

Town of  
**Shaftsbury, Vermont**

Annual Report for Year Ending June 30, 2018



## 2019 Town Meeting and Election

School Business Meeting  
6:30 P.M., Monday, March 4th, 2019

Town Business Meeting  
7:30 P.M., Monday, March 4th, 2019

Balloting  
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 5th, 2019

**This year's annual report is dedicated to two outstanding citizens who have been important in the life of Shaftsbury. *They will be missed.* . .**



**Ruth Levin**

**April 17, 1927 – September 13, 2017**

The Town of Shaftsbury recognizes with gratitude the contributions of Ruth Perlmutter Levin to our community. Ruth passed away at the age of 90 in September 2017.

Ms. Levin was born in Brooklyn, New York but grew up in Lexington, Kentucky. In 1950, with her then-husband Ed Levin, she helped found Ed Levin Jewelry on New York's Upper West Side. They moved their business to Shaftsbury in 1953. Ruth's three children, Rachel, Flo, and Alexander, regularly accompanied her to Shaftsbury Town Meetings in later years.

Ruth was a founding member of the Shaftsbury Historical Society and was a faithful board member there for over 45 years. Her writings appeared in Redbook, the Jewish Currents Reader, and the Bennington Banner, among other publications. Her book Ordinary Heroes, The Story of Shaftsbury, was published by the Historical Society in 1978. It remains the only published history of the Town.

In 2014, the Shaftsbury Historical Society named Ruth Levin its first Ordinary Hero. Also in that year, the Vermont General Assembly passed Concurrent Resolution 226, sponsored by Representative Alice Miller and Senators Robert Hartwell and Dick Sears. The resolution honored Ruth for her community service to the Town of Shaftsbury.

Ruth was a dedicated citizen of Shaftsbury and Vermont, giving countless hours to community organizations. We remember Ruth Levin as generous in her concern for others, with no expectation of anything in return.

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**Robert "Bob" Holmes**

**September 6, 1936 – September 8, 2018**

Civic responsibility and community service were very important to Bob Holmes, who passed away in September 2018 at the age of 82. For 34 years he served as a high school teacher and administrator in Brick Township and Point Pleasant, New Jersey. In 1968, he helped found the Point Boro First Aid EMS Squad and served as its charter president. At his retirement in 1992, when he and his wife Nancy moved to Shaftsbury, he threw himself into Town activities. For years, he prepared the annual report. For years, he served as an auditor. For years, he assisted at the polls. And for years, he volunteered nearly every weekday with Green Mountain Express, providing transportation to medical appointments and other necessities for people in need. He drove his final route the day before his passing.



Bob was born in Neptune City, New Jersey and spent most of his life in the state. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Trenton State College and his Master's Degree from Rider College in Lawrence, New Jersey. He and his wife Nancy lived in and raised their family in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife Nancy and three children. Holmes'craft, the country woodworking and crafts shop Nancy and Bob established, closed several years ago.

Town of

# **Shaftsbury, Vermont**

## ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2018

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6:30 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2019

Town Business Meeting

7:30 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2019

Balloting

7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

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This year's town report was produced by Town Administrator, David Kiernan and Town Clerk, Marlene Hall. Cover Photography and Design by Marlene Hall. A special thank you to Zoning Administrator, Shelly Stiles for her help with writing and proofing.

# HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

Emergency Dial 911    Fire — Medical — Police

## Town Officials

### BOARD OF AUDITORS

Michael Caslin, Chair ..... (Home) 802-442-3936  
Meetings ..... As needed

### BOARD OF LISTERS

Diana Mayer, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 4  
Email ..... listers@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday and Wednesday – 9:30 am - Noon and by appointment

### CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Elinor Hyjek, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 8  
Meetings ..... First Wednesday, 8:30 am, as needed

### CONSTABLES

Paul McGann, First Constable ..... (Home) 802-442-9699  
Bob Perry, Second Constable ..... (Home) 802-442-3071

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Tom Hunchareck, Chair ..... (Home) 802-375-6928  
Meetings ..... First & Third Wednesdays of each month, 7:00 pm

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Art Whitman, Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186  
Meetings ..... Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am as needed

### FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER)

Joe Vadakin, Fire Chief ..... (Cell) 802-384-0061  
Fire Station #1: 166 Buck Hill Road (non-emergency) ..... 802-442-4226  
Fire Station #2: 364 Old Depot Road (non-emergency) ..... 802-375-9308

State Fire Warden (Burning Ordinance is in effect: please call 24 hours in advance to obtain permit)

Jerry Mattison ..... (Cell) 802-379-4487 (Home) 802-442-3032

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Yannotti ..... (Office) 802-442-9838

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chris Williams, Chair..... (Home) 802-375-6355  
Meetings.....Second and Fourth Tuesdays of each month, 7:00 pm

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Deena Ruege, Chair..... (Home) 802-447-4741  
Meetings..... Fourth Friday of each month, 1:00 pm

**SELECTBOARD**

Tim Scoggins, Chair ..... (Cell) 530-330-5262  
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186  
Ken Harrington ..... (Cell) 802-366-0015  
Tony Krulikowski ..... (Home) 802-442-6423  
Joe Barber ..... (Home)  
Meetings..... First and thrid Monday of each month, 6:30pm

**TOWN ADMINISTRATION**

David Kiernan ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 3  
Email.....administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday-Friday 8am-4pm  
Joan Vargo, Bookkeeper..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 6  
Email.....accounting@shaftsburyvt.gov

**TOWN CLERK**

Marlene Hall, Town Clerk ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 1  
Email.....townclerk@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Mon. 9am-3pm and 5pm-7pm, Tues. - Thurs. 9am-4pm, Fri. 9am-Noon & by appointment

**TREASURER**

Melanie Dexter, Treasurer ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 2  
Email.....treasurer@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday - Friday 9am - Noon & by appointment

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Rob Steuer, Chair ..... (Home) 802-447-3137  
Barry Mayer ..... (Home) 802-447-2614  
Bill Hession ..... (Home) 802-442-8919  
Meetings..... As needed

**VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Chair ..... (Home)  
Meetings..... As needed

**ZONING**

Shelly Stiles, Zoning Administrator ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 5  
Email..... zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday - Wednesday 9am-Noon

## STATE OFFICIALS

([www.vermont.gov](http://www.vermont.gov))

### BENNINGTON-3

Representative David Durfee ..... (Home) 802-442-4414  
Email ..... [davidkdurfee@gmail.com](mailto:davidkdurfee@gmail.com)

### BENNINGTON COUNTY

Senator Dick Sears ..... (Home) 802-442-9139  
Email ..... [rsears@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:rsears@leg.state.vt.us)  
Senator Brian Campion ..... (Cell) 802-375-4376  
Email ..... [bcampion@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:bcampion@leg.state.vt.us)

### VERMONT STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Governor Phil Scott ..... 802-828-3333  
Lt. Governor David Zuckerman ..... 802-828-2226  
Attorney General TJ Donovan ..... 802-828-3171  
Treasurer Beth Pearce ..... 802-828-2301  
Secretary of State Jim Condos ..... 802-828-2363  
Auditor Doug Hoffer ..... 802-864-2281

## FEDERAL OFFICIALS

([www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov))

### UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Representative Peter Welch ..... 802-652-2450  
Senator Bernie Sanders ..... 802-862-0697  
Senator Patrick Leahy ..... 802-229-0569

### Additional Helpful Names and Numbers

Animal Control Officer, Traci Mulligan ..... (Home) 802-375-6121  
Arlington Rescue Squad - non emergency ..... 802-375-6589  
Bennington Area Chamber of Commerce ..... 802-447-3311  
Bennington County Clerk and Bennington County Superior Court, Bennington ..... 802-447-2700  
Bennington County Industrial Corporation (BCIC) ..... 802-442-0713  
Bennington County Probate Court ..... 802-447-2700  
Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) ..... 802-442-0713  
Bennington County Sheriff's Department ..... 802-442-4900  
Bennington Free Library ..... 802-442-9051  
Bennington Rescue Squad ..... 802-442-5817  
Delinquent Tax Collector, Merton Snow ..... (Home) 802-442-4526  
Emergency Service Director, Jerry Mattison ..... (Home) 802-442-3032  
Health Officer, Jackie Myers ..... (Cell) 802-688-9570  
John G. McCullough Free Library, North Bennington ..... 802-447-7121  
Mount Anthony Union High School, 301 Park Street, Bennington ..... 802-447-7511  
Mount Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Road, Bennington ..... 802-447-7541

North Bennington Treasurer's Office .....	802-442-5547
Post Office, North Bennington (05257), 52 Main Street, North Bennington .....	802-442-4884
Post Office, Shaftsbury (05262), 56 Church Street, Shaftsbury .....	802-442-2142
Second Chance Animal Shelter .....	802-375-2898
Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury.....	802-442-4373
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union .....	802-447-7501
Southwest Vermont Career Development Center .....	802-447-0220
Town of Shaftsbury, Fax Number.....	802-442-0955
Town Service Officer, Jackie Myers .....	(Cell) 802-688-9570
Tree Warden, Jim White .....	(Home) 802-375-6454
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Bennington District #1 Office .....	802-447-2790
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Game Warden (police barracks) .....	802-442-5421
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) .....	802-229-9111
Vermont State Police Barracks, Shaftsbury Troop D (non-emergency).....	802-442-5421
Village School of North Bennington, 9 School Street, North Bennington .....	802-442-5955

**PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCIES**

**Shaftsbury Highway**

Nights/weekends/holidays - notify State Police ..... 802-442-5421

**Shaftsbury Water System (for public water in Shaftsbury Village)**

Jim McGinnis, Water Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-375-4021  
Mike Yannotti, Department of Public Works Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-379-1547

**North Bennington Water Systems (for public water outside Shaftsbury Village)**

Ted Fela..... (Cell) 802-375-9224  
Truck Cell ..... 802-688-9005

**SOLID WASTE FACILITY**

**(Transfer Station) 510 North Road**

**Hours of Operation – Year-round**

Tuesday	7:00am - 12:00 Noon
Thursday	11:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday	7:00am - 4:00pm

Transfer Station Holiday Closings 2019 - Please check website at shaftsburyvt.gov

Electronics can be dropped off at the Bennington Transfer Station during their regular business hours.

Located on Houghton Lane in Bennington

**Visit our Website**

**[www.shaftsburyvt.gov](http://www.shaftsburyvt.gov)**

All meetings are held at the Town Office Building,  
Cole Hall (upstairs), 61 Buck Hill Road, unless otherwise posted

**TOWN OFFICERS - ELECTED**

**Selectboard**

Tim Scoggins, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... 2-year term expires 2020  
Joe Barber ..... 2-year term expires 2019  
Ken Harrington ..... 3-year term expires 2019  
Tony Krulikowski ..... 3-year term expires 2020

**Town Clerk**

Marlene Hall ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Treasurer**

Melanie Dexter ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Auditors**

Michael Caslin ..... 3-year term expires 2019  
Lisa Lent ..... 3-year term expires 2020  
Vacant ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Listers**

Diana Mayer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Larry Johnson ..... 3-year term expires 2020  
Judith Knecht ..... 3-year term expires 2019

**Trustees of Public Funds**

Rob Steuer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Barry Mayer ..... 3-year term expires 2019  
Bill Hession ..... 3-year term expires 2020

**One-year terms (expire 2019)**

**Town Moderator** ..... Thomas Dailey  
**Delinquent Tax Collector** ..... Merton J. Snow  
**First Constable** ..... Paul McGann  
**Second Constable** ..... Bob Perry  
**Grand Juror** ..... Vacant  
**Town Agent** ..... Vacant

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (2-YEAR TERM EXPIRES 2021)**

Michael Caslin, Democrat .....	802-442-3936
Abigail Chaloux, Decocrat .....	802-430-0104
Joseph Coonradt, Independent.....	802-442-2243
Marna Whitman Dailey, Independent.....	802-442-6582
Carl Korman, Democrat .....	802-442-7959
Maureen Matthews McClintock, Democrat.....	802-442-4426
Anne Mele, Democrat.....	802-447-3859
Karen Mellinger, Democrat.....	802-447-1950
Alice Miller, Democrat.....	802-430-1615
Linda I. Morris, Democrat.....	802-442-3504
Joyce Scarey, Democrat.....	802-688-7243
Joan Vargo, Democrat.....	802-442-5646

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF:**

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT CONSISTS OF:**

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk – Town Treasurer – Listers

**TOWN OFFICERS - APPOINTED**

**CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT**

Ken Coonradt ..... Term length at discretion of the Selectboard

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

Shelly Stiles ..... 3-year term expires 2020

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

Tom Huncharek, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2021
Chris Ponessi, Vice Chair.....	3-year term expires 2021
Michael Biddy .....	3-year term expires 2019
Michael Day.....	3-year term expires 2019

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chris Williams, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2020
Michael Foley .....	3-year term expires 2019
Michael Cichanowski.....	3-year term expires 2019
Naomi Miller.....	3-year term expires 2021

## **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Animal Control Officer .....	Traci Mulligan
Bennington County Regional Commissioner .....	Ken Harrington
Emergency Coordinator .....	Jerry Mattison
Energy Coordinator .....	Ben Hulett
Fire Chief .....	Joe Vadakin
1 <sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief .....	Mike Taylor
2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief .....	Ed Shewell
Fire Warden .....	Jerry Mattison
Deputy Fire Warden .....	Todd Sinclari
Health Officer .....	Jackie Myers
Deputy Health Officer .....	Traci Mulligan
Town Service Officer .....	Jackie Myers
Tree Warden .....	Jim White

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Ellie Hyjek, Chair | Henri Billow | Bill Hardy | Neal Strong  
Peggy Wilson | Kathy Cardiff | Ken Coonradt, Superintendent

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Art Whitman, Chair | Cinda Morse | Phylis Poirio

### **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Deena Ruege, Chair | Helen Olney | Barb Marino

### **SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

Ed Molloy, Chair | David Durfee, Vice Chair | Tony D'Onofrio  
Jeffrey Leake | Scott McEnaney

### **VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Mark Bollhardt | Lew Levin | Bob Loomis  
Glen Matunas | Philip Young

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, March 5, 2018 Shaftsbury Elementary School**

**Select Board Members Present:** Tony Krulikowski; Tim Scoggins, Chair; Art Whitman, Vice-Chair.

**Moderator:** Thomas Dailey.

**Others Present:** Holly Bahan; Alan Baker; Richard Bump, Recording Secretary; Derek Carlson, Bennington Banner; Bill Christian; Jay Coonradt; Melanie Dexter, Treasurer; Lynn Sternberg; Joan Dornhoefer; David Durfee; Bill Fisk; Marlene Hall, Town Clerk; Nicole Hall, Librarian, McCullough Free Library; Tyler Jenks; David Kiernan, Town Administrator; Fran Kinney; Joan Lavigne; Mike Lillie; Lindy Lynch; Barry Mayer; Karen Mellinger; Lon McClintock; Alice Miller, Shaftsbury State Representative; Naomi Miller; Brad Peacock; Jenny Rozycki, Librarian, McCullough Free Library; Jennifer Scoggins; Andrew Schoerke; Merton Snow; Terry Stacey; Chris Williams; Gabriel Watson; and about 70 other Shaftsbury Residents and visitors (with apologies for any names misspelled).

**CAT-TV:** This meeting was filmed but not broadcast live by Beq Lendvay.

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After calling the meeting to order at 7:30pm, Dailey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance which included a Color Guard of girl scouts who marched the flag to the front of the room. Dailey then asked for a moment of silence and to “look around” and consider “regardless the divisiveness” around the world, “we still have the opportunity to assemble and to govern ourselves”. Dailey also asked people to remember volunteer fire fighter Shelby Coon, who died the previous day in an automobile accident. After the moment of silence, Dailey then

- introduced Selectboard members as well as various town administrators
- thanked employees, committee members, listers, auditors, trustees and volunteers and everyone working to make Shaftsbury a better place to live.

And those present responded with an enthusiastic round of applause for all folks just mentioned.

Dailey pointed out fire emergency exits from the room, reviewed speaking and voting procedures, and then asked for and received a motion which was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the Annual Meeting Warning, and the motion carried by voice vote and with no discussion.

**State Representative’s Report:** Miller suggested that Dailey forgot to include one person in the group of administrators, employees, etc just listed, namely himself, and the crowd then gave Dailey a round of applause as well. After noting that her report is on page 38 of the Annual Town Report, Miller briefly reviewed recent actions in Montpelier year including

- work on a special education spending bill to try to decrease that cost by \$140,000,000 by increasing flexibility and decreasing paperwork
- an award of \$445,000 to the Veterans Home in Bennington
- discussion about shifting taxation away from property values and to income level sensitivity, a work-in-progress with current thinking that income below \$47,000 would be exempt from taxation
- on-going discussion to increase gun safety without attempting to take away guns used for hunting
- a change in traffic violations in that people can now be stopped for not using a seat belt (as opposed to be stopped for some other issue and then cited for not wearing a seat belt)

- unclaimed funds held by the state Treasurer total \$800,000 and residents should check on-line to see if any of that money might belong to them.

After a brief discussion, Miller noted that the phone number listed in her report is incorrect and should be revised to 802-430-1615 and that this may be the reason some people have had trouble contacting her office.

**Selectboard Report:** Using a power-point format, Scoggins then reviewed the Selectboard Report, noting that the “FY19 budget continues our trend of the last four years of improving town services and infrastructure with little or no increase in taxes and expenses”, and as evidenced by

- completion of overdue maintenance of town parks including resurfacing the tennis court, improving the baseball dugouts, and a well at Howard park
- a doubling of capital funds for road improvement
- the now annual audit of town finances
- establishment of a Capital Equipment Reserve fund for the purchase of future highway equipment without needing to borrow
- scheduling/implementing overdue maintenance and improvements of Cole Hall
- the upgrade of the phone system and website.

Scoggins also noted that increases to the budget for next year include funding

- \$15,000 for the Bennington Rescue Squad (up from \$7,500 last year and \$2,000 the year before) mostly due to the fact the Reserve Fund for this service is now “gone”
- increases in other Community Appropriations (assuming that all will pass)
- for hazardous tree removal, with the assistance of Green Mountain Power in some locations
- on-going PFOA testing and mitigation.

Scoggins closed his report noting that recent economic development efforts include

- the rewrite of the Zoning Bylaws
- investigation about ways to bring back a country store-like business
- in anticipation of the state’s VOREC initiative, the Planning Commission is considering ways to improve hiking trail access to the Town’s municipal forest land off West Mountain Road.

In subsequent discussion, residents briefly noted that

- the Ancient Road Committee may have researched and documented trails in Shaftsbury
- funding for the new garage, salt shed, and old garage are all included in the budget

**FY17 Town Warning:**

**Article 1:** A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of and to accept the reports of the Town Officers as published. The motion carried by voice vote and with no discussion other than that already noted.

**Article 2, A-D:** A motion was made and seconded to pay annual stipends/wages for the upcoming year and as follows

- Selectboard members: \$500 each, amended to \$650 each (see discussion below)
- Board of Auditors: \$10.50 per hour
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Constables: \$10.50 per hour
- Board of Listers: \$10.50 per hour

but after Mellinger recommended that the stipend for the Selectboard members be amended to \$650 (“their pay was cut when finances were tight and they work tons of hours”) the motion was amended as recommended. In response to Bahan’s question about health insurance benefits available to elected officials (“which personnel policy are we on?”); Dailey suggested that this question should be deferred to

the budget discussion later in the meeting. Dailey then called for a vote on the motion, as amended, and the motion carried by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

**Article 3:** A motion was made and seconded to authorize the collection of taxes on real and personal property by the Town Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before Friday, November 9, 2018 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Friday, November 9, 2018 and the motion passed by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

**Article 4:** A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$1,900,300 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2019, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds as detailed in the *Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 2017* (Appendix B, pages 3-15). After Scoggins noted that the \$1,900,300 budget does not include the Community Appropriations (see main report, pages 7-8) and Dailey noted that the budget amount should be amended and increased by \$750 to \$1,901,050 to accommodate the increase to Selectboard stipend, residents then engaged in an extended discussion about whether or not personnel policies regarding health insurance coverage are available to elected officials. During that discussion, residents variously noted that

- the personnel policy "clearly states" that the policy does not apply to elected officials while at the same time the FY19 budget includes health insurance coverage for an elected official (Bahan)
- the personnel policy applies to employees but also does not prohibit elected officials from this sort of coverage (Scoggins)
- the previous Town Clerk had health insurance, and that is being reinstated in FY19 and after a one year absence (Scoggins)
- the "comprehensive employment policy" adopted by the Selectboard was "geared" towards full-time employees, mostly in the highway department (McClintock)
- that policy can be considered a "work in progress" which can be changed by the Selectboard without requiring town meeting approval (McClintock)
- the Town Clerk became an employee of the town, a position which historically was eligible for health insurance, and the Selectboard is not violating any policy by extending health coverage to this position (McClintock)
- an elected official is elected by the voters, whereas an "employee is someone you hire" and state labor department says that elected officials are exempt (Snow) and this is something "which needs to be looked at more closely"
- most if not all of the Town Clerk's wage is covered by the funds that position raises as part of executing the requirements of the position (Watson)
- the change made last year provided the Clerk with a stipend and with all fees collected by that position receipted by the town (Scoggins)
- most towns in Vermont offer health insurance to the Clerk, and this position is "the face of this town", the position is paid for by the fees collected and we "should not be quibbling over this" (Mellinger, followed by applause)
- the Collector of Delinquent Taxes has brought in "millions of dollars to the town over many years...and maybe that position should receive health insurance benefits as well" (Snow)
- the town voted "years ago to not offer health insurance" and therefore the town would need to vote to rescind that action (Stacey)
- that's what will happen if this budget is approved and that action was taken when the Clerk worked a lot fewer hours than now (Scoggins)

- in order to better accommodate the needs of the community, the Town Clerk increased office hours from 25 to 35 hours per week, to include evening hours as well as additional work related to the cemetery plots (Scoggins)
- the Selectboard cannot “control the hours worked but we do control the stipend” (Scoggins).

A motion was then made and seconded to call the question and this motion, which is not debatable, passed by voice vote. Dailey then reminded residents of the motion on the floor to approve the FY9 budget at \$1,901,050 and the motion carried by voice vote.

**Article 5:** In response to Dailey’s request to transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting, Scoggins reviewed and townspeople discussed the ballot articles to be voted on March 7, 2017, and as follows:

**Ballot Article 1 - To determine state as well as local Action Steps to reduce fossil fuel consumption/exposure with an increase in renewable energy, and related issues** (as detailed on page 7 in the Warning for the Annual Meeting)

**Ballot Article 2 - To determine if the Town shall vote to exempt the Taconic Community Grange from payment of property tax for a period of five years.**

**Ballot Article 3 - To determine if the Town will make certain community or regional appropriations** These 25 items were separately detailed in the Warning of the Annual Meeting, pages 7-8.

**Citizen Comments:**

- a. *McCullough Free Library Appropriation:* Rozycki, Lynch, and Hall all spoke in favor of the \$20,000 appropriation for the McCullough Free Library in North Bennington, variously noting that
- circulation has increased 25% with 3,000 more visitors over the last few years
  - the funds will be used for programs, high speed Wi-Fi, books and materials
  - the Solar Eclipse program and Polar Express events drew a huge number of participants
  - 33% of library visitors/members are from Shaftsbury
  - in addition to municipal funding, the library has an active fund-raising plan.

Somewhat later in the meeting, Miller noted that

- 78% of both parents work in Vermont,
- libraries provide a “safe-haven” for children during the “most dangerous” times for them between 3 and 5pm

and urged residents to support this appropriation.

- b. *Community Grange Exemption:* Snow asked residents to vote for the property tax exemption for the Grange noting that
- this will reduce Grange expenses carried by its 30 members by \$5,000
  - the Grange annually provides all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students with a dictionary
  - the Grange was renovated over the last several years and is available for various activities
  - anyone interested in becoming a member of the Grange should contact him directly.
- c. *Slow Down for Pedestrians and Bicyclists:* JScoggins urged residents and drivers to slow down for pedestrians, cyclists and pets when driving around town, especially at rush hour.
- d. *National Security Statement:* Schoerke read aloud a “national security statement” highlighting recent national and global security crises from 1996 forward (from the Cuban missile crises to current North Korean situation) and concluded by noting that there are two house bills currently in the legislature sponsored by Veterans for Peace which would prohibit the current President from beginning a preemptive war. Schoerke received a round of applause for his statement.

- e. *Vermont 350 Resolutions*: Sternberg reported that
- the Vermont 350 resolutions on the ballot work towards climate justice by urging the Town to support reducing/resisting use of fossil fuels and increasing renewable energy use, statewide as well as locally
  - over 180 residents signed the petition to place these resolutions on the ballot

Peacock spoke in support of the resolutions, noting that he, as a person who grew up in Shaftsbury and has been farming for 12 years, is in “the front line of climate change” in that

- recent crop failures (Brussel sprouts, broccoli, and raspberries) are due to “no longer predictable weather patterns” and increased use pesticides and herbicides
- the increase of ticks and tick borne diseases are also a part of climate change
- climate change is impacting outdoor tourism and food systems throughout the state.

Christian also spoke in favor of the Article 1 resolutions and asked residents “to take a stand for the environment” and support the 350 resolutions which are appearing as ballot articles all around the state, noting that “we are not making progress fast enough” in decreasing fossil fuel use and increasing renewable energy resources.

Dornhoefer reported that

- she moved to Shaftsbury recently because the climate in the New York state town in which she previously lived had been significantly and negatively impacted by a power plant built in 2015 which processed fracked gas brought in by pipeline from Pennsylvania
- chemicals and gases emitted from that plant and compressing units along the pipelines have been linked to autism
- a pipeline between Hinesburg and Middlebury, Vermont is now being built and we “should keep pipelines out of southern Vermont”.

Miller, who also moved recently to Shaftsbury, noted that

- she has a “personal and painful experience with this issue” with gas and chemical emissions that result in reduced crop production and health issues
- once the pipeline is extended to Middlebury, there is discussion about a 3<sup>rd</sup> phase which would further extend the pipeline to Rutland
- there are class actions suits fighting this and “its not too late” to have what happened in New York State and Hinesburg, where there are “tons of property for sale”, but “we have a chance to act now and to protect ourselves”.

Lavigne, noting that she has “worked with kids all her life” asked residents to think about what’s been said...to think about the kids” and concluded her statement by saying that “you can’t believe what corporations can and will do”.

Baker also noted that

- the 350 Article “doesn’t ask anyone personally to do anything. It’s all on the Town.”
- and strongly insisted that individuals do have a personal responsibility to change energy habits: “Put up a clothesline.”

At 9:30pm, and after calling for but hearing no further comments, Daily reminded voters that the polls will be open at the Buck Hill Road Fire House 7am-7pm Tuesday March 6, 2018. A motion was then made and seconded to adjourn the 2018 Town of Shaftsbury Annual Floor Meeting and, by voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard G. Bump

**OFFICIAL RESULTS OF OFFICERS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT  
623 VOTERS - MARCH 6, 2018**

**TOWN CLERK**

**3 Years**

Holly Snow Bahan ..... 131  
 Marlene Barriere Hall..... 475  
 Write-In..... 3  
 Blank ..... 14  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**TREASURER**

**3 Years**

Holly Snow Bahan ..... 170  
 Melanie Dexter ..... 424  
 Write-In..... 1  
 Blank ..... 28  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**SELECTMAN**

**3 Years**

Tim Scoggins ..... 393  
 Ed Corey ..... 174  
 Write-In..... 6  
 Blank ..... 50  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**SELECTMAN**

**2 Years**

Art Whitman ..... 546  
 Write-In..... 4  
 Blank ..... 73  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**MODERATOR**

**1 Year**

Write-In..... 92  
 Tom Dailey (write-in) ..... 76  
 Blank ..... 531  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR**

**1 Year**

Merton Snow ..... 504  
 Write-In..... 16  
 Blank ..... 103  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**AUDITOR**

**3 Year**

Write-In..... 18  
 Blank ..... 605  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**LISTER**

**3 Year**

Diana H. Mayer ..... 456  
 Write-In..... 3  
 Blank ..... 164  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

**3 Years**

Robert C. Steuer ..... 450  
 Write-In..... 4  
 Blank ..... 169  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**GRAND JUROR**

**1 Year**

Write-In..... 22  
 Blank ..... 602  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**TOWN AGENT**

**1 Year**

Write-In..... 20  
 Blank ..... 603  
**TOTAL ..... 623**

**OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ARTICLES AND COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT  
623 VOTERS - MARCH 6, 2018**

6. To Determine: WHERAS extreme and erratic temperatures, increasingly severe storms, flooding, a rise in tick-borne diseases, and threats to farmers and maple sugar makers clearly demonstrate that climate change is one of the most urgent problems facing our state, nation, and world, and WHERAS THE State of Vermont has a goal in the Comprehensive Energy Plan to achieve 90% of its energy from renewable resources by 2050, yet is making insufficient progress towards achieving that goal; Now, therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the Town urges the State of Vermont to:

- a) Halt any new or expanded fossil fuel infrastructure, including but not limited to energy pipelines;
- b) Firmly commit to at least 90% renewable energy for all people in Vermont, with firm interim deadlines; and,
- c) Ensure that the transition to renewable energy is fair and equitable for all residents, with no harm to low-income people, people of color, or rural communities.

2. That the Town will do our part to meet these demands by committing to efforts such as:

- a) Protecting Town lands from fossil fuel infrastructure, denying easements or agreements for any pipelines crossing town lands;
- b) Enlisting state support in weatherizing town buildings and schools and installing alternative energy, such as roof top solar, to town structures;
- c) Other initiatives to improve the quality of life while helping to reduce overall use of energy.

**Yes.....284 No.....92 Blank.....247 Total.....623**

7. To determine: Shall the Town vote to exempt Taconic Community Grange from payment of property tax for a period of five years?

**Yes.....227 No.....101 Blank.....295 Total.....623**

**COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS TO DETERMINE:**

1. Shall the Town appropriate \$7,000 to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?

**Yes.....478 No.....132 Blank.....13 Total.....623**

2. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,225 to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice?

**Yes.....533 No.....79 Blank.....11 Total.....623**

3. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?

**Yes.....492 No.....113 Blank.....18 Total.....623**

4. Shall the Town appropriate \$475 to the Bennington County Conservation District?

**Yes.....451 No.....152 Blank.....20 Total.....623**

5. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Free Clinic?  
**Yes.....484 No.....124 Blank.....15 Total.....623**
6. Shall the Town appropriate \$17,250 to the Bennington Free Library?  
**Yes.....395 No.....214 Blank.....14 Total.....623**
7. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to the Bennington Little League?  
**Yes.....475 No.....118 Blank.....30 Total.....623**
8. Shall the Town appropriate \$4,560 to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?  
**Yes.....479 No.....125 Blank.....19 Total.....623**
9. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,700 to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?  
**Yes.....386 No.....211 Blank.....26 Total.....623**
10. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to the Center for Restorative Justice?  
**Yes.....400 No.....201 Blank.....22 Total.....623**
11. Shall the Town appropriate \$200 to the Green-Up Vermont?  
**Yes.....535 No.....73 Blank.....15 Total.....623**
12. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,850 to the Habitat for Humanity?  
**Yes.....447 No.....159 Blank.....17 Total.....623**
13. Shall the Town appropriate \$20,000 to the John G. McCullough Free Library  
**Yes.....390 No.....212 Blank.....21 Total.....623**
14. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,000 to the Martha Canfield Library?  
**Yes.....339 No.....263 Blank.....21 Total.....623**
15. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?  
**Yes.....482 No.....127 Blank.....14 Total.....623**
16. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Park McCullough House Association?  
**Yes.....372 No.....231 Blank.....20 Total.....623**
17. Shall the Town appropriate \$450 to the Project Against Violent Encounters?  
**Yes.....470 No.....132 Blank.....21 Total.....623**
18. Shall the Town appropriate \$950 to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?  
**Yes.....507 No.....93 Blank.....23 Total.....623**
19. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?  
**Yes.....454 No.....153 Blank.....16 Total.....623**

20. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?  
**Yes.....404 No.....197 Blank.....22 Total.....623**
21. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,100 to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?  
**Yes.....490 No.....116 Blank.....17 Total.....623**
22. Shall the Town appropriate \$900 to the Tutorial Center?  
**Yes.....449 No.....158 Blank.....16 Total.....623**
23. Shall the Town appropriate \$300 to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?  
**Yes.....527 No.....84 Blank.....12 Total.....623**
24. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the VT Center for Independent Living?  
**Yes.....480 No.....122 Blank.....21 Total.....623**
25. Shall the Town appropriate \$500 to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?  
**Yes.....523 No.....87 Blank.....13 Total.....623**

**STATE OF VERMONT  
Bennington County, SS:  
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

**March 2019 Annual Meeting Warning**

Shaftsbury residents, qualified to vote at the Annual Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Shaftsbury Elementary School on **Monday, March 4, 2019, at 7:30 PM** to transact the business specified below. Upon completion of such business, the Meeting will stand adjourned until **Tuesday, March 5, 2019, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM** when voting by Australian ballot will commence at the Buck Hill Road Fire House for the election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles.

Shaftsbury residents may submit an application to the Town Clerk to have their names added to the voter checklist no later than **12:00 PM on Monday, March 4, 2019** to be eligible to vote on Monday, March 4, 2019 during the Floor Meeting and/or Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at the polls. Any voter unable to come to the polls may apply for an early voter ballot with the Town Clerk until **12:00 PM on Monday, March 4, 2019**. Registration to vote can be done online by going to **olvr.sec.state.vt.us**. Residents registering on Election Day must do so only at the polling place of their physical residence.

**BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019 AT 7:30 PM IN THE SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 150 BUCK HILL ROAD.**

1. To hear reports of the Town Officers and take action thereon.
2. To Determine:
  - A. Shall Selectboard members each receive an annual stipend of \$650?
  - B. Shall the Board of Auditors be paid a wage at the rate of \$14.00 per hour?
  - C. Shall the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Constable be paid a wage at the rate of \$14.00 per hour?
  - D. Shall the Board of Listers be paid a wage at the rate of \$14.00 per hour?
3. Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, **Friday, November 8, 2019** at 5:00 PM or likewise postmarked no later than **Friday, November 8, 2019**?
4. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,960,862 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2020, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
5. To transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting at this time.

**BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019**  
**7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM**  
**FIRE STATION -166 BUCK HILL ROAD**

**6. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:**

Town of Shaftsbury Proposed "Short Term Rentals as a Home Occupation" bylaw amendment

Definitions: A short term rental is defined as a furnished house, condominium, or other dwelling room or unit rented to the transient, traveling, or vacationing public for a period of fewer than 30 consecutive days and for more than 14 days per calendar year.

4.2 Rural Districts

4.2.2 Permitted Uses in the Rural Districts Requiring Site Plan Review

g. Short term rentals as a home occupation subject to the provisions governing home occupations.

New structures for short term rentals observe a 200' setback from property lines and from other short term rental units.

Recreational vehicles shall not be used for this purpose.

Conversion of existing structures for short term rentals is allowed as approved by the DRB and exempt from setback requirements.

Two structures for short term rentals shall be allowed per lot provided all other requirements are met.

The name, address and phone number of the person managing the unit be posted in a prominent location in each unit.

Primitive camping involving tents, tents on platforms, yurts, teepees, lean-tos and similar shelters shall be exempt from these regulations.

Complaints regarding conditions of short term rental units shall be referred to the Town Health Officer.

5.2 Forest and Recreation District

Not permitted

6.2 Village Districts

6.2.3 Other Permitted Uses in VR District Requiring Site Plan Review

k. Same as Rural Districts above.

6.3 Village Center District

6.3.2 Permitted Uses in the VC District Requiring Site Plan Review

n. Same as Rural Districts above.

7.2 Roadside Commercial District

7.2.3 Permitted Uses in the RC District Requiring Site Plan Review

k. Same as Rural Districts above.

7.3 Commercial-Industrial Districts

7.3.1 Permitted Uses in the RC District Requiring Site Plan Review

p. Same as Rural Districts above.

7.4 Industrial Districts

7.4.1 Permitted Uses in the I District Requiring Site Plan Review

a. Same as Rural Districts above.

**7. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:**

Town of Shaftsbury Proposed Rooming House bylaw amendment

*Proposed changes are underlined*

Definitions:

Dwelling unit: A dwelling or part of a dwelling occupied or intended to be occupied for residential purposes, containing full housekeeping facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants.

Hotel (shall also include the term “motel”): A building or group of buildings providing commercial lodging for persons with or without meals, and intended for the accommodation of the traveling public. A hotel room is not a dwelling unit.

Rooming House: A single-room rental occupancy without full housekeeping facilities that does not cater to the traveling public. Multiple unit conversions of former motels are envisioned in this occupancy. This occupancy is not defined by the length of the client’s stay.

Zoning Bylaw:

7.2.3 Permitted Uses in the RC District Requiring Site Plan Review

h. Motels, hotels, bed and breakfast inns, and similar lodging establishments.

7.2.4 Uses in RC District Requiring Site Plan and Conditional Use Review

a. Adaptive reuse of existing transient lodging properties, constructed prior to the year 2000, that front on Route 7A to one, two, or multifamily dwellings subject to the following conditions:

i. The maximum number of dwelling units permitted in said buildings shall be determined by the number of units allowed pursuant to approved and valid (as of January 1, 2011) Vermont state permits for water supply and wastewater disposal issued by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and not by the dimensional requirements otherwise applicable to this district.

ii. Existing buildings or parts thereof shall be exempt from setback (minimum yard) requirements and from any requirements for separation distances between buildings. The DRB may waive or modify other dimensional requirements, at its discretion, to achieve an efficient and attractive residential development. All new construction shall comply with setback requirements.

iii. 10% of the total number of units, rounded up to the nearest whole unit, or a minimum of one unit, whichever is greater, shall be legally defined and protected as “affordable” consistent with the current Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) income limits and purchase price limits for Bennington County. All units designated as affordable, whether offered as an ownership or rental housing option, shall include all relevant costs as defined by VHFA guidelines. Prior to the issuance of any permits under this bylaw, the applicant must demonstrate to the DRB the legal and binding mechanism which will be put in place to affirm compliance with this affordability

provision. Prior to the issuance of any Certificate of Occupancy associated with the project, the applicant must demonstrate and affirm the affordable housing protections are in place.

b. Adaptive reuse of existing transient lodging properties, constructed prior to the year 2000, that front on Route 7A to Rooming House occupancy, subject to the following conditions:

- i. that an onsite manager live in the development if it comprises ten or more units.
- ii that as part of the change of use process all code requirements for public buildings including but not limited to carbon monoxide/smoke detection systems, size and location of required egresses, lighted exit signs, emergency lighting, ventilation and electrical systems must be met. Prior to occupancy, the owner shall file an inspection report from the Division of Fire Safety with the Shaftsbury Zoning Administrator affirming that all requirements have been satisfied.
- iii. that as part of the change of use process, the building(s) shall be upgraded to comply with the Vermont Commercial Buildings Energy Standards (latest edition).
- iv. that common space available to all residents be provided with full cooking facilities and separate living/recreation space equal to or greater than a typical unit.
- v. that a change of use shall have occurred when a hotel's occupancy exceeds 50% in long term rentals to clients who are not the traveling public. The owner of the property shall apply to the DRB for a Conditional Use Review.

8. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendment to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:  
Delete item 0.4, Table of Uses, from the Town of Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws and Land Use Regulations

**9. Community Appropriations to Determine:**

1. Shall the Town appropriate **\$7,000** to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?
2. Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,225** to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
3. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
4. Shall the Town appropriate **\$500** to the Bennington County Conservation District?
5. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Free Clinic?
6. Shall the Town appropriate **\$17,750** to the Bennington Free Library?
7. Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to Bennington Little League?
8. Shall the Town appropriate **\$4,560** to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
9. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,700** to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
10. Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to the Center for Restorative Justice?
11. Shall the Town appropriate **\$200** to the Green-Up Vermont?
12. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,850** to the Habitat for Humanity?

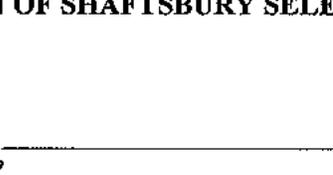
13. Shall the Town appropriate **\$20,000** to the John G. McCullough Free Library?
14. Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,000** to the Martha Canfield Library?
15. Shall the Town appropriate **\$4,300** to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
16. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,500** to the Park McCullough House
17. Shall the Town appropriate **\$450** to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
18. Shall the Town appropriate **\$950** to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
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22. Shall the Town appropriate **\$900** to the Tutorial Center?
23. Shall the Town appropriate **\$300** to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
24. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the VT Center for Independent Living?
25. Shall the Town appropriate **\$500** to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
26. Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to WBTN?

DATED at Shaftsbury, Vermont this 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2019.

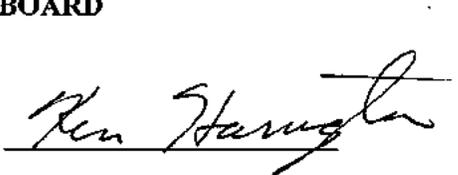
**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD**



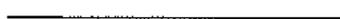
Tim Scoggins, Chair



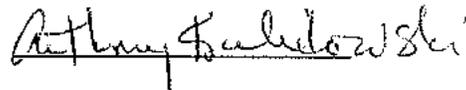
Art Whitman, Vice Chair



Ken Harrington,



Joe Barber, Member



Tony Krulikowski, Member

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Overview of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2018 (FY2018):

The Town of Shaftsbury ended the year with a tiny favorable variance to the General Fund of \$4,222.

Both revenue and expenditures came in almost exactly as budgeted. The budget called for a slight decrease in the fund balance, and that also was right on target.

	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget	Variance Favorable/(Unfavorable)
Total Revenue	1,895,666	1,901,242	100.29%	5,576
Total Expenditures	1,939,219	1,940,573	100.07%	-1,354
Total General Fund	-43,553	-39,331		4,222

The auditing firm of Sullivan, Powers & Co. again undertook an external audit of the Town for FY2018. (It is now Town policy to have an external audit done annually.) Their complete final audit report will be available on the Town website and at the Town Offices.

As has been the case in prior years, they continue to identify fairly minor issues which we are addressing as much as feasible with our small staff. Among other things, they would prefer to see tighter control of cash at the transfer station. We will continue to explore alternative "Pay As You Throw" arrangements that will be acceptable to Shaftsbury residents. Receipts there are in line with historical averages, and we have no cause for concern except to the extent that we are falling short of internal control standards.

For the convenience of Shaftsbury residents, the Town now accepts credit card and e-check payments through Municipay. We accept payment over the phone, in person, or through the Town website. This option is available for tax and water payments, as well as fees paid to the Town Clerk and Zoning Administrator.

Melanie Dexter, Shaftsbury Town Treasurer

## **AUDITORS REPORT**

During the past fiscal year the Auditors' have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shaftsbury. These financial statements are based on information supplied by the Town Treasurer and were prepared by the outside auditor, Sullivan and Powers. The Auditors' responsibility is to express an opinion concerning these financial statements based on our review.

We have completed examinations of the Town Treasurer's records including purchase orders, invoices and checks comparing these items with the Selectboard payment, warrants and a printout of the Detailed Transaction Report. This examination was on the basis of an estimated 35% sample of records. Every month the Auditors' reconcile monthly bank statements, audit the Reserve Fund and review the General Journal Entries.

In our opinion the financial statements referred to above present, in all material respects, the financial position and changes in financial position of the Town of Shaftsbury as of June 30, 2018, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Caslin, Lisa Lent

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## **REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Year Ended June 30, 2018

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage these funds for the purpose of providing income for fund purposes while protecting the purchasing power of the funds through capital appreciation.

In July 2017, the town received approx. \$70,000 from the estate of Florence Howard for the purpose of maintaining or improving Howard Park.

The town also received approx. \$82,000 as a transfer of Grandview Cemetery funds from North Bennington to Shaftsbury. Of the \$82,000, \$15,000 was earmarked for surveying, road repair and other maintenance and improvements to the cemetery. The balance of the funds will be added to the Cemetery Perpetual Fund, although they were held in a separate account as of June 30, 2018.

The funds were established for the benefit of the Town and local townsfolk. The trustees recognize the fund purposes as they strive to make certain the funds are used as they were intended.

Robert Steuer  
Barry Mayer  
William Hession

#### CEMETERY TRUST FUND

These funds, with accruing net income, are set aside by the Selectboard to acquire equipment needed for the care of our cemeteries or for the procurement of additional land if and when that becomes necessary.

#### CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

These funds result from payments made to the Town of Shaftsbury to provide for the perpetual care of cemetery lots. An amount for this purpose is included in the price of each lot sold. Monies received by the Town from this source become part of the principal of the fund and may not be used for any other purpose but to produce income for perpetual care. This income is used by the town for cemetery care under the supervision of the Selectboard. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

#### HUNTINGTON CEMETERY FUND

An 1890 gift in trust by Calvin Huntington established the Huntington Cemetery Fund to provide income “to keep in repair the family grave stones of his relations in the town grave yard.” The Bennington Probate Court in 2000 appointed the Selectmen of the Town of Shaftsbury as successor trustees to the Huntington Cemetery Trust. The Select Board voted “to turn management of the Huntington Cemetery Fund over to the Trustees of Public Funds” at its June 20, 2005 meeting. The Trustees received the Huntington Fund in July 2005.

The Huntington Fund principal may not be expended for any purpose. Income from the Huntington Fund may only be used for the stated purpose of the Fund.

#### SCHOOL FUND

The School Fund, derived from any payments or bequests to the Town of Shaftsbury School District, provides that the net income from the fund be paid annually to the school district.

## LIBRARY FUND-RESTRICTED

All net income is paid annually upon request to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association to purchase books for the library at the Shaftsbury Elementary School.

## LIBRARY FUND-UNRESTRICTED

In June 1994 the trustees received a check for \$10,000 from the estate of Tirzah J. Sweet as an unrestricted bequest to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library, located in the Shaftsbury Elementary School. Net income is credited to the fund. Monies from this fund are requested and disbursed at the discretion of the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association.

## HEALTH FUND

All net income is to be credited to the Shaftsbury Health Fund. Income can be drawn from the Health Fund as needed for current activities related to community health.

## RECREATION FUND

The Selectboard established this fund to function as an endowment providing income for use in supporting recreation projects in the Town of Shaftsbury. Prior town recreation saving accounts together with Howard Park contributions were either transferred or deposited into this fund to make up its principal. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year for use by the recreation committee.

## JULIA MATTISON FUND

A 1919 will of Julia E. Mattison, a Shaftsbury resident established this fund. The Bennington Probate Court distributed the funds to the Town in a 1926 order following Ms. Mattison's death. Fund income provides care, comfort and maintenance of any aged and needful women who are residents of the Town of Shaftsbury under the terms of Ms. Mattison's will. The Selectboard determines recipients of assistance from this fund at its discretion.

## GEORGE W. HAWKINS FUND

A generous legacy from a former resident, George W. Hawkins, established this fund in 1976. Net income is credited to the fund. The fund is unrestricted as to use and monies are disbursed at the discretion of the Selectboard. It has been the Selectboard's policy to maintain a minimum principal of \$80,000.

## HOWARD PARK FUND

Florence Howard kindly bequeathed half of her estate to the town in 2017. The funds are to be earmarked for any use relating to Howard Park. The funds are invested to protect the principle while net income is reinvested back into the fund. The Selectboard has discretion over the use of the funds as they relate to Howard Park.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Fund	Raymond James Starting Balance 30-Jun-17	Income	Gains (Losses)	Additions	Withdrawals	Investment Fees	Rounding	RJ Ending Balance		People's Bank Ending Balance		Allocation of Investment Fees		Net Income
								30-Jun-18	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-18	30-Jun-18	2017 Income	2017 Gains to Income	
Cemetery Trust	26,483	1,068	(447)	1,478	-	(189)	-	28,392	11	28,403	1,068	(447)		
Cemetery Perp Trust	130,770	5,256	(1,589)	-	(3,216)	(811)	-	130,411	50	130,460	5,256	(1,589)	50%	406
Huntington Cemetery	57,372	2,289	(800)	-	-	(371)	-	58,490	22	58,512	2,289	(800)		
School	31,060	1,231	(482)	-	(764)	(207)	-	30,839	12	30,850	1,231	(482)	50%	104
Library - Restricted	13,359	528	(267)	-	(329)	(100)	-	13,192	5	13,197	528	(267)	50%	50
Library - Unrestricted	11,152	441	(189)	-	(274)	(88)	-	11,042	4	11,046	441	(189)	50%	44
Health	30,314	1,203	(477)	-	-	(204)	-	30,836	12	30,848	1,203	(477)		
Recreation	101,565	4,042	(1,314)	-	(2,497)	(634)	-	101,162	38	101,201	4,042	(1,314)	50%	317
Julia Mattison	32,955	1,312	(508)	-	-	(220)	-	33,539	13	33,552	1,312	(508)		
G.W. Hawkins	145,371	5,797	(1,846)	-	-	(910)	-	148,412	56	148,468	5,797	(1,846)		
Howard Park	-	2,309	(1,365)	70,637	-	(338)	-	71,243	-	71,243	2,309	(1,365)		
Grandview Cemetery	-	674	(2,992)	81,894	(15,000)	(102)	-	64,474	15,000	79,474	674	(2,992)	50%	51
<b>Total Public Funds</b>	<b>580,402</b>	<b>26,150</b>	<b>(12,276)</b>	<b>#####</b>	<b>(22,079)</b>	<b>(4,174)</b>	<b>722,032</b>	<b>15,223</b>	<b>737,255</b>	<b>26,150</b>	<b>(12,276)</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>11,200</b>	

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage the funds for the purpose of providing income while protecting the purchasing power of funds through capital investment. D.B. McKenna & Co., Inc. provides investment advice to the Trustees.

Shaftsbury Public Funds were invested as follows at June 30, 2018

Money Market Funds and Bank Deposits	\$ 202,873	Cemetery Perpetual Trust	4,850
Certificates of Deposit	0	Recreation	3,725
Bonds	0	School	1,127
Equity Mutual Funds	<u>534,382</u>	Library - Restricted	478
	<u>\$ 737,255</u>	Library - Unrestricted	397
		Grandview Cemetery	623
		Grandview Cemetery	<u>674</u>
			11,874

Distributions of FY 2017 Income

Respectfully submitted

Robert Steuer  
Barry Mayer  
Bill Hession

## 2019/2020 BUDGET

The full Independent Auditor's Report is available in the electronic Annual Report  
and can be found on our website at [www.shaftsburyvt.gov](http://www.shaftsburyvt.gov)

Hard copy is also available by contacting Town Administrator, David Kiernan,  
at 802-442-4038 ext. 3 or emailing [administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov](mailto:administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov)

### BUDGET SUMMARY

REVENUES	FY19	FY20	
PROPERTY TAXES	1598632	1661804	
OTHER TAX REVENUE	35367	35367	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	220796	220405	
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	97385	96031	
MISC	23780	30715	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1975960</b>	<b>2044322</b>	<b>3.46%</b>
EXPENSES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	329077	357664	8.60%
PUBLIC SAFETY	134329	147748	10%
PUBLIC WORKS	989925	1010507	2%
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	15785	20361	29%
COUNTY TAXES	29000	29500	1.80%
DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES	89685	120082	34%
<i>SUBTOTAL W/O RESERVES</i>	1587800	1685862	6%
TRANSFERS TO RESERVES	312500	275000	-12%
<i>SUBTOTAL W/O CA</i>	1900300	1960862	3%
COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS	75660	83460	10%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1975960</b>	<b>2044322</b>	<b>3.46%</b>
TAX CALCULATOR			
EXPENSES PLUS CA	1975960	2044322	
NON TAX REVENUE	377328	382518	
EXCESS FUND BALANCE	0	0	
<b>TAXES TO BALANCE</b>	<b>1598632</b>	<b>1661804</b>	
GRAND LIST/100	4049925	4049925	
TAX RATE	0.3947	0.4103	4%
TAX RATE CHANGE	0.0112	0.0156	
Increase per \$100,000 valuation	\$15.60		

Account	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY-2018 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-6-01 Tax Revenues				
100-6-01-00-003.005 Current Tax Revenue	1541492	1507395.63	1598632	1661804
100-6-01-00-003.015 Taxpayer Prebates Fr St	21252	27958.2	24681	24681
100-6-01-00-003.017 Late Filed HS Dec Penalty	0	3118.1	2051	2051
100-6-01-00-003.020 Delinquent Tax Revenue	2471	0	0	0
100-6-01-00-003.025 Delinq. Tax Interest	11500	11523.84	8635	8635
100-6-01-00-003.030 Education billing fee	0	9049.38	0	0
100-6-01-00-003.035 Tax Sale Fees	0	1264.37	0	0
<b>Total Tax Revenues</b>	<b>1576715</b>	<b>1560309.52</b>	<b>1633999</b>	<b>1697171</b>
100-6-02 Intergovernmental Rev				
100-6-02-00-003.030 Railroad Tax	300	990.52	65	65
100-6-02-00-003.035 St Land Use	36530	38145	36530	36530
100-6-02-00-003.040 VT Forests & Parks	17874	0	0	0
100-6-02-00-003.045 State PILOT	1191	16407.76	18610	18610
100-6-02-00-003.050 Fed Land Pilot Program	4664	3453	6400	6400
100-6-02-00-003.055 VT Highway St Aid	155000	158681.35	158800	158800
100-6-02-00-003.060 Government Grants	0	0	3391	0
100-6-02-00-003.065 Fire Communications Grant	0	0	0	0
100-6-02-00-003.070 Efficiency VT	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Intergovernmental Rev</b>	<b>215559</b>	<b>217677.63</b>	<b>223796</b>	<b>220405</b>
100-6-03 Charges For Services				
100-6-03-00-003.050 Water charge for labor	0	1838.28	0	5016
100-6-03-00-003.065 Brush Fees	200	148	125	125
100-6-03-00-003.070 Access Permits	10500	9095	10500	10500
100-6-03-00-003.075 PAYT Revenue	32600	32881.11	32600	32600

	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY-2018 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-6-03-00-003.080	0	0	0	0
100-6-03-00-003.085	0	266	0	0
100-6-03-00-003.090	5000	5505	5850	5850
<b>Total Charges For Services</b>	<b>48300</b>	<b>49733.39</b>	<b>49075</b>	<b>54091</b>
-----				
100-6-04 Licenses				
100-6-04-00-003.095	3750	3854	3750	3750
100-6-04-00-003.100	185	185	130	130
100-6-04-00-003.105	0	126	0	0
<b>Total Licenses</b>	<b>3935</b>	<b>4165</b>	<b>3880</b>	<b>3880</b>
-----				
100-6-05 Fines and Forfeits				
100-6-05-00-003.105	400	0	400	400
100-6-05-00-003.110	500	1961.19	4500	4500
100-6-05-00-003.115	4800	0	0	0
<b>Total Fines and Forfeits</b>	<b>5700</b>	<b>1961.19</b>	<b>4900</b>	<b>4900</b>
-----				
100-6-06 Interest Income				
100-6-06-00-003.120	1800	2845.06	1200	1200
<b>Total Interest Income</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>2845.06</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>1200</b>
-----				
100-6-30-20-003.015	0	0	0	0
100-6-30-40 Howard Park				
100-6-30-40-003.005	2300	2496.88	2300	2300
100-6-30-40-003.010	700	200	100	100
100-6-30-40-003.020	0	0	0	0
100-6-30-40-003.030	0	67	0	0
100-6-30-40-003.035	0	0	0	0
100-6-30-40-003.040	1500	0	1500	1500

	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY-2018 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
<b>Total Howard Park</b>	<b>4500</b>	<b>2763.88</b>	<b>3900</b>	<b>3900</b>
<hr/>				
100-6-30-45 Cemetery Revenue				
100-6-30-45-003.000 Burial Fees	1500	4550	1500	1500
100-6-30-45-003.005 Burial Permits	0	60	0	0
100-6-30-45-003.010 Lot Fees	3600	2450	3600	3600
100-6-30-45-003.015 Cemetery Trusts-perp	5400	3215.64	3000	3000
100-6-30-45-003.020 Grandview lot fees	0	0	0	0
100-6-30-45-003.030 Misc Revenue	125	335.35	0	0
100-6-30-45-003.035 Corner Markers	1500	360	1800	1800
100-6-30-45-003.040 Grandview other revenue	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Cemetery Revenue</b>	<b>12125</b>	<b>10970.99</b>	<b>9900</b>	<b>9900</b>
<hr/>				
100-6-35 Clerk revenue				
100-6-35-00-003.005 Recording fees	21764	33037.05	41640	41640
100-6-35-00-003.010 Birth certificates	0	0	0	0
100-6-35-00-003.095 Misc revenue	0	257.68	0	300
<b>Total Clerk revenue</b>	<b>21764</b>	<b>33294.73</b>	<b>41640</b>	<b>41940</b>
<hr/>				
100-6-40-00 Other income				
100-6-40-00-003.001 Proceeds fr long-trm debt	0	0	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.005 Insurance proceeds	0	12544.76	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.010 trans in surplus fund bal	0	0	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.015 Sale of Equipment	0	1000	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.020 Listers copies	0	57.7	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.125 Employee Health Share	0	0	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.130 Employee Disability share	0	0	0	0
100-6-40-00-003.135 Other Income	0	3384.88	0	0
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16987.34</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<hr/>				
100-6-45 Operating Transfers In				

	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
	FY - 2018	FY-2018 Pd:12	FY - 2019	FY - 2020
100-6-45-00-003.131	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.132	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.133	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.134	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.135	0	533.75	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.136	0	0	0	6935
100-6-45-00-003.137	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.138	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.140	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.145	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.147	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.149	0	0	0	0
100-6-45-00-003.150	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Operating Transfers In</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>533.75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6935</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1890398</b>	<b>1901242.48</b>	<b>1972290</b>	<b>2044322</b>
<b>Total GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>1890398</b>	<b>1901242.48</b>	<b>1972290</b>	<b>2044322</b>

Account	Actual FY-2018 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	NOTE
100-7-10 General Govt				
100-7-10-00 Administration				
100-7-10-00-110.000 Select Board Stipend	2400	3250	3250	
100-7-10-00-110.005 Meeting Recording Clerk	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-110.010 Town Administrator	60000.2	66000	70000	
100-7-10-00-110.015 Administrative Support	223.76	0	0	
100-7-10-00-210.000 Town Admin Health Ins Pre	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-210.001 Health Plan Admin	887	1000	1000	
100-7-10-00-211.000 Town Adm Health Deductibl	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-220.000 FICA	4608.79	5049	5075	
100-7-10-00-221.000 Insurance & Bond	53475	54000	56831	
100-7-10-00-228.000 Retirement Contribution	3299.92	3713	4025	
100-7-10-00-250.000 Unemployment - Town	2982	1236	1400	
100-7-10-00-320.000 Professional Services	10179.65	13000	13000	
100-7-10-00-531.000 Postage	417.97	3000	1500	
100-7-10-00-532.000 Meetings/Training	716.17	500	500	
100-7-10-00-532.005 Staff Development	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-540.000 Video/Web Site	2557.5	1750	3950	CAT-TV Fees Added 2200
100-7-10-00-540.005 Advertising & Legals	3394.33	2500	2500	
100-7-10-00-560.000 Dues & Subscriptions	10068.02	10000	11000	
100-7-10-00-610.000 Office Supplies	1579.95	1000	1500	
100-7-10-00-615.000 Office Equipment	2688.03	3000	3000	
100-7-10-00-620.000 Bank service charge	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-800.000 North St Property	0	0	0	
100-7-10-00-888.000 Misc Expenses	2496.66	250	1000	
	161974.95	169248	179531	6.00%
100-7-10-05 Cole Hall				
100-7-10-05-110.000 Custodial Wages	0	0	4345	
100-7-10-05-110.005 Contract Services	3385	4890	0	
100-7-10-05-220.000 FICA	0	0	315	
100-7-10-05-430.000 Repairs & Maintenance	2175.43	3000	3000	
100-7-10-05-610.000 Operating Supplies	1374.28	2300	2300	

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-10-05-622.000 Utilities	4843	5100	5100
100-7-10-05-624.000 Heating Fuel	2240.28	5000	5000
	14017.99	20290	20060
100-7-10-10 Elections & Vital Statist			-1.10%
100-7-10-10-110.000 Town Clerk Stipend	0	0	0
100-7-10-10-110.001 Assistant Town Clerk	6035.75	6240	8419
100-7-10-10-110.002 Town Clerk Salary	29098.6	32760	40334
100-7-10-10-110.005 Poll Workers stipends	912.25	1250	2000
100-7-10-10-210.000 Town Clerk Health Ins Pre	2840.64	6538	6790
100-7-10-10-211.000 Town Clerk Health Deducti	77.07	4000	2000
100-7-10-10-220.000 FICA	2719.85	3079	3535
100-7-10-10-228.000 clerk VMERS DB expense	1623.5	1843	2319
100-7-10-10-228.001 Clerk retirement contr	0	0	0
100-7-10-10-320.000 Professional Services	47.5	0	0
100-7-10-10-532.000 Travel & Meetings - BCA	0	300	500
100-7-10-10-532.001 Travel & Meetings-Town Cl	1008.17	200	500
100-7-10-10-610.000 Oper Equip & Supplie-BCA	2719.82	3000	3000
100-7-10-10-610.001 Mach& Equip/Supplies-TClk	4714.1	2500	6000
	51797.25	61710	75397
100-7-10-2 Finance			22%
100-7-10-20 Accounting/Payroll			
100-7-10-20-110.000 Bookkeeping Wages	5972.46	10462	11073
100-7-10-20-110.015 Bookkeeping	0	0	0
100-7-10-20-220.000 FICA	467.22	800	803
100-7-10-20-320.000 Payroll Services	2275.06	2500	2750
	8714.74	13762	14626
100-7-10-21 Auditing			6%
100-7-10-21-110.000 Auditors Wages	475	1700	1700
100-7-10-21-220.000 FICA	36.35	130	130
100-7-10-21-320.000 Professional Audit	0	0	0
100-7-10-21-532.000 Travel & Meetings	0	200	200

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-10-21-550.000 Town Report	2824.37	2500	3000
100-7-10-22 Delinquent Tax Collection	3335.72	4530	5030
100-7-10-22-220.000 FICA	1270.14	1300	1300
100-7-10-22-610.000 Supplies	58.53	800	800
			11%
100-7-10-23 Treasurer Services	1328.67	2100	2100
100-7-10-23-110.000 Treasurer's Stipend	18000.06	20000	22000
100-7-10-23-110.005 Other Services	102	0	0
100-7-10-23-110.010 PUB bank service charge	660	1320	1320
100-7-10-23-110.015 Billing supplies	1622.6	1875	3000
100-7-10-23-220.000 FICA	1376.92	1530	1595
	21761.58	24725	27915
			13.00%
100-7-10-24 Listers	16612.5	9500	13104
100-7-10-24-110.000 Lister Wages	1332.48	712	951
100-7-10-24-320.000 Professional Services	0	20000	15000
100-7-10-24-320.001 Tax Maps	0	1800	2500
100-7-10-24-442.000 Computer Maintenance	1248.95	500	500
100-7-10-24-532.000 Travel & Meetings	298.5	250	250
100-7-10-24-560.000 Dues & Subscriptions	0	300	300
100-7-10-24-610.000 Operating Supplies	263.93	400	400
	19756.36	33462	33005
			-2.00%
<b>TOTAL FINANCE</b>	54897.07	78579	
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	282687.26	329827	357,664
100-7-20 Public Safety			8.40%
100-7-20-10 Animal Control	0	600	600
100-7-20-10-110.000 ACO Wages			

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-20-10-110.001 Monthly Stipend	6120	6304	6304
100-7-20-10-220.000 FICA	0	46	46
100-7-20-10-320.000 Veterinary Expense	0	750	750
100-7-20-10-610.000 Tags/Misc.	451.05	450	450
	6571.05	8150	8150
100-7-20-15 Emergency Management			
100-7-20-15-430.000 Equip maintenance	317.93	800	200
100-7-20-15-532.000 Travel & Meetings	0	250	200
100-7-20-15-610.000 Operating Supplies	0	400	400
100-7-20-15-620.000 Emer Shelter Equipment	1141	0	600
	1458.93	1450	1400
100-7-20-20 Fire Department			
100-7-20-20-110.000 Chief's Stipend	2600	2600	2600
100-7-20-20-220.000 FICA	0	199	189
100-7-20-20-221.000 Insurance & Bond	0	2550	2550
100-7-20-20-430.000 Firehouse Maintenance	19345.43	19000	11000
100-7-20-20-430.005 Fire Truck Maintenance	10851.19	6000	8000
100-7-20-20-530.000 Communications	5872.94	3000	3000
100-7-20-20-532.000 Chief's Schooling	0	0	0
100-7-20-20-532.001 Training	1534.4	2000	2000
100-7-20-20-610.000 Operating Supplies	55.57	750	750
100-7-20-20-622.000 Utilities	11328.28	9690	10000
100-7-20-20-624.000 Firehouse Heating Fuel	7263.59	11016	11016
100-7-20-20-626.000 Gas, Oil & Diesel	1640.82	4000	4000
100-7-20-20-740.000 Extrication Equipment	1314	2000	2000
100-7-20-20-740.005 Equipment Fund/Air Pacs	6027.42	6000	14000
	67833.64	68805	71105
100-7-20-25 Fire Warden			
100-7-20-25-320.000 Brush Fire Expense	0	0	0
100-7-20-25-610.000 Operating Supplies	0	250	250
100-7-20-25-740.000 Vehicle & Equip	823.29	1500	1500

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-20-30 Law Enforcement	823.29	1750	1750
100-7-20-30-110.000 Constable Wages	0	200	200
100-7-20-30-320.000 Sheriff Services	31295.2	38974	40143
100-7-20-35 Emergency Medical	31295.2	39174	40343
100-7-20-35-420.000 Bennington Rescue	7500	15000	25000
	7500	15000	25000
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>115482.11</b>	<b>134329</b>	<b>147,748</b>
			<b>10.00%</b>
100-7-30 Public Works			
100-7-30-10 Highway Administration			
100-7-30-10-110.000 Hyway Crew Wages	216497.81	244421	278990
100-7-30-10-110.005 Highway Wages - Overtime	36736.34	25000	35410
100-7-30-10-210.000 Hyway Health Ins Prem	51661.52	64269	60144
100-7-30-10-211.000 Hywy Health Deductible	5707.79	18000	16000
100-7-30-10-212.000 Disability Insurance	948.6	4800	2162
100-7-30-10-220.000 FICA	19539.87	20611	22794
100-7-30-10-228.000 Retirement Contribution	13841.84	15155	18078
100-7-30-10-330.000 Uniforms/Cleaning	8990.56	8000	8000
100-7-30-10-532.000 Travel & Meetings	40.31	300	300
100-7-30-10-610.030 Steel Toe Footwear	400	600	600
100-7-30-10-802.000 CDL Drug Testing	587	800	800
100-7-30-15 Hwy Const & Maintenance			
100-7-30-15-320.000 Subcontractor Costs	21800	25200	12100
100-7-30-15-340.000 Signs	2729.41	4000	4000
100-7-30-15-430.000 Tree Removal	3180	15000	15000
100-7-30-15-450.000 Bridges/Guardrails	0	2000	2000
100-7-30-15-450.005 Paving	104.25	0	0
	354951.64	401956	443278
			10%

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-30-15-610.000 Operating Supplies	7081.63	0	1000
100-7-30-15-610.005 Gravel	70578.75	73500	50000
100-7-30-15-610.010 Calcium Chloride	32432.6	50000	50000
100-7-30-15-610.015 Salt	61646.67	48800	48800
100-7-30-15-610.020 Winter Sand	70050.77	52000	52000
100-7-30-15-615.000 Level & Sealing	89.06	5000	5000
100-7-30-15-616.000 DJ-Cleaning	0	1000	1000
100-7-30-15-700.000 Rentals	2100	4000	4000
100-7-30-15-710.000 Property Rental	1800	3000	0
100-7-30-15-740.000 Culverts	12670	5000	5000
100-7-30-15-750.000 Capital Improvem't projec	0	0	0
100-7-30-15-750.001 FY12 Irene Emerg Repairs	0	0	0
100-7-30-15-750.002 Highway Vehicle Purchase	0	0	0
100-7-30-15-750.010 New Town Garage	0	0	0
100-7-30-15-750.015 Sidewalk construct maint	3615.28	0	0
	289878.42	288500	249900
			-13%
100-7-30-20 Hwy Equipment Maint			
100-7-30-20-430.000 Trk #1 - 09 Int	16920.87	2500	1000
100-7-30-20-430.005 Trk #2 - '12 Int	13467.32	1000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.010 Trk #3 - 15 IH 7800	21084.36	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.015 Trk #4 -2013 Intl TandAx	9240.93	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.020 Trk #5 - 06 One Ton	5548.77	2000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.025 Trk #6 - 95/Chloride	4504.78	1500	1000
100-7-30-20-430.030 Trk #7 - 02 One Ton	6105.34	1000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.035 Trk #8 - IH 4300	2156.22	1000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.038 Trk #9 A.M. General	0	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.039 Trk #10 17 Dodge 3500	1143.58	0	1000
100-7-30-20-430.040 Backhoe 2011	2272.98	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.042 J.D. Loader 1991	79.89	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.045 Volvo Excavator	2789.05	2000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.050 Cat Grader 1987	1568.56	2000	2000
100-7-30-20-430.055 J.D. Tractor/Mower 1988	1138.49	1000	1000
100-7-30-20-430.060 Plows & Sanders	2885.97	1500	2000

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-30-20-430.065 Sidewalk Machine	4107.83	1000	1500
100-7-30-20-430.070 J.D. Grader 2010	5926.22	3500	2000
100-7-30-20-430.075 Cat Traxcavator	756.04	1000	1500
100-7-30-20-430.080 Deere Surplus Loader	201.02	0	0
100-7-30-20-442.000 Rentals	165	0	0
100-7-30-20-530.000 Communications	0	500	500
100-7-30-20-626.000 Gas, Oil & Diesel	42862.47	58650	58650
100-7-30-20-740.000 Machinery & Equipment	6102.17	5500	6000
	-----	-----	-----
	151027.86	90650	93150
			2.70%
100-7-30-25 Highway Garage			
100-7-30-25-320.000 Professional Services	196.8	0	0
100-7-30-25-430.000 Repairs & Maintenance	115.83	500	500
100-7-30-25-610.000 Operating Supplies	2617.53	4000	4000
100-7-30-25-622.000 Utilities	3758.42	3745	3745
100-7-30-25-624.000 Heating Fuel	4549.82	6242	6242
100-7-30-25-740.005 Machinery & Equipment	4033.6	0	1000
	-----	-----	-----
	15272	14487	15487
			7%
100-7-30-30 Solid Waste Facility			
100-7-30-30-110.000 Attendant Wages	14953.22	15600	16317
100-7-30-30-220.000 FICA	1181.91	1197	1182
100-7-30-30-320.000 Professional Services	30434.64	0	0
100-7-30-30-320.005 Management Contract	28649.64	58964	70260
100-7-30-30-320.010 Methane Well Monitoring	158.81	400	400
100-7-30-30-320.015 Solid Waste Implement Pla	12080.26	18000	18000
100-7-30-30-320.020 Subcontract Costs	0	0	0
100-7-30-30-320.025 Groundwater Monitoring	18780.38	16000	18000
100-7-30-30-421.000 Solid Waste Removal	22719.65	23344	24000
100-7-30-30-421.005 Tire Removal	0	0	0
100-7-30-30-430.000 Repairs & Maintenance	692.29	1000	1000
100-7-30-30-610.000 Operating Supplies	117.48	1000	1000
100-7-30-30-610.004 Landfill Mowing	0	0	0
100-7-30-30-610.005 Sticker Costs	2028.66	1600	2000

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-30-30-622.000 Transfer Station Utilitie	747.14	500	500
100-7-30-30-622.005 Landfill Utilities	0	300	300
100-7-30-30-626.000 Gas, Oil & Diesel	0	0	0
100-7-30-30-801.000 Hazardous Waste Days (2)	0	0	0
	132544.08	137905	152959
			11%
100-7-30-35 Street Lights			
100-7-30-35-622.000 Hawks Avenue	353.59	425	425
100-7-30-35-622.005 S Shafstbury Village	7806.18	8500	8500
	8159.77	8925	8925
			0
100-7-30-40 Park			
100-7-30-40-110.000 Salaries & Wages	0	0	0
100-7-30-40-220.000 FICA	0	0	0
100-7-30-40-320.000 Professional Services	85	0	0
100-7-30-40-430.000 Bldg. Const., Maint., Repair	858.59	1000	2000
100-7-30-40-430.001 Equip Maint	422.88	1000	0
100-7-30-40-530.001 Refund Key deposit	0	0	0
100-7-30-40-610.000 Operating Supplies	198.32	500	500
100-7-30-40-615.000 Equipment	73.7	0	0
100-7-30-40-622.000 Utilities	583.74	475	500
100-7-30-40-626.000 Reimburse Gas	0	0	0
100-7-30-40-750.001 Capital improvements	0	0	0
	2222.23	2975	3000
			0
100-7-30-45 Cemetary Expenditures			
100-7-30-45-110.000 Superintendent salary	5217.56	5100	7000
100-7-30-45-110.005 Cemetary Asst	135	3470	0
100-7-30-45-220.000 FICA	414.57	657	508
100-7-30-45-320.000 Contract Services	26025	24000	25000
100-7-30-45-430.000 Repairs & Maintenance	2315.24	4000	4000
100-7-30-45-532.000 Travel & Meetings	357.38	400	400
100-7-30-45-740.001 Misc	240	0	0
100-7-30-45-750.000 Corner Markers Installati	250	200	200

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-30-45-750.001 Corner Markers	640	1300	1300
100-7-30-45-892.000 Transfer to Perp Care Fun	0	5400	5400
100-7-30-45-895.000 Buy Back Lotsl	0	0	0
	35594.75	44527	43808
			-1.60%
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>989650.75</b>	<b>989925</b>	<b>1,010,507</b>
			2%
100-7-40 Planning & Development			
100-7-40-05 Development Review Board			
100-7-40-05-110.000 Board Members Stipend	300	500	500
100-7-40-05-110.005 Recording Clerk Wages	0	0	0
100-7-40-05-220.000 FICA	0	0	0
100-7-40-05-320.000 Professional Services	706.25	1820	1820
100-7-40-05-532.000 Travel & Meetings	0	500	500
100-7-40-05-540.000 Advertising & Legals	1502.6	1000	1000
100-7-40-05-610.000 Equipment/Supplies	0	100	100
100-7-40-05-779.000 Town Clerk Recording Fees	0	0	0
100-7-40-05-800.000 Zoning Adm Permit Fees	0	0	0
	2508.85	3920	3920
			0
100-7-40-10 Planning			
100-7-40-10-110.000 Board Members Stipend	300	500	500
100-7-40-10-110.001 Meeting Recording Clerk	0	0	0
100-7-40-10-110.003 Zoning Admin Wage	8732.19	10000	11000
100-7-40-10-220.000 FICA	681.42	765	841
100-7-40-10-320.000 Professional Services	390	0	3500 New Town Plan
100-7-40-10-330.000 MPG Local Match transfer	0	0	0
100-7-40-10-532.000 Travel & Meetings	0	250	250
100-7-40-10-540.000 Advertising & Legals	0	200	200
100-7-40-10-550.000 Printing	0	0	0
100-7-40-10-610.000 Operating Supplies	0	150	150
	10103.61	11865	16441
			38%
100-7-40-15 Town Tree Warden			

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>12612.46</b>	<b>15785</b>	<b>20,361 29.00%</b>
100-7-50-00 Community Appropriations			
100-7-50-00-801.000 Arlington Rescue Squad	7000	7000	7000
100-7-50-00-801.005 Benn Coalition Homeless	1000	1000	1000
100-7-50-00-801.007 Benn Cty Child Advoc Ctr	0	500	500
100-7-50-00-801.010 Benn Cty Conservation Dis	475	475	475
100-7-50-00-801.015 Benn Free Library	16750	17250	17750
100-7-50-00-801.020 Benn Proj Independence	4560	4560	4560
100-7-50-00-801.025 Bennington Rescue Squad	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.030 BROC	1700	1700	1700
100-7-50-00-801.035 Ctr Restorative Justice	540	600	600
100-7-50-00-801.040 G D Aiken RC&D	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.045 Grandview Cemetery Assoc	2000	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.050 Green Up Vermont	200	200	200
100-7-50-00-801.055 Habitat for Humanity	1850	1850	1850
100-7-50-00-801.060 John G McCullough Library	10000	20000	20000
100-7-50-00-801.062 Martha Canfield Library	0	2000	2000
100-7-50-00-801.065 NeighborWorks of Western	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.070 Little League	0	600	600
100-7-50-00-801.075 Paran Recreations Inc	2500	2500	4300
100-7-50-00-801.077 Park McCullough House	1000	1000	1500
100-7-50-00-801.080 PAVE	450	450	450
100-7-50-00-801.085 RSVP	950	950	950
100-7-50-00-801.087 Sage City Symphony	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.090 Shaftsbury Garden Club	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.095 Northern Vt RC&D	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.100 Shaftsbury Historical Soc	2500	2500	2500
100-7-50-00-801.105 Sunrise Family Resource	0	1000	1000
100-7-50-00-801.107 SWVT Agency on Aging	1100	1100	1100
100-7-50-00-801.110 Taconic Community Grange	0	0	0
100-7-50-00-801.113 Turning Point Center	0	0	0

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-50-00-801.115 Tutorial Center	900	900	900
100-7-50-00-801.125 VNA/Hospice SVHC	5225	5225	5225
100-7-50-00-801.130 Vt Assoc Blind/Vis Imp	300	300	300
100-7-50-00-801.135 VT Center Independent Liv	1000	1000	1000
100-7-50-00-801.140 WBTN	0	0	5000
100-7-50-00-801.145 Benn Free Clinic	1000	1000	1000
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>63000</b>	<b>75660</b>	<b>83460</b>
100-7-55 County Tax			<b>10%</b>
100-7-55-00-800.000 County Tax	28623.69	29000	29500
<b>TOTAL COUNTY TAX</b>	<b>28623.69</b>	<b>29000</b>	<b>29500</b>
100-7-65 Debt Service Expenditures			<b>1.73%</b>
100-7-65-00-895.005 Fire: Lease Pmt #3 of 7	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.010 Hwy: Lease Pmt #1 of 5	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.015 Hwy: Lease Pmt #3 of 5	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.020 Interest Expense	621.81	1000	1000
100-7-65-00-895.025 Landfill Capping Debt Svc	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.040 Lease Deere JD Grader	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.045 Kansas JD Ldr '12 Int Trk	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.050 Replace Backhoe (1998)	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.055 Truck #4	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.060 Replace Fire Truck #66	0	0	0
100-7-65-00-895.065 13 Vol Exc 13 Dodg Ram	38203.53	38204	0
100-7-65-00-895.070 Lease 2014 Tandem Plow	37146.7	37147	37147
100-7-65-00-895.075 492 North St Debt Service	13598.64	13334	0
100-7-65-00-895.080 510 North Rd Debt Service	10400	0	0
100-7-65-00 Garage Bond Payment	0	0	81935
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICES</b>	<b>99970.68</b>	<b>89685</b>	<b>120082</b>
100-7-70-00 Transfer to Reserves			<b>34%</b>
100-7-70-00-610.000 Equipment	0	0	0
100-7-70-00-892.005 Reappraisal Reserve Fund	5000	5000	5000
100-7-70-00-892.010 Cole Hall Reserve Fund	10000	10000	10000

	Actual FY-2018	Budget FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020
100-7-70-00-892.015 Econ Dev Reserve Fund	0	0	0
100-7-70-00-892.020 Equip Reserve Fund	50000	63000	90000
100-7-70-00-892.025 Fire Warden Trk Reserve	1000	1000	1000
100-7-70-00-892.030 Fire Truck Reserve Fund	40000	45000	55000
100-7-70-00-892.035 Garage Reserve Fund	118552	75000	0
100-7-70-00-892.040 Grader Reserve Fund	0	0	0
100-7-70-00-892.055 Paving Reserve Fund	35000	35000	35000
100-7-70-00-892.060 Sidewalk Reserve Fund	0	0	0
100-7-70-00-892.065 Cemetery Reserve Fund	4000	4000	4000
100-7-70-00-892.070 Contingency reserve	0	0	0
100-7-70-00-892.072 Park Reserve Fund	3000	3000	3000
100-7-70-00-892.075 Culvert Reserve	10000	5000	5000
100-7-70-00-892.085 Audit Reserve	14000	14500	15000
100-7-70-00-892.090 Veterans Memorial (Hooke)	3000	3000	3000
100-7-70-00-892.095 Class 3 Rd Reserve	49000	49000	49000
<b>TOTAL TRANSFERS TO RESERVES</b>	<b>342552</b>	<b>312500</b>	<b>275000</b>
			<b>-12%</b>
<b>FY TOTAL</b>	<b>1934578.95</b>	<b>1976711</b>	<b>2,044,322</b>
			<b>3.42%</b>

## BUDGET NOTES

The Selectboard is proud of our record on spending and taxes. Thanks in large part to the work of Town Administrator David Kiernan, each year we have managed to make town government more effective and efficient without raising taxes. The FY19 tax rate was hardly changed from FY16. FY20 will see a modest increase, but well below what would be expected from inflation. The increase is largely the result of increased costs that we can no longer absorb. A few areas of note are:

- Bennington Rescue Squad will see another increase. They have been subsidizing our EMS services for years by operating in large part on an endowment. As that endowment runs out they are forced to move to a continuously funded business model.
- Community Appropriations are expected to increase again. These charitable expenses are all decided by you the voter.

Next year we envision several efforts that will be funded through reserve funds without affecting taxes or annual expenses. These include:

- Cemetery maintenance including headstone cleaning and righting.
- Playground equipment at Howard and Cleveland parks.
- Survey broadband and cell coverage in Shaftsbury.
- Cole Hall exterior improvements and maintenance.

A. \$3,000 for records preservation through KOFILE

B. Assessor/Lister restructured position

C. NEMRC support contract

D. Concentrate on other road improvement methods – ditches

/trees/grading schedule Only 11% of FY19 gravel budget used so far.

E. Funds will be used for materials, equipment rentals and grant matches on Class 3 roads.

## SELECTBOARD

This year saw major building projects get under way with the garage, transfer station, and the interior of Cole Hall. More is on the way as we prepare to undertake the exterior of Cole Hall and move closer to upgrading the water mains in the village. The Town accomplished a lot in 2018 and we are not slowing down.

As the new year begins, the new Public Works garage is largely complete. We expect to get handed the keys in February. The road crew will begin moving in as time and weather permit over the winter. Final site work will have to wait until thaw. This has been a point of focus for the Town for nine years; we are glad to see it move to completion.

The newly designed transfer station has been operational for several months. The old buildings are gone and the whole area looks and functions better. The area is larger, providing more parking and driving lanes, and everything is in the same area; you no longer have to drive to the back lot to dump metal. Better signage and a swap shed are on the way. We are pleased we were able to make this facility upgrade as part of the garage project.

We were pleased this year to bring on board Michael Yanotti as our new Superintendent of Public Works. Mike lives in Shaftsbury and comes with a decade's experience working for VTrans. He is putting us on a path to better roads. Many of you are already noticing his impact as the road crew has started on an aggressive program to rebuild the right of way on our gravel roads – ditching, brushing, and reestablishing proper road structure. We have high hope for Michael and the entire department.

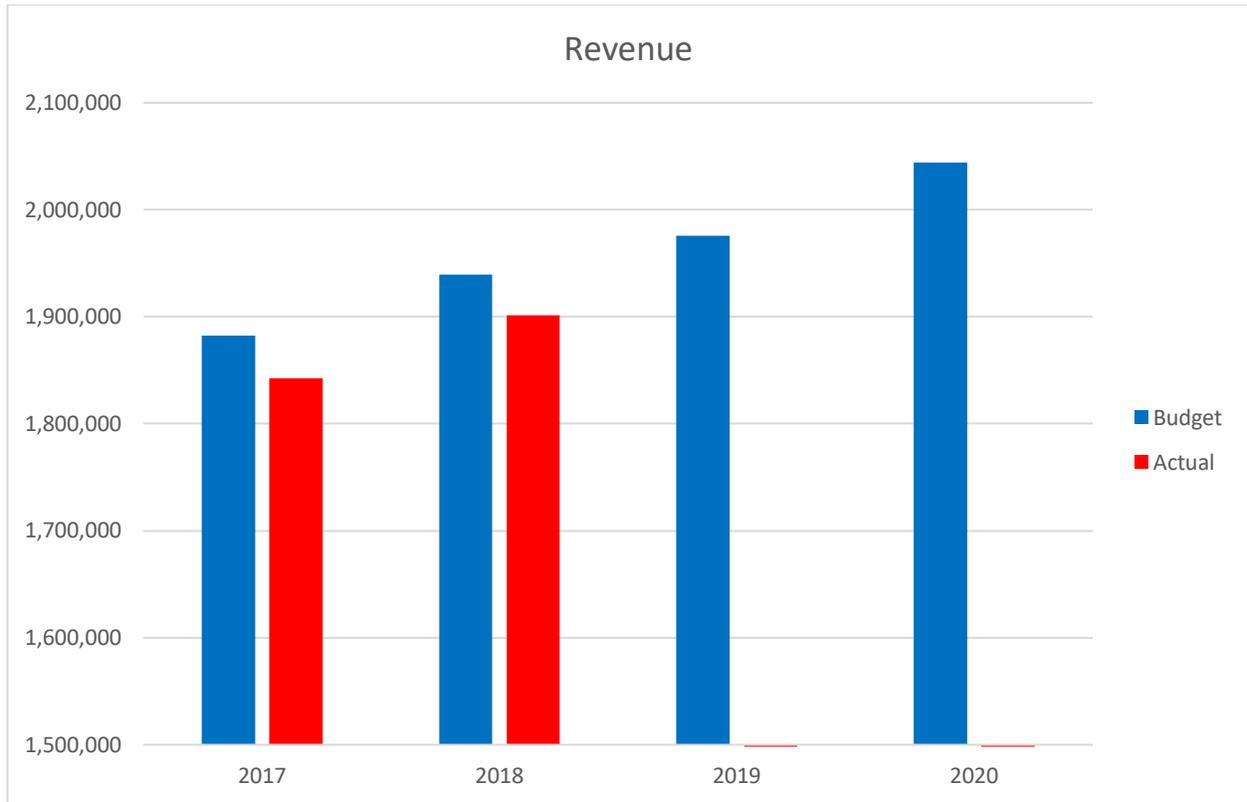
In the coming years, the Town will undertake replacing the water mains in the village. An engineering study last year revealed that the pipes are at the end of their expected life span. While there is yet no indication of a problem, we must start soon as this will be a decades long undertaking. Cost will be offset by timing the effort to coincide with the end of payments on current Water Dept. bonds. We are indebted to our Water Dept. Superintendent Jim McGinnis for bring this matter to our attention.

Our economic development efforts saw the completion of several years of work to establish a two-county economic zone with Windham. As the new year dawns, the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (SoVT CEDS) is up, running, and accepting applications. Individuals, organization, and entrepreneurs can now seek designation as a Vital Project by the SoVT CEDS. This designation can open doors to funding at many levels. Establishment of a two-county CEDS is one of several bright spots on our economic horizon.

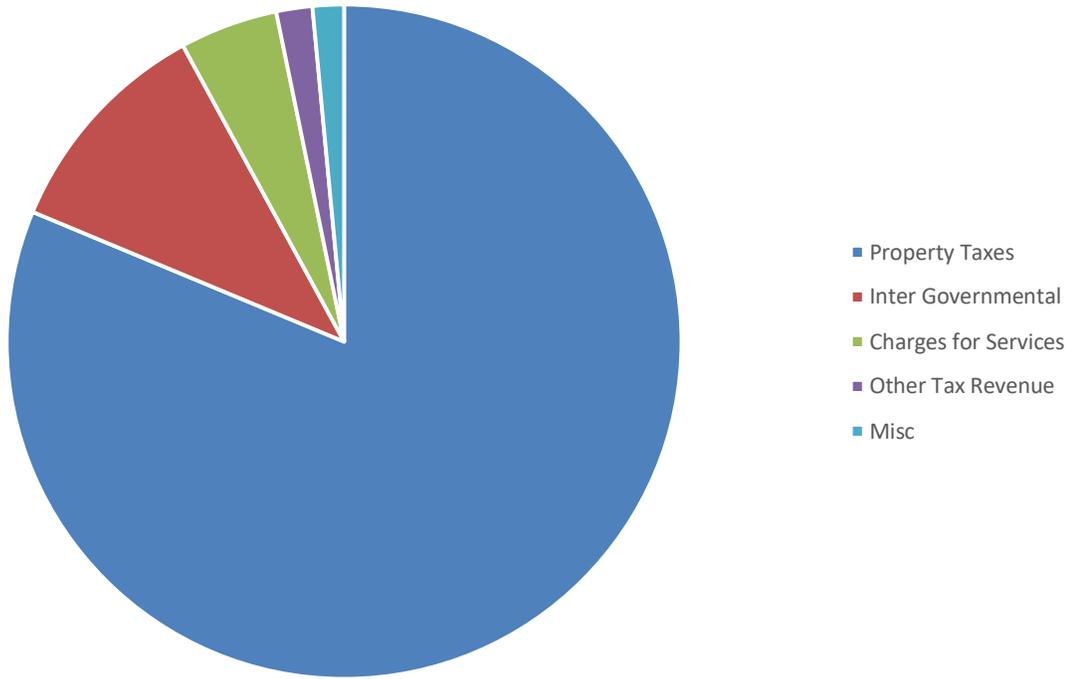
Another outgrowth of our two-county collaboration is a push to expand broadband in SoVT through local effort. It is becoming clearer all the time that no one is going solve this problem for us. Many Vermont towns have already spun up homegrown broadband efforts. For our part, the Shaftsbury Planning Commission is gearing up to survey the state of broadband and cell coverage in Shaftsbury. Be watching for your chance to provide information for the survey.

As we look to 2019 the effort to upgrade facilities at Cole Hall is prominent. Removal of the old garage building and moving highway operation out of the village is allowing us to take a look at the entire town hall facility. We are long overdue in turning the Cole Hall complex into something we can point to with pride. We are eager to see long overdue improvements and maintenance happen.

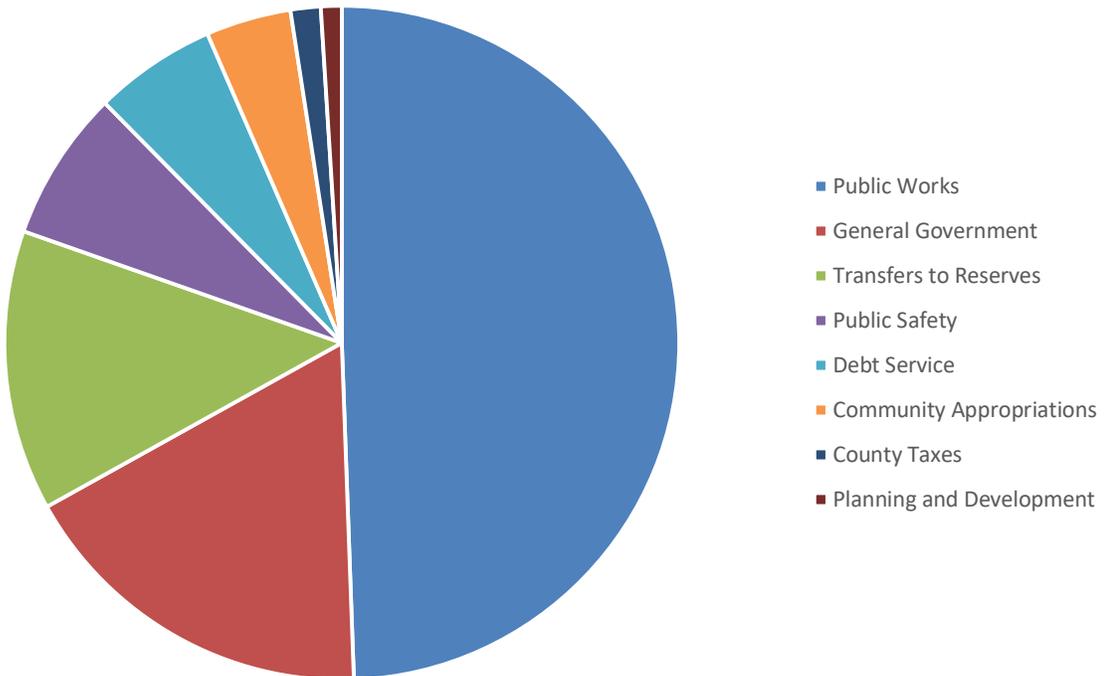
## Budget Trends



FY20 Projected Revenues \$2,044,322



FY20 Projected Expenses \$2,044,322



# TOWN CLERK REPORT

As I am approaching the start of my third year as Shaftsbury's Town Clerk, I am reminded of the saying "time flies when you're having fun". The first two years have flown by. I have to say a big thank you to my Assistant Town Clerk, Gina Jenks. If I can't be in the office, I know I am leaving it in good hand with Gina.

This office continues to be a busy place with many attorneys, realtors, researchers and residents visiting daily. I am happy to report that we had three well attended elections this past year. It is always a good thing when our citizens are engaged in the voting process.

I have started working on two certifications. The Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) and the Certified Vermont Clerk (CVC). I hope to have both certifications completed in the next two to three years.

Due to new state law, we regret that we will no longer be able to offer Notary services in the office.

The State of Vermont is also updating its Vital Records Law, the following is a quick rundown of the changes.

Marlene Hall, Town Clerk



## The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 46 in May 2017, which significantly changes the state laws that govern vital records –namely, birth and death certificates. The new law and rules will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates, provide better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the entire statewide system for creation, storage and tracking of birth and death certificates. Act 46 will impact anyone who seeks a copy of a Vermont birth or death certificate. **The changes go into effect on July 1, 2019.**

The most notable changes are:

- Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.
- An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.
- Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.
- Access to noncertified copies (previously called "informational" copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.
- Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

## VITALS REPORT

Births  
24

Marriages  
17

Deaths  
24

## **LISTERS' REPORT**

It may look and sound like chaos in Cole Hall but actually Dave Kiernan, our most able Town Administrator, is on top of everything and things continue to operate smoothly. The construction going on upstairs in the building is to define office areas which will make it much more comfortable and efficient.

We Listers are in the downstairs office where the Administrator, Treasurer Melanie Dexter, and Bookkeeper Joan Vargo used to be. They, all three, are out in the trailer in the parking lot next to the garage and are all wired and set up to continue working as normally as possible.

We are still getting settled and finding places for everything but we are there and open for business. Bob McLeish, professional appraiser, joined us in our office and things are going well.

I would like to remind everyone again (I do this every year, I know) that the Listers are involved with property assessments, not taxes. When you grieve in the summer you are grieving only the assessment of your property. If you wish to discuss or vent about your property taxes I encourage you to talk to the folks in Montpelier, or write letters to them and to the Select Board and the School Board. They would value your thoughts on the matter and of course community input and participation is always recommended.

Our hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 AM to 12:00 noon. We are often in the office other days and times as well but not dependably so call first if you plan to come by or need anything. We are also available by appointment.

Diana H Mayer  
Chair, Board of Listers

**DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF  
JUNE 30, 2018**

**2009 Taxes**

Carter	Tina M.	2009	74.17 A
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**2010 Taxes**

Carter	Tina M.	2010	46.96 A
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**2014 Taxes**

Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	2014	3367.75 B
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**2015 Taxes**

Carter	Tina M.	2015	50.68 A
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	2015	3481.02 B
Fox Estate	Mary C.	2015	1339.33 *
<b>Total 2015</b>			<b>4871.03</b>

**2016 Taxes**

Carter	Tina M.	2016	50.98 A
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	2016	3501.40 B
Dunn	Cheryl A.	2016	461.12 P
Fox Estate	Mary C.	2016	4597.53 P
Gardner	Mark A. & Noreen S.	2016	1107.38 *
Peacock Estate	George	2016	40.06
Vanderwerken Jr.	David	2016	790.47 *
<b>Total 2016</b>			<b>10548.94</b>

Ahrens	Elizabeth		351.67 P
Atherton	Mark & Holly	2017	776.30 *
Bendik	John S. & Lisa A	2017	273.51 *
Benson	Lizzie M.	2017	1422.57 P
Borden	Kevin P. & Jane M.	2017	1520.30 *
Bouteiller	Alfred & Dorothy	2017	233.24 *
Briggs Jr.	Harry	2017	184.46 *
Burnham	Barbara J.	2017	781.85 *
Caccamo	Clint E.	2017	2398.15 *
Carter	Tina M.	2017	51.02 A
Carver	Michael A.	2017	1422.95 *
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	2017	3504.28 B
Charpentier	Ida M.	2017	222.62 *
Davis Jr	Ralph	2017	187.36 *
Dunn	Cheryl A.	2017	978.84
Fox Estate	Mary C.	2017	4601.31 P
Galusha	Gwendolyn	2017	80.15 *
Garcia	Richard & Elise	2017	2287.63
Gardner	Mark A. & Noreen S.	2017	2163.37
Green	John W.	2017	2667.85 *

Harmon Jr.	Richard	2017	544.87 P
Hein	Richard F.	2017	1857.87 P
Jesseman	Laurie	2017	272.57 *
Joly	Wendy	2017	820.04
Kennedy	Kenneth M. & Mary	2017	1174.32 P
Kennedy	Kenneth M. & Mary A.	2017	2062.43 *
Kozloski	Ronald & Robin	2017	1604.45 P
Legacy	Edward S.	2017	577.21 P
Maser	Barbara	2017	771.91 *
Mayer	Kimberly	2017	667.23 *
Noble	Mark	2017	715.05 P
Peters	Dan R. & Lynn M.	2017	1157.34 P
Pike	Blake A.	2017	21.88 *
Rice	William C.	2017	19.36 p
Richmond	Henry G.	2017	25.89 *
Ringwood	Fredrick	2017	1418.88 P
Sarvis	Mary Jane	2017	2497.32 P
Snyder	Benjamin J. & Barbara J.	2017	517.40 *
Statewide Corporation		2017	40.09
Statewide Corporaton		2017	20.05
Thompson	Zilpha	2017	728.92 *
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	2017	5530.68
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	2017	5299.25
Vanderwerken Jr.	David	2017	4066.32 *
Vanderwerken Jr.	David & Rene	2017	29.27 *
Wade	Brian D. & Judith Ann	2017	1750.58 *
			<b>60300.61</b>

**GRAND TOTAL UNPAID TAXES**

**79209.46**

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS**

YEAR	AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2017	AMOUNT COLLECTED	DELINQUENT AMOUNT 6/30/2018
2009	74.17	0	74.17
2010	46.96	0	46.96
2014	3367.75	0	3367.75
2015	14814.95	9943.92	4871.03
2016	<u>53141.65</u>	<u>42592.71</u>	<u>10548.94</u>
Sub Total	71445.48	52536.63	18908.85
2017	<u>262413.04</u>	<u>202112.43</u>	<u>60300.61</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>333858.52</b>	<b>254649.06</b>	<b>79209.46</b>

Respectfully Submitted,

Merton Snow  
Delinquent Tax Collector

\* Denotes Paid in Full  
P Denotes Partially Paid  
A Taxes Abated  
B Filed Bankruptcy

## **BENNINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE**

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance provides programs to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education, outreach and other assistance to businesses, schools, institutions and event organizers in 1) complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements, 2) increasing reuse and recycling, and 3) reducing the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills. These programs help residents, businesses, schools and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance website at [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance](https://www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance)) provide information on:

- how to dispose of fluorescent bulbs,
- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including lists of retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the One World Center, Goodwill and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, CFLs and other mercury items at transfer stations, some retail establishments and at household hazardous waste collection events.
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen compost containers

This past year the Alliance provided technical assistance to 40 businesses and two schools, as well as several major event organizers, held three household hazardous waste events, supported an E-Waste collection at the Dorset School and sold compost bins to residents. In 2019, we plan to hold two household hazardous waste events for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns. The spring event will be held at the Bennington Transfer Station on May 18, 2019 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM and fall event at the Dorset School on September 14, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Check the website above for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the 13 towns, but this past year received grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Agency of Agriculture and Markets and the High Meadows Fund.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT**

This report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. It is always interesting to review and compare report periods but especially to look for trends and deviations. This line of work is seldom predictable, often frustrating and occasionally greatly rewarding. Unfortunately the nature of the work most often means dealing with the less responsible animal owning population however whether dealing with these difficult cases or those involving grateful, relieved owners both serve as reminders of the importance to the animals who are the focus of the work I do. The biggest frustration I face nowadays is the gap in resources to deal with stray cat and large animal complaints but we seem to be limping by and I continue to hold my breath that no major crisis erupts. I have always tried to direct non-dog issues to those with expertise in other areas and to assist however I am able and I've established a variety of contacts over the years.

I've previously written about another dramatic change in how lost/found animals are reported over the internet rather than as was previously done by notifying vets, ACOs, shelters, police etc. I still need your help in gaining better visibility for my Facebook page Animal Control -VT & Luckydog Adoptions where I list local animal concerns including lost/found pets and dogs for adoption as well as educational and fun info.

I got into this line of work because of my love for animals and so I still cannot grasp how anyone losing their pet isn't frantically reaching out in every possible, logical direction to those in the animal care field but so often only post to Facebook as they continue to search for their pet. A situation that often arises is that a dog is impounded because I DON'T have a lost report that would enable me to direct the owner to wherever a sighting report came from. A lost and scared dog is more likely to respond to a familiar voice and get more quickly out of harm's way or in many instances the owner is able to get to that area more quickly than I can. Reporting sightings of unfamiliar dogs are very often critical in helping owners determine the search area.... IF the owners have called in a lost report.

I respond to a great number of complaints via phone calls and written warning letters when feasible and am more than willing to work with owners to help them rectify training and housing issues if a dialog can be established.

For this period there were 12 dog impounds, with 1 dog being responsible for 3 of those! 3 dogs, all Walker Hounds, were unclaimed. 1 was adopted by his rescuers and 2 were taken in by SCAC. 1 of those having been spotted by a worker in the road in front of the shelter and a microchip trace revealed that the owner had recently moved out of state from the Manchester area so I guess that was their attempt to "surrender" the dog. 4 of the dogs returned to owners were unlicensed and \$100 in fines were collected for being unlicensed (mandatory fine) and for Running at Large. Fees and fines on the 3 time offender remain outstanding.

## **Bennington County Regional Commission**

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) works with and on behalf of its member municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. The BCRC plays an important role in coordinating work among local governments, state and federal agencies, regional public and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private interests.

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials and volunteer boards and commissions, the BCRC serves as a regional center for work in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, solid waste management, and emergency management. The BCRC regularly conducts and sponsors public meetings and workshops on these topics throughout the region.

During the past year, the BCRC has worked to implement its comprehensive plan through a variety of programs and cooperative work with member municipalities. Economic development planning in the region has become one of the BCRC's main program areas. Economic development planning at the BCRC, including dedicated staff directed by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation, supports business retention, growth, and recruitment. An outgrowth of this economic development work involves a cooperative effort across the region and with Windham County to develop a US EDA approved Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The BCRC also is providing staff support for a major downtown redevelopment project in Bennington that grew from brownfields and community development work overseen by the Commission. Concern over the state's water quality has led the BCRC to identify and implement local projects that not only reduce stormwater runoff, but also protect roads, bridges, culverts, and private property. Other important accomplishments have included: assistance with updates to several municipal comprehensive plans and bylaws, "Act 174" compliant town energy plans, new village center designations, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan in cooperation with the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, and management of local transportation projects.

Some of the key projects to be undertaken by the BCRC in the coming year include: continued work on the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, energy plan implementation activities, workforce and business development initiatives, including cooperative programs with the Lightning Jar co-working facility, new local water quality management plans and projects, assessment and support for redevelopment of brownfield sites throughout the region, expanded education and outreach to support waste reduction and recycling goals, completion of municipal hazard mitigation plans, and a feasibility study for a pathway connecting Bennington with Williamstown, Massachusetts.

The BCRC is governed by locally appointed commissioners from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. Our office, located at 111 South Street in Bennington, is open Monday through Friday. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: [www.bcrvt.org](http://www.bcrvt.org)).

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Sullivan, Director

**BENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF**  
**Chad D. Schmidt**

Attached is a report outlining our enforcement efforts from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 in the Town of Shaftsbury.

In addition, our office continues to accept unused and expired medications for destruction. We offer fingerprinting services for State background checks, Hazmat, TSA pre-check, and other services.

This year was the 10th annual New Year's Eve Safe ride program where members of the department gave 230 residents a safe and sober ride home. We recently expanded this service to include Super bowl Sunday to help reduce instances of intoxicated driving.

This year was also our 2nd annual Santa's Helpers event where the Deputies donated their money along with local businesses who sponsored this event. We adopted families throughout the county and deliver Christmas gifts to children in need.

We also partnered with Meals on Wheels to help deliver meals to people who are in need. If you feel you could benefit from this service please contact Meals on Wheels directly.

As Always please feel free to contact the department should you have any concerns about your community's law enforcement needs. Remember if you see something suspicious; please report it to law enforcement. The Deputies are committed to ensuring your safety.

Sincerely,  
 Chad D. Schmidt,  
 Sheriff

**Civil Tickets**

Possessing / consuming Marijuana under 21	3
Possessing / consuming marijuana (21 and over)	3

**Traffic Tickets**

Using portable electronic device	2	Condition of Vehicle	10
Failed to display front plate	1	Failure to yield to emergency vehicle	2
No rear plate	1	Vehicle not inspected	14
Following too closely	2	Stop sign violation	1
No registration	6	Operating with no license	6
1-10 MPH over speed limit	31	Limitations on passing	1
11-20 MPH over speed limit	47	No Inspection	1
21-30 MPH over speed limit	18	Illumination required	1
31 MPH or more over speed limit	4	Open container in vehicle	1
Operating after suspension	8	Use of electronic device by Jr operator	1
Possession of license	1	No validation sticker on plate	1

**Total Tickets: 168**

**Traffic Warnings**

Using portable electronic device	1	Condition of Vehicle	20
Driving on road laned for traffic	2	Failed to display front plate	4
Failed to display front and rear plate	1	Failed to drive to the right	3
Flashing signals	1	Following too closely	4
Stop sign violation	4	Illumination required	2
Speeding 1-10 MPH over limit	30	No passing zone	1
Speeding 11-20 MPH over limit	13	Railroad grade crossing violation	1
Signals required	1	Vehicle not inspected	21
No validation sticker on plate	1	Operating without a license	1

**Total Warnings: 110****Incidents / Arrests**

911 Hang up	1	Accident- Property damage	4
Accident- Injury	1	Alarm	3
Agency Assist (to other Law enforcement)	15	Assist motorist	15
Assist other	2	Assist Public	12
Directed Patrol	39	Driving under the Influence	4
Driving with suspended license	3	Fraud	1
Juvenile Problem	1	Motor vehicle complaint	3
Property Watch	2	Traffic Stops	407
VIN verifications	7		

**Total Incidents / Arrests: 525**

# **CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

1 July, 2017 – 30 June, 2018

Considerable progress was made this period to bring our cemeteries to a good overall condition. The Shaftsbury Grange arranged and paid for new signs at each of the 5 cemeteries. The signs indicate name and date each cemetery was established. Thank to Grange members Mert Snow and John Wood for arranging this great gift.

The Shaftsbury Hollow cemetery which was abandoned for many years was scrubbed out in late 2017. Several truckloads of brush and trash were hauled away so that headstones and borders could be easily found.

Plans were made to do a major clean-up on the east side of Grandview Cemetery. This area had been used as a refuse area. This work will be contracted out during the next reporting period.

A surviving member of the Elwell family will contract to have the Elwell Cemetery on East Road cleaned up and a split rail fence installed in the next few months.

A new split rail gate was installed at the south road entrance at Maple Hill Cemetery. A similar gate will be installed on the north road entrance in the spring of 2019.

Select Board members along with the Committee of Public Funds and the Cemetery Committee are looking into the status of funds related to cemeteries. Hopefully, these funds will be available to accomplish headstone cleaning, repair and fence repair and installation.

Three hundred twenty hours were devoted to routine cemetery maintenance (excluding mowing) and cemetery lot sales and record keeping during this period. This excludes many hours volunteered by Mr. Mike Redin who concentrated on cleaning the knob at Maple Hill.

Everyone is reminded that if you placed flowers, wreaths or other items at grave sites, you are responsible for removing them.

Sincere thanks to the Select Board members, Town Administrator David Kiernan, the Cemetery Committee and, most importantly, the Shaftsbury residents for their outstanding support of our effort to get our cemeteries back in optimum condition.

Ken Coonradt  
Cemetery Superintendent

## **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Development Review Board, authorized under Vermont State Law (24 V.S.A. Chapter 117), is the quasi-judicial or decision-making zoning function for the town. The five members and two alternates of the Development Review Board are appointed by the Select Board for staggered three year terms and one year terms.

The Board's primary goal, in determining the matters that come before it, is to insure that all applications, of whatever nature, fully comply with the Zoning By-Laws and Subdivision Regulations.

The Board is currently engaged in filling 3 open positions, one being a 3 year full member position, the other two are 1 year alternate positions. Anyone interested should send a letter of interest to the Shaftsbury Town Administrator.

During the past year, the Development Review Board, reviewed applications for subdivisions, site development plans, and zoning variances.

The Board normally meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Huncharek, Chair

## **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

The Zoning Administrator is responsible for impartially enforcing the Town's Zoning Bylaw, issuing permits and violations, working with the Development Review Board and Planning Commission, as well as maintaining accurate and complete files of land use in the Town.

Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles was appointed in September 2014.

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Wednesday 9 am-noon

Telephone : 802-442-4038 x 105

E-Mail: zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov

**Permit Application Summary**

Type of permit	2012-2013	2014-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Houses	4	3	5	4	6	3
Mobile home	1	1	0	0	0	0
Additions	27	19	16	34	35	20
Pools	4	0	2	1	1	0
Subdivisions	5	4	3	5	6	3
Home occupations	0	0	0	1	1	3
Commercial buildings	0	4	0	2	0	0
Camps	3	1	3	1	1	0
Signs	1	0	3	2	1	1
Accessory structure	9	9	16	17	18	25
Other	30	21	6	2	10	4
Violation	0	0	3	0	0	0
Curb Cut	5	7	7	5	4	4
Zoning letters of compliance	8	19	31	39	60	50
Fence	3	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>113</b>

Respectfully Submitted

Shelly Stiles

Zoning Administrator

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

The Town is working on implementing several Vtrans grants.

The Better Roads program grants address so-called “hydrologically connected road segments,” or those that are within a certain number of feet of streams, wetlands, lakes and ponds, where road runoff might threaten water quality. On Shaftsbury Hollow Road, along Little White Creek, new ditches will be installed and some will be stone-lined; in some locations, vegetation in the rights-of-way will be trimmed or removed; and at least one location a new culvert will be installed. On segments of Horton Hill, a culvert will be replaced and ditches will be cleaned and stone-lined.

A state Grants in Aid program grant will fund road improvements at five locations across the Town. Among them are Sally Gannon Rd. at Murphy Hill Road, where a culvert will be installed across Murphy Hill Road to capture spring water from the road, and trees in the right of way will be removed to open the road to sunlight. On Cider Mill Road, stone mattresses (a kind of fabric and stone drainage “sandwich” buried beneath the road surface) will be installed.

Last summer, the town made use of a VTrans Class 2 paving grant to repave one mile on East Road. The Town crew reclaimed the road foundation to the depth of the existing road base, installed ten culverts, and ditched the road segment. The new asphalt base and top coat was laid by Springfield Paving. Trimming of the tree canopy was contracted out to Greater Heights of Pownal.

The Town participated in a statewide effort to experiment with using ground recycled asphalt shingles for paving material. An 80:20 gravel:recycled shingle mix was put down on 750 feet on Myers Road, on both flat and sloping surfaces. The road crew prepared the road by ditching both sides of the segment, cutting brush, and clearing culvert inlets and outlets. The project seems to be holding up really well.

In the months going forward, the crew will develop and implement a routine maintenance schedule involving regular brush cutting, ditch installation and clearing, and culvert installation. Brush cutting has already been done on White Creek, East, Cross Hill, Town Line, Bennett Hill, and Myers Road.

Finally, to introduce myself: I grew up in Bennington but now live in Shaftsbury. I have a two-year degree in construction management and a background in road construction and maintenance. I come to the position after serving as an AOT maintenance supervisor at the VTrans District 3 garage in Clarendon, where I supervised nine people. It is a pleasure working for the Town and with our great road crew. Everyone is hardworking and dedicated.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Yannotti,  
Department of Public Works Foreman

# SHAFTSBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Shaftsbury Fire Department responded to 111 calls in 2018.

This year we will be the completion of our final phase for window replacement in Station 1. It will complete this endeavor with all new energy efficient windows and trim replacement to the facility.

Next year we will be focusing on replacing the roof to our Station 2. The roof was installed on the building over 30 years ago when the firehouse was built by the volunteer effort of the Shaftsbury Fire Department. It has lasted well, but now is in need of replacement.

I would like to thank my Firefighters for their donated labor and patience with all of the facilities improvement's we have done over the past 5 years which include but not limited to ; boiler replacement, interior painting, energy efficient windows, energy efficient lights, new exterior doors, new roof Station 1 and (2 next year). All this was done while staying within our town budget. I would be remiss if I also didn't thank our Selectboard and Town Administrator for their support in helping us to achieve our long and short term goals to these facilities.

This year the Fire Department took a trip to New York City to visit the 911 Museum. It was a great experience that was enjoyed by all. One group took a tour of a nearby firehouse and was able to hear firsthand about that fateful day in 2001. I encourage anyone who can to take a day trip to Ground Zero, to do so will be awe-inspiring.

## Emergency Responses 2018

Structure Fires –	1
Car Accidents/ Extrication –	25
Vehicle Fires -	5
Hazardous Materials –	3
Wildland Fires –	7
Chimney/ Pellet Stove Fires –	1
Good Intent –	31
Assist EMS –	1
Weather Related -	21
Mutual Aid –	16

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Joseph Vadakin

## 2018 Legislative Report

It is with a sense of gratitude and sadness that I give you with my final report as your Representative. I retired from the Vermont Legislature on January 9, 2019. Working as a member of the Vermont House of Representatives for 22 years has been the most gratifying and challenging experience of my life. Serving the people of Shaftsbury, Glastenbury and Sunderland has been an honor I will never forget. Thank you for your support and trust in me.

The Joint Fiscal Office in Montpelier reported that, as of December, 31, 2018, General Fund revenues were up considerably over forecast, due to increases in tax receipts. The Transportation Fund is up modestly due to increased fees. Education Fund revenues are down slightly but better than projected. Lottery revenue, which goes to the Education Fund, is up, driven by large jackpots in multi-state games.

Unfortunately, the Governor moved the State Teachers' Retirement System from the General Fund to the Education Fund, putting more pressure on the property tax. I believe this was a bad move, as it made the Retirement System dependent on property tax revenues. Property taxes are too high as it is.

The Legislature twice presented the Governor with budgets supported by Republicans, Democrats and Progressives. The Governor vetoed both bills, and pushed the state to the unprecedented brink of a state government shutdown. We were able to avert the shutdown by reaching a compromise at the end of June. The agreed upon budget fully funds our schools, pays down some of the state's long-term debt, and holds residential property tax rates level. The Governor's lack of engagement in the budget process until the very end, and the cost taxpayers paid to keep us in session an extra month are very troubling.

The State Board of Education is responsible for implementing Act 46, which seeks to merge Vermont's school districts. As of December 31st, 206 districts in 185 municipalities have formed 50 new union districts. As a result, there are 156 fewer school districts. The merger vote among our districts in the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union failed. Consequently, Shaftsbury and the other districts lost the tax incentive, being 20 cents on the tax rate each year for four years. Merging school districts is so important because Vermont has 30,000 fewer students now compared to 1997. Some schools are so small they cannot offer students the same educational opportunities offered by larger schools. I expect the Board of Education will become more active in consolidating school districts in Bennington County.

Affordable healthcare remained a top priority. Legislation is being designed to facilitate the importation of prescription medicines. The goal is to reduce costs while maintaining quality and safety. Drug companies sell their medicines at substantially lower prices in foreign countries, like Canada, than they charge in the United States. The high cost of prescription drugs is one of the two main drivers of our high health care costs. Chronic diseases are the other main driver. The importation of drugs will reduce Vermonters healthcare costs.

The Legislature has worked hard to help working families. These programs include workforce development extending the use of Career Pathways to engage students as early as 7th grade; family paid leave; and an increase in the minimum wage. The Governor vetoed the paid leave and minimum wage bills, but I expect the Legislature will take these bills up again in 2019, and continue the fight to improve the lives of working Vermonters. The Legislature also provided \$4 million for school safety grants and \$24 million for the State's Clean Water efforts.

It may be time to say goodbye, but I plan to stay involved as our small town means so much to all of us. See you at Town Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alice Miller

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission thanks Shaftsbury voters for your endorsement of our revised Zoning Bylaws at Town Meeting last year. We have two items on this year's ballot for you to consider:

### **Motel-to-housing conversions**

This is a phenomena occurring all across Vermont. The old business model of motels doesn't support the number of units on the market. Presently we see motel properties for sale in Shaftsbury, Arlington and Sunderland. Bennington town officials express frustration and less than ideal outcomes in dealing with the multiple motel-to-housing conversions. In our town the Iron Kettle Motel functions outside of our zoning. It isn't multi-family housing because the units have no kitchens. It isn't a motel because it doesn't serve the traveling public. In an attempt to clarify the situation, the Commission proposes a bylaw to classify this use as a rooming house and sets the following minimum standards:

- an onsite manager is required if ten or more units
- shall comply with all codes for public buildings and submit an inspection certificate from the Division of Fire Safety prior to occupancy
- shall comply with Vermont Commercial Buildings Energy Standards
- shall provide common space for all residents with cooking and living/recreation space equal to one unit
- that a change of use shall have occurred when 51% of clients are long term rentals as opposed to traveling public.

### **Short term rentals**

Renting tourist cabins has a long history. People from the urban areas come seeking tranquility, natural beauty and the opportunity to engage in outdoor sports. The arrival of internet booking websites such as Airbnb has boosted this sort of enterprise. A recent check of the Airbnb website showed fifty-eight listings for Shaftsbury covering a wide range of accommodations. The proposed bylaw frames this use as a home occupation. The Planning Commission sees this type of development as an opportunity for grassroots economic development whereby property owners could derive additional income from their property. The Commission proposes a bylaw defining the use as rental units for the traveling public for fewer than 30 consecutive days and sets the following standards:

- new structures shall observe a 200 foot setback from property lines and from other units for the same use
- recreational vehicles shall not be used for this purpose
- conversion of existing structures is allowed and exempt from setbacks
- two short term rental units allowed per lot in all districts except Forest and Recreation
- the name, address and phone number of the person managing the unit shall be posted
- primitive camping involving tents, teepees, yurts, lean-tos is exempt
- complaints regarding conditions of units shall be referred to the Town Health Officer.

Both of these proposed bylaws attempt to address issues that are already present in town but are not covered by our zoning.

# **SHAFTSBURY RECREATION COMMITTEE**

## **Town of Shaftsbury Update for 2018**

The mission of The Shaftsbury Recreation Committee is to revitalize our town parks. We are dedicated to developing them into true community parks which can be enjoyed by all ages.

Howard Park is used by our local Little League, soccer sports teams, the Doberman Club, and local groups running workshops. Folks also reserve the pavilion for celebrating family events. Individuals come to our park who wish to have a day picnic, a pick-up game of basketball or practice their tennis/pickleball skills.

Cleveland Avenue Park is used mostly by the younger folks in our town proper who wish to spend an afternoon on our town's playground equipment.

Updates at Howard Park include: tennis court repair, an ADA compliant porta potty, up and running security system and a pickleball court. The pickleball court has been created by overlaying boundaries on one of the tennis courts. This new sport is now available for all to enjoy!

We were awarded a \$10,000 matching grant from the state to be used for Howard Park. We want to thank Dave Kiernan, our Town Administrator, for dedicating many hours needed to obtain the funding. The monies are being used for a new "Howard Park" sign, playground equipment, water fountain, and trash and recycle barrels. We are aiming to have all in place by the Spring/Summer 2019. We also need to thank Florence Howard for the sizable endowment she left to Howard Park in her will. This gift plus the grant are allowing us to move forward with improvements at the park.

Annually, we participate in "Vermont Green Up Day," 1st Saturday in May, which is a great time of community involvement and promoting civic pride in Shaftsbury. If you are interested in taking an active part in this event, please give Dave Kiernan a call at the town office (442-4043).

The Shaftsbury web site is a good source of information for sporting events and town activities. Our park pavilion and fields can be reserved by using the contact number or e-mail address below.

The Recreation Committee meets the 4th Friday of the month at 10 a.m. at Cole Hall. If you have questions, need information on reserving the facilities, or would like to join us, contact me, Deena Ruege, at 447-4741 or gruege03@aol.com.

New committee members are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Deena Ruege, Chairperson/Recording Secretary

## 2018 AND TREES

A dry spring, a very warm summer, a very wet, cloudy fall, and who knows what the winter will bring (written in early December. ) all have an impact on trees. The drought we were in is over.

Emerald Ash Borer, EAB, a very invasive insect from Asia was finally found in Vermont. It has been found in central Vermont. The Canadian border and lastly and closest to us in the town of Stamford on the Massachusetts border.

Most likely it is already in Shaftsbury. One factor that makes identification so difficult is that “ash yellows” a fungus like organism is causing heavy mortality of ash trees along our roadsides and hedgerow and the symptoms are very much the same. One major difference is that ash yellows tend to occur along roads and old fields while EAB will find ash deep in the forest.

Based on other locations one thing we know for sure is that 99.9% of all ash trees in Shaftsbury will die. Ash is a common tree along Shaftsbury's byways and their take down and removal will cost the taxpayers greatly in future years. Once a tree is diagnosed with EAB and still structurally sound it can be taken down from the ground. Once dead, the only safe take down is with a bucket truck and the cost skyrockets. If you have an ash tree that is important to you it can be treated annually and very likely be saved. An inventory of all public land in the town should be conducted to see if there are any ash trees that have such value. It is cost prohibitive to try and treat all but the most important trees. Kudo's to our town road crew for being trained in chain saw operation and safety so they can keep up with many of the tree removals along our roads.

# Vermont Department of Health Local Report

SHAFTSBURY, 2019

At the Vermont Department of Health our twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters.

Your local office is in Bennington at the address and phone number above. Available to help individuals and families at worksites, schools, town meetings, or by appointment, we work hard to provide you with knowledgeable and accessible care, resources, and services. We also partner with local organizations and health care providers to ensure we're equipped to respond to the community's needs. In 2018, we worked in partnership with communities to:

- Increase capacity statewide to prevent underage and binge drinking and reduce prescription drug misuse and marijuana with Regional Prevention Partnerships (RPP).
- Prevent and control the spread of infectious disease. In 2018 we spent \$13,729,406 on vaccines provided at no cost to healthcare providers around the state to make sure children and adults are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. We also responded to 244 cases of infectious disease.
- Promote wellness by focusing on walking and biking safety, reducing tobacco exposure, and increasing access to healthy foods through the implementation of local projects and municipal strategies.
- Support healthy families by helping kids stay connected with providers and dentists following transfer into foster care.
- Serve families and children with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Education and Food Supplementation Program. In 2018, we served over 11,000 families.
- Provide trainings on Help Me Grow to Healthcare and Early Childhood Education Providers to support improved access to resources and services for parents and families with young children.
- Share new data and reports including the *Vermont Lead in School Drinking Water Testing Pilot Report* which is helping Vermonters understand and address the risk of lead in school drinking water, and the *Injury and Violence in Vermont* report, which is shedding light on the risk of suicide among youths.
- Work with businesses in planning and starting worksite wellness strategies to improve on-the-job opportunities for health for local residents, including creating Breastfeeding Friendly locations to support growing families.
- Work with local partners, including, schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel, to ensure we are prepared to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during a public health emergency.
- Improve understanding of how to stay healthy at work, home, and in the community through initiatives and resources related to 3-4-50, Help Me Grow, WIC, Building Bright Futures, Be Tick Smart, 802Quits, and the Breastfeeding Friendly Employer project.

Learn more about what we do on the web at [www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov)

Join us on <https://www.facebook.com/vdhbennington/>

Follow us on [www.twitter.com/healthvermont](https://www.twitter.com/healthvermont)



## **VERMONT STATE POLICE SHAFTSBURY BARRACKS**

The Shaftsbury Barracks currently consists of 11 uniformed troopers, 4 Patrol commanders, and two detectives. There are also two administrative staff members who support daily activities and duties. The barracks recently received two additional transferring troopers from other areas in Vermont who have assisted in fully staffing the barracks.

The barracks still hosts the only Vermont State Police Explorer program in the state. We believe interacting, mentoring and guiding students by fostering relationships will promote better ethical decisions, leadership qualities and community awareness. The barracks has also hosted a series of interns from the Career Development Center in Bennington and a college senior from Southern Vermont College. The interns are expected to shadow daily law enforcement activities including traffic enforcement, report writing and developing best policing practices.

Troopers activities from the Shaftsbury Barracks resulted in the following 1JAN18-1JAN19:

Total incidents/ calls for service: 946

Tickets issued: 641

Warnings issued: 750

Lieutenant Thomas A. Mozzer  
Station Commander  
Shaftsbury Barracks  
Vermont State Police.

Attached is a snapshot of the types of cases investigated by Shaftsbury troopers:

**Agency: SHAFTSBURY VSP**

0099 CONSENT SEARCH	11	6602 CANINE USE (POLICE DOGS)	6
0450 ASSAULT SIMPLE, NOT AGGRAVATED	5	7754 CAR-DEER 10-50 UNKNOWN	2
0500 BURGLARY/B&E-FORCE	3	ALAR ALARM	38
0501 BURGLARY/B&E-NO FORCE	2	AMAS AMBULANCE OR MEDICAL ASSIST	5
0616 LARCENY FROM BUILDING	2	ANPR ANIMAL PROBLEM	11
0618 LARCENY ALL OTHER	4	ASST AGENCY ASSIST	130
1000 FORGERY/COUNTERFEIT	1	ATL ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	3
1100 FRAUD, BAD CHECKS	2	ATV ATV INCIDENT	2
1101 FRAUD	4	BACK BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION	4
1120 FRAUD, IMPERSONATION	1	CDIS CITIZEN DISPUTE	25
1160 FRAUD, CR CARD, TELLER MACHINE	1	CHEC CHECKPOINT	2
1200 EMBEZZLEMENT	2	CITA CITIZEN ASSIST	114
1300 STOLEN PROPERTY	1	DE CONDITION OF VEHICLE	1
1400 VANDALISM	11	DLT DRIVING/ROADWAYS LANED FOR TRA	1
1500 WEAPON LAW VIOLATION	1	DPAT DIRECTED PATROL	62
1799 SEX OFF REG-FAILURE TO REG	2	E911 E911 HANGUP	45
1803 REGULATED DRUGS-CULTIVATION O	2	JUVP JUVENILE PROBLEM	7
1850 DRUGS - CIVIL	7	LBK LIMITATIONS ON BACKING	1
2030 CONTRIBUTING TO MINORS	2	LFPR LOST OR FOUND PROPERTY	6
2050 DOMESTIC ABUSE ORDER VIOLATION	1	MAST MOTORIST ASSISTANCE	17
2100 DRIVE/OPERATE UNDER INFLUENCE	13	MENT MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE	8
2411 DISTURBING THE PEACE	2	MESS MESSAGE DELIVERED	2
2412 QUARRELS	2	MPER MISSING PERSON	2
2430 FAMILY DISTURBANCE	10	NC NOT CLASSIFIED	6
2480 DISORDERLY CONDUCT OTHER	4	NDIS NOISE DISTURBANCE	4
2607 CONDITION OF RELEASE VIOLATION	6	OSC DLS - CIVIL	4
2610 PHONE OFFENSES	1	PSC SUSPICIOUS PERSON/CIRCUMSTANCE	53
2614 FALSE INFORMATION TO POLICE	3	PUBL PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT	10
2621 TRESPASSING VIOLATION	5	SORC SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY CHECK	4
2624 FIREWORKS	1	TCNR TRAFFIC CRASH NON-REPORTABLE	25
2625 OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE	1	THAZ TRAFFIC HAZARD	13
2634 ARREST ON WARRANT - POLICE CHK	1	TRNG TRAINING	1
3100 ACCIDENT-INJURY-DMV REPORT	5	VIN VEHICLE SERIAL # INSPECTION	23
3200 ACCIDENT-DAMAGE - DMV REPORT	35	WELF WELFARE CHECK	32
3607 MOTOR VEHICLE, DISTURBANCES	88		
3617 CARELESS NEGLIGENT MOTOR VEH	6		
3619 DLS CRIMINAL	11		
3620 LSA MOTOR VEHICLE	5		

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**Total Incidents for This Agency: 946**

January 25, 2019

Annual Report from the Water Dept.

The year started uneventfully, with the water system winterized for a normal winter. During the year the Water Dept replaced three damaged curb stops and shut down one user line so they can do maintenance on their property.

In June the State approved our Asset Management Program that was mentioned in last year report. With this approval we received the grant of \$10,200.00. Under this program we have inventoried all of our assets and have determined the condition of these assets and are developing plans to replace them before their life cycle ends.

Presently the largest single asset we have is our distribution lines. About 15% of these distributions lines were upgraded in 2008/2009. The remainder of these lines are Abestoses/Cement pipe, which was installed in 1939/40, 80 years ago. We are anticipating replacing this pipe in 3 phases starting in 2020/21 and completing it around 2040.

To assist us we have retain the services of Otter Creek Engineering, who in the past has assisted us in upgrading Sycamore La and West View La in 2008-09.

We would also like to thank the North Bennington Water Department for their past and future assistances. They are very good neighbors.

Respectfully Submitted,

James McGinnis  
Water Superintendent



28<sup>th</sup> December 2018

The Arlington Rescue Squad would like to thank the residents of Shaftsbury for their continued financial support through the Town appropriations. This year, we're not requesting an increase in town funding to help offset the ever increasing costs of running our organization. We are asking for \$7,000.

This year, we responded to a total of 590 calls, a 25% increase from last year. Every year the number of calls increases. Not only does Arlington Rescue respond to medical emergencies and auto accidents in the Arlington area, but we are there to assist the Arlington Fire Department with stand-by assistance for structure and/or brush fires, and our community members needing assistance from falls and medical needs.

This last year, we've been busy making some long overdue building repairs and we replaced an aging ambulance at a cost of over \$190,000 which will now need to be paid off over the next several years. The cost of new required EMS equipment and supplies keeps increasing and there is no way would be able to continue providing our services without community financial support.

Moving toward the future, the Arlington Rescue Squad is not only looking to provide emergency medical services to the communities that we serve, but are looking to becoming more pro-active in our community with some new and exciting programs including a new Explorers Post program which will be the first EMS Explorers post in the state. Designed to teach important life and career skills to young people from all backgrounds through immersive career experiences and mentorship provided by ARSI, community and business leaders. This program will help equip young people with character, leadership and life skills that can be used both today and in their future careers. We are providing more training opportunities for the general public and our local work force to include CPR/AED and Basic First Aid.

Arlington Rescue has a dedicated mix of paid and volunteer staff that provide emergency medical coverage **24 hour per day, 7 days a week**. We have a staff of 2 full time employees working Monday thru Friday from 6am – 6pm , and our volunteers provide coverage weeknights from 6pm to 6 am and on weekends. All staff and volunteers continually train and update their

## Vermont 2-1-1

Vermont 2-1-1 is an Information and Referral program of the United Ways of Vermont. By **dialing 2-1-1 or by texting your zip code to 898211**, you will receive up-to-date information and referrals on health and human services for your area and region. (Text between 8:00am-8:00pm, Monday-Friday.)

Our 2-1-1 system in Vermont is at the fingertips of every resident and every phone. 2-1-1 is cost-effective, high quality, personal, flexible and community-based.

**Can't find what you need?** You can always reach one of our trained professionals by phone or by text. Vermont 2-1-1 is here to offer help and to offer hope.

- One call or text gives you access to resources across your community. 2-1-1 is efficient, fast and easy to use.
- No more wrong numbers; no more wasted time trying to find the right resource(s).
- 2-1-1 is a private and confidential call or text; most often the name of the caller is not even taken. Language translation services are also available.
- 2-1-1 maintains the integrity of the 9-1-1 system; saving that vital community resource for life and death emergencies.
- 24-hour availability every day of the year by phone or by clicking on [vermont211.org](http://vermont211.org)
- 2-1-1 is an easy way to find or give help in your community.

In times of disaster, Vermont 2-1-1 plays a critical role in bringing information to the people most affected by the events and relaying the needs of callers back to the government officials and the first responders.

### **What are the needs in your community?**

Vermont 2-1-1 collects town, county and statewide data and feeds it back to communities to help make systemic change. Monthly reports showing the needs of your county are available on our website.

**Residents of Shaftsbury** made 30 contacts to Vermont 2-1-1 during 2018 for a range of needs, resulting in 27 referrals to services and resources. The top four requests were in the following categories of need:

- Legal Services - for representation and/or counseling and other forms of legal assistance;
- Basic Needs - for utility assistance and homeless shelter;
- Information Services - specialized information and referral, such as SW Vermont Council on Aging;
- Income Support – primarily for temporary financial assistance; and

Other needs resulted in referrals for Health Care Services, Public Health resources, tax materials and information, and veterinary care assistance.

[Overall, **Bennington County residents** made **1,442** contacts during that period, resulting in 1,267 referrals. Fifty five percent of referrals were for Basic Needs, most of which were for Housing and Shelter in the form of homeless shelters and other accommodations, and Housing Assistance, which can include rental resources; Other basic needs included Utility Assistance; Transportation, Food, and Material Goods. Sixteen percent of referrals were for Income Support and Employment, mostly for

## **BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (BCCD)**

The mission of the BCCD is to promote rural livelihoods and protect natural resources in southwestern Vermont. Our work in fiscal year 2018 included:

With help from the Bennington and N. Bennington public works and roads crews, continuing the construction of a boardwalk for floater access in Greenberg Headwaters Park in Bennington.

Coordinating an assessment of erosion potential on forest roads in the Mettowee watershed in Rupert and Dorset and the design of restoration options for several of those problem sites.

Securing funding to purchase a bedding chopper for the Pownal and Shaftsbury highway departments. The mulcher will help the road crews seed and then mulch newly cleared ditches and other exposed soil surfaces.

With the considerable help of an EcoAmericorps member headquartered at BCCD, implementing the work plan for the Batten Kill Watershed Comprehensive Invasive Species Management Association (CISMA). Projects included invasive species treatments on several public and privately owned parcels; workshops; the creation of two management plans for public lands; newspaper articles; and much social media outreach.

An effort to work with thirty five landowners in Arlington and Sandgate to create a voluntary Japanese knotweed management consortium. Several of the landowners expressed interest in pursuing treatments on their own. Two landowners have done so.

Securing funding to install drainage structures and a grass-lined waterway at the Rupert Highway Garage site.

Securing funding for the restoration of a portion of Mt. Anthony Road and Fowler's Way in Pownal. The area now sends significant quantities of sediment to Tubbs Brook.

Taking soil samples for and assisting in inputting data during a months-long nutrient management planning course for a farmer in Rupert. The class will help the landowner comply with the new Required Agricultural Practices.

Working closely with USFS Green Mountain National Forest, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, our regional planning commission, many municipalities, and several local and regional non-profit organizations to further our congruent missions.

Respectfully submitted by  
Shelly Stiles, District Manager

December 19, 2018

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PO Box 1159  
 Manchester, VT 05254  
 802-367-1000  
 bchabitatoffice@gmail.com

David Kiernan, Town Administrator  
 Town of Shaftsbury  
 P. O. Box 409  
 Shaftsbury, VT 05262

Dear David,

Thank you for the generous contribution to Bennington County Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$1,850. This letter serves as your receipt. We are very grateful for your support.

Bennington County Habitat is blessed by the challenge of the Orton Matching Grant Program. For the next three fiscal years, Lyman Orton and Janice Izzi will match new contributions made each of those years up to \$100,000. You are helping us obtain that goal!

With this grant, Bennington County Habitat has committed to build three houses, repair 10 homes and hold three donor events each year of the matching grant program. We are thrilled by this challenge because we agree whole-heartedly with the Ortons' goals of improving our marketing outreach to the people we serve and bringing affordable housing to more people.

Our new construction continues at our two developments, Jennifer Lane in Manchester Center and North Branch in Bennington. Our home repair program concentrates on projects that help people remain safely and comfortably in their homes.

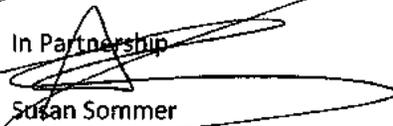
We are excited to continue our partnership with the Building and Trades Division of the Southwest Vermont Career Development Center at our North Branch Development in Bennington. The students will build a second house there for our Habitat affiliate in the 2018-19 school year. (Photo of development at right.)



In June 2018, we started our ninth house in Jennifer Lane. The Dresser family is working hard on their sweat equity hours at the house. This year, two Global Village teams worked with us on the Dresser house and brought us leaps and bounds ahead in our construction work. By early winter, we will begin building our tenth house in the neighborhood.

On November 18, 2018, we held the first of our three FY19 donor events. Lauren and Steve Bryant opened the doors of The Publyk House in Bennington to our *Share Your Blessings* fundraiser. Their venue was beautiful, the food they served outstanding, and the evening's entertainment, raffle and auctions were well received by everyone who attended.

Thank you for your generosity of spirit. By your gift, you are partnering to bring affordable housing to more people in Bennington County. We are grateful to you.

In Partnership  
  
 Susan Sommer  
 Executive Director

*We are thankful for the Town of Shaftsbury's continued support of truly affordable housing opportunities. Peace to you all.*

*No goods or services were provided. Our FEDERAL EIN is 04-3342696*

## **BENNINGTON FREE CLINIC**

**(A Program of Greater Bennington Interfaith Community Services, Inc.)**

**Report for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018**

The Bennington Free Clinic provides primary medical care to persons over the age of 18 who do not have health insurance or who cannot afford their health insurance premiums and co-pays. In addition to providing access to primary care practitioners, the Free Clinic provides laboratory and X-ray tests, pharmacy prescriptions, and referrals to medically necessary specialty care at no charge to patients. All patients are screened for eligibility for health insurance programs and assisted to apply as appropriate. Referrals are also made to local social service agencies as needed. Medical care at the Bennington Free Clinic is provided by volunteer physicians, nurse practitioners, and nurses, and lay-persons who live in the area. Off-site laboratory and X-ray services are provided on a contractual basis with Southwest Vermont Medical Center.

During the period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, the Bennington Free Clinic provided services to 13 Shaftsbury residents. Of these, 13 were new patients to the clinic. There were no returning patients. Lab tests were ordered in 2 different instances. In 3 instances, patients were given stock medications or vouchers for free medications at local pharmacies. In addition, 16 Shaftsbury residents were enrolled in and received services from the Ladies First program, which performs cancer screening and services for Vermont female residents

Also during that period, eleven Shaftsbury residents met with an insurance Navigator to learn about health insurance through Vermont Health Connect. Of these, 10 signed up for health insurance, resulting in insurance coverage for 21 family members.

Residents seeking free medical care and those seeking assistance with health insurance applications are encouraged to call the clinic between 9 AM and 1 PM, Monday through Friday at 802 447 3700. We are located at 121 Depot Street in Bennington.

## **BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY**

Basic computing skills and the ability to navigate the Internet are necessary for citizens to succeed in our 21st Century society. As more and more government agencies, businesses and employers require online access and minimal computing skills, the library continues to bridge the “Information Divide” by providing access to timely and relevant information and technology resources. One-on-one assistance in the use of computing and internet resources and personal devices to access library resources are also services we provide to fulfill this need.

Use of library collections and facilities remains high. In the past year, 51 Shaftsbury residents registered for library cards, including 26 children. Over the last year 79,986 individuals, many from Shaftsbury, visited the library to borrow reading, video and audio materials; to receive research assistance; to use high speed computers; to participate in story hours and workshops; to attend meetings; or to take advantage of free 24/7 wi-fi service and online database access.

The library offered 176 adult and children’s programs, attended by 11,755 children and adults. Programs included Summer Reading Program, story hours, CLiF and 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, VELL-STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) training for school aged children, Seedlings and much more. 360 deliveries to day care centers placed books and literacy materials in possession of day care providers, children and their families.

Circulation remains high with over 57,000 print, audio, video and downloadable titles circulated in the past year. Of that number, Shaftsbury residents borrowed 4,065 items, demonstrating the high level of return on the town’s investment. Training was provided to 4,193 individuals on the use of library computers and 38,320 hours of free computer/internet access logged. Our computing facilities are used for a wide variety of personal and professional reasons, including employment research and to apply for employment, military or other benefits via the Internet, to search for critical health information, homework support, or for recreation and personal enrichment.

The library’s Capital Improvement Plan is on track: Phase I replacement of the Main Street roof was completed in the fall of 2016. Successful fundraising and a generous bequest allowed us to begin work on Phase II: replacing the Silver Street and Connector sections, with an expected completion date by the end of the year. Fundraising to replace and upgrade our flooring and heating system in the Main Street building will continue.

The Bennington Free Library is a unique institution, supporting the life-long interests of a diverse community. Our success is due, in part, to the financial support received from the Town of Shaftsbury. Shaftsbury residents have been enthusiastic patrons of the library for many years, and with your support we will continue to provide the relevant and quality resources they deserve. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted

Lynne Fonteneau Mccann, Library Director

# **BENNINGTON PROJECT INDEPENDENCE**

## Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report

Bennington Project Independence (BPI) is a comprehensive, person-centered and cost-effective Adult Day Service alternative to traditional nursing home or long term care. We assist older persons and younger adults with disabilities to remain as independent as possible despite any life challenge that they may face. Individuals have the opportunity to receive care and support during the day and return to the comfort of their own homes or their family's homes in the evening. Bennington Project Independence is proud to have been able to assist families caring for loved ones at home to "share the care" for 40 years.

BPI provides a safe, sensitive and supportive day program for adults age 18 and older. We serve people who feel isolated without the support of family and friends, persons dealing with bereavement, depression or other emotional issues, persons with delicate or chronic medical conditions that would benefit from personal care or health monitoring, persons facing end-of-life challenges, younger persons with acquired brain injury as well as serving persons in all stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive impairments who need compassionate, specialized assistance.

At the Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center on Harwood Hill, Bennington Project Independence is able to provide a wide range of individually-tailored services including meaningful, life-enriching adult activities, educational presentations and mentally stimulating activities, nursing, wellness and personal care, social work support, delicious and healthy meals, opportunities for socialization, intergenerational experiences, pet visits, fitness groups, art and music therapy, our nustep personal fitness training program, as well as community trips and tours. The comprehensive services provided by BPI and the innovative Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center facility are considered to be models for our State and the Nation.

Bennington Project Independence is a Medicaid Choices for Care Adult Day Service provider and a Veterans Administration Adult Day Health Center.

BPI is committed to providing comprehensive services for our participants and their families as well as for our community at large. Bennington Project Independence offers free Basic Fall Prevention Tai Chi classes for the community. BPI also received a grant from the National Caregiver Initiative through the Southwestern VT Council on Aging to purchase the Second Wind Dreams Virtual Dementia Tour program. This experiential program is designed to increase sensitivity to and understanding of how persons with dementia may be experiencing the challenges of daily living. BPI is pleased to make the Virtual Dementia Tour available free of charge to caregivers and interested community partners throughout Bennington County. 100% of the employees at BPI have completed the Second Wind Dreams Virtual Dementia Training.

Bennington Project Independence is honored to be of service to the residents of Shaftsbury. We are extremely grateful for the continued support and look forward to continuing to provide the highest caliber of Adult Day Services for Shaftsbury families for many years to come.

Respectfully,  
Linda Wichlac, Executive Director

# BROC COMMUNITY ACTION

## *In Southwestern Vermont*

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December 1, 2018

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us through over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action has provided substantial assistance to residents in the Town of Shaftsbury. **70 individuals in 34 families were assisted** including receiving food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling, case management, resources and referrals and help starting or expanding a small business.

Despite the significant outcomes BROC Community Action has achieved for the residents of the Town of Shaftsbury over the past year, there is still more work to do. People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

***Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$1,700.00.***

We truly value our collaboration with Shaftsbury as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Donahue, CEO  
tdonahue@broc.org

## **Center for Restorative Justice**

The Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) has been serving Bennington County as its community justice agency since 1982. Each year, the agency continues to grow and expand to meet the ever-changing needs of the community. This past year, CRJ helped over 1,650 individuals to make positive changes in their lives, the lives of others and their community. Over \$6,500 was donated back to charities from funds received from CRJ program participants and over \$8,000 in restitution was collected and given back to victims who were harmed or impacted by crime.

CRJ continued to provide a full continuum of community justice alternatives ranging from juvenile pre-charge programs focused on preventing young people from entering the justice system, to programs holding adult offenders of crime accountable to their victims and their community.

CRJ's Court Diversion programs held 227 first time/low level offenders accountable for repairing the harm they caused, helped 198 young people with underage drinking and marijuana civil violations connect with treatment and education, and assisted 279 individuals with suspended driver's licenses to get reinstated and legally back on the road.

One of CRJ's newest programs this past year is the Treatment Diversion Program. In this program's first year, 70 individuals facing criminal charges were not only held accountable for their actions, they were connected to treatment services to address underlying mental health or substance abuse issues impacting their engagement in criminal behavior. Treatment Diversion cases are diverted from the court system thus providing an effective cost savings for the community.

For a full breakdown of the many programs and services offered at CRJ, please visit our website at [www.bcrj.org](http://www.bcrj.org).

CRJ is a non-profit agency that receives support through state grants, local contracts, private donations and funding from towns such as yours. Together through our partnership, our community is benefited and strengthened as we create opportunities to help empower people to get their lives back on track.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director  
Center for Restorative Justice

## Shaftsbury Historical Society

2018 was a year of reflection at the Shaftsbury Historical Society. We would like to thank all members (past and present), volunteers, and the town for allowing us to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's History! Our season started in April with an open house. Due to unforeseen obstacles, the '2018 Ordinary Heroes Day' was postponed, but 2019 is just around the corner and we expect to have some more nominations for 2019 Ordinary Hero. Please nominate someone you feel is deserving of this unique recognition and drop us a note and tell us why they should be Shaftsbury's next 'Ordinary Hero'. Please provide a biography with the nomination. The Heritage Service at the Baptist Meeting House occurred on the Sunday before July 4th thanks to Ken Coonrad. In September, we had the first of 'many to come' tag sale. There was a bit of activity at the homestead that day. Thank you to the people that donated items for sale. It was a good fund raiser.

We have had some turnover on the board and I'd like to thank Jill Horohoe for her time and contributions to the board. You will be missed. Jim Cassidy is now on the board. Thank you, Jim for your contributions to the society.

We continue to look for an office assistant to assist in the office doing filing of paper work and much more. It has been over a year since we've have had a board Secretary. Please contact the Historical Society if interested in helping.

We have come to the conclusion that the plant is in need of much more than our budget will allow. On top of the plant itself we will need a new furnace next year. The foundation and sill work still needs to be done. This is a large and necessary expense that will have to be addressed soon.

We have continued to work on the 'Barn', prepping the building for its new use. This is an ongoing process and no small task with our operating budget but TAM has offered to assist in moving the material from Bernstein's to the Galusha Homestead. We will continue looking for grants to assist the society in maintaining the Galusha Homestead. We get about 20 percent of our operating budget from the town appropriation. Thank you!

There has been talk of adding regular monthly events at the Galusha Homestead. These could include a wine night and other fun gatherings. There will be more to come with these ideas.

As we finalize the events for 2019 our goal is to make the Shaftsbury Historical Society and the Governor Galusha Homestead something the town will be proud of. We enjoy being the stewards of Shaftsbury's history and are always looking for new ideas and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mitchell R. Race, President for the board

John G. McCullough Free Library  
Annual Report to the Town of Shaftsbury  
November 28, 2018

This year, John G. McCullough Free Library continued its mission to connect its members, many of whom are Shaftsbury residents, with a wide variety of enriching and entertaining materials through our collections and interlibrary loan services. We also provide access to vital online information and opportunities via our free WiFi and public computer terminals, high quality reference databases, digital books and audiobooks and one-on-one computing help and reference assistance. Perhaps most importantly, people of all ages are connecting with one another at free community programs hosted by the Library.

The Library's schedule remains unchanged: we are open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1:00PM- 8:00PM, Thursdays and Fridays from 1:00PM- 6:00PM and Saturdays from 10:00AM- 2:00PM. Our website, [www.mcculloughlibrary.org](http://www.mcculloughlibrary.org), provides access to our online catalog, research databases, descriptions of upcoming community programs and contact information. Our monthly e-newsletter and Facebook page are great ways to keep up-to-date on all we offer.

Last year's dramatic increase in collection use has become a new standard of service and will likely be surpassed by the end of 2018. This increase can be attributed in part to our membership in a lending consortium, an improved online catalog and a much improved statewide interlibrary loan system.

The McCullough Library welcomed 10,192 visitors in 2017, many of whom are Shaftsbury residents. This figure will be surpassed by the end of 2018. 3,360 people attended 331 free community programs in 2017. These figures will be easily surpassed by the end of 2018, mainly due to an enthusiastic response to our Summer Reading Club for children. 112 children joined the club this year and together kept their reading skills honed by reading more than 1,673 books. 334 children attended enriching programs over the summer as well. Storytime events for Bennington County Head Start and Hiland Hall students have continued. We were excited to participate in Shaftsbury Elementary School's Open House event as well.

As of this report, 236 people have opened McCullough Library accounts since January 2018, a significant portion of whom are Shaftsbury residents. Roughly one third of our 3,324 active patrons (individuals who have borrowed at least one item from the library in the past ten years) are Shaftsbury residents.

To help meet increasing demands on the library's collection and facilities, the McCullough Library applied for and received a number of grants and gifts this year, including funds to install a book drop, high visibility uniform signage, and a sump pump to prevent basement flooding. A grant from the Children's Literacy Fund (CLIF) has brought more than 150 new children's books to the collection and has funded author visits and book giveaway events.

The Friends of Robert Frost graciously sponsored a series of Vermont Humanities Council Speakers Bureau talks, which will continue for the next four years. A generous gift from the NorShaft Lions will sponsor the purchase of new large print books as well. The donation of two iMacs gave us the opportunity to replace our oldest public computers this year.

As they have for many years, the Friends of the McCullough Library volunteered their time and energy to raise funds for materials, community programs and services beyond what the library's operating budget can accommodate. This year's Book & Bake Sale was a rousing success, bringing in nearly \$8,000. Raffles and our ongoing and online book sales have raised additional funds. If you are interested in joining this dynamic fundraising and advocacy group, please stop by the Library.

# **Martha Canfield Library Services**

## **Collection**

- 25,500 Books and other materials, and the ability to request most anything else from Vermont's Interlibrary Loan service
- Hundreds of books on CD or Audio and DVD movies - all free
- Learning kits and help for home schoolers
- Music CD's of all genre
- Downloadable audio books from "ListenUp Vermont"
- The Vermont Online Library - a huge database of periodicals and reference materials
- Jigsaw puzzles and games for the whole family
- Many used books for sale at our Community House site (seasonally) and year round in the book sale section of the library
- The Russell Collection - an amazing and rare collection of books and documents about early Bennington County and Vermont. (The RC staff has helped scores of people research their Vermont ancestry).
- Reading Groups
- A wide variety of Programs for Adults and Children
- Children's Story Hour

## **Technology**

- Fiber optics internet/Wi-fi
- High speed computers.
- Ability to access our digital card catalog and reserve books from your home computer
- Receive a monthly e-newsletter about our new books and library programs
- Video Conferencing
- Learn a new language through our "Mango Languages"
- Personally enrich your life through a "Universal Class" course

## **More**

- Youth Room - a safe and convenient place for teenagers to come to after school to study or work on projects
- A beautiful art gallery with exhibitions that change monthly
- Seasonal park and museum passes
- Help with computer use, research and other questions
- Friendly and knowledgeable staff and volunteers
- Longer, more convenient hours

## **GREEN UP VERMONT**

Green Up Day marked its 48th Anniversary, with 22,700 volunteers participating! Green Up Vermont is a nonprofit organization, not a state agency. With your town's help, we can continue Vermont's unique annual tradition of taking care of our state's lovely landscape and promoting civic pride. Green Up Day is a day each year when people come together in their communities to remove litter from Vermont's roadsides and public spaces. Green Up Vermont also focuses on education for grades K-2 by providing free activity booklets to schools and hosts its annual student poster design and writing contests for grades K-12. To learn more please visit [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Support from cities and towns continues to be an essential part of our operating budget. It enables us to cover fourteen percent of our operating budget. All town residents benefit from clean roadsides! Funds help pay for supplies, including over 55,000 Green Up trash bags, promotion, education, and two part-time staff people.

Seventy-five percent of Green Up Vermont's budget comes from corporate and individual donations. People can donate to Green Up Vermont on Line 29 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online through our website.

Follow our blog for updates throughout the year! You can also link to Green Up Vermont's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages by visiting our website.

Save the date: Always the first Saturday in May, Green Up Day is May 4, 2019. A Vermont tradition since 1970!

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### **Lake Paran Committee Report**

Lake Paran is one of the hidden jewels in the Bennington area. Developed in the late 1960s, Paran is a beautiful, unspoiled swimming and recreation area that provides our community with a place to enjoy the wonders of nature close to home. Paran Recreations is the locally run, community supported, not for profit dedicated to keeping our lake a simple, fun, safe and affordable pleasure. In addition to the day-to-day program of swimming and boating, Paran Recreations runs a summer entertainment series, hosts children's camps and is part of a local effort to preserve environmentally sensitive wetlands.

Paran Recreations strives to be a resource for everyone in our area. We work hard to make our programs and facilities accessible to all. In addition to the summer programs we run for children and families we are developing new ways to attract people to our lovely lake all year round. In the past 5 years we have raised over \$300,000 to improve our facilities by putting in a sewer line and rebuilding our entire bath house building.

We are also stepping up our roll as stewards of the environment and have, in the past 2 years, applied for and received funding to insure the quality of the water and to survey the aquatic species in order to determine the best ways to remediate problems and to enhance the lake's health.

Paran Recreations is an important resource for our community with our membership and daily

attendance expanding greatly in the past several years. Engaging a wide spectrum of the community on a daily basis we have over 50 families and 25 seniors receiving Free Memberships; 224 paid memberships; special events; camps and community events and fund raising initiatives. During the summer of 2018 over 5834 people came to lake Paran to enjoy themselves.

Who We Serve: This past summer more than 5800 people came to the lake to enjoy the outdoors. Almost all of our patrons are from the towns of Shaftsbury, North Bennington, Bennington and Pownal, others are summer residents and some are passing through.

In addition to our everyday activities, some highlights of this summer were:

- 7 weeks of camps for local children ranging from Hip Hop to Out Door Skills. 25% of attending children received scholarships
- The Fifth Annual Stone Skipping Festival
- Four concerts with local musicians
- Drumming classes under the Pavilion
- Swimming Lessons
- Invasive Species Assessment and Remediation
- Trail construction and maintenance
- Third of July Bar B Q and fireworks

In addition to our regular allocation from Shaftsbury we are requesting an additional grant as a match our State Recreational Facilities grant. It is described here:

### **Playground: Special One time Request: \$1500**

Paran Recreations is requesting a one time special allocation of \$1500 to build a playground at Lake Paran. This request is part of raising matching funds of \$7335.00. The total budget for this project is \$14,670

We are also stepping up our roll as stewards of the environment and have, in the past 2 years, applied for and received funding to insure the quality of the water and to survey the aquatic species in order to determine the best ways to remediate problems and to enhance the lake's health.

As you know, we raised over ¼ million dollars (with your help) to rebuild our bath-house. The Lake House now offers improved bathrooms, changing facilities, snack bar, a new pavilion and a large heated room for community meeting and parties. Our property is also the parking area for hikers on the Frost Trail and many people who just want to fish and/or boat.

We are continually working to improve what we offer our community. Each summer we offer new camps and outdoor education opportunities for children. One of our goals this year is to develop a play ground for kids to use when they are not swimming. This will not only be an asset during the summer months but will draw more families to the lake during the "off season" for picnics and parties. In October we received a matching grant of \$7335.00 for which we must raise an additional \$7335.00. We are asking each of the 3 towns that share the lake (Bennington, North Bennington and Shaftsbury) to help us raise this match. The funds will pay for all site preparation, equipment purchase and installation.

## **PROJECT AGAINST VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS**

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) is committed to providing compassionate support, practical services and the pathway to healing and safety for countless victims of domestic violence and sexual assault throughout Bennington County. Our organization has grown from a crisis hotline to the multiple and comprehensive support services we now provide. These services include 24 hour hotline, court and social service advocacy, case management, emergency financial assistance, access to legal services, access to emergency housing, supervised visitation, parenting classes, community awareness, school –based prevention education and more.

The hotline is still where it often begins and our volunteers remain the backbone of the support we offer. In the past year, we provided 31 Shaftsbury residents with comprehensive services, 12 initially contacting us through the emergency hotline. These residents received advocacy services including emotional support, safety planning, housing services, civil and legal advocacy and emergency financial support. In addition, 20 adults and 15 children received supervised visitation services through our Family Time Center.

Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families. Our emergency shelter program provides families with short-term housing and case management services with the goal of obtaining safe, permanent housing. In the past year, we provided 42 adults and 33 children with 3,016 nights of shelter services.

To stop the generational cycle of abuse, we must start early and invest in prevention strategies that provide healthy parent-child relationships, friendships and dating relationships. Through our education and empowerment programs -pre-kindergarten to college; Nurturing Parenting classes; Women’s Support Groups; Healthy Mind, Body and Family workshops and Financial Literacy Program, we helped over 3,500 children, teachers and other adults learn new skills and techniques.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and families served, I thank the residents of Shaftsbury for your ongoing support to PAVE. Your support creates greater opportunities for the people impacted by domestic and/or sexual violence who need our services each year.

Respectfully submitted  
Linda Campbell, Executive Director

## **THE TUTORIAL CENTER, Inc.**

Founded in Bennington in 1971, 2019 marks the Tutorial Center's 48th year of helping the region's children and adults achieve educational, career, and life success! Please accept our thank you for the many years of support for our work. Your support enables us to help EVERY child or adult who comes to us for help.

The Tutorial Center has long-established learning centers in both Bennington and Manchester, enabling Bennington County residents to easily access our services where they live or where they work. In 2018 we said goodbye to our long-time executive director Jack Glade who leaves with our appreciation for his innovation and stewardship. It is my pleasure to succeed Jack and I look forward to partnering with so many in the community who help strengthen our work.

Our educational support services include tutoring for all ages, adult literacy, dropout prevention, alternative high school education, English language classes for non-English speakers, the High School Completion program, GED preparation and testing, job readiness training, workplace literacy for employees, software and technology training for business, enrichment classes, SAT preparation, and our innovative and nationally-recognized YAP experience for at-risk young adults.

Another highlight of our work involves our partnership with Seedlings, which continues to provide high-quality after-school tutoring at Bennington Elementary and Molly Stark.

Town of Shaftsbury appropriation funds support our tutoring work, enabling us to offer tutoring to any student who needs our assistance to succeed in school or to avoid becoming a dropout. This past year we served 3 residents of Shaftsbury. All students who come to us for academic support receive support, regardless of a family's ability to pay.

This past year we provided tutoring for 287 students, in subjects ranging from beginning reading to algebra, calculus, technology, and foreign languages. Most were from low-income families. Over 90% of these students made measured educational progress under our guidance. These results show up in the local schools as increase standardized test scores, and in local businesses as more productive employees.

Another 165 adults were enrolled in our free adult education services, including 8 Shaftsbury residents, with one student earning a high school diploma! Over 9000 hours of free instruction was provided to our students.

High-quality educational activities that respond to community needs -and produce lasting community impacts -that is what your Town funding supports. We thank you, and we look forward to your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Fish, Executive Director  
[www.tutorialcenter.org](http://www.tutorialcenter.org)

# THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

**Request Amount: \$1000.00**

Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'18 (10/2017-9/2018) VCIL responded to over 3,700 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 315 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 11 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 149 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 83 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 87 individuals with information on assistive technology; 45 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 532 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served 41 people and provided 33 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Windham County office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS) (previously under the VT Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and provides statewide interpreter referral services for sign language, spoken English and CART services for assignments in medical, legal, mental health, employment, educational, civil and recreational settings.

During FY '18, 5 residents of Shaftsbury received services from the following programs:

- Meals on Wheels (MOW)  
(\$390.00 spent on meals for residents)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)  
(\$700.00 spent on assistive technology for residents)
- Peer Advocate Counseling Program (PAC)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

**To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at:  
1-800-639-1522, or, visit our web site at [www.vcil.org](http://www.vcil.org).**

## **VT Association for The Blind and Visually Impaired**

### **Report of Services for the Town of Shaftsbury**

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2018 Fiscal Year was an exciting one. We served more clients than ever before and we launched our new iOS Training program for adult clients.

It's clear to us at VABVI that our mission and services will continue to play a critical role in the lives of many Vermonters well into the future. We are working harder than ever to support anyone living in Vermont who is experiencing vision loss.

**iOS Training Program:** Starting in January 2018 VABVI began providing clients with one on one iOS Training on iPhones and iPads.

**PALS (Peer Assisted Learning and Support) Groups:** PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and to discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss.

**HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence):** The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

**IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience):** IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, meet adult mentors, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills.

During Fiscal Year 2018, we served 1770 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 2 adults and 1 student in Shaftsbury and 56 adult clients and 14 students in Bennington County.

For more information about VABVI's services, or to volunteer, please contact Katie Shappy at (800) 639-5861 ext. 219, or at [kshappy@vabvi.org](mailto:kshappy@vabvi.org) or visit us our website at [www.vabvi.org](http://www.vabvi.org). Feel free to "like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/vabvi.org](http://www.facebook.com/vabvi.org).

## **Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse**

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse (dba Bennington County Child Advocacy Center), I would like to thank you for supporting our organization our first year on your ballot. I am humbled by the support you give our organization, and in turn, the support provided to victims living in your community.

Our organization is a non-profit, nationally accredited agency that helps begin the healing process for victims, of any age, in sexual abuse cases, as well as, child victims of egregious physical abuse cases.

We support the Town of Shaftsbury by:

- Providing direct services to children and families upon the commencement of an alleged child abuse case, for as long as needed, regardless of judicial outcome. This is a hard number to quantify. Cases that come in can stay with us up to three years, or sometimes longer, depending on the judicial process. We don't serve just the child, we support the whole family unit. Given that, the number for direct services is estimated at 20-25 people.
- Providing direct services to adult victims of sexual abuse, for as long as needed, regardless of judicial outcome.
- Housing a child-friendly interview room and a private family waiting room.
- Providing school and community outreach: we have provided this outreach to all schools within the SVSU, as well as, local child care and preschool providers.
- Serving as a resource to any adult working with children.

We respectfully ask for your continued support this year in the amount of \$500.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy Kitchell, Executive Director



*From the cover...*

## Whipple Mill/Eagle Square

Beginning in the second decade of the 19th century, Shaftsbury was the center of production of the steel carpenter's square in New England. At that time, and for several decades following, the old stone mill on Paran Creek, near the intersection of today's Routes 7A and 67, played a major role in the industry. Blacksmiths Stephen Whipple and Silas Hawes (both originally of Massachusetts) went into business together in Shaftsbury shortly after Hawes acquired one of the first patents on the right-angled carpenter's forming square, sometime in the eighteen-teens. Demand for the square grew so that, in 1823, Whipple built a mill (with a water-powered trip hammer forge) to help make more of them. The Whipple Mill, and at least one additional generation of the Whipple family – that of Stephen A. Whipple (with his busi-

ness partner Norman K. Douglass) – continued to produce carpenter's squares until the mid-1800s.

Meanwhile, a number of local entrepreneurs joined together to build another mill downstream on Paran Creek, at which to make initially the Hawes square, then those of other designers and of different metallurgies. Well before the Civil War, these efforts were consolidated under the name "Eagle Square Company" and later "Eagle Square Manufacturing Company." The Eagle Square name is still prominently displayed at the plant at Route 67 and Church Street.

In 1915, the Stanley Rule and Level Company of New Britain, CT purchased the Eagle Square plant on Paran Creek. The Stanley company continued to produce precision hand tools and later branched out into wooden house building materials, including roof rafters. The Shaftsbury Stanley Tools plant closed in 2001. Stanley Tools merged with Black & Decker to become Stanley Black & Decker in March 2010. The Stanley carpenter's square is still made and can be purchased today from Amazon for prices beginning at \$4.42.

The descendants of Stephen Whipple continued to own the old stone mill until 1917. In 1924, Anne Edwards, an out of townner, purchased the mill. It passed from her to her niece, to her niece's daughter, and to her daughter Kathy Link, a long time art teacher at Shaftsbury Elementary School. Ms. Link sold the mill in 2015.

Silas Hawes, the original patent holder, seemed to have left the Shaftsbury area in 1828. And promptly disappeared. No definitive record of him in later years has been found.



**FROM:**

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall  
61 Buck Hill Road, P.O. Box 409  
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

Please bring this report to Town Meeting. When finished with report, please recycle by depositing in designated receptacle at Landfill.