about a construction project in the coming months, please feel free to contact Mitch Osiecki to discuss. He can be reached at: zoning@town.marshfield.vt.us or by phone: 802.760.9674

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Zoning / Planning Income				
Building Permits	90	300	805	600
Accessory Use Permits	600	800	800	800
Site Plan Review	0	300	105	200
Conditional Use Permits	0	300	245	300
Subdivision Permits	0	375	475	500
Lot Line Adjustment	0	195	130	195
Certificate of Occupancy	120	225	40	225
Total Income	<u>810</u>	<u>2,495</u>	<u>2,600</u>	<u>2,820</u>
Zoning / Planning Expenses				
Staff Exepnses				
Zoning Administrator	9,146	8,000	3,890	4,896
Planning Comm. Clerk	532	600	410	600
DRB Clerk	0	200	142	200
Social Security	600	546	275	353
Medicare	140	128	64	83
Mileage	214	300	37	150
Total Staff Expense	<u>10,633</u>	<u>9,774</u>	<u>4,819</u>	<u>6,282</u>
Advertising	0	500	131	300
Legal Fees	0	1,000	0	1,000
Regional Planning Dues	1,794	1,906	1,906	1,876
Postage	0	200	14	50
Supplies	0	1,000	0	150
Printing	139	200	0	150
Copying	0	50	0	50
Maps	0	500	728	600
DRB Expense	0	100	0	100
Computer	0	0	646	0
Total Expense	<u>12,566</u>	<u>15,230</u>	<u>8,243</u>	<u>10,558</u>
Net Cost	11,756	12,735	5,643	7,738

PERMITS NEEDED

Highway Access: A permit is required from the Selectboard for any access from property to Town highways, and from the State for any access from property to State highways.

Please be reminded that the Town of Marshfield is not responsible for driveway culverts. They must be maintained by the property owner.

Zoning Permit: No land or building development may commence, nor shall any land or structure be used, extended in any way, or be occupied unless a zoning permit and a certificate of occupancy shall have been duly issued by the Administrative Officer, as provided for in section 4443 of the Act. (Act 250, V.S.A. 24; Marshfield Zoning Regulations, Section 130).

Subdivision: No subdivision of land may legally occur without a hearing before the Marshfield Development Review Board. In most cases a lot-line adjustment permit may be approved by the Zoning Administrator. Application forms and copies of the Marshfield Subdivision regulations are available at the Town Clerk's Office. A sub-divider is welcome to come to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Development Review Board to ask questions.

Conditional Use: Commercial uses other than home occupations require a conditional use permit from the Development Review Board.

Site Plan Review: Commercial uses and additional dwellings on a single building lot require a site plan review by the Development Review Board.

For specific questions about zoning, call Zoning Administrator Mitch Osiecki at 760-9674, or check the Town's website for copies of the zoning regulations.

<http://www.town.marshfield.vt.us>

FEE SCHEDULE FOR ZONING AND SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

Building permits for one and two family dwellings and additions requiring additional sewage disposal	\$150.00
Accessory buildings, additions not requiring additional sewage disposal and signs	\$75.00
Certificate of Occupancy	\$75.00
Minimal Alteration	\$100.00
Minor Subdivision	\$275.00
Major Subdivision	\$350.00 up to 4 lots, \$75.00 each additional lot
Planned Unit Development	\$400.00, plus \$75.00 per unit
Appeal to Development Review Board	\$150.00
Site plan approval	\$175.00
Conditional use permit	\$175.00
Site plan approval and conditional use, if applied for simultaneously	\$225.00
Filing land plats	
11" x 17"	\$25.00
18" x 24"	\$25.00
Curb Cut Permit	\$50.00

The proper fee must be paid before the application will be deemed complete and considered.

The fee should be paid with a check or money order payable to the Town of Marshfield.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Recreation/Programming Expenses				
Little League Field	0	300	0	300
Portapotty Rental	882	600	525	600
Recreational Programs	15	400	0	400
To Playground Fund	600	600	600	600
Total Expenses	<u>1,497</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,900</u>

APPROPRIATIONS

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2019</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>	<u>Budget 2020</u>
Other Appropriations				
Radar Speed Signs	0	0	0	8,000
Cemeteries	8,600	14,000	14,000	10,500
Historical Society	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455
Jaquith Public Library	80,713	78,954	78,954	82,727
Total Other Appropriations	<u>95,768</u>	<u>99,409</u>	<u>99,409</u>	<u>107,682</u>
Outside Agencies				
Transportation Services				
Green Mountain Transit	882	882	882	882
GMTA Commuter Bus	8,333	8,333	8,333	8,333
Total Transportation Services	<u>9,215</u>	<u>9,215</u>	<u>9,215</u>	<u>9,215</u>
Social Services				
Central Vermont Adult Basic Edu	500	575	575	575
Capstone Community Action	300	0	0	0
Central Vt Council on Aging	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
Central Vermont Home Health	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200
Circle fka Battered Women's Svc	300	350	350	350
Family Center of Washington Cty	250	300	300	300
Friends of the Winooski	300	300	300	300
Good Beginnings	0	300	300	0
Green Up Vermont	100	0	0	100
Home Share Now	200	200	200	0
Onion River Food Shelf	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,100
Our House	100	100	100	100
People's Health & Wellness	300	400	400	300
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	50	100	100	100
Twin Valley Seniors	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,000
Twinfield Learning Center	200	200	200	0
Twinfield Mentoring Program	250	250	250	250
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually	150	150	150	150
VT Assoc of Conservation Distri	100	100	100	100
Vt Ctr for Independent Livin	150	150	150	150
Washington County Mental Health	800	0	0	800
Washington Cty Youth Serv Bur	250	250	250	250
Total Social Services	<u>12,400</u>	<u>12,325</u>	<u>12,325</u>	<u>12,525</u>
Total Outside Agencies	21,615	21,540	21,540	21,740

DESIGNATED FUNDS POLICY

The Town of Marshfield has designated some town funds to be set aside for future projects. This designated fund balance is segregated into several categories.

The following categories are funded through transfers from the general fund, to be shown as individual line items in the town budget and approved by the voters:

- **Bridge Fund:** This money is used to pay for town highway bridge work.
- **Engineering Fund:** This money has been set aside to allow the town to hire an engineer if required for major development projects.
- **Highway Equipment Fund:** This money is used to buy plow trucks and other major pieces of highway equipment.
- **Fire Department Equipment Fund:** This money is used to replace fire trucks and other equipment for the fire department.
- **Fire Department Building Fund:** This money is used for capital improvements to the Fire Station.
- **Old Schoolhouse Common Building Fund:** This money is used for capital improvements to the Old Schoolhouse Common.
- **Paving Fund:** This money is used for town highway paving projects.
- **Reappraisal Fund:** This category is funded through a line item in the town budget and also by an appropriation from the State of Vermont. It is used for town-wide reappraisals.

The following categories are funded through a combination of transfers and fundraising:

- **Conservation Fund:** This category is funded through donations and proceeds from fundraising, and may also include a line item in the town budget. It will be used for future conservation projects.
- **Energy Fund:** This category is funded through donations and proceeds from fundraising, and may also include a line item in the town budget. It will be used for projects undertaken by the Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee.
- **Playground Fund:** This category is funded through donations and a transfer from the general fund. It is used for maintenance of the

playground at the Old Schoolhouse Common, primarily for replacing the woodchips under the playground equipment, and may be used to purchase other equipment in the future.

- **Stranahan Fund:** This category is funded by one-half of the revenue from the Stranahan Town Forest. It is used for Town Forest expenses. This fund will be capped at \$5,000.

The following categories of designated funds are either statutory or they are funded solely through donations:

- **Bandstand Fund:** This fund originated from donations that were raised to build the bandstand. It is used for maintenance of the bandstand.
- **Ed Duke Fund:** This category was established in memory of a Marshfield firefighter. It is funded through donations and used at the discretion of the fire department.
- **Martin Covered Bridge Fund:** This category is funded through donations and grants for the rehabilitation of the covered bridge and the creation of the surrounding park. It is used for maintenance and improvements of the bridge and park.
- **Pet Control Fund:** This category is funded through a surcharge on dog licenses, as allowed by statute, for the purpose of rabies control. It is used to pay for the dog officer and other animal control expenses.
- **Records Restoration Fund:** This category is funded by a portion of the recording fees that are received when land records are recorded at the town office. It is used for records restoration, preservation, and computerization.

Any remaining categories of designated funds result from grants that have been obtained for a specific purpose, and those funds are returned if unspent.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Bandstand Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		1,523.37
Interest	33.74	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	1,557.11

Bridge Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		87,565.35
Interest	1,978.73	
Budget Appropriation	3,500.00	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	93,044.08

Conservation Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		9,737.08
Interest	234.22	
Sale of Marshfield Booklets	92.00	
Proceeds from Plant Sale	1,267.66	
Printing Booklets	(591.38)	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	10,739.58

Energy Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		511.38
Interest	7.46	
RAMP Dinner	(288.73)	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	230.11

Engineering Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		3,445.04
Interest	76.27	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	3,521.31

Fire Department Building Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		11,955.56
Interest	293.46	
Budget Appropriation	2,500.00	
Balance, December 31, 2019	<u> </u>	14,749.02

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Fire Department Capital Equipment Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		147,047.78
Interest, Bank Accounts	2,989.01	
Interest, Investments	610.60	
Budget Appropriation	15,000.00	
Truck Refurbishment	(2,153.90)	
Change in Market Value	495.88	
Balance, December 31, 2019		163,989.37

Fire Department Ed Duke Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		9,378.34
Interest	194.73	
Donations to the Fund	1,063.00	
Gifts for Firefighters	(205.50)	
Jackets/Uniforms/Insignia	(1,101.47)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		9,329.10

Highway Equipment Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		19,673.66
Interest	402.13	
Budget Appropriation	80,000.00	
Grants In Aid for Erosion Projects	11,100.00	
Principal Payment - Loader	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - Loader	(2,200.00)	
Principal Payment - 2015 Truck	(15,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2015 Truck	(1,200.00)	
Principal Payment - 2016 Truck	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2016 Truck	(660.75)	
Principal Payment - 2018 truck	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2018 truck	(440.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		25,675.04

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Martin Covered Bridge Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		12,692.96
Interest	263.10	
Brass bugle	(35.41)	
Maintenance of Grounds	(352.06)	
Mowing	(1,500.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		11,068.59

OSC Building Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		36,933.50
Interest	852.16	
Budget Appropriation	3,000.00	
Balance, December 31, 2019		40,785.66

Paving Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		42,147.92
Interest	987.91	
Budget Appropriation	5,000.00	
Paving - Creamery St	(980.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		47,155.83

Pet Control Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		11,182.30
Interest	257.85	
Surcharge on Dog Licenses	882.00	
Impoundment Fees	30.00	
Humane Society	(420.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		11,932.15

Playground Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		7,079.12
Interest	163.62	
Budget Appropriation	600.00	
Balance, December 31, 2019		7,842.74

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Reappraisal Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		186,105.50
Interest	4,238.57	
State Appropriation	7,885.00	
Reappraisal Expenses	(435.06)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		197,794.01

Records Restoration

Balance, January 1, 2019		38,627.60
Interest	868.04	
Fees Collected	5,354.00	
Binding of Town Reports	0.00	
Preservation Materials	0.00	
Land Records Software	(2,700.00)	
Land Records Microfilm	(55.86)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		42,093.78

Recreation Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		594.42
Interest	13.16	
Balance, December 31, 2019		607.58

Stranahan Town Forest Fund

Balance, January 1, 2019		2,222.10
Interest	58.69	
Sugaring and Haying Income	1,139.56	
Lock and keys for gate	(19.52)	
Notebook	(20.90)	
Labor	(78.39)	
Balance, December 31, 2019		3,301.54

Total Designated Funds, December 31, 2019 **685,416.60**

Fire Dept Investment Account		13,155.00
Designated Funds in Bank Accounts		672,261.60
		<u>685,416.60</u>

MARSHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In June Marshfield Historical Society, in partnership with Jaquith Public Library, was awarded a 2019 Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries Program Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The award will provide funding over the course of 2 years for development of ***Marshfield Story Project - Sharing Memories Across Generations***.

Marshfield Story Project will bring together our community – young, older and in between – to preserve Marshfield's community memory through oral history video recordings and the creation of a digital archive of our photo collection. The videos and images will become part of *Digital Vermont*, a website created by Vermont Historical Society. For complete updates about Marshfield Story Project go to <https://www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org/marshfield-story-project.html>

During the Fall Foliage Festival on September 29th, thirty people attended a presentation by Nathan Phillips about the History of North Montpelier, once a thriving industrial town. We also hosted a Historical Society table featuring *Name That Place*, *A Marshfield Photo Guessing Game* and offered for sale our mugs, notecards and *Marshfield, Vermont; A Photographic Album 1860-1930*.

The Marshfield Historical Society is working with the Stranahan Stewardship Committee to research, preserve, and document the cultural landscape on the Stranahan, including at least six house foundations, miles of stonewalls, witness trees, old roads, an up and down sawmill site, and sugar house foundations. We have been getting advice and assistance from the recently retired state archaeologist with this project.

The Society, with the Jaquith Public Library, continued Parts 3 and 4 of a reading-discussion series called **Chapters in History**. Part 3, *The Twenties; Roaring and Otherwise* covered Wilson, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover. Part Four, *Turmoil Perennially Swirling*, covered Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. The series continues on second Saturdays, at 2 o'clock and is open and free to all those interested in discussing the incredible history of this country.

The website, www.genealogybank.com is still available at no charge for your genealogy research. Access this site using janetN@myfairpoint.net with password, "jaquith." It has local newspaper articles from long ago in Marshfield as well as genealogical information.

The Society meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 in the Hap Hayward History Center. We welcome new members and visitors. Join us and bring your stories, old photos or mystery artifacts from Marshfield's past to our next meeting.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

	<u>2018 Actual</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
Checking Balance, Jan. 1	4730	4558	3591
Income			
Book Sales	150	250	
Other Sales	37	35	
Appropriation	6455	6455	6455
Donations	0	0	
Interest Income	5	4	
Total Income	<u>6647</u>	<u>6744</u>	<u>6455</u>
Expense			
Rent	6455	6455	6455
Book Printing	360	900	
Other Expenses	3	356	
Total Expense	<u>6818</u>	<u>7711</u>	<u>6455</u>
Net Income	(172)	(967)	
Checking Balance, Dec. 31	4558	3591	3591

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Marshfield Conservation Commission (MCC) has been in existence for 13 years. The Commission is composed of nine community members appointed by the Select Board. We meet monthly on the first Wednesday at 7 PM at the Old Schoolhouse Common. The meetings are open to the public, and we welcome attendance by any interested community members. We participate in service activities on town land, lead field trips, and sponsor talks by local experts.

The primary goal of the Conservation Commission is to encourage community involvement in protecting and enhancing the town's natural resources. We are strictly non-regulatory and provide advisory information to the Select Board and other town boards.

Members: Taber Allison, Allen Banbury (Treasurer), Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller, Sara Norton, Bob Popp (Secretary), Annie Reed (Chair), and Rachel Rudi.

The Marshfield Conservation Commission has been involved in the following activities during 2019

Field Trips:

- Led annual birding trip to the Stranahan Town Forest in May to observe spring migrants; ca. 15 participants;
- Led the annual Mother's Day Spring Wildflower Walk on Stranahan TF; ca. 50 participants.
- Co-lead walk on Beautiful Trees on Stranahan TF

Tree and Shrub Sale:

- Organized and carried out the annual tree and shrub sale. Material was locally sourced whenever possible;
- Surplus plant materials were planted at the Old Schoolhouse Common property;
- The Conservation Commission made \$1,267 as a result of the sale. These funds are earmarked for future conservation projects in Marshfield. We did the sale without the assistance of Plainfield Con Com this year.

Natural Marshfield Series:

- Sue Morse spoke on Wild Canids; jointly sponsored by Marshfield and Plainfield CCs and Libraries;
- Nicko Rubin spoke on fruit tree growing & pruning;
- Climate Change movie and discussion with Roger Hill;
- Presentation on invasive snakeworms;
- Presentation by Michael Sabourin on ticks;
- Presentation by Health Dept on Radon and Uranium

Tree Plantings:

- Planted maples, cedars, nannyberries, and elderberries, donated by Friends of Winooski along the Winooski River at the Old Schoolhouse Common property.

iNaturalist:

- Entered locations of invasive plants along town roads into iNaturalist
- Started a phenology observation project on iNaturalist.

Other Activities:

- Co-sponsored a daylong woodlands landowner workshop on Caring for Your Woods, with Central VT Regional Planning Com, Friends of Winooski, and Cabot Cons Com. Led a session on winter tree identification
- Participated in the Twinfield Bioblitz and led a session on aquatic macroinvertebrate and fish identification;
- Attended a meeting with Dept of Forest & Parks re. the new Molly's Falls State Park.
- Solicited a presentation on proposed Surface Water Reclassification as part of the Winooski River basin plan. and drafted a letter supporting the reclassification of Marshfield's very high quality waters.
- Provided a letter of support to Dept of Forest, Parks & Recreation supporting the Forest Legacy easement for Forest Farmer's sugaring operation lands;
- Provided comments to Planning Commission re. the proposed revisions to the zoning regulations;
- Applied for a Watershed Grant to review wetlands within 750 ft of town roads. Grant was not awarded;
- Printed additional copies of the Wildlife Pamphlet

VIRGINIA STRANAHAN MEMORIAL TOWN FOREST

The Stewardship Committee for our 620-acre Stranahan Memorial Town Forest (STF) has engaged in various projects, including trail construction, maintenance, and clean-up; maintaining historic sites; building a new informational kiosk for the Jake Martin Road parking area; completing two new multi-use trails that connect the Jake Martin Road parking area to the Moon Field Trail; updating the trails map; improving drainage alongside the Moon Field Trail and Thompson Road; and updating the STF Management Plan.

The Committee encourages all townspeople and others to visit STF and enjoy its beautiful trails, woods, fields, cellar holes, wetlands, wildlife, and other natural features. The varied uses of STF include hunting, forestry, agriculture, sugaring, education, habitat and natural resource protection, historic preservation, and recreation. Hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, mountain and fat (winter) biking, horseback-riding, and snowmobiling are available in our town forest along trails designated for the various means of travel. Find trail maps and information on the Town of Marshfield website www.town.marshfield.vt.us or at the kiosks located in parking areas on Hollister Hill and Jake Martin Road. Additional information can be viewed on our Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/StranahanTownForest/>
Please reach out to members on the STF Committee if you have any questions.

Below is a partial list of what the committee has been working on and what is happening in the STF:

Improving Drainage Alongside the Moon Field Trail and Thompson Road
The Committee evaluated making drainage improvements to address significant erosion at three locations along the Thompson Rd. Comprehensive permanent repairs were estimated to be roughly \$16,000 so the Committee decided not to undertake the project for the time being. When a trails assessment is completed; the desired long term use of this road will be better identified and any improvements planned will be consistent with identified usage.

Maintaining Historic Sites: Homestead Foundation and Orchard
There is one picnic table here to enjoy a lovely setting with views of the old foundation and local hillsides. The apple orchard was particularly productive this fall, and those apples are allowed to be picked by visitors to the STF.

Mowing Fields and Trails
Rich Phillips has continued to brush hog the Thompson Road and the field portion of the Moon Trail. Rich has also bush hogged the fields around the old foundation and the field near the old beaver pond. This work helps to maintain the former hayfields near that old farm. Rich's ongoing mowing has helped contain the spread of unwanted burdocks and ticks in the tall grasses. Also invasives, like knotweed and honeysuckle, have been mowed down and this continues to be an ongoing project.

Organizing Volunteer Trail Days

The STF was the site for a staff volunteer day for Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, who conducted invasives removal on the Moon Field Trail and Thompson Rd.,

A student group from Twinfield School conducted an assessment of the condition of all trails in the town forest. Grant Joy the student group's leader, an Americorps volunteer based at the school, provided a final report on their assessment; which the Committee can use to make trail improvements in the future.

Maintaining the Trail System

The STF includes 7 miles of trails, some of which are for hiking only, and others that allow bikes and horses. All trails allow running, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. All trails are marked with trail signs that include mileages and include information on allowed uses.

Severe storms this summer created extensive wind damage on many of the trails, especially west of the Thompson Road. One spectacular blowdown along the eastern-most stretch of Ravines Trail exposed a low, linear bedrock outcrop by means of massive white ash tipovers falling in opposite directions. Many hours were spent by Stewardship Committee members and other generous volunteers to clear the trails.

A new multi-use trail was completed that connects the Jake Martin Road parking area to the Moon Field Trail. This 0.3-mile trail, called Molasses, was designed and built by a local group of volunteers who are members of Riders in Plainfield and Marshfield, a local chapter of the Vermont Mountain Association who maintains several trails in the town forest. This trail welcomes all users, including hikers, mountain bikers, trail runners, snowshoers, and skiers, although it is not suitable for horses due to long sections of bridges.

Updating Trail Maps

Maps were updated this year to include new trails and symbols

Management Plan update

Several subcommittee meetings were held to begin the management plan update. Some sections of the plan have been rewritten (draft).

Agricultural Use: Sugaring and Haying

Jim Brimblecombe reports having 2,826 taps this year in the sugarbushes to either side of Guernsey Brook. Bob Light did not tap along the Thompson Road adjacent his farm, as he had done in previous years. The Moon Field and Jake Martin Rd. field continue to be hayed by the Martins and Steve Newton, respectively. Income derived from sugaring and haying the STF are found in the General Government and Designated Funds reports within the Annual Town Report. We thank our working forest partners for their hard work and contributions to our forest.

Events

As an annual celebration of spring, the STF Stewardship Committee, Marshfield Conservation Commission, and Jaquith Library cosponsored spring wildflower

and bird walks. This year the Mother's Day wildflower walk was led by Conservation Commission (CC) members Bob Popp and Annie Reed, and the bird walk by CC member Taber Allison.

National Trails Day in June was marked with guided outings, including a trail run, mountain bike ride, and yoga on the Moon Field, all organized by Sarah Galbraith.

A "Beautiful Trees" walk, cosponsored by CC and the Library, was led in the fall by CC member and forester Ed Jalbert. In its third year, this annual walk focuses on the characteristics and ecology of some of STF's outstanding trees.

Volunteer Hours

There were over 208 volunteer hours of physical labor, machinery work, and organized time during this year to maintain and improve the STF

Proposed Projects The Committee Expects to Work on in 2020 :

1. Complete a trails assessment to identify desirable trail improvements, realignments, and potential additional trails and uses.
2. Complete the update of the management plan.
3. Potential trails and signage improvements
4. Cleaning up around the old foundation and installing historical signs
5. Clearing small trees and honeysuckle and bush hog the fields behind the foundation
6. Complete a small Thompson Rd. bypass.
7. Print new maps that reflect respective changes.

Invitation to an Upcoming Meeting

Our meetings are the fourth Tuesday at 6:00 PM at Old Schoolhouse Common. Please feel free to attend to let us know your ideas. Your input is particularly needed during 2020 as the Management Plan is updated. This is an amazing town asset. We want your input on how you think it should be managed. If you are not able to make it to our meetings you can email or mail your comments to the town clerk or committee members.

Respectfully Submitted by Stranahan Stewardship Committee :

Ellen Cooke, Brett Engstrom, Sarah Fowler, Sarah Galbraith, Rich Phillips, Michael Sabourin, and Jenny Warshow

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Jaquith Library is a small town library with big town offerings!

Take a minute to look at the Jaquith Public Library website, www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org, and you will be amazed by what the Jaquith is doing for your community. With Yankee ingenuity, great volunteers, and generous support from the residents of Marshfield and the surrounding towns, the Jaquith is thriving.

The Jaquith provides a place of respite and gathering for people of all ages - whether through a chance meeting while visiting the library to check out a book or through story time, playgroup, concerts, festivals, book discussions or programs. This year the Jaquith Library saw 10,481 patrons, offered free programs to 4,028 people and circulated over 14,799 books, audio books, DVDs and magazines.

Programming in 2019

2019 was a busy year for the library! Here is a selection of some of the many events we hosted.

Our 2019 summer reading programs were based on the theme "A Universe of Stories". 85 children registered for the Summer Reading Challenge with t-shirts, prizes and certificates awarded to 68 children, the highest percentage of completed Summer Reading Challenges of any year. We held 19 summer reading events for children and families and 8 summer concerts---a total of 2,006 participants, another all-time record.

Iain MacHarg gave a wonderful benefit concert to raise money for children's literacy. We celebrated the holiday season with a Solstice Storytelling Night and Family Sing-a-long,

Over 375 people came out on a beautiful September day for our annual Harvest Festival. There were lots of family friendly activities, including face painting, cider pressing, art, community kickball, book sale, bake sale, BBQ, vendors, music, and an all

you can eat “Chili Cook-off.” If you want to help with the Harvest Festival next fall, call the library and give us your contact information.

We are into the third year of our Chapters in History Book Group, co-hosted by the Marshfield Historical Society. Our monthly Book Group is going strong after 20 years. Don't own the books? The Jaquith orders them a month in advance so there is plenty of time to read.

To learn about our 2020 programs please go to our website at www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org or give us your e-mail address and we will send you an e-mail version of the Overdue News. If you do not have a computer we have print copies at the library and we can mail them out by special request. To contact the Jaquith call: 426-3581 or e-mail us at: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Come to the Library

There is so much happening at the Jaquith Library. Upstairs we have rotating art exhibits and the Hap Hayward History Center. Relax in a comfy chair, borrow a book, movie or audio cd, or use one of our five patron computers with fiber optic broadband service. Please visit!

Can't Make it to the Library? Use Our FREE On-line Services

You can borrow e-books and audiobooks for free from your home using Libby, a service of Green Mountain Overdrive. We also offer Universal Class, a resource for free on-line education, and Consumer Reports. Another wonderful service is the Vermont Online Library. All you need is a patron number and the password or go to our website to find links. If you have trouble, just give us a call.

Free State Park and Museum Passes

Take advantage of our Vermont State Parks Day Pass, the Vermont Historical Sites Pass, Fairbanks Museum, Echo Museum, Shelburne Farms, and Ben and Jerry's. All passes are one to three day loans and may be reserved.

Gratitude

Thank you to the Library Trustees and the Friends for their endless work. We have said goodbye to two of our library

trustees, Jennifer Barlow and Jane Caron. It was hard to let them go because it was so wonderful working with them.

We continue to be so grateful for the many volunteers who give their time shelving, working the circulation desk, processing books, helping with computers, planning and providing programs, working tirelessly at events and many other unseen tasks. Thank you to the musicians who donated their talent and to the people who helped plan, set-up and clean-up afterwards. Thank you to the artists and authors who shared their creativity with us. Thank you to those who sponsored the Summer Concert Series, presented summer library programs and assisted with summer programming. Thank you to the companies and local businesses who donated silent auction items, space for programs and food for events. And thank you to all the generous donors who gave financial support during our annual appeal. This library could not function as fully as it does without the selfless gifts of time, enthusiasm, energy, resources and love of the library that these countless individuals give. Thank you!

Become a Member of the Friends Organizing Committee

The Friends of the Jaquith Library raises the money we use to pay for programming at the library. Without their efforts, we would not have the high quality and variety of programs we all enjoy. The Friends Organizing Committee plans the fundraising events and finds the volunteers to help with events such as the Annual Book Sale, Chili Festival, and summer concert series book and bake sales. New people are always needed at any of these fundraising events. Call or email the library to volunteer or join the Friends Organizing Committee.

Library Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 3 to 7 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday 3 to 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sundays Closed

Library Trustee Meetings are held the second Monday of the month

SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Town Account

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
Available, Jan. 1	21,017	21,017	21,017	21,017
Income				
Town Appropriation	80,713	78,954	78,954	82,727
Previous Year's Surplus	0	3,764	3,764	2,279
Fundraising	5,758	4,400	5,788	4,655
Interest and Dividends	20	14	20	10
Total Income	86,491	87,132	88,526	89,671
Expense				
Deficit from previous year	196	0	0	0
Books	5,493	7,050	6,700	7,000
Magazines	364	365	404	380
Computer Expenses	1,847	4,293	3,315	3,052
Telephone	753	800	824	850
Old Schoolhouse Common	12,840	12,840	12,840	12,840
Cleaning Service	860	800	788	800
Insurance	1,024	1,012	1,012	1,025
Library Equipment	0	1,500	1,249	0
Supplies	853	968	1,418	1,015
Postage and Returns	1,060	1,190	608	1,087
Conference Fees	92	100	584	100
Transportation/Mileage	0	90	0	50
Service Charge	0	10	27	30
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	118	0
Staff Expenses				
Librarian Wages	32,177	32,860	33,694	33,518
Children's Librarian Wage	7,706	8,018	8,161	8,179
Regular Part-Time	2,259	1,924	1,481	4,580
Substitute	1,152	1,945	1,681	1,258
Social Security	2,675	2,774	2,789	2,947
Medicare Expense	626	649	652	689
Health Insurance	8,399	5,500	5,395	7,715
Total Payroll Expenses	57,346	56,114	56,359	61,442
Total Expense	82,728	87,132	86,247	89,671
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,764	0	2,279	0
Applied to Next Year	(3,764)	0	(2,279)	0
Available, Dec. 31	21,017	21,017	21,017	21,017

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY
Jaquith Account

	<u>Actual 2018</u>	<u>Actual 2019</u>
Available, Jan. 1	8,899	7,172
Income		
Grants	2,850	5,899
Donations	6,508	8,261
Conscience Can	85	87
Book Replacement	73	34
Book Sales	374	476
Total Income	<u>9,888</u>	<u>14,757</u>
Expenses		
Payroll	1,575	1,600
Books	2,293	870
Playgroup	465	371
Programs	5,951	7,547
Program Supplies	749	967
Story Project	0	4,049
Expansion Expenses	114	0
Other Donation/Grant Purchases	1,218	1,430
Total Expense	<u>11,615</u>	<u>15,867</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	(1,727)	(1,110)
Available, Dec. 31	7,172	6,062
Balances		
Town Account Balance	21,017	21,017
Jaquith Account Balance	7,172	6,062
Surplus/(Deficit) applied	3,764	2,279
Less Prepayments	(318)	(513)
Owed to Town	402	0
Total, Checking and Savings Accts	<u>32,037</u>	<u>28,846</u>
Mutual Fund Balance, Dec. 31	82,683	100,891

REVITALIZING ALL MARSHFIELD AND PLAINFIELD

The RAMP effort (Revitalizing All Marshfield and Plainfield: RAMP Into The Future) is the result of a collaboration with the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD). A local team in Marshfield and Plainfield applied successfully in 2019 to participate in VCRD's Climate Economy Model Communities Program. The RAMP process kicked off in the spring of 2019 and attracted great participation to a series of meetings at Twinfield. The result of these meetings was the creation of four task forces to push selected priorities forward. Here are some quick updates from each:

Energy

The energy task force designed and implemented a wood heating campaign including support and special pricing from local wood stove dealers and promotion of existing incentives. A successful workshop featured Emma Hanson of the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. This task force also has successfully connected Efficiency Vermont with Twin Valley Senior Center, Plainfield's Town Hall and Opera House, and Twinfield School. Twinfield just announced a large energy-savings project with Efficiency Vermont covering the full \$115,000 cost, and nearly \$10,000 will be invested in weatherization of the Town Hall also with support from Efficiency Vermont. Marshfield will be exploring options for town buildings in 2020. Also on the agenda for this task force in the coming months will be promoting free home energy visits provided by Efficiency Vermont, and continuing to explore the possibility of solar for Twinfield.

Transportation

The transportation task force has deployed a public information campaign to promote existing and new transit resources including the new commuter buses running down Route 14 to Barre. Marketing efforts include the publication of a new information sheet listing the various resources available in the two towns. The group is also working to bring new "Hitching Post" locations to both towns to facilitate more ride-sharing.

Farm and Food

The farm and food task force focused successfully over the summer on making the Friday afternoon Plainfield Farmers Market more active. They have also designed and are distributing a survey with the goal of building a comprehensive list of both farmers and food producers as well as larger scale consumers in the area.

Village Centers and Route 2

The group focused on the two village centers is working across multiple categories. In Marshfield, the community has identified needed improvements to Route 2 as it passes through the Village. The select board has supported these improvements and a description has been submitted to VTrans with the hope of being incorporated in a planned upgrade in 2022/2023. Task force members from Marshfield have also reached out to owners of under-utilized commercial properties with the hopes of providing support for new businesses. In Plainfield, much discussion has focused on plans for the blinking-light intersection. Efforts have also been made to identify and address vacant or run-down residential properties in the Village Center. Different strategies are being initiated to address these properties. Folks in Plainfield are also going to identify other Route 2 improvements to advocate for as part of the major re-paving coming in 2022/2023.

RAMP Task Force Chairs are below. Please reach out to Jon Copans (jon@vtrural.org or 802-225-6393) if you want to get involved. Also, go here for more updates and resources - <https://www.vtrural.org/model-communities/communities/marshfield-plainfield>

Overall Chairs – Bob Atchinson and Rich Phillips
Energy Committee – Nick Seifert and Diana Batzel
Transportation – Bob Atchinson
Food and Farm – Kagen Dewey and Elise Magnant
Village Centers and Rte 2 – Co-Chairs Jamie Spector (Plainfield) and Rich Baker (Marshfield)

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

During 2019 the Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee worked on a few projects. The first project was an application for a grant for an electric vehicle charging station at the Old Schoolhouse Common, funded by the state with Volkswagen emissions fraud settlement money. A subcommittee of a few members worked on this project, and applied to have a level 3 fast charging station installed at OSC. A level 3 fast charging station can charge an electric vehicle from 0% to over 80% in less than an hour. Despite our efforts, the town of Marshfield wasn't awarded the grant money, it was a very competitive grant, with over 90 applicants.

Another big project that many of the energy committee members are involved with is the RAMP series - Revitalizing All of Marshfield Plainfield, which included three separate breakout groups: energy, transportation, village centers and agriculture. The energy taskforce focused their efforts on weatherization education to the community, and promoting wood heat as an alternative to heating with fossil fuels. The RAMP energy taskforce worked with local wood stove sellers and installers, and came up with some good offers available to Plainfield and Marshfield residents. These efforts culminated with a joint wood heat/Button Up workshop hosted at OSC in October, where incentives and offers were presented. The transportation committee focused their efforts on getting out word to the community about alternative transportation options, and coming up with a flyer that presented the various modes of transportation in one place.

Other activities were also undertaken or participated in by Committee members. Several Books and DVDs related to climate change were provided to the Jaquith Library to enhance its collection. A few Committee members attended the annual VECAN conference, and brought back information to share from the event. Members of the committee continue to be engaged with safety issues at the Molly's Falls Dam, and have been in communication with GMP regarding construction permits they are trying to secure, and a dam failure warning system for the towns of Marshfield and Plainfield. Members of the committee are in communication with people from the fire department, hazard mitigation committee, selectboard and town officials to iron out the details of an effective warning system were there a dam failure.

Looking forward to 2020, we aim to work with the RAMP energy taskforce and Efficiency Vermont on weatherization efforts in Marshfield. Our committee also aims to assist Twinfield School in evaluating the installation of a solar array. A committee member has organized a speaker series around agriculture, farming and climate change to be held at the Jaquith Library starting in late January. We will continue to work with GMP to address safety concerns with the dam before their construction season begins in April.

We are always glad to welcome new members with a passion for teaching, acting, and working towards a lower carbon future. You are encouraged to join us the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm at the Old Schoolhouse Common.

CEMETERY BYLAWS

The following restrictions shall apply to the use and operation of all cemeteries in the Town of Marshfield.

1. A concrete liner, vault or air-tight urn (for cremations) shall be used for all burials.
2. All vaults or liners shall be covered with at least twelve (12) inches of earth.
3. In one standard grave lot the following shall be permitted:
 - A. One (1) standard burial and one cremated burial which shall be immediately in front of the headstone;
 - B. Two (2) cremated burials immediately in front of the headstone and one (1) infant burial;
 - C. Four (4) cremated burials.
4. Vaults and liners shall be centered as close as possible in each grave lot. Vaults/liners shall not be placed closer than four (4) feet from the edge of the travelled road.
5. All monument foundations shall be at least four feet deep, and shall be 6 inches wider and 6 inches longer than the monument to allow for a 3 inch protective apron on all sides, and shall be buried at or just below ground level. Installation of the monument foundation shall be overseen by the Sexton or his/her designee. The fee for this service shall be \$20.00 per hour.
6. All corner markers shall be installed by the Sexton or his/her designee. The fee for this service shall be \$20.00 per hour.
7. No trees, shrubs or bushes shall be planted except with the approval of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners or Board of Selectmen or their authorized representative.
8. The opening date for burials shall not be earlier than May 1st and the closing date for burials shall not be later than November 1st.
9. Cost of grave lots: \$500.00 for Marshfield residents, \$750.00 for non-residents.
10. Excavation, back fill and reseeded:

Full Burials	\$700.00
Cremations	\$400.00

Most recent revision November 13, 2018 by the Marshfield Selectboard

To schedule any work in the cemeteries, call Sexton Joe Mangan at 426-3121.

CEMETERY OPERATING FUND

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Balance, Jan. 1	33,456	33,502
Income		
Interest	2,623	2,119
Appropriation	8,600	14,000
Burials	4,175	2,700
Total Income	15,398	18,819
Operating Expenses		
Sexton	800	800
Additional Labor	0	0
Burials	2,550	1,850
Maintenance	1,375	2,460
Flags	150	200
Capital Repairs	0	0
Cemetery Mowing	8,600	10,500
Insurance	8	14
Miscellaneous	1,870	1,240
Total Operating Expenses	15,353	17,064
Net Income	45	1,755
Balance, Dec. 31	33,502	35,257

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND

	2018	2019
Balance, Jan. 1	126,751	122,887
Income		
Investment Income		
Mutual Fund Dividends	2,005	2,649
Change in Market Value	(9,202)	11,137
Capital Gains	334	59
Total Investment Income	(6,864)	13,844
Lot Purchases	3,000	4,600
Total Income	(3,864)	18,444
Balance, Dec. 31	122,887	141,332

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31

	2,018	2,019
Cash/Money Market	12,470	0
Certificates of Deposit	0	20,007
Owed from General Fund	2,600	21,425
Bonds/Government Securities	43,820	24,785
Mutual Funds	97,499	110,371
Total Assets	156,389	176,588
Perpetual Care Fund Balance	122,887	141,332
Operating Fund Balance	33,502	35,257
Total Both Funds	156,389	176,588

DOGS

Dog licenses for the current year are available beginning on January 2. The deadline for licensing is April 1. Puppies must be licensed when they are six months old. You may license your dog by stopping by the office, or via the mail if you send the following:

- Current rabies certificate (if we already have one on file, we will mail yours back to you). A dog's first rabies shot is good for one year; subsequent shots are good for three years.
- Spay/neuter certificate if applicable
- A description of the dog, including name, breed, size, color, and age
- A check for the appropriate fee, made payable to the Town of Marshfield

The 2020 dog license fees are as follows:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Late</u>	New Dog After <u>Oct. 1</u>
Neutered/spayed dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	4.00	6.00	2.00
Town Pet Control Surcharge	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Spay/Neuter Surcharge	4.00	4.00	4.00
State Rabies Control Surcharge	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	12.00	14.00	10.00
Unneutered/Unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	8.00	12.00	4.00
Town Pet Control Surcharge	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Spay/Neuter Surcharge	4.00	4.00	4.00
State Rabies Control Surcharge	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	16.00	20.00	12.00

Dog Licenses Issued in 2019

Male	36
Male Neutered	113
Female	34
Female Spayed	<u>128</u>
Total	311

2020 RABIES CLINICS

There will be a rabies clinic at the Marshfield Town Garage on Saturday, March 21 from 10:00 until 12:00 a.m. Rabies vaccines will be \$15, and distemper vaccines will be \$30. The Town Clerk will be present to license dogs at the same time.

Hardwick Veterinary Clinic at 64 N Main Street in Hardwick will be conducting its rabies clinics on 3 Saturdays, March 7, March 14, and March 21. The clinics will run from 8:30 am through 10:00 am. It will be \$20 for a rabies vaccine. No appointments are necessary. The Town of East Montpelier will hold an evening rabies clinic at their Emergency Services Building in the Village on Thursday, March 12 from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. They are doing rabies only, for \$20.

DOG ORDINANCE

Marshfield's Civil Ordinance #4, Regulating Domestic Pets, prohibits an owner from allowing their dog to run at large or be a nuisance to others. Marshfield does not have a leash law but dogs are required to be under their owner's control at all times.

Dogs that are not licensed, or dogs that violate the ordinance may be picked up by Marshfield's Dog Officer. Violations that may cause your dog to be impounded include excessive barking, damage to property, scattering refuse, harassing pedestrians, cyclists, or passersby, worrying or attacking livestock or other pets, obstructing traffic, or threatening.

If your dog is impounded, you will be required to pay an impoundment fee and boarding fees before getting your dog back. In addition, the town ordinance allows the Selectboard to impose penalties. If your dog is found to be threatening or attacking livestock, the state statute requires the Selectboard to see that the dog is destroyed.

If you have a complaint about a neighbor's dog causing a disturbance or nuisance, the ordinance requires you to first contact the owner when feasible. If you are unable to resolve the issue with the owner, you should report the issue to the Selectboard. You will be required to follow up the report with a written complaint.

Full text of the ordinance is available on the town's website, <http://www.town.marshfield.vt.us/>, or at the Town Clerk's office.

SUMMARY OF CIVIL ORDINANCES ADOPTED as of December 31, 2019

#1 Burning and Disposal of Solid Waste

Prohibits dumping and burning of solid waste and requires the removal and proper disposal of hazardous fluids (antifreeze, oil, gasoline) and the battery from junked or long unused vehicles.

#2 Regulating Cemetery Operations

Incorporates already existing by-laws and covers cemetery closure to all persons at night, vandalism, driving over graves, etc.

#3 Regulating use of External Facilities - Old Schoolhouse Common and other town lands and buildings

Restricts the use of the Town land and facilities surrounding the Old Schoolhouse Common, prohibits smoking on the Old Schoolhouse Common property, limits motor vehicles to parking areas and graveled driveways, prohibits alcoholic beverages, and makes it unlawful to deface or destroy Town property.

#4 Regulating Domestic Pets

Brings together in one document the licensing, rabies, vicious dog, nuisance and disturbance control requirements.

#5 Road Naming and Road Addressing

Authorizes the Selectboard to name all public and private roads in Marshfield, establishes a numbering system unique for each dwelling, and requires the numbers to be displayed at each dwelling.

#6 Traffic Ordinance

Sets speed limits on Town roads.

The complete text of these ordinances can be reviewed online at www.town.marshfield.vt.us/ordinances or obtained from the Town Clerk's Office.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

The NEKWMD finished 2019 by processing less recycling compared to 2018 – 2615 tons in 2019 compared to 2750 tons in 2018. Significant drops in mixed paper, cardboard, and glass were responsible for most of the decline. A few items, including compostable materials, batteries, and metal saw increases in tonnage. E-Waste, tires, and plastics tonnages were approximately the same as 2018. Recycling markets remained low throughout all of 2019.

The District ended 2019 with a deficit of \$16,116.38. The District ended 2018 with a deficit of \$41,069.02. Revenues in 2019 were 1% above projections. While budgeted expenses were 3% above projections. The catastrophic failure of our baler on September 24, 2018 was the largest reason for the deficit. Even though the baler was replaced in February of 2019, we incurred significant costs for the first quarter of 2019 that were directly associated with having limited or no processing capacity.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2019. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2020 with a proposed budget of \$794,823 – a decrease of 3.6% compared to 2019. The decrease reflects the continued poor markets for recyclables. The surcharge rate of \$24.75 will remain unchanged for 2020. Our surcharge on trash remains below the State average of \$26.59. The NEKWMD will be raising hauling fees by \$10 for facilities and schools. The new rates for 2020 are \$45 for facilities and \$30 for schools.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and two part-time employees in 2019. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy. The member Towns are also represented through their ability to vote on the NEKWMD budget at their Town Meeting in March.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 57,000 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

WARNING – TOWN MEETING 2020

The legal voters of the Town of Marshfield, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Twinfield Union School in said Town on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 9:00 E.S.T. in the forenoon to act upon the following articles.

Article 1. To elect the following Town Officers:

Moderator	1 year
Town Clerk	1 year
Town Treasurer	1 year
Selectperson	3 years
Auditor	3 years
Lister	3 years
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 year
First Constable	1 year
Second Constable	1 year
Town Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Budget Committee Member	5 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Library Trustee	1 year

Article 2. To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

School Director	3 years
School Director	2 years
School Director	1 year

Article 3. To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

Article 4. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$1,156,888 as the Selectboard Budget. Said amount made up as follows: \$797,517.86 to be raised in taxes; \$288,273 from other income; and \$71,097 previous year surplus to be applied. Said budget amount to be allocated as follows:

\$280,936 for the payment of indebtedness and general expenses (\$150,916 from taxes and surplus, and \$130,020 from other income);
\$699,008 for the support of highways and bridges (\$599,711 from taxes and surplus, and \$99,297 from other income);
\$72,119 in support of the Marshfield Fire Department (all from taxes and surplus);
\$47,318 in support of Emergency Services;
\$10,558 in support of the Planning and Zoning Department (\$7,738 from taxes and surplus, \$2,820 from permit fees);
\$1,900 in support of the Marshfield Recreation Committee (all from taxes and surplus);
\$45,049 in support of the Old Schoolhouse Common (\$25,667 from building lease/rentals and other income, \$30,469 allocated from other town departments, \$11,087 used to lower taxes).

Article 5. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$82,727 in support of the Jaquith Public Library.

Article 6. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$6,455 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society.

Article 7. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$10,500 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries.

Article 8. To see if the Town will appropriate up to \$8,000 to purchase and install radar speed signs on the Cabot Road and Creamery Street.

Article 9. To see if the Selectboard should consider the adoption of a noise ordinance.

Article 10. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,333 as its share of the cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will

also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

Article 11. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$13,407 to be allocated as follows:

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 575
Central VT Council on Aging	\$ 1,400
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	\$ 3,200
Circle fka Battered Women's Services	\$ 350
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 300
Friends of the Winooski	\$ 300
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 882
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100
Onion River Food Shelf	\$ 1,100
Our House	\$ 100
Peoples Health and Wellness	\$ 300
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$ 100
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 3,000
Twinfield Together Mentoring Program	\$ 250
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 150
VT Center for Independent Living	\$ 150
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$ 100
Washington County Mental Health Services Inc.	\$ 800
Washington County Youth Services Bureau	<u>\$ 250</u>
Total \$13,407	

- Article 12. a.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes;
- b. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to spend unanticipated funds such as grants and gifts;
- c. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide funds for the amounts previously voted;
- d. To see if the Town will vote to have the Town taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, August 14, 2020, with interest of

one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers; and

- e. To see if the Town will vote to have the School taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, November 13, 2020, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers.

Article 13. To **transact** any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Marshfield, VT this 21st day of January, 2020

Richard Baker, Laurie Colgan, and Christopher Martin

Marshfield, Vermont, January 23, 2020 I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Warning for the Annual Town Meeting for the year 2020 and that it was recorded before posting.

Attest, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

WARNING
NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by their municipality on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 to act on the following article.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$794,823?

NOTICE

The polls will be open at Twinfield Union School from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by February 2, 2020. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 22, 2020.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election.** You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to **olvr.sec.state.vt.us**.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at **mvp.sec.state.vt.us**. The latest you can request ballots is noon on March 2, 2020. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the town clerk's office before noon on March 2, 2020.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

*** Election officials are active participants in the open town meeting, so registering at the polls may require you to wait until there is a break in the meeting. You are strongly encouraged to register before Election Day, either online or at the town office.*

PHONE NUMBERS, MEETINGS and OTHER INFORMATION

Town Web Address: <http://town.marshfield.vt.us>

Town Clerk's hours: Tues. - Friday 8:00-12:00 & 12:30-4:00
Telephone: 426-3305 email: clerk@town.marshfield.vt.us

SELECTBOARD:

Laurie Colgan	426-3653
Richard Baker	522-1020
Christopher Martin	454-8441

ROAD FOREMAN:

Tim Ksepka	426-3631
Town Garage	426-3752

LIBRARY:

Susan Green	426-3581
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VILLAGE CLERK:

Meg Eberhardt	426-3393
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VILLAGE TRUSTEES:

Becky Wigg, President	630-200-5285
Justin Campbell	279-4638
Ian Covey	426-3099
Nancy Davila-Groveman	426-4200
Josh Reil	917-3226

DOG OFFICER:

Kathleen Hayes	522-4108
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Jaquith Library Trustees meet the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Conservation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Development Review Board meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. when required.

Marshfield Energy Committee meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Fire Department meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. (at the Marshfield Fire Station).

Marshfield Historical Society meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Planning Commission meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Selectboard meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Committee meets the last Thursday of March and September at 7:00 p.m.

Stranahan Stewardship Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Town Clerk's Office
122 School Street, Room 1
Marshfield, VT 05658
<http://town.marshfield.vt.us>

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TEMP-RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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