

Town of Townshend

159th Annual Town and School Report



Linda Sperry Photography

Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

TOWN OF TOWNSHEND	
P.O. BOX 223 - 2006 VT ROUTE 30 - TOWNSHEND, VT 05353	
<u>http://www.unofficialtownshendvt.net/index.html</u>	
911 FOR EMERGENCIES	
Population: 1,232	Registered Voters 984
Elevation : 574 Feet	Area: 27,200 Acres
Roads: 63 Miles	
First Constable	221-0467
Highway Dept.	365-4260
Second Constable	365-7334
Library	365-4039
Townshend Dam Picnic/Swimming For Reservations	365-7703 877-444-6777
L&G Union HS	365-7355
Elementary School	365-7506
Town Hall	365-7300
TOWN CLERK HOURS	
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday - 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Saturday by Appointment, Closed Thursday	
COMPACTOR AND RECYCLING	
Tuesday and Thursday – 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	
Saturday – 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.	
MEETINGS	
CEMETERY COMMISSION	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2nd Monday - 5:00 P.M. at Town Hall	2nd Monday of each month 7:00 P.M. at the Elementary School
FIRE DEPARTMENT	SELECT BOARD
4th Monday - 7:00 P.M. Work Detail	2nd & 4th Tuesday - 6:00 P.M. at Town Hall
2nd Thursday - 7:00 P.M. Business Meeting at Fire Station	
PLANNING COMMISSION	LIBRARY TRUSTEES
2nd & 4th Wednesday 7:15 P.M. at Town Hall	2nd Wednesday - 6:00 P.M. at the Library
AUDITORS	LIBRARY HOURS
Meet monthly at Town Hall at their discretion	Monday - 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
LELAND & GRAY	Tuesday - 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the Leland & Gray Library	Wednesday - 1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
LISTER HOURS	Friday - 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Tuesday & Friday - 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	Saturday - 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
TOWN Informational Meeting Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.	
<i>Please bring this Report to Town Meeting, March 6, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.</i>	

Townshend FY 2016-2017 Town and School Report
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WARNING FOR THE TOWN OF TOWNSHEND 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend are hereby notified and WARNED to meet at the Town Hall in Townshend, Vermont, on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., to act on the following articles, viz:

- ARTICLE I.** To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year:
- ARTICLE II.** To act upon the July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 Independent Auditors' Report:
- ARTICLE III.** To see what salaries the Town will vote to pay its various officials for the ensuing year:
- | | |
|---|------------------|
| Town Clerk: | \$ 35,415.00/ yr |
| Town Treasurer/Tax Collector | \$ 11,500.00/ yr |
| Select Board: (1) Chair: | \$ 900.00/ yr |
| (4) Members: | \$ 775.00/ yr |
| Town Clerk assistants and casual labor: | \$ 14.00/ hr |
- ARTICLE IV.** To elect all Town Officials for the ensuing year(s):
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Town Clerk: | (1) 1 yr term |
| Town Treasurer/Tax Collector | (1) 1 yr term |
| Select Board: | (1) 3 yr term |
| | (1) 1 yr remaining 3 yr term |
| | (2) 1 yr terms |
| Listers: | (1) 3 yr term |
| Delinquent Tax Collector: | (1) 1 yr term |
| First Constable: | (1) 1 yr term |
| Second Constable: | (1) 1 yr term |
| Town Grand Juror: | (1) 1 yr term |
| Town Agent: | (1) 1 yr term |
| Library Trustees: | (1) 5 yr term |
| Cemetery Commissioner: | (1) 5 yr term |
- ARTICLE V.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to cover all monies raised for municipal entities for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, and to borrow money in anticipation of taxes?
- ARTICLE VI.** To see if the Town will authorize its Property Tax Collector to receive its Real Property Taxes quarterly, August 31, 2018; November 30, 2018; February 27, 2019; and May 31, 2019? Monthly interest will be charged at the rate of one-half percent (1/2%) or fraction thereof; interest of one percent (1%) or fraction thereof plus penalties will commence on July 1, 2019.
- ARTICLE VII.** Will the town vote to take advantage of the provisions of chapter 37 of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated and authorize the Select Board to employ a town manager, and, if so, at what level of compensation to be raised by taxation?
- ARTICLE VIII.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$ 537,482.00, to pay for the running expenses and liabilities of the Town of which \$ 411,928.00 to be raised in taxes?

- ARTICLE IX.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$ 555,090.00, for the running expenses and liabilities of maintaining the Town's roads of which \$ 401,546.00 to be raised in taxes?
- ARTICLE X.** To see if the Town will vote to raise funds, by taxation, for the purchase of a new Highway Department pick-up truck, and, if so, how much?
- ARTICLE XI.** To see if the Town will vote to raise funds by taxation to contract for law enforcement services, and, if so, how much?
- ARTICLE XII.** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 51,050.00, by taxation, for the running expenses and liabilities of the Library?
- ARTICLE XIII.** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 10,000.00, by taxation, to be placed in the Capital Expenditure Fund Fire Department Reserve toward a future pumper?
- ARTICLE XIV.** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 1,750.00, by taxation, for the Old Cemetery Fund?
- ARTICLE XV.** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 17,106.00, by taxation, for the support of Social Services, as recommended by the Screening Committee?
- ARTICLE XVI.** To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to promote reforestation, water conservation and good forestry practices?
- ARTICLE XVII.** To see if the Town will vote to set the first Tuesday in March 2019, as the date for the 2019 Town of Townshend Annual Meeting?
- ARTICLE XVIII.** To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before said Meeting?

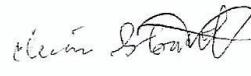
Dated at Townshend, this 23th day of January 2018.

TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD




Kathleen Hege

Will Bissonnette



Irvin Stowell



Robert Wright



Steven Frisk

TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICERS ELECTED IN 2017

TOWN CLERK	Anita Bean	(1 year term) to March 2018
TOWN TREASURER	Joseph Daigneault	(1 year term) to March 2018
SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER	Anita Bean	(1 year term) to March 2018
TOWN MODERATOR	David Liebow	to March 2018
SELECT BOARD	Irvin Stowell	(1 year term) to March 2018
	William Bissonnette	(1 year term) to March 2018
	Robert Wright	(3 year term) to March 2018
	Kyle Lapointe	(3 year term) to March 2019
	(Resigned – Steven Frisk appointed)	
	Kathy Hege	(3 year term) to March 2020
SCHOOL BOARD	Alfred Claussen	(3 year term) to March 2018
	Eric Scott	(3 year term) to March 2019
	Kristina Wright	(1 year term) to March 2018
	Cliff Passino	(3 year term) to March 2020
LELAND & GRAY	Michael Dolan	(3 year term) to March 2018
	Joseph Winrich	(3 year term) to March 2020
	Twilla Holden	(3 year term) to March 2020
LISTERS	Mike Bills	(3 year term) to March 2018
	Richard Lucier	(3 year term) to March 2019
	Eugene Kuch	(3 year term) to March 2020
DEL TAX COLLECTOR	Becky Nystrom	to March 2018
FIRST CONSTABLE	Warren Beattie	to March 2018
SECOND CONSTABLE	Michael Cutts	to March 2018
TOWN GRAND JUROR	Margaret Bills	to March 2018
TOWN AGENT	Carole Melis	to March 2018
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Nan Danforth	(2 year term) to March 2017
	(Resigned –Patricia Lassoff appointed)	to March 2018
	Ann Allbee	(5 year term) to March 2019
	Margaret Bills	(5 year term) to March 2020
	Marilee Attley	(5 year term) to March 2021
	Marjorie Holt	(5 year term) to March 2022
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	Howard Graff	(5 year term) to March 2018
	Bruce Bills	(5 year term) to March 2019
	Rickey Snow	(5 year term) to March 2020
	Scott Nystrom	(5 year term) to March 2021
	Charles Marchant	(5 year term) to March 2022

2017-2018 TOWN OF TOWNSHEND OFFICER APPOINTMENTS

911 Coordinator	2018	Carole Melis Patricia Jerez
911 Fire Dept. Liaison	2018	Brian Schmidt
Cell Tower	2018	Craig Hunt
Senior Solutions	2018	
Emer. Mgmt Coordinator	2018	Sherwood Lake
Energy Coordinator	2018	Craig Hunt
FEMA Administrator (Flood)	2018	Irvin Stowell
Fence Viewer	2018	Kristina Wright
	2018	Amon DeWitt
	2018	James Newton
Health Officer (5yr)	2018	Tim Shafer
Howard Legacy	2018	Carole Melis
	2018	Eileen Fahey
	2018	Barbara Bedortha
Inspector of Shingles	2018	Robert Wright
Inspector of Wood & Timber	2018	Robert Wright
Planning Commissioner (5yr)	2018	Dale West
	(5yr) 2019	Robert DeSiervo
	(5yr) 2020	John Evans
	(5yr) 2022	
	(5yr) 2021	Andrew Snelling
Animal Control Officer(s)	2018	Constables
Pound Keeper	2018	Select Board
Recreation Committee	2018	Kristina Wright
	2018	Laura Richardson
Rescue Inc.	2018	Kathy Hege
Social Services Screening	2018	Kathleen Greve
	2018	Cynthia Davis
	2018	Kristina Wright
Town Report Committee	2018	Cynthia Davis
	2018	Joanna Snelling
	2018	Brandon Canevari
Tree Warden	2018	Bob DeSiervo
Valley Cares Board	2018	Susan LeCours
Visiting Nurse Assoc.	2018	
Weigher of Coal	2018	Joseph Daigneault
	2018	Paula Newton
	2018	Susan Hunt
Windham County Sheriff Liaison	2018	Constables
Windham Regional Com.	2018	Will Bissonnette
Windham Regional - Traffic	2018	John Evans
Windham Solid Waste Mgmt.	2018	Irvin Stowell
	2018	Dale West

SELECTBOARD REPORT

The primary concern of the Selectboard in 2017 was making sure that the Town's financial house was in order. In order to achieve that goal the Selectboard relied upon the expertise of our bookkeeper, Elaine Hill, and Craig Hunt, the Board's administrative assistant. Collectively they had numerous onsite consultations with representatives from the software company that produced the Town's bookkeeping system, multiple discussions with our contracted professional auditing firm, and they devoted many hours to entering and correcting data from previous years. Their time and efforts are greatly appreciated. As a result we are confident that with this report the numbers reflected herein are an accurate reflection of the Town's financial position as of June 30th, 2017.

Garbage and recycling continue to be a topic of discussion for the Selectboard. In July, Windham Solid Waste Management District ceased trucking and disposal of recyclables for its member towns putting the burden of complying with the State's new recycling law on the municipalities. The additional costs of having the recyclables trucked and disposed of had to be added to the price of the Town's garbage bags. Other issues such as hours, security, and the attendant's duties remain an ongoing discussion. If members of the community have issues using the transfer station in its current configuration please take a few minutes to jot down your experiences and forward them to the Selectboard. Without your input we cannot be aware of the difficulties you are experiencing when using the facility.

Included in this year's Warning is an Article asking voters whether or not they wish to change the form of governance in the Town of Townshend. A Committee was formed as a result of last year's Town Meeting to look into the governance possibilities that are available to the Town. A public forum was held for community members when the Committee's work was completed so that citizens could ask questions of an attorney from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, Sarah Jarvis. She explained the differences between a Town Manager and a Town Administrator form of government. The Committee did an outstanding job researching the issues facing Townshend and the Selectboard greatly appreciates all of their efforts. Now it's time for the voters to become engaged in the future direction of the Town. Almost every one of our major town offices has an official who will shortly be considering retirement. This includes the office of the Town Clerk, the Treasurer, the Selectboard, and the Administrative Assistant. To ensure that years of ingrained knowledge and experience does not leave with the individuals, steps should be taken to provide some type of continuity through the transitions. This oversight would become the immediate primary role of a Town Manager or Administrator should we decide to hire one. The Selectboard, as a collective, does not have an opinion about which type of governance would be the best for Townshend.

This is but a brief recap of some of the major topics that have been discussed by the Selectboard this year. We would greatly welcome your participation in these issue discussions or in any other topic the Selectboard may discuss at our bi-monthly meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Your participation at meetings is helpful in keeping the Board informed of the issues that are important to our community.

TOWN TREASURER'S/TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

The treasurer's job has been made simpler within the past few months. There have been changes made in the way the Library and Cemetery Accounts are maintained. This makes the bookkeeper's job less cumbersome and my job less burdensome.

As far as tax collecting, payments are being made in a timely manner. Most taxpayers are bringing in their whole tax bill making it easier to apply the payment and generate a receipt.

Especially during the week when payments are due, there are times when it is somewhat difficult to issue a computer generated receipt. Having the paper copy makes it quick and easy.

So far this year, tax monies are coming in at a steady pace. Some people pay all four payments at once.

Once again, as a reminder:

I WOULD LIKE TO ADVISE ALL PROPERTY OWNERS WHO HAVE THEIR PROPERTY TAXES ESCROWED TO CHECK WITH THEIR MORTGAGE COMPANIES OR BANKS TO BE SURE THEY RECEIVED A COPY OF THE TAX BILL. WE ONLY SEND THEM TO THE COMPANIES THAT REQUEST THEM.

**Joe Daigneault
Town Treasurer and
Tax Collector**



Linda Sperry Photography

January 5, 2018

To the Select Board of
Town of Townshend, Vermont

We have been engaged to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Town of Townshend (the "Town") for the year ended June 30, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 28, 2017. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Town are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2017. We noted no transactions entered into by the Town during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There are no sensitive estimates used by management.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

Although we received full cooperation of management and believe that we were given direct and unrestricted access, the insufficient preparation of the accounting records created significant difficulties in completing the audit procedures.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. The attached schedule summarizes corrected misstatements of the financial statements.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated January 5, 2018.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Town’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

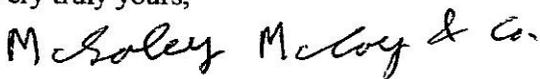
Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Town’s independent auditors. As discussed above, the scope of our work was not sufficient to enable us to express an opinion on the financial statements.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Select Board and management of the Town and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,


McSoley McCoy & Co.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
PROPERTY TAXES				
Property tax	441,393	441,426	420,389	411,928
Delinquent tax	0	- 4,603	0	0
Delinquent tax interest	10,000	8,003	10,000	9,000
Delinquent tax penalty	0	11,246	0	0
Misc. taxes and interest	1,000	- 1,503	1,000	500
LICENSES	500	0	500	500
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE				
U.S. Dam PILOT	5,656	5,656	5,656	5,656
Vermont PILOT	5,000	8,375	3,390	3,400
Vermont Current Use	55,000	61,970	55,000	55,000
Civil fines	10,000	5,933	10,000	0
OTHER REVENUE				
Land sale	0	25,152	0	0
Town interest earned	700	1,372	700	700
Town Hall rental	750	2,810	750	750
Town Clerk over counter fees	6,500	6,596	6,500	6,500
Town Clerk recording fees	5,000	9,660	5,000	5,000
Dog licenses	1,200	1,114	1,200	1,200
Trash bag sales	22,000	35,236	22,000	25,000
Reimbursements	0	11,838	0	0
SOVEREN land lease	0	2,040	2,000	2,000
Misc. fees and revenues	350	7,969	350	350
TOTAL REVENUES	565,049	640,290	544,435	527,484



Linda Sperry Photography

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
SELECT BOARD				
Board member wages	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Admin assist salary	33,475	33,475	34,312	34,312
Admin assist benefits	2,207	2,323	14,909	15,900
Legal expenses	5,000	2,354	5,000	5,000
Insurance	3,000	3,851	3,400	4,000
VLCT dues	2,400	2,384	2,400	2,400
Windham Regional dues	2,500	2,303	2,738	2,775
Print Town Report	1,900	198	1,900	1,900
Notices	500	844	500	1,000
Town Meeting Lunch	0	951	0	1,000
SOVEREN Solar	0	5,963	0	0
Misc. expenses	3,050	455	3,050	2,850
Total	58,032	59,101	72,209	75,137
TAFT MEADOWS	500	159	500	500
ELECTIONS	2,200	1,869	650	1,700
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	3,250	11,089	3,250	2,200
LISTERS				
Wages	22,500	16,670	23,000	18,000
Maps	500	0	1,000	3,500
Computer	750	1,006	1,250	2,000
Services, licenses, support	2,500	838	2,750	3,000
Misc. expenses	1,750	1,622	2,500	1,600
Total	28,000	20,136	30,500	28,100
FINANCE OFFICE				
Outside audit	12,000	27,500	12,000	12,000
Other municipal bookkeeping	8,300	0	8,300	8,300
Bookkeeper wages	17,200	11,338	17,630	17,630
Tech support	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Training	200	3,016	200	3,000
Treasurer/Tax Collector salary	7,285	10,154	7,342	11,500
Treasurer bond	265	1,054	300	1,125
Bank fees	0	178	2,000	0
Misc. expenses	4,600	1,608	500	70
Total	50,850	54,848	49,272	54,625
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE				
Town Clerk salary	34,550	34,540	35,415	35,415
Assistants wages	4,120	2,610	4,225	5,500
Town Clerk benefits	13,407	14,764	15,234	16,200
Office supplies	1,200	1,040	1,500	1,500
Equipment expenses	1,000	745	1,000	3,100
Records maintenance	0	3,114	0	0
Misc. expenses	330	203	330	430
Total	54,607	57,016	57,704	62,145

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES-continued

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
PLANNING COMMISSION				
Clerical	800	800	800	800
Town Plan	2,500	2,413	2,500	2,500
Misc. expenses	1,100	437	1,100	1,100
Total	4,400	3,650	4,400	4,400
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY	75	0	75	75
RESCUE	34,250	34,250	34,250	35,300
CONSTABLE	900	839	900	1,100
LAW ENFORCEMENT	20,000	17,287	20,000	ARTICLE
TOWN HALL				
Janitor's wages	2,100	1,263	1,800	1,800
Supplies	2,000	1,026	2,000	2,000
Office expenses	3,000	3,367	1,750	1,750
Insurance	7,000	7,487	7,000	8,000
Lawn care	200	911	200	0
Repair/maintenance	20,125	135	10,125	10,125
Fuel - propane	6,000	5,209	6,000	6,000
Telephone	1,500	1,664	1,500	1,500
Misc. expenses	800	610	500	300
Total	42,725	21,672	30,875	31,475
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	1,000	0	1,000	2,500
FOREST FIRE	3,500	0	3,500	0
POUNDKEEPER	00	300	300	300
FIRE HOUSE				
Dues	18,600	18,526	19,000	19,500
Insurance	2,000	2,186	2,000	2,300
Workers Comp	500	1,573	1,500	1,600
Repairs/Maintenance	4,000	2,571	4,000	3,000
Communications	5,000	4,116	5,000	5,000
Fuel oil	5,000	3,583	4,000	5,000
New equipment	10,000	5,100	5,000	11,600
Balance to reserve fund	0	7,694	0	0
Misc. expenses	1,825	1,575	750	1,050
Total	46,925	46,924	41,250	49,050
FIRE VEHICLES				
Supplies	1,400	975	1,400	1,400
Insurance	4,500	4,607	4,600	4,700
Repairs	3,000	4,381	6,000	7,000
New Equipment	3,000	0	3,000	3,000
Balance to reserve fund	0	1,937	0	0
Total	11,900	11,900	15,000	16,100

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES-continued

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
PUBLIC WORKS				
Wages- sidewalk plowing	500	669	500	500
Municipal electric	0	0	10,300	10,300
Streetlights	4,500	0	0	0
Total	5,000	669	10,800	10,800
TOWN GARAGE				
Supplies	1,000	35	1,000	200
Insurance	4,000	4,599	4,000	4,000
Repairs/Maintenance	5,000	277	5,000	200
Electricity	500	1,296	0	0
Fuel - propane	4,000	4,503	4,000	4,500
Misc. expenses	800	806	200	800
Total	15,300	11,516	14,200	9,700
WASTE MANAGEMENT				
WSWMD Assessment	16,000	15,192	14,225	10,750
Recycling contract	0	0	16,000	16,000
Attendant wages	12,000	11,620	12,300	12,000
Tipping fees	22,000	13,850	15,000	15,000
Compactor	1,425	2,105	925	925
Total	51,425	42,767	58,450	54,675
COMMON				
Mowing wages	0	0	0	600
Lawn care	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Tree care	1,000	1,620	1,000	3,000
Misc. expenses	1,400	855	750	500
Total	3,400	2,475	2,750	5,100
RECREATION	300	0	300	300
EMPLOYER'S EXPENSES				
FICA	12,000	11,343	12,000	12,000
Unemployment	400	287	400	400
Workers Comp	2,000	0	2,000	2,000
Misc. expenses	0	104	0	0
Total	14,400	11,734	14,400	14,400
OTHER EXPENSES				
Bond principal	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Bond interest	25,000	17,890	25,000	25,000
Windham County tax	11,250	11,721	12,500	12,500
Misc. expenses	300	2716	300	300
Total	76,550	72,327	77,800	77,800
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	529,489	482,258	544,435	537,482
<u>Transfer Reappraisal Reserve CD</u>		<u>112,773</u>		
TOTAL EXPENSES	529,489	595,031	544,435	537,482

HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
PROPERTY TAXES	134,734	134,734	333,802	284,664
STATE HIGHWAY PROGRAM	109,000	111,876	109,000	109,000
OTHER REVENUE				
Plow other towns	4,000	7,200	3,000	3,000
Transfer from reserves	0	25,000	0	0
Equipment fund interest	0	48	0	0
TOTAL REVENUES	247,734	278,858	445,802	396,664

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
GENERAL MAINTENANCE				
Wages	140,000	145,470	148,000	148,000
Materials and supplies	120,000	116,096	110,000	100,000
Road signs	0	2,248	0	1,000
Hired services	8,000	3,242	7,500	15,000
RETREATMENT	80,000	72,638	100,000	80,000
GRAVEL CRUSHING	25,000	25,000	0	35,000
Gravel crushing to reserve	25,000	25,000	25,000	0
FOGLINE apply to reserve	2,775	0	0	0
SPECIAL PROJECTS	70,000	70,000	0	0
Special project funds to reserve	33,000	33,000	0	0
ANCILLARY EXPENSES				
Liability insurance	3,500	4,170	3,700	4,400
Uniforms	3,000	3,919	3,500	3,200
Misc. expenses	450	8	400	400
EMPLOYER EXPENSES				
FICA	11,500	9,630	11,500	11,500
Unemployment	1,250	265	1,250	1,250
Health Insurance	11,750	11,507	12,502	13,465
Retirement	8,000	7,948	8,000	8,000
Workers Comp	10,000	13,344	12,000	14,000
Other insurance	2,150	1,866	2,150	2,150
Misc. expenses	0	99	300	300
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	555,375	545,450	445,802	437,665

EQUIPMENT FUND EXPENSES

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
JOHN DEERE 410 BACKHOE	4,200	3,257	4,200	3,200
TRUCK #3 2015 INTERNATIONAL	4,000	5,076	4,000	2,500
TRUCK #8 2007 STERLING	7,000	3,818	2,500	0
TRUCK #9 2011 INTERNATIONAL	7,000	12,380	7,000	7,000
TRUCK #1 2012 FREIGHTLINER	6,000	6,611	6,000	3,000
TRUCK #2 2012 FORD 550	4,000	2,108	3,000	3,000
MISC. EQUIPMENT	1,500	262	1,500	1,000
JOHN DEERE 555 TRACTOR	1,500	2,683	1,500	1,500
JOHN DEERE 544 LOADER	12,500	7,388	12,500	1,000
JOHN DEERE 772 GRADER	10,000	2,021	10,000	5,000
ALL EQUIPMENT				
Supplies	2,000	6,201	2,000	2,000
Diesel	35,000	29,890	20,000	22,000
Gasoline	250	68	125	125
Insurance	7,500	6,928	7,500	7,500
OTHER EQUIPMENT EXPENSE				
Purchases	0	855	0	0
Grader fund to reserve	0	0	0	50,000
Principal payments	0	14,000	14,000	8,000
Interest payments	720	720	440	200
Misc. expenses	1,800	14	1,800	400
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	104,970	104,280	99,065	117,425

EQUIPMENT LOANS

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
2011 International	13,000	0			
2012 Freightliner	12,000	0			
2012 Ford 550	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	
2015 International	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000

TOWN RESERVE FUNDS BALANCES 2016 & 2017

	FY 2016	FY 2017		FY 2016	FY 2017
Common Fund	5,730.79	5,735.63	Library Maint.	4,196.00	0.00
Fire Department			Listers		
Equipment	0.00	9,630.83	Education	2,110.00	2,110.00
Fire Pond	9,989.00	9,989.00	Reappraisal	112,772.58	113,136.53
Truck CD	135,117.00	135,600.44	Mosley Fund	61,640.04	61,775.28
Truck MM	67,584.85	77,728.31	Pilot/RDAG*		
Highway Dept.			MM	44,271.63	77,434.46
Equipment	29,721.07	29,768.77	CD	33,082.58	0.00
Fogline painting	2,775.00	2,775.00	Sewer Fund	40,640.04	40,781.95
Special Projects	61,100.00	94,100.00	Sidewalk Fund	6,760.12	6,773.65
Infrastructure	15,846.35	15,846.35	Town Clerk Records	20,303.82	22,713.82
Historic Arch Bridges	5,000.00	5,000.00			
Planning Comm.	6,904.88	6,904.88			
TOTAL RESERVE FUNDS				665,545.86	717,804.90

*Payment In Lieu of Taxes/ Rural Development Action Grant. Funds released from discontinued program, combined to one account in 2016



Photo by Andrew Snelling

West Townshend Stone Arch Bridge

Four Year Expense Summary Comparison

	ACTUAL 2016	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
MUNICIPAL EXPENSES	499,739	529,489	595,031	544,435	537,482
HIGHWAY EXPENSES	651,349	555,375	545,450	445,802	437,665
EQUIPMENT EXPENSES	104,143	104,970	104,280	99,065	117,425
LIBRARY EXPENSES	<u>41,580</u>	<u>49,050</u>	<u>46,671</u>	<u>47,400</u>	<u>51,050</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,296,811	1,238,884	1,291,432	1,136,702	1,143,622

Townshend's Homestead Property Tax

Fiscal Year	Municipal Tax Rate	Education Tax Rate
2017-18	0.4738	1.6349
2016-17	0.4101	1.5959
2015-16	0.5026	1.6541
2014-15	0.6490	1.6366
2013-14	0.4864	1.6150
2012-13	0.4631	1.3759
2011-12	0.5620	1.2874
2010-11	0.5263	1.2618
2009-10	0.4604	1.2944
2008-09	0.3602	1.2272
10 year average	0.4893	1.4583

(Taxable properties only - State and Non-tax status properties are not listed below)

REAL ESTATE Category/Code	Parcel Count	Municipal Listed Value	Homestead Ed Listed Value	Non-Resi Ed. Listed Value	Total Education Listed Value
Residential I R1	351	60,603,300	34,105,000	26,498,300	60,603,300
Residential II R2	301	79,714,000	36,871,400	42,842,600	79,714,000
Mobile Homes-U MHU	15	200,300	42,000	158,300	200,300
Mobile Homes-L MHL	20	2,512,100	725,700	1,786,400	2,512,100
Seasonal I S1	8	1,569,300	0	1,569,300	1,569,300
Seasonal II S2	2	558,400	0	558,400	558,400
Commercial C	31	13,415,400	959,700	12,455,700	13,415,400
Commercial Apts CA	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial I	1	382,800	0	382,800	382,800
Utilities-E UE	2	19,432,600	0	19,432,600	19,432,600
Utilities-O UO	3	2,181,500	0	2,181,500	2,181,500
Farm F	2	431,900	0	431,900	431,900
Other O	130	1,949,400	0	1,949,400	1,949,400
Woodland W	88	10,455,200	1,790,200	8,665,000	10,455,200
Miscellaneous M	55	3,120,700	1,090,100	2,030,600	3,120,700
TOTAL LISTED REAL	1,009	196,526,900	75,584,100	120,942,800	196,526,900
P.P. Cable	0	0		0	0
P.P. Equipment	0	0			
P.P. Inventory	0	0			
TOTAL LISTED P.P.	0	0		0	0
TOTAL LISTED VALUE		196,526,900	75,584,100	120,942,800	196,526,900
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	2/2	20,000	20,000	0	20,000
Veterans >10K		60,000			
Total Veterans		80,000	20,000	0	20,000
P.P. Contracts	0	0			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	0/0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total Contracts	0/0	0	0	0	0
FarmStab Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Farm Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	0/0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total FarmStabContr	0/0	0	0	0	0
Current Use	97/97	12,780,496	2,259,700	10,520,796	12,780,496
Special Exemptions	2		0	181,500	181,500
Partial Statutory	0/0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Exemptions		12,860,496	2,279,700	10,702,296	12,981,996
Total Exemptions		12,860,496	2,279,700	10,702,296	12,981,996
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		1,836,664.04			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			733,044.00	1,102,405.04	1,835,449.04
NON-TAX	37	NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411			

Town of Townshend Grand List
Special Exemptions Abstract
Main District: Listed in Parcel Order Main District

Parcel SPAN	Exemption	Real Value	Assessment	
			Special less Exempt	Spec. Exemption
UE018-000 SOVEREN SOLAR 651-205-11431	Solar	88,700 UO Non-Resi Homestead	88,700 0	0 0
UE019-000 SOVEREN SOLAR 651-205-11445	Solar	92,800 UO Non-Resi Homestead	92,800 0	0 0

Special Exemption Totals

Type	Homestead	Non-Residential
Ski Lifts & Snowmaking	0	0
Whey Processing	0	0
Vermont Yankee	0	0
Qualified Housing	0	0
Solar	0	181,500
Wind	0	0
Other	0	0

Total Real Prior to Exemptions		181,500

Total Exemptions	0	181,500

Grand Lists After	0	0

We certify that the foregoing is a true abstract of the grand list of TOWNSHEND for the year 2017.
 Given under our hands at TOWNSHEND on this 17th day of June in the year 2017.
Gene Rich Richard Benier LISTERS

I hereby certify that I have examined the grand list for the year _____ now on file and hereby certify this abstract in accord with 32 V.S.A. 4183.
 Attest _____ TOWN CLERK
 Date: _____

Section 5404(b) of Title 32 of the V.S.A. requires the following.
 The clerk of a municipality, or the supervisor of an unorganized town or gore, annually by August 15 shall transmit to the director, in electronic format prescribed by the director, education and munici grand list data, including exemption information and grand list abstracts.
 If changes or additions to the grand list are made by the listers or other officials authorized to do so after the transmission of the electronic grand list and abstract of the grand list, such clerks shall forthwith certify the same to the director by transmitting an updated electronic grand list book and electronic abstract of the grand list.

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR 2016-2017 REPORT

After receiving the warrant in June of 2017 for \$119,119.41, the total in delinquent taxes owed to the Town of Townshend was \$141,852.89. Prior to receiving the warrant, the total due for delinquent taxes was \$30,524.15. I held a tax sale on March 24, 2017 in which three properties were auctioned off, of which none have currently been redeemed by their original owner. I am currently in the process of another tax sale.

The tax sale that I am working on right now consists of eleven properties and about \$23,000 in delinquent taxes. The tax sale date has not been scheduled yet, but will be in the spring of 2018. The struggle remains with deceased property owners with delinquent taxes where there is no estate or death certificate on file which are needed to enter the properties into probate court. I currently have two properties that account for \$11,606.92 in delinquent taxes which the select board has advised me to hold off on pursuing to avoid up front legal fees. The remaining dollars on my list are under monthly payment arrangements with me to pay their balances off within 12 months.

I do my best to work with everyone as much as I can while sticking to my policy that I implemented when I began collecting delinquent taxes. I would be happy to serve the Town in this position for another year.

*Note - All of the figures mentioned above are principal only and do not include interest and penalty.

BECKY REILLY

	<u>7/1/2016</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Adjusted</u>	<u>6/30/2017</u>
2010-2011	2,191.33	53.38		2,137.95
2011-2012	2,102.17	0		2,102.17
2012-2013	2,131.53	0		2,131.53
2013-2014	2,054.33	152.86		1,901.47
2014-2015	16,030.09	11,950.06		4,080.03
2015-2016	126,745.03	111,685.69	55.01	15,004.33
2016-2017*	119,119.41	2,429.39	2,194.61	114,495.41
	270,373.89			\$141,852.89
*Warrant:		6/26/2017	119,119.41	

Amounts from 2015-2016 Annual Report	
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2016-2017 Delinquent Tax Report (Tax Only)

<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>Previous Years</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>Previous Years</u>
\$503.97			\$88.84	323.65	
\$864.02	\$589.13		\$1,188.82		
		\$27.01	\$71.99		
\$1,603.14			\$1,135.29	1,207.92	8,018.48
\$616.56	\$239.77		\$16,317.90		
\$453.43			\$186.43	105.27	
\$118.15	\$125.71		\$609.18	\$537.04	
			\$2,307.50		
\$4,225.50			\$3,415.11	\$2,544.92	
			\$378.43		
\$3,663.26	\$4,294.22	\$1,603.83	\$131.59		
\$369.20			\$47.99		
\$1,807.24			\$1,140.28		
\$177.22			\$4,854.52	1,367.93	
\$443.04	\$313.17		\$2,257.66		
\$49.84			\$75.68	80.53	250.28
\$919.77			\$46.53		
\$649.80			\$588.87	179.01	
\$3,542.47			\$658.98		
\$2,313.04			\$2,178.28		
\$86.76			\$71.97		
\$105.23			\$121.77		
\$81.22	\$86.42	\$94.41	\$177.22		
			\$186.59		
\$201.21	\$55.97		\$1,895.84	648.50	
		\$390.20	\$123.69	133.56	298.99
\$2,002.91			\$182.75	214.08	
\$219.67			\$43.21	11.80	
	\$233.73	\$791.83	\$1,131.59		
			\$328.27		
			\$227.01		
			0.00		
			\$47,844.00	\$1,114.63	\$819.79
			120.68	0.00	0.00
			\$115,151.11	\$14,406.96	\$12,294.82
				TOTAL =	\$141,852.89
				=	Collected in full before report printed
			*	=	Abated after 6/30/16

LIBRARY FUND

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
<u>TOWN APPROPRIATION</u>	46,240	46,240	47,400	51,050
<u>LIBRARY FUND EXPENSES</u>				
PAYROLL EXPENSES				
Librarian	22,000	21,928	22,550	26,500
Assistants	7,800	6,862	8,000	8,000
Custodian	1,400	1,259	1,500	1,500
FICA	2,000	2,152	2,200	2,400
Insurance	2,000	1,479	2,000	2,200
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES				
Supplies	1,700	1,224	1,700	1,500
Postage	800	652	850	1,000
Snow removal	600	700	600	700
Maintenance	3,000	6,184	3,000	3,000
Travel - meetings	500	308	700	600
Electricity	3,000	1,541	0	0
Fuel oil	2,500	945	2,500	1,800
Telephone	650	417	650	650
Website	100	144	150	200
Equipment	1,000	875	1,000	1,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	49,050	46,671	47,400	51,050

THE HOWARD LEGACY FUND

Aurelius Chapin Howard, born in 1812, lived much of his life in Townshend. He made a fortune in Michigan land, and in his Last Will and Testament, he bequeathed to the Town the sum of \$10,000.00 - an enormous sum in that period. The interest from this fund was directed to be used to assist the poor of the Town. Mr. Howard died on January 9, 1881, and at a Town Meeting held on December 5, 1881, the Town voted to accept the legacy and elected three Trustees to administer it. The fund continues to this day, with Barbara Bedortha, Eileen Fahey and Carole J. Melis as the current Trustees.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT For Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017

Principal Balance of CD (not to be disbursed per terms of Fund)	\$10,000.00
Balance of Money Market - 07/01/2016	\$11,744.25
Total Money Market interest earned through 06/30/17	\$23.02
Total interest earned from CD through 6/30/17 transferred to Money Market	\$35.06
Disbursements:	
Firewood 7/26/2016	<u>- \$250.00</u>
Ending Money Market Balance as of 06/30/17 (available funds)	<u>\$11,552.33</u>
Ending Total Fund Balance	\$21,552.33

Townshend Public Library Board of Trustees 2016-2017

Our library looks a little brighter this year with a fresh coat of paint outside. You might have noticed the bright red stripe on the Post Office side of our building. We are hoping to prevent people from backing into the library!

We have added new shelving in the meeting room to house our growing collection. The new and active Friends of the Library have added a matching bookcase as well. They had a successful book sale in October and would welcome new members.

We are proud of our library and consider it a valuable town resource. Ideas about how to grow and meet the needs of our community are always welcome. We are fortunate to have dedicated librarians as well as volunteers who donate many hours to make our library a warm and welcoming place.

Townshend Library Board of Trustees
Marjorie Holt, Pat Lassoff, Ann Allbee, Margaret Bills, Marilee Attley

Library Trustees Finances

	VOTED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	VOTED 2018	PROPOSED 2019
FUND-RAISING, SALES AND INTEREST	0	18,900	0	0
<u>LIBRARY TRUSTEES EXPENSES</u>				
Supplies	1,000	991	1,000	1,000
Audio / Visual	800	670	1,100	1,800
Subscriptions	650	585	700	700
Programs	2,000	1,279	2,000	2,000
Fundraisers	300	277	300	600
Professional expenses	500	256	400	400
Books	8,000	7,560	9,000	9,000
Performances	500	200	500	500
EE Gifts	300	300	300	350
Tech	1,000	1,230	1,000	1,200
Newsletter	200	0	200	200
Book Club purchases	0	1,203	0	0
Friends of the Library books	0	983	0	0
Misc. expenses	200	0	200	200
TOTAL TRUSTEES EXPENDITURES	15,450	15,574	16,700	17,950

WAGES and SALARIES

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Cemetery	Charles Marchant	973
	Domenick Schmidt	492
Delinquent Tax Collector	Becky Reilly	8,588
Finance Office	Elaine Hill	11,028
	Terri Garland	125
Highway Department	Kurt Bostrom	56,160
	Bob LeCours	42,000
	Ed Smith	48,857
	Michael Cutts	680
Library	Elizabeth Etman	1,719
	Karen LaRue	22,239
	Laura Richardson	1,355
	Loise Sirois	3,869
	Donna Trumbull	1,890
Listers	Stanley Bills	10,050
	Eugene Kuch	1,577
	Richard Lucier	4,614
Planning Commission	Craig Hunt (clerk)	800
Sidewalk and Lawn Maintenance	Michael Finegan	1,288
	Bryan White	792
Select Board	Kathleen Hege	900
	William Bissonnette	775
	Steve Frisk	775
	Irvin Stowell	775
	Robert Wright	775
	Craig Hunt (assistant)	33,475
Town Clerk	Anita Bean	34,540
	Kathleen Hege	31
	Richard Jackson	518
	Kurt Tietz	2,589
Town Hall Maintenance	Anita Bean	1,262
Transfer Station Attendant	Arnold Cole	12,272
Treasurer/Tax Collector	Joe Daigneault	11,686

Town of Townshend Cemetery Commission Report 2016-2017

This has been a year of great loss to the Commission. Our long time Chairman Howard Graff died. Even when Howard wasn't feeling well, he hosted our monthly meetings at his house. Howard was a loyal public servant and an honorable man. His service to the Town of Townshend will be missed. Thank you Howard for all your good deeds.

For the usual cemetery business we can relate the following. All town cemeteries received the usual annual care. One of the people helping with the so-called back cemeteries was Domenick Schmidt. Thank you Domenick for your help.

Bruce Bills, Charlie Marchant and Bob Holden have been working on repairing the Brigham/ Bixby Cemetery. We have mentioned in past reports that there was significant damage to stones and the fence due to a tree falling in the cemetery. The stones have all been fixed and the fence posts also repaired. What remains is the iron rods that go between the fence posts. We are in the process of repairing them and eventually will have to replace some. Relatives of the Hollands have donated some money to pay for the repairs.

The Commission continues to work on the rights of way to the landlocked cemeteries. Some of the proposals have all been sent to the adjacent landowners. We are now waiting for their response.

Anyone interested in a tour of the town's cemeteries should contact one of the commissioners. Also, if anyone is inclined to donate to the care of the so-called back cemeteries (there are 10 of them), the commission would appreciate it and the gift would be tax deductible.

Commission members:

Scott Nystrom, Vice Chairman; Charles Marchant, Secretary and Agent; Rick Snow, and Bruce Bills

CEMETERY FUNDS

REVENUES	2017 ACTUAL	EXPENSES	2017 ACTUAL
Town appropriation	1,500	Wages	993
Interest	1,706	Oakwood contract expense	2,680
Annual Care	185	FICA	76
Perpetual Care	3,175	Insurance	145
Lot sales	810	Postage	24
Fees	290	Deed fees	60
Grace Cottage Field Lease	750	Maintenance / repairs	164
Misc. revenue	805	Electricity	168
		Use of equipment	156
		Supplies	27
		Mileage	273
TOTAL REVENUES	9,221	TOTAL EXPENSES	4,766

SOCIAL SERVICES – 2017-2018 REPORT/REQUESTS

Organization	<u>2017</u> <u>Approp</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Rec</u>
American Red Cross of Vermont and NH Upper Valley Region provides planning preparedness and emergency disaster relief.	\$500	\$500	\$500
Brattleboro Area Hospice, Inc. provides non-medical, volunteer-staffed programs for dying and grieving community members. One hundred percent locally-funded, Hospice provides assistance to increase understanding and cope with death and dying.	\$300	\$300	\$300
The Current (operated by the Connecticut River Transit, Inc.) provides transportation for the elderly, the disabled and children and families who receive Medicaid.	\$750	\$750	\$750
Gerda's Equine Rescue, (West Townshend) rescues, rehabilitates, and re-homes mainly slaughter-bound horses, and hopes to be a resource to local towns and animals in need. New request	\$00	\$100	\$100
Green Mountain Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) supports and develops programs for seniors who wish to volunteer within the community.	\$275	\$275	\$275
Green Up Vermont sponsors Vermont's annual tradition of cleaning up the landscape every spring and provides educational materials to the schools. Support from Vt. cities and towns is an essential part of the group's annual budget.	\$100	\$100	\$100
Groundworks Collaborative is a merger of the Brattleboro Area Drop-In Center and Morningside Shelter, providing emergency food, housing and case management services.	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Health Care and Rehabilitation Services provides a range of community-based services, including client advocacy and public education.	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$1,100
Newbrook Fire and Rescue supplements fire protection and rescue services to Townshend residents as part of our Mutual Aid Agreement.	\$3,500	unspec.	\$2,500
Project Feed the Thousands provides food to local food shelves. This is a generic fund-raising request, not specifically requesting an amount from the town. The town gives directly to the Townshend Community Food Shelf.	\$00	unspec.	\$00
Senior Solutions Southeastern VT supports aging seniors in Townshend with information and assistance, senior nutrition programs, transportation, case management and caregiver respite.	\$750	\$750	\$750
Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc. (SEVCA) is a community based, non-profit organization providing weatherization, emergency heating repair, tax preparation services, thrift store vouchers and fuel assistance.	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Southeastern Vermont Watershed Alliance monitors and documents the health of local rivers to identify potential areas of concern, in an effort to meet the goals of the Clean Water Act.	\$750	\$260	\$260

Organization	<u>2017</u> <u>Approp</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Request</u>	<u>2018</u> <u>Rec</u>
Southern Vermont Therapeutic Riding Center serves 21 clients from Southern Vermont, including some from Townshend. The center's mission is "to enrich, educate and expand the lives of individuals with special needs through Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT)," with goals of improving clients' coordination, balance, cognitive, emotional, and behavioral skills while developing equestrian skills. New request.	\$00	\$500	\$250
Townshend Community Food Shelf , housed in the Townshend Community Church, provides food to those in need.	\$700	\$700	\$700
Vermont Center For Independent Living is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities and supports Townshend residents through grants for adaptive equipment, and home access assistance, systems advocacy and youth programs.	\$255	\$255	\$255
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force is a statewide organization that helps Vermont communities to enhance fire suppression resources by developing rural water supply systems. The Task Force helps with design, installation and funding. New request.	\$00	\$100	\$100
Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH makes homecare visits to Townshend residents.	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,700
Windham County Humane Society is non-profit serving all residents of Windham County towns. Its mission is to "ensure the safety and well-being of animals as well as enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare.	\$00	\$500	\$250
Women's Freedom Center works to end physical, sexual and emotional violence against the women and children of Windham County.	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Youth Services coordinates the Big Brother/Big Sister program, provides in-home parent education and support, and a 24/7 crisis hotline.	\$1,500	\$1,540	\$1,540
TOTALS	\$16,620	\$18,206	\$17,106

Other

\$00	\$3,696	\$00
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Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS), an affiliate of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, seeks support for implementing "our region's comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs) to grow the region's economy." These efforts include regional workforce development, paid internship programs, high school career awareness programs, support and programming for entrepreneurs and small businesses. New request.

The Social Service Committee recommends that, if SeVEDS would like the Town of Townshend to consider funding them in 2019, a representative of SeVEDS should arrange to make a presentation to the Selectboard to better acquaint the Town of Townshend with the services and needs of SeVEDS.

Some 2017 appropriations included in the total are not listed above because the agency did not make a funding request this year. Not all agencies requested a specific amount. Complete requests from each of these social service agencies are available for review at the Town Clerk's office.

Townshend Listers Report 2016 - 2017

State mandated changes continue to be imposed on our office with these responsibilities becoming more complex on a regular basis. We are currently upgrading our mapping system to GIS. Having GIS in our system will enable us to be more efficient and have the ability to update each year to keep our information current.

We wish to thank the many property owners who have graciously allowed us to view their properties. It is always a pleasure working with you. Of course, we again thank everyone in the Town Clerk's office and everyone who works in the Town Hall, as well as both Camperama and Bald Mountain campgrounds for their continued support.

The public is always welcome in our office. We are happy to answer any questions or concerns and receive your input.

Homeowners are reminded to file their Homestead Declaration (HS-122) annually.

Townshend Listers: Dick Lucier Mike Bills Gene Kuch

In memory of our official greeter, Gretchen

Townshend Planning Commission Annual Report 2016 - 2017

The Planning Commission completed a total update of the town plan and, after holding a public hearing, submitted it to the Select Board for consideration. The Select Board adopted the updated Town Plan which also received approval from the Windham Regional Commission. The approved Town Plan will be effective for the next eight years, providing the framework and guidance for land use and development. The Commission reviews all Act 250 applications and state permits to determine if they are consistent with goals of the Town Plan.

In addition, this past year the Commission represented the Town at meetings with the Connecticut River Flood Control Commission regarding Townshend residents' concerns about the operation and condition of the Townshend Dam and Townshend Lake.

The Commission is currently working on an infrastructure inventory and assessment as part of evaluating the Town's future needs and potential capital spending. We are also exploring the process for getting the villages of Townshend recertified by the State as Village Centers which is a prerequisite for many State grants and other benefits.

We would like to recognize former Planning Commissioners, Elizabeth Garfield, Stanley Holt and Art Monette for their tireless commitment to the town of Townshend and the community. Their memory serves as an inspiration to us. We are honored to serve our community and welcome public input and participation at our meetings.

John Evans, Chairman
Dale West, Secretary

Robert DeSiervo, Vice-Chairman
Andrew Snelling

Townshend Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report 2016-2017

In terms of the number of calls for this year's report, we are right around the same number for the past few years. The difference this year is the severity of the incidents. In two different structure fires there was loss of life in each. The Department wishes to extend its thoughts to the families who lost loved ones and to the property owners who had significant losses.

In the several events during the year that required mutual aid help, the system once again proved its value. With the idea of mutual aid in mind, our department has been participating in monthly training sessions that involve more than seven local departments. Besides these sessions, there has also been an increased emphasis on our own local training. Thanks to donations, we have been able to purchase some new breathing units (SCBA) and upgraded radios.

With the help of a state grant program, we have installed a new dry hydrant on the Evans property on Plumb Hill Rd in Townshend Acres. We thank the Evans family for their help in this project. This hydrant was put to the test at the fire on Shirley Circle in Townshend Acres. We are looking at installing additional hydrants around town. If you have a pond, and would like us to consider it for a hydrant, please contact the department.

At our annual meeting, the department welcomed a new Chief (Glen Beattie) and a new Assistant Chief (Brian Schmidt). We thank past Chief Doug Winot and Assistant Chief Mike Cutts for their loyal service for the past few years. Both Doug and Mike continue as members, and we have kept our membership steady over the past year and have several junior members who are participating in junior fire training with the help of the Newbrook Fire Department.



The department has begun to implement a Knox Box Key Retainment System. This is an entry system where the Department has a locked box with a key to a box on a property (called a Knox Box). Having this entry system allows us to get into a building where there is an alarm sounding without breaking in. If you are interested in such a system, contact the department or the town EMD. If you don't want to participate in such a system but have an internal alarm, please inform us who the key holder is if you are not there. This person should be available at all hours and nearby.

In the near future the Department will be forming a truck committee to develop the replacement of the front line engine which is due for replacement in year 2020. Also after much consideration of several options the Department members recently voted in support of pursuing a new fire house.

Please put your 911 number in a visible place. The number should be retroreflective, meaning it can be seen at night.

For the past four years, the Department has sponsored one of the Hope and Action monthly dinners at the Town Hall. Most of these are on the third Saturday from October to April with the final event being to help with Green Up Day in May. Think about coming to one of these dinners and meet many of your fellow townspeople.

Chief: Glen Beattie; Asst. Chief: Brian Schmidt; Treasurer: Joe Daigneault; Secretary: Charles Marchant

Townshend Librarian's Annual Report

2016 - 2017

For the most part, this has been a positive year for the Library. We have seen our visitor numbers increase to 6,118 this year. Due in no small part to the popularity of our children's programs a large number of visitors are less than three feet tall. The playgroup that is run by Early Education Services is very popular with young families. It is a great opportunity for them to enjoy our space and services, as they socialize and share great activities and stories. This is similar to the preschool story hour that the Library offers twice a month. We've also continued to collaborate with the school and it has been wonderful to continue the Storywalk program with help from Jen Clary and Heidi Russ. We always enjoy welcoming teachers as they introduce their students to the library and all it can offer. All these activities help promote literacy skills, success in school, and encourage life-long learning and we are happy to be a part of that process.



Photo by Karen LaRue

The Library Friends held a successful book sale again this year. I am grateful for all their hard work. The library is also fortunate that the Friends paid for a new bookcase in our meeting room. I am proud and appreciative of the compliments we receive from people regarding the quality of our collection, the services we offer, and the friendliness with which these are provided. One especially busy day this summer brought such comments from visitors hailing from Australia, Chicago, and Delaware, all in the same day! My philosophy is that library patrons shouldn't be short changed because they live in a small town, especially in this age of technology, and I am always glad to hear that it shows. I am thankful for wonderful trustees, volunteers and other staff who agree and work with me to help provide the best library for our community.

The state library has made many significant changes this year. The most major change involved a great turnover in its staff. This has had a great impact on all Vermont libraries, but especially small ones such as ours that rely on the state staff to provide for us what we can't. Another major change was to a new inter-library loan software. This new system takes getting used to and requires more steps, but allows for better tracking of items. We borrowed 196 items from other libraries this year in addition to the 7,049 other items checked out from our collection of 14,000 plus items. Additionally, 525 items were downloaded from our online service. The new year will bring more changes. Both will require great adjustment. We will change our library software to another product promoted by the state, and we'll be saying goodbye to Louise who is leaving to have more time for other projects. It has been a pleasure working with her and I will miss her positive attitude and our close collegial relationship!

Respectfully submitted,

Karen LaRue

Townshend Tree Warden Report

Wow, there's a lot to cover... I'll try to be brief.

Vermont remains one of the most forested states in the country. We see this in Townshend. Many of us live here or visit for just this reason. Unfortunately, there are invasive insects and plants that can radically change today's forest and not for the better.

The Big Three: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), Asian Longhorn Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) are here or knocking on our door. The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has been here for some time and luckily for us, very cold winters cause high mortality. In states without cold winters the HWA quickly kills the trees. Some of the southern states know this too well. The Emerald Ash Borer is in Canada and all the states surrounding Vermont and, many think it is only a matter of time before it gets here. Once again, when the insect attacks, the tree mortality is usually in less than three years.

The Asian Longhorn Beetle is not a strong flyer and relies mostly on others for transportation. Firewood is believed to be the most likely way this insect, who feeds exclusively on hardwood trees with its favorite, Maples, will get to our woodlands'. There are other invasives like the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) but so far its effect is not known...something to keep an eye on.

Invasive plants are also adversely impacting our forests. These plants are not native and crowd out desirable tree species. They can spread quickly and are difficult to control or eliminate. If one resident works to control invasive plants it can be frustrating because seeds can come from somewhere the plants are taking over.

I hope everyone takes a few minutes to look at a very good website: <https://vtinvasives.org/>

Here in Townshend, we have been trying to get a handle on hazard trees (i.e. dead/diseased trees and limbs, generally in the right-of-way, and that can fall into the road, causing traffic delays and possibly injuries). I have been out several times with the highway foreman to identify these trees so they can be cut down. Unfortunately, it seems like from the time they are identified to the time they are removed is very lengthy. The Select Board can explain this.

Kurt Bostrom, Highway Foreman, has told me that each of the Town trucks keeps a book where hazard trees are recorded. Kurt was given a good reference on hazard trees and a simple sheet to use as a way of prioritizing trees that need the quickest attention. Please call the Highway Dept. or me if you see or have questions on hazard trees.

Respectfully,
Bob DeSiervo
Tree Warden

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

JANUARY 1, TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

Another year has come and gone. Time flies when you're "having fun!!! At least that's what I've been told.

It has, as usual, been an interesting year. The most frustrating part of the job is just when you finally understand the different processes related to the maintenance of town records, procedures for voting and new real estate forms, the State comes along and changes them.

There is going to be a change in the cost for recording documents. It appears that there will be an across-the-board fee increase which will be adhered to by all towns. There has not been a final decision made as to what the new fees will be. There is also the possibility that within the near future Land Records will all be digitized. There are many towns that have already started the process. The process would be lengthy and could be costly for small towns like Townshend.

The other change that is on the horizon is the possibility of our town going from hand counting votes to having to use a tabulator. In the State of Vermont if you have 1,000 or more voters on your checklist tabulators are mandated for General Elections. Currently there are 984 voters in the town. It is getting dangerously close. I think it would be a sad day when we would no longer be able to come together as a community to count votes and enjoy the comradery we all love and share living in a small town.

As a side note, right now there are 112 towns that do a combination of Australian Ballot & Floor Votes, 77 towns that use all Floor Votes and 45 towns that use only Australian Ballot.

I know I repeat this year after year but I feel it is important to let the people who help me know that I appreciate all that they do. So, thanks to my assistants Kathy Hege, Dick Jackson and Kurt Tietz for their ongoing dedication and reliability which helps me keep my office up and running.

Of course, thanks again to all the residents of the town for their continuing support believing in me and giving me the opportunity to serve as Town Clerk.

Now, on a more somber note and with deep sadness, it pains me to have to tell all residents that the town has finally gone to the **DOGS!!!!**

Anita Bean, Town Clerk



Town Clerk Fees processed as of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Fiscal 2016/2017

Recording/Filing		\$ 11,487.00
Title Searching w/copies		\$ 1,934.89
Certified Copies (vital records)		\$ 3,690.00
Burial Transits		\$ 135.00
DMV		\$ 237.00
Vermont Fish & Wildlife	Town	\$ 136.50
State		\$ 2,766.00
Posting Land		\$ 25.00
Marriage/Civil Unions	Town	\$ 50.00
	State	\$ 250.00
Animal Licenses	Town	\$ 1,104.00
	State	\$ 1,115.00
Miscellaneous		\$ 200.08
Green Mountain Passes		\$.00
Town Hall Rental		\$ 2,720.00
Trash Bags		\$ 5,533.50
Liquor/Tobacco Licenses		\$ 440.00
Total:		\$ 31,823.97



Photo by Andrew Snelling

Town Clerk Information

LAND TRANSACTIONS – JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

Total Transfer Returns Filed	Primary Residents
2016 – 76	24
2017 – 61	17

WELCOME TO TOWNSHEND (NEW PROPERTY OWNERS)

Kailen & Brenton Lott
Herbert M. & Sheralyn W. Troumbley
Daniel E. Sherman & Katelyn A. Boyd
Andrew L. & Thomas E. Powell
Richard D. Bronner
Benjamin G. Farrell & Haley A. Felker
Scott Amsden
Shawn L. Derosia
Aric J. Wilson & Emily M. Stone

Erica M. & Isaiah S. Shorrock
Suzanne Choquette
George E. & Gary D. Zawicki
Orren H. Styles, Sr.
Christopher M. & Kenneth J. Fogerty
Jennings & Theresa A. Berger
Joseph & Nacelle Winrich
Robert D. & Sheila A. Harris
Stephen Lee

ORDINANCES

Health Ordinance
Human Bit by Animal
Solid Waste Disposal
No overnight parking
Wireless Telecommunication
Facilities (Cell Towers)
Parking
Designation of Common Road
as a One Way Street

SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCES

Grafton Road (Revised)
Unpaved Town Roads
Local Enforcement on State
Highway Speed Limit
Riverdale Road (Revised)
Amendment to Local Enforcement
of Speed Limits on a State Highway

LIQUOR/TOBACCO LICENSES

Harmonyville Store
Windham Hill Inn
West Townshend Country Store

River Bend Farm Market
Lawrence's Smoke Shop & Country Store

(continued on next page)

SEPTIC APPLICATIONS

Septic applications must be obtained by the property owner from the State of Vermont when installing or replacing a septic system and/or replacing a tank.

ANIMAL LICENSING

All dogs six months or older must be licensed on or before April 1st. An up-to-date Certificate of Vaccination for Rabies is required for licensing. If you are moving or your dog has died, please contact the Town Clerk's office.

Licensing Fees: \$9.00 spayed/neutered, \$13.00 not spayed/neutered.

Late Fees: \$2.00 spayed/neutered, \$4.00 not spayed/neutered

The annual **PET VACCINATION CLINIC** will be held March 17, 2018 at the Newbrook Fire House from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Fees are as follows: Rabies \$15.00, Distemper \$25.00, Rabies and Distemper \$35.00.

PERMIT TO KINDLE: BURN BRUSH ONLY

Fire Permits for burning must be obtained from the Town Clerk's office. Individuals must notify Keene Mutual Aid prior to burning at 603-352-1291. This Permit does not relieve you from any liability related to damage caused by the fire. Permits can also be obtained from Roger Brown, Fire Warden.

REMINDER: Burning household trash, treated/painted wood and construction materials is against the law.

TOWNSHEND RESIDENTS - RESOURCE CENTER - TOWN OFFICE

Information:	Past and present for public review
Certified copies:	Birth, marriage, death - \$10.00
Meetings:	Times, minutes, posted and warned
Compactor:	Rules & regulations, tokens and sticker
Licenses:	Civil marriage, animal, VT Fish & Game
Auto:	Renewals and State forms
Permits:	Driveway access and outside burning
Property:	Location, taxes, appraisal, owners name, 911, etc.
Hours:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

CLOSED – Thursdays and Saturdays

NOTE: IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS FOR ANY REASON, PLEASE BE SURE TO NOTIFY THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE SO THAT NOTICES/PUBLICATIONS/TAX BILLS CAN GET TO YOU IN A TIMELY MANNER

**VITAL STATISTICS
DEATHS**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
BUSICK, CONCETTA	63	01/09/17	WARDSBORO
GOODRICH, MARIE	80	02/04/17	SAXTONS RIVER
GARFIELD, ELIZABETH	95	03/08/17	TOWNSHEND
FITZPATRICK, STEPHEN	62	03/08/17	TOWNSHEND
BRISTOL, PAULINE	87	03/14/17	TOWNSHEND
FITZGERALD, ROSALEE	92	03/30/17	BRATTLEBORO
SMITH, ELAINE	66	04/27/17	WEST TOWNSHEND
BROWNELL, DAVID	68	05/02/17	LONDONDERRY
SILTON, MARTIN	88	05/08/17	WINHALL
MATHIAU, AMY	40	05/28/17	EAST DOVER
MAHR, JOSEPH	96	06/19/17	TOWNSHEND
LABBE, PAUL	72	06/24/17	BELLOWS FALLS
FLETCHER, NORA	85	06/30/17	TOWNSHEND
HOWE, LAURA	89	07/09/17	TOWNSHEND
KEAN, SHALA	32	07/16/17	TENNESSEE
SARGENT, SUSAN	63	07/22/17	TOWNSHEND
PARSONS, JR., JESSE	74	08/29/17	WEST WARDSBORO
USHER, DAVID	72	09/05/17	BRATTLEBORO
HICKS, RONA	74	09/06/17	STRATTON
FANIZZI, CATHERINE	87	09/11/17	WILMINGTON
BOESE, MARION	91	09/20/17	VERNON
STAIB, JANE	87	09/22/17	WEST TOWNSHEND
BUSH, DOROTHY	96	10/06/17	TOWNSHEND
DEMARTINE, OLIVE	98	10/07/17	TOWNSHEND
SPAULDING, FRANCIS	75	10/18/17	WESTMINSTER
GRAFF, HOWARD	90	10/22/17	TOWNSHEND
SANDERSON, AMANDA	35	10/20/17	LUDLOW
LOVELY, STEVEN	43	10/20/17	TOWNSHEND
HUNT, SUSAN	82	11/10/17	TOWNSHEND
REED, JR., ROBERT	88	12/07/17	TOWNSHEND

BIRTHS

<u>NAME OF CHILD</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME OF FATHER</u>	<u>NAME OF MOTHER</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
BETANCOURT, III, BENJAMIN	M	01/05/17	BETANCOURT, JR., BENJAMIN	CLARK-ADAMS, SYDNEY	TOWNSHEND
LAUGHMAN, KIMBERLY	F	01/16/17	LAUGHMAN, JOSHUA	LAUGHMAN, JESSICA	TOWNSHEND
STEVES-BERRY, SAMUEL	M	04/02/17	STEVES, OWEN	BERRY, HEATHER	TOWNSHEND
WEST, BRYSON	M	06/20/17	WEST, DALE	WEST, DARCY	TOWNSHEND
SHELDON, HAZEL	F	07/24/17	SHELDON, SCHUYLER	MUSIE, GRACE	TOWNSHEND
DEROSIA, AURORA	F	09/25/17	DEROSIA, SHAWN	DAVIS, RACHEL	TOWNSHEND
BERNARD, EASTON	M	09/29/17	BERNARD, JAMIE	BERNARD, TERESA	TOWNSHEND
ROCKWELL, ROBERT	M	10/11/17	ROCKWELL, ANDREW	ROYCE, KAYLA	TOWNSHEND

CIVIL MARRIAGES

<u>SPOUSE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SPOUSE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE OF MARRIAGE</u>
TIRRELL-BAKER, SARAH	TOWNSHEND	WOOD, DAVID	TOWNSHEND	02/26/17	TOWNSHEND
DEZENDORF, JACQUELINE	TENNESSEE	PLASTER, CLIFTON	TENNESSEE	06/15/17	TOWNSHEND
HARNEY, CATHERINE	MASSAHCUSETTS	CHOWDHURY, NURUS	MASSACHUSETTS	07/29/17	TOWNSHEND
SCHULDENFREL, MIRIAM	WEST TOWNSHEND	JENNINGS, III, ROBERT	W. TOWNSHEND	08/20/17	WEST TOWNSHEND
DELOZIER, DANIELLE	MASSACHUSETTS	WASIELEWSKI, JAMES	MASSACHUSETTS	09/09/17	WEST TOWNSHEND
BRUCE, LISA	TOWNSHEND	LURVEY, JOHN	TOWNSHEND	10/07/17	SHAFTSBURY
GARRISON, JODIE	TEXAS	KIRBY, KENETH	TEXAS	10/31/17	TOWNSHEND

Townshend Historical Society

POB 202, Townshend, VT 05353 info@townshendvt.org www.townshendvt.org

Follow "Townshend Historical Society" on Facebook

Townshend Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization with an office upstairs at DuGrenier Galleries, 1096 VT Rte. 30. Funded primarily by member dues and gifts, its six-person Board orchestrates projects and activities designed to preserve the history of Townshend and share it with the largest numbers possible through special projects, events, exhibits, and publications.

The Historical Society's contributions to the community are great given its small membership and similarly small annual budget. THS maintains a growing collection of books, articles, photographs, family histories, and objects related to the history of Townshend and makes them available for research on-site by appointment and via its website www.townshendvt.org. It uses its collections as resources for creating exhibits (for the Town Hall display case, the summer History Fair in Newfane, and, recently, the Vermont Welcome Center in Guilford) and as resources for publications distributed locally and nationwide via its website. These include a twice-yearly newsletter (distributed by mail to 250 people, organizations, schools, Townshend Library, and Town officers, and posted on the THS website and pamphlets about projects such as Scott Bridge, Stone Arch Bridges Restoration, and the Townshend Barn Tour. In addition, THS operates a small store (online, by mail, and in person) to make available to the community books and other items related to Townshend history, such as its own *Stitch in Time* and Karl Decker's *Townshend People*.



Photo courtesy of THS

The highlight of 2017 was our Celebration of the Restoration of Scott Bridge on July 23 sponsored by the Historical Society in cooperation with West River Community Project and Community Hope and Action. 125 people attended the event, including representatives from four generations of builder Harrison Chamberlin's family, the Vermont Department of Historic Preservation (who took the lead in the bridge restoration), and the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges. Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony and talk by author of *Vermont Crossings*, Robert McCullough, a pot luck supper and square dancing on the bridge were enjoyed by all.

Efforts to preserve Townshend's historically significant Stone Arch Bridges were initiated in 2017 and will be our main focus for 2018. Site visits to the six bridges by representatives of the Preservation Trust of Vermont, VT Division of Historic Preservation, VT AOT, and Townshend Select Board and Planning Commission promise to pave the way for THS' application to the Preservation Trust of VT for a matching grant to underwrite a professional assessment of the present condition of the bridges. The resulting report will serve as the guideline for planning our implementation of the bridge preservation project. In the meantime, the Society is selling Stone Arch Bridge jigsaw puzzles and Aldro Hibbard prints to raise preliminary funds

Trustees

Charles Marchant, President & Representative to the Town;
Robert DuGrenier, Vice President;
Marge Holt, Secretary; Lee Petty, Treasurer;
Heidi Clawson, Priscilla Lyman



Fairbrook Bridge photo Andrew Snelling

Linda Sperry Photography photo editing of photos

West River Community Project

Greetings! We here at the West River Community Project are writing to thank everyone who has participated in our many activities, introduce folks who may not know us to what we do, and to give the community an opportunity to support our work. Over the past several years, the WRCP has become a thriving hub of our community in its home in the historic West Townshend Country store in the heart of West Townshend. As you know, we operate a small café using fresh, local ingredients, a tiny grocery that sells locally produced goods at the wholesale price, and a thrift shop offering top quality clothing for very low prices. We also host the West Townshend Post Office and Townshend Farmer's Market, operate a state-licensed commercial processing kitchen to incubate small local businesses, and actively collaborate with other non-profit organizations.

Perhaps you have had the free soup at our monthly soup night or enjoyed Friday night outdoor wood-fired pizza with live music, or attended the spring and fall festivals we host. You may have participated in the Art Salon held once every month or joined our two book clubs and educational cooking classes. Our Anuf Wood program created the opportunity to learn how to cut, stack, and help your neighbors with their wood for the winter. You may have participated in our Farm to Table dining events, and if your children attend Windham Elementary, they have enjoyed locally sourced hot lunches at school from our USDA approved kitchen. Last year we helped all of the local elementary schools raise money and helped Rescue, Inc. raise funds for their new local substation. Currently, we're partnered with Grace Cottage Hospital and their Wellness Programs in offering cooking classes focused on using healthy, local ingredients and in our joint Ton of Tomatoes project, where we have successfully processed 2,000 pounds of donated tomatoes for distribution by the Vermont Foodbank. We also regularly support the initiatives of other local non-profits, including the Townshend Historical Society, the West River Valley Chorus, Newfane Heritage Festival, Community Hope & Action, the Stratton Ski Patrol, and West River Valley Thrives.

All are welcome to help and make a real impact in our community! The West River Community Project continues to do the hard work that needs to get done through your kind donations of time and money. Let us continue to celebrate and together build a better future for our community and its needs. West River Community Project is a nonprofit community center dedicated to promoting local agricultural, economic and social activities. Through participation and contribution, we seek to improve lives and strengthen our community as a whole.



Photo by Robert Du Grenier

With thanks on behalf of the Board of Directors,
Robert Du Grenier, Cameron Howard, Cindy Leszczak, Kord Scott, Eric Scott, Matthew Brodie

The Townshend Community Food Shelf

The Townshend Community Food Shelf is located in the Townshend Church. The food shelf provides free food to low income families and individuals who need additional food they cannot otherwise afford.

Since 2006 we experienced a dramatic increase in the number of visits to the food shelf by both individuals and families. Over the years, the number of visits has climbed from 393 in 2006 to over 4,200 last year. This growing use of the food shelf has required a significant increase in the amount of food which we purchase. Currently we purchase an average of \$1,000 of food each month to keep our shelves stocked for our neighbors.

In November we held our fifth annual Turkey Drop to raise money for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Local individuals donated prizes for this fundraiser. No animals or food were used during this fundraiser. We also offered a pancake breakfast Memorial Day weekend as another fundraiser and will offer it again in 2018.

We are staffed entirely by volunteers. Some volunteers directly assist our customers while others help with food ordering, food pickup, and various administrative tasks. The sixth grade class from the Townshend Elementary School helps stock our shelves weekly as well as moving the monthly deliveries from the Vermont Food Bank. We continue to benefit from a core group of long term volunteers. Without these dedicated volunteers we could not function. Thank you!

Food shelf donors of time, food, and funds continue to be generous and we thank each of them on behalf of our neighbors who need us.

The food shelf is open Mondays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Food donations can be dropped off on Mondays 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. or by arrangement.

To reach us call 365-4348.



Photo by Andrew Snelling



State of Vermont
Department of Health
Brattleboro District Office
232 Main St., Suite 3
Brattleboro, VT 05301
HealthVermont.gov

[phone] 802-257-2880
[fax] 802-254-6360
[toll free] 888-253-8805

Agency of Human Services

Vermont Department of Health Report for Townshend

Your local health district office is in Brattleboro at the address and phone number above. Come visit or give us a call! At the Vermont Department of Health, we are working every day for your health. With twelve district offices around the state, and state office and laboratory in Chittenden County, we deliver a wide range of public health services and support to your community.

For example, in 2017 the Health Department:

Supported healthy communities: The Health Department's 3-4-50 initiative aims to engage multiple sectors – business, education, municipalities – in implementing policies and strategies that will reduce the three (3) behaviors of tobacco use, physical inactivity and poor diet that lead to four (4) chronic diseases of cancer, heart disease and stroke, diabetes and lung disease that result in 59% of death in Windham county. The local office is working to get these sector partners to sign-on to 3-4-50 and make a commitment to take action that will help to reduce the chronic disease in our state.

Provided WIC nutrition services and healthy foods to families: We served 27 pregnant women and children to age five in Townshend with WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children). WIC provides individualized nutrition counseling and breastfeeding support. We partner with grocery stores across the state to enable participants to use a debit-like card to access nutritious foods. The average value of foods provided is \$50 per person per month. WIC Clinics are held in Townshend at the library and in Brattleboro at our office.

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In 2017 (January-November) we responded to about 96 cases of reportable diseases in the District. In 2017, \$15,014,203 of vaccine for vaccine-preventable diseases was distributed to healthcare providers statewide, including \$938,595 in the Brattleboro District.

Aided communities in addressing substance abuse and misuse: Regional Prevention Partnerships statewide worked to increase state and community capacity to prevent underage and binge drinking, and reduce prescription drug misuse and marijuana use. In the Brattleboro Health District, we are fortunate to work with 5 prevention coalitions who, in collaboration with other community partners, educate the community through forums, meetings and trainings about the importance of substance abuse prevention. The work includes working with youth and schools, medical practitioners and pharmacists. It supports efforts across the continuum of care including treatment, recovery and maintenance. For more information on your local coalition, visit:
<http://www.healthvermont.gov/local/brattleboro/alcohol-and-drug-abuse-prevention>

Other: The district office supports Town Health Officers by providing annual training. This year twelve area Town Health Officers attended a training on hoarding disorder and how to best help the person in a hoarding environment.



For more information, news, alerts and resources: Visit us on the web at www.healthvermont.gov.

Join us on <https://www.facebook.com/vdhbrattleboro> and follow us on www.twitter.com/healthvermont.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 7, 2017**

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend are hereby notified and WARNED to meet at the Town Hall in Townshend, Vermont, on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. to act on the following articles, viz:

The Assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance and David Liebow called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M. Several announcements were made and the location of numerous handouts and surveys was pointed out to the Assembly. The preamble was read and a brief explanation was given of the procedure that would be followed during Town Meeting.

ARTICLE I. To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year:

- David Liebow opened nominations for Moderator.
- Nominated: David Liebow.
- There being no others, nominations were closed and the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for David Liebow as Moderator for a term of one year. Motion seconded and passed by voice vote.

David Liebow, 1 year term as Moderator

ARTICLE II. To act upon the July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016 Independent Auditors' and CPA's Reports:

- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Will Bissonnette.
- Phil Moriarty questioned whether the Article should read "approve or accept". Motion is to accept.
- Comments: Heidi Clawson – Was looking for a full Auditor's Report. Carol Nilges asked why we don't have the same type of report as in previous years. Kathy Hege gave a brief explanation.
- Maggie Bills questioned whether there would be a less money allocated for the finance office. Andy Jackins questioned what we are actually voting on. Kathy Hege said that we are acting on the acceptance of the two letters. Laura Richardson asked about the actual numbers.
- Ryan Hockertlotz asked what the repercussions would be if Article is not accepted. Kathy Hege told him by accepting it the voters were acknowledging that the board had attempted to have a professional audit done and was in the process of following through on the recommendations that came as a result.
- Carole Melis asked if there were any plans to prevent this in the future.
- There being no further discussion, Article II passes by voice vote.

Article II Passed

Craig Hunt made a Motion to Suspend the Rules and discuss other business which passed without objection.

- Discussion ensued regarding Waste Management and the future of municipal government which Mr. Liebow explained were non-binding issues.
- Phil Moriarty asked why these items were not on the Warning. Ms. Hege explained that these issues came up after the fact. The information became available after the Warning had been signed.
- There was extensive discussion regarding option, recycling, composting, private haulers and costs.

Motion was made to suspend the rules to allow Emily Long to speak which was passed without objection.

The meeting reverted to discussion regarding the future of municipal government.

- The Select Board is looking for direction. They feel there needs to be someone in the building at all times. Ms. Hege spoke to the possibility of hiring a Town Manager or Town Administrator. The Administrative Assistant position would be diminished but there would still be a need for an Assistant to the Select Board for tasks such as taking meeting minutes.
- Kathy Hege addressed the preparation of the Town Report and the lack of information to be able to put one together. Having a Town Manager and or Town Administrator would hopefully prevent that from happening again.
- Gaila Gulack expressed concern about losing the small town government. Ms. Hege explained that a Town Manager and/or Town Administrator would have a specific job description, which would include grant writing, and would be governed under the Select Board.
- The Select Board is seeking members of the community to set up a research committee to see what other towns do, what the costs would be and the possibility of dividing the position with other towns.
- Henry (Kit) Martin made a nonbinding motion which was seconded by Paul Jerz to instruct the Select Board to present to the town a proposal for hiring a Town Manager/Town Administrator including costs and job description which could be presented to the community at a Special Warned Town Meeting.
- Several people volunteered to serve on the committee.
- Paul Jerz called the question. No objection. Discussion ends.

ARTICLE III. To see what salaries the Town will vote to pay its various officials for the ensuing year:

Town Clerk:	\$ 35,415.00/yr
Town Treasurer:	\$ 2,342.00/yr
Select Board: (1) Chair:	\$ 900.00/yr
(4) Members:	\$ 775.00/yr
Town Clerk assistants and casual labor:	\$ 14.00/hr

- So moved by Irv Stowell and seconded by Will Bissonnette.
- Brief discussion regarding benefits, Treasurer’s position, financial position of Town and casual labor hourly wage for clerk’s assistants.
- There being no further discussion. Article III passes by voice vote.

Article III Passed

ARTICLE IV. To elect all Town Officials for the ensuing year(s):

Town Clerk: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Anita Bean

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Anita Bean for a one year term as Town Clerk; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Anita Bean, 1 year term as Town Clerk

Town Treasurer: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Joseph Daigneault

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Joseph Daigneault for a one year term as Town Treasurer; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Joseph Daigneault, 1 year term as Town Treasurer

Select Board: 1 - three year term: Nominated: Kathy Hege

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Kathy Hege for a three year term on the Select Board; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Kathy Hege, 3 year term on Select Board

1 – one year term: Nominated: Irvin Stowell

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Irvin Stowell for a one year term on the Select Board ; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Irvin Stowell, 1 year term on Select Board

1 – one year term: Nominated: William Bissonnette

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for William Bissonnette for a one year term on the Select Board; seconded and carried by voice vote.

William Bissonnette, 1 year term on Select Board

Listers: 1 - three 3 year term Nominated: Eugene Kuch

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Eugene Kuch for a three year term as Lister; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Eugene Kuch, 3 year term as Lister

Property Tax Collector: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Joseph Daigneault

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Joseph Daigneault for a one year term as Town Treasurer; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Joseph Daigneault, 1 year term as Property Tax Collector

Delinquent Tax Collector: **1 – one year term:** Nominated: Becky Reilly

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Becky Reilly for a one year term as Delinquent Tax Collector; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Becky Reilly, 1 year term as Delinquent Tax Collector

First Constable: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Warren Beattie

Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Warren Beattie for a one year term as First Constable; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Warren Beattie, 1 year term as First Constable

Second Constable: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Michael Cutts
Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Mike Cutts for a one year term as Second Constable; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Michael Cutts, 1 year term as Second Constable

Town Grand Juror: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Margaret Bills
Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Margaret Bills for a one year term as Town Grand Juror; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Margaret Bills, 1 year term as Town Grand Juror

Town Agent: 1 – one year term: Nominated: Carole Melis
Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Carole Melis for a one year term as Town Agent; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Carole Melis, 1 year term as Town Agent

Library Trustees: 1 – five year term: Nominated: Marjorie Holt
Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Marjorie Holt for a five year term as Library Trustee; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Marjorie Holt, 5 year term as Library Trustee

Cemetery Commissioner: 1 – five year term: Nominated: Charles Marchant
Motion made to close nominations and have the clerk to cast one ballot for Charles Marchant for a five year term as Cemetery Commissioner; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Charles Marchant, 5 year term as Cemetery Commissioner

ARTICLE V. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to cover all monies raised for municipal entities for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and to borrow money in anticipation of taxes?

- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Carole Melis.
- There being no discussion, Article V passes by voice vote.

Article V. Passed

ARTICLE VI. To see if the Town will authorize its Property Tax Collector to receive its Real Property Taxes quarterly, August 25, 2017; November 29, 2017; February 23, 2018; and May 25, 2018? Monthly interest will be charged at the rate of one-half percent (1/2%) or fraction thereof; interest of one percent (1%) or fraction thereof plus penalties will commence on June 1, 2016.

- Motion to change the date to June 1, 2018 made and seconded.
- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Carole Melis.
- There being no discussion, Article VI passes by voice vote.

Article VI. Passed

ARTICLE VII. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$ 420,389.00, to pay for the running expenses and liabilities of the Town?

- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Irv Stowell.
- Discussion ensued regarding the increase in electrical costs. It was explained that all entities are all included, ie. Town Hall, Town Garage, Library and Street Lights;
- Was money being budgeted to work on the Town Hall; Administrative Assistant benefits; Bank fees and Public Safety (Law Enforcement and Rescue Contract)
- There being no further discussion, Article VII passes by voice vote.

Article VII. Passed

ARTICLE VIII. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$ 431,867.00, for the running expenses and liabilities of maintaining the Town's roads?

- So moved by Kathy Hege and seconded by Carole Melis.
- Discussion – Special projects, bridge replacement, guardrails and possible grants.
- There being no further discussion, Article VIII passes by voice vote.

Article VIII. Passed

ARTICLE IX. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$ 120,000.00, for the purchase of a Highway Department front end loader?

- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Dale West.
- Discussion – Possibility of budgeting money over time like the Fire Department does.

- What is the condition of the loader? Rod Foreman, Kurt Bostrom, stated it needs to be replaced. The town put \$2,800.00 into it last year in repairs.
- Questioned whether \$120,000.00 would cover the cost? Mr. Hunt stated that the actual cost is \$150,000.00 with a trade in amount of \$30,000.00. Financing is available and does not need to be paid off all in one year.
- Jeff Russ called the question. No objection.
- There being no further discussion, Article IX passes by voice vote.

Article IX. Passed

ARTICLE X. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 47,400.00, by taxation, for the running expenses and liabilities of the Library?

- So moved by Maggie Bills and seconded by Will Bissonnette.
- There being no discussion, Article X passes by voice vote.

Article X. Passed

ARTICLE XI. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 10,000.00, by taxation, to be placed in the Capital Expenditure Fund Fire Department Reserve toward a future pumper?

- So moved by Irv Stowell and seconded by Will Bissonnette.
- There being no discussion, Article XI passes by voice vote.

Article XI. Passed

ARTICLE XII. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 1,750.00, by taxation, for the Old Cemetery Fund?

- So moved by Charlie Marchant and seconded by Irv Stowell.
- There being no discussion, Article XII passes by voice vote.

Article XII. Passed

ARTICLE XIII. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$ 16,620.00, by taxation, for the support of Social Services, as recommended by the Screening Committee?

- So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Dale West.
- Kathy Greve noted that the report put into flyer was incorrect. A handout with the correct requests and recommendations were provided.
- There was discussion regarding Newbrook Fire and Rescue about the recommended increase in the amount to be appropriated which reflects an increase in call volume plus DHART landings.
- Motion to amend made by Carole Melis and seconded by Jennifer Joyce to change the amount from \$16,620.00 to \$14,625.00 to match the numbers appropriated last year.
- A brief discussion ensued concerning Newbrook First Response Squad and the importance of having their services available to the town.
- Carole Melis revoked her motion.
- Charlie Marchant objected to the fact that DHART calls are not rescue calls they are Fire department calls and subject to mutual aid protocols.
- There being no further discussion, Article XIII passes by voice vote.

Article XIII. Passed

ARTICLE XIV. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to promote reforestation, water conservation and good forestry practices?

- So moved by Charlie Marchant and seconded by William Lincoln.
- There being no discussion, Article XIV passes by voice vote.

Article XIV. Passed

ARTICLE XV. To see if the Town will vote to set the first Tuesday in March 2018 at 9:00 A.M. as the date for the 2018 Town of Townshend Annual Meeting.

- So moved by Charlie Marchant and seconded by William Lincoln.
- There being no discussion, Article XV passes by voice vote.

Article XV. Passed

ARTICLE XVI. To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before said Meeting?

- Items Discussed: Taft Meadows, Holiday Lights and decorations on the Town Common, Small Raised Bed Gardens, Volunteers for Social Service Committee.
- Non-Binding Motion made and seconded to see how the town feels about building a small raised bed garden on the Town Common. Motion failed to pass by voice vote.
- There being no further discussion, Craig Hunt made a motion to adjourn at 2:15 P.M. Seconded and unanimously carried.

Townshend Elementary School
Townshend Vermont
Annual School Report
Town Meeting March 6, 2018



Linda Sperry Photography

WARNING

Townshend School District Annual Meeting

Tuesday, **March 6, 2018**

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend, in the County of Windham and State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at **9:05 A.M.** in the Town Hall in said Town of Townshend on the first Tuesday, March 6, 2018, to transact the following business and act upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 2. To accept the reports of the School Directors as presented in the July 1, 2016 –June 30, 2017 Auditors' Report.

ARTICLE 3. To elect School Directors for the following terms:

Townshend School District – one (1) - three-year term – until March 2021

Townshend School District – two (2) – one-year term – until March 2019

Leland Gray School District – one (1) – three-year term – until March 2021

ARTICLE 4. To elect School District Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 5. To compensate the Townshend School District Officers;

Treasurer	\$1,790.00
School Directors: (1) Chair	\$500.00
(4) Members	\$250.00

ARTICLE 6. "Shall the voters of the Townshend School District approve the school board to expend \$1,524.321, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?" It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$20,144 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 16.05% higher than spending for the current year.

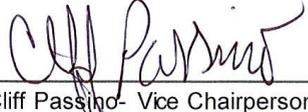
ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of revenue?

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to spend "unanticipated" funds such as grants or gifts that may be received by the District for school purposes?

ARTICLE 9. To set the date and time of the Annual Meeting of the Townshend School District for the First **Tuesday of March in the year of 2019** at 1:00 pm.

ARTICLE 10. To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before this meeting

Dated this 8th day of
January 2018


Cliff Passino- Vice Chairperson


Shawn O'Dea - Board Member


Al Claussen - Chairperson


Eric Scott- Clerk


Kristina Wright- Board Member

TOWNSHEND SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS – March 2018

A Time of Change

Our new Superintendent, Bill Anton, has proactively and vigorously sought appropriate change for the WCSU. For example, he applied to be a part of the DMG (District Management Group), one of 11 SU/SDs across the state of VT elected to participate in a group study to improve the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to students who struggle both with and without IEPs. The results of this yearlong study are now out from the VT Agency of Education.

Craig Roach, our new Principal at Townshend Elementary School has brought a lot of energy, enthusiasm, and creativity to his new assignment. Craig is particularly fond of the use of technology in our education system, where many of our children's future jobs may be. Welcome Craig!

TES Success

With all of this positive change, our children continue to thrive academically. On our most recent SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium), TES outperformed the State of VT in both English Language Arts and Math in percentage of students who achieved the standard. We continue to have our students well prepared for the transition to Middle School. We are often asked how such success is achieved. In my opinion, it is a combination of things...a dedicated and caring teacher/staff/administrative team, character education, healthy meals, advanced and appropriate use of technology, physical activity to refuel the brain, and field trips that help our children learn and explore the world outside of Townshend...to name a few. Many thanks to our TES team, School Club, After School programs, parents and the community at large.

Fiscal Year 2019

This will be the last budget produced by the TES Board. Next year the WRMUED (West River Modified Union Education District) will officially take over on July 1, 2019. Despite the aforementioned school success and positive direction of our WCSU, the Board finds itself in the difficult position of presenting a final budget with an 8.8% increase vs. the FY 18 budget. The two largest factors are a \$29k deficit spend from FY 17 (which is tacked onto the FY 19 budget) and an increase of \$99k in Special Education funding. Without these two items this year's budget would actually be \$5k less than last year. Leland and Gray is in a similar situation and will also exceed the spending threshold. The combined proposed homestead tax rate as seen on a Townshend residents tax bill will increase by 16%.

Fiscal Year 2020

As the new WRMUED Board takes fiscal control next year there is hope for improving the Townshend tax situation. There will be one budget across all towns participating in the new board. Of particular help to Townshend will be the pooling of special education costs. Currently, we represent 15% of the student population of this new group but account for approximately 25% of the special education spending. Our costs will be reduced to match the representative student population. Additionally, all towns will receive an 8 cent property tax reduction in the 1st year with the WRMUED. Finally, unlike most other elementary schools in VT, Townshend's student population is on the rise. In January of 2017 we had 72 students and now in January of 2018 we have 83 students...a 15% increase. This will help with our equalized pupil count and is another testament to our school in attracting students and families.

How can you help?

Our TES board will continue to work closely with the administration, Superintendent's office, the WCSU and the new WRMUED Board and surrounding towns as the future of education in VT takes shape. As always, we need and value the help of our community members to help in the decision-making. Our meetings are on the second Monday of every month in the Art room. Please be involved to the extent that you can and let your ideas be heard. This is an important time in the long history of Townshend Elementary School and in the the VT State educational system. With everyone working toward a common solution, we are confident that our school and new district will not only survive, but thrive!

Thank you for your continued support of Townshend Elementary School!

Al Claussen, Townshend School Board Chair

Windham Central Supervisory Union Superintendent's Letter 2018

The Windham Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) is growing and changing. The citizens of Brookline, Jamaica, Newfane, and Townshend voted in 2016 to become one school district. This vote created the West River Modified Unified Union Education District (West River MUUED). This district also includes Windham students in grades 7-12. The citizens of Dover and Wardsboro voted in 2016 to create one school district as well, the River Valleys Unified School District (RVUSD). The citizens of Marlboro voted in 2016 to create a stand alone school district under the ACT 49 model. As of this writing, both Windham and Stratton are preparing proposals under ACT 46 to be reviewed by the State Board of Education in consideration of the ACT 46 Statewide plan.

The WCSU is in year two of building a forward thinking team to lead the next generation of high quality student learning. Our Superintendent, Business Manager, and Director of Curriculum are in their second years and are joined by a new Director of Special Education. We welcomed three new principals to our experienced instructional leaders. Our teaching professionals have been engaged in targeted professional development, deepening their knowledge and building on their existing capacity to create effective student learning opportunities. The entire WCSU team is engaged in student improvement and success.

The WCSU is a partner in three statewide initiatives that will help provide valuable information about how to allocate resources, develop professional acumen, and make strategic long-term instructional decisions.

I encourage everyone to participate in the information sessions for current budgets. I also encourage you to attend the board meetings of the new districts and participate in the creation of our new governance structures. I am confident that the leadership of the individual school boards, the WCSU board, our principals, and the teachers and staff of the WCSU are ready to embrace the challenge of the future.

Thank you for supporting our schools.

William Anton, WCSU Superintendent of Schools



Linda Sperry Photography

2017 Townshend Elementary School Principal's Report

As a small school (83 students) we are dedicated to teaching the whole child, meeting their needs academically, socially, and emotionally. Our highly qualified staff of six veteran teachers pursue excellence in their classrooms so we can meet and exceed our National and State assessment proficiency goals, as well as our own Supervisory Union and school based goals. Our enrollment in the past two years has grown, as more students and families are relocating to Townshend. We offer a full day Pre-K (4 year olds) and Kindergarten programs. Act 166 requires each school district to subsidize ten hours of Pre-K for all three and four year olds. We receive state revenue for these students. Our school also offers Physical Education, Music instruction, Art classes, Library, and Instrumental Music lessons to help align with Vermont Educational Quality Standards. Townshend also has a part-time site based social worker to assist with the changing needs of our population.

Assessments: The data below tell us how we compare with the state of Vermont in reading and math on State of Vermont Testing using the Smarter Balanced Assessment. (Percentage of Students who achieved the standard in Spring 2017)

	English Language Arts	Math
TES Students	63%	57%
State of VT	54%	43%

Technology: You can check on school activities, calendar, and our food menu by visiting our website. Our school is a 1-to-1 computer school for students K-6 meeting the high demand for 21st century technology standards. Classrooms also have interactive "Smartboard" technology with projectors for multi-modal teaching and learning experiences. Lego Robotics educational curriculum is being used to teach coding, creativity, and STEM initiatives.

After School Programs: We are in the seventh year of 21st Century Grant for L'After School programs. Heidi Russ is our current site coordinator and continues to engage the student and teacher population with exciting after school programming.

Food Programs: Due to the of 50 percent poverty rate of families in Townshend, we qualify for federal reimbursement for after-school supper which is served during L'After programs. This is free to every child who stays after school.

School Club: Our School Club is comprised of a group of committed parents whose generosity with their time is unending. School Club officers are: Evelyn Trier, President, Kristina Wright, Vice-President, Trish Scott, Treasurer, and Elyssa Olmstead Secretary. The School Club is directly responsible for the fundraising and supporting our winter sports programs, Camp Keewaydin, Scholarships, field trips, and Artists in residencies. A much appreciated thank you to the School Club for the thousands of dollars they raise and donate to TES for these unique enrichment activities.

As the new principal of Townshend Elementary School, I am excited to be part of this dedicated community and school. I wish to thank all the teachers, support staff, and our School Board for the hard work they contribute to making TES a high achieving, engaging, and creative school. It is evident that the community is invested and supports the high quality education we provide to each of our students who are the future of Townshend.

With gratitude,
Craig Roach, Principal

Townshend FY 19 Proposed Budget Narrative

Revenue

Major year over year variances

- Local food sales have been declining, the budget was adjusted to reflect this trend
- The largest reductions come with Title One and Medicaid grant sources. In FY 19 the AOE will disallow Title investments to fund Interventionists in schools smaller than 100 students. The reduction in both funding sources is a major driver in increased tax rates

Expenses

Major year over year variances

- Salaries have remained stable or decreased in the past three budget cycles even in the midst of negotiated salary increases
- Health and dental costs have also remained stable despite annual health care increases of approximately 10%, this is partially due to changing personnel
- Special Education expense continue to climb, for an accurate comparison FY 18+19 are comparable in terms of "net cost" to "net cost" (see budget page 1, function 1200)
- General operating expenses have been reduced over the last three years

	FY 17 Budget	FY 18 Budget	FY 19 Budget	\$ Variance	% Variance
Salary	\$ 593,598	\$ 605,847	\$ 598,713	\$ (7,134)	-1.18%
Health and Dental	\$ 125,085	\$ 134,766	\$ 130,842	\$ (3,924)	-2.91%
Payroll Benefits	\$ 52,153	\$ 51,800	\$ 52,910	\$ 1,110	2.14%
Purchased From WCSU (includes Spec Ed)	\$ 608,092	\$ 438,682	\$ 545,671	\$ 106,989	24.39%
GOE*	\$ 177,897	\$ 169,805	\$ 166,981	\$ (2,824)	-1.66%
Total Budget	\$ 1,556,825	\$ 1,400,900	\$ 1,495,116	\$ 94,216	6.73%
*General Operating Expenses					

**FY 19 Proposed Townshend Budget
Summary of Expenses**

Expense Summary	FY17 Actual	FY18 Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$\$ Variance	% Variance
1000 - Direct Instructional Services	\$ 609,927	\$ 590,441	\$ 602,400	\$ 11,959	
1002 - Art Svcs WCSU	\$ 19,520	\$ 21,399	\$ 20,746	\$ (653)	
1008 - PE Svcs WCSU	\$ 31,521	\$ 32,275	\$ 33,484	\$ 1,209	
1012 - Music Instrumental Svcs WCSU	\$ 21,311	\$ 20,369	\$ 10,553	\$ (9,816)	
1013 - Music Education Svcs WCSU	\$ 19,880	\$ -	\$ 12,856	\$ 12,856	
1200 - Special Ed	\$ 461,341	\$ 191,981	\$ 291,305	\$ 99,324	
Subtotal of Primary: Source 1000 - Direct Instructional Services	\$ 1,163,501	\$ 856,465	\$ 971,344	\$ 114,879	13.41%
2100 - Support Services - Students	\$ 19,608	\$ 36,101	\$ 35,795	\$ (306)	
2200 - Support Services - Instructional Staff	\$ 18,125	\$ 28,273	\$ 24,208	\$ (4,065)	
2300 - Support Services General Adm	\$ 88,853	\$ 92,042	\$ 98,765	\$ 6,723	
2400 - Support Services- School Adm	\$ 183,400	\$ 184,128	\$ 187,240	\$ 3,112	
2500 - Support Services - Business	\$ 1,927	\$ 1,927	\$ 1,927	\$ -	
2600 - Operation & Maintenance of Plant Serv	\$ 120,810	\$ 90,958	\$ 79,889	\$ (11,069)	
2700 - Student Transportation Services	\$ 28,996	\$ 29,865	\$ 30,761	\$ 896	
			\$ -		
Subtotal of Primary: Source 2000 - Support Services	\$ 461,718	\$ 463,294	\$ 458,585	\$ (4,709)	-1.02%
3100 - Food Purchases	\$ 63,619	\$ 79,141	\$ 62,688	\$ (16,453)	
Subtotal of Primary: Source 3000 - Non Instructional Services	\$ 63,619	\$ 79,141	\$ 62,688	\$ (16,453)	-20.79%
5100 - Debt Service	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	
Subtotal of Primary: Source 5000 - Other Uses of Funds	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	25.00%
Subtotal of Account Type: Expenditure	\$ 1,691,463	\$ 1,400,900	\$ 1,495,116	\$ 94,216	6.73%
FY 17 Fund Balance (unaudited) Deficit			\$ 29,205		
			\$ 1,524,321	\$ 123,421	8.81%

FY 19 Proposed Townshend Budget

Revenue	FY 17 Budget	FY17 Actual (Unaudited)	FY18 Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	%Variance
1322 - Public School Tuition		\$ 3,930	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
1510 - Interest Income	\$ 250	\$ 2,510	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,500	150.0%
1610 - Local Food Sales	\$ 13,500	\$ 11,044	\$ 13,500	\$ 11,000	\$ (2,500)	-18.5%
1910 - Rent - Revenue		\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ -	0.0%
1990 - Misc Local Donations		\$ 800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Subtotal of: Function 1000 - Local Revenue	\$ 13,750	\$ 19,184	\$ 15,400	\$ 14,400	\$ (1,000)	-6.5%
2433 - Townshend Subgrant from SU: State Breakfast		\$ 103	\$ -	\$ 103	\$ 103	0.0%
2459 - Fruit &Vegetables Grant		\$ 5,214	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
2460 - Federal Food Lunch Subgrant	\$ 42,093	\$ 15,755	\$ 35,593	\$ 15,755	\$ (19,838)	-55.7%
2462 - Townshend Subgrant from SU: NSLP School Breakfast		\$ 9,303	\$ -	\$ 9,303	\$ 9,303	0.0%
2464 - Afterschool Supper Program		\$ 5,810	\$ -	\$ 5,810	\$ 5,810	0.0%
2474 - Townshend Subgrant From SU: State Lunch		\$ 199	\$ -	\$ 199	\$ 199	0.0%
2785 - Title 1 Subgrant	\$ 20,201	\$ 18,677	\$ 18,000	\$ -	\$ (18,000)	-100.0%
2790 - Other -Medicaid	\$ 22,991	\$ 22,991	\$ 21,761	\$ 12,347	\$ (9,414)	-43.3%
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Subtotal of: Function 2000 - Subgrants From SU	\$ 85,285	\$ 78,052	\$ 75,354	\$ 43,517	\$ (31,837)	-42.2%
3110 - Education Spending Grant	\$ 1,218,599	\$ 1,218,599	\$ 1,215,239	\$ 1,365,214	\$ 149,975	12.3%
3145 - Small Schools Grant	\$ 82,907	\$ 86,190	\$ 82,907	\$ 86,190	\$ 3,283	4.0%
3150 - State Aid for Transportation	\$ 12,022	\$ 15,108	\$ 12,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,000	25.0%
3201 - Spec Ed Mainstream Block Grant	\$ 28,444	\$ 28,444	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
3202 - Spec Ed Intensive Reim	\$ 106,106	\$ 206,547	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
3204 - Spec Ed Essential Early Education	\$ 9,712	\$ 9,712	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Subtotal of: Function 3000 - State Revenue	\$ 1,457,790	\$ 1,564,600	\$ 1,310,146	\$ 1,466,404	\$ 156,258	11.9%
Subtotal of Account Type: Revenue	\$ 1,556,825	\$ 1,661,837	\$ 1,400,900	\$ 1,524,321	\$ 123,421	8.8%

Expenditures Account Description	FY 17 Budget	FY17 Actual (Unaudited)	FY18 Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	%Variance	FTE
Direct Inst Teacher Salary	\$ 354,864	\$ 369,659	\$ 348,613	\$ 367,253	\$ 18,640	5.3%	5.00
Interventionist Salary	\$ 18,115	\$ 16,688	\$ 18,115	\$ -	\$ (18,115)	-100.0%	
Literacy Coach Salary	\$ 10,656	\$ 12,096	\$ 12,300	\$ 20,300	\$ 8,000	65.0%	
Reserve Salary & Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,476	\$ -	\$ (9,476)	-100.0%	
Early Ed Para Support Salary	\$ 23,205	\$ 19,180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Inst Support Staff Salary	\$ -	\$ 18,832	\$ 23,632	\$ 32,741	\$ 9,109	38.5%	1.00
Direct Inst Substitutes	\$ 4,000	\$ 8,417	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Instructional Services-Health Ins Early Ed	\$ 7,908	\$ 7,477	\$ 21,506	\$ -	\$ (21,506)	-100.0%	
Direct Inst Health	\$ 67,756	\$ 60,652	\$ 57,739	\$ 63,005	\$ 5,266	9.1%	
Direct Inst Dental	\$ 3,509	\$ 1,032	\$ 4,344	\$ 3,944	\$ (400)	-9.2%	
Direct Inst HRA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	0.0%	
Early Ed Para Fica	\$ 1,775	\$ 1,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Inst FICA	\$ 29,348	\$ 31,665	\$ 31,528	\$ 32,458	\$ 930	3.0%	
Direct Inst Life/Disab Ins	\$ 1,654	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,361	\$ 1,697	\$ 336	24.7%	
Direct Inst Workers Comp	\$ 3,855	\$ 4,118	\$ 3,581	\$ 4,243	\$ 662	18.5%	
Direct Inst Unemployment	\$ -	\$ 128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Early Ed Contracted Svcs	\$ 3,000	\$ 24,368	\$ 15,890	\$ 16,235	\$ 345	2.2%	
Enrichment Programs	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,650	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,000	\$ (2,500)	-55.6%	
21 C Program	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 12,356	\$ 14,023	\$ 1,667	13.5%	
Direct Inst Equip Repairs/Maint	\$ 1,500	\$ 517	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Inst Supplies	\$ 9,000	\$ 7,863	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Inst Text Books	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,873	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	100.0%	
Direct Inst Software/Internet	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,281	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%	
Direct Inst Equipment	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,044	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	0.0%	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Subtotal of: Function 1000 - Direct Instructional Serv	\$ 568,145	\$ 609,927	\$ 590,441	\$ 602,400	\$ 11,959	2.0%	
Art Svcs WCSU	\$ 19,520	\$ 19,520	\$ 21,399	\$ 20,746	\$ (653)	-3.1%	0.20

FY 19 Proposed Townshend Budget

Revenue	FY 17 Budget	FY17 Actual (Unaudited)	FY18 Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	%Variance	
Subtotal of: Function 1002 - Art Svcs WCSU	\$ 19,520	\$ 19,520	\$ 21,399	\$ 20,746	\$ (653)	-3.1%	
PE Svcs WCSU	\$ 27,422	\$ 31,521	\$ 32,275	\$ 33,484	\$ 1,209	3.7%	0.40
Subtotal of: Function 1008 - PE Svcs WCSU	\$ 27,422	\$ 31,521	\$ 32,275	\$ 33,484	\$ 1,209	3.7%	
Music Instrumental Svcs WCSU	\$ 20,684	\$ 21,311	\$ 20,369	\$ 10,553	\$ (9,816)	-48.2%	0.10
Subtotal of: Function 1012 - Music Instrumental Svcs	\$ 20,684	\$ 21,311	\$ 20,369	\$ 10,553	\$ (9,816)	-48.2%	
Music Education Svcs WCSU	\$ 19,881	\$ 19,880	\$ -	\$ 12,856	\$ 12,856	0.0%	0.20
Subtotal of: Function 1013 - Music Education Svcs V	\$ 19,881	\$ 19,880	\$ -	\$ 12,856	\$ 12,856	0.0%	
Spec Ed Support Staff Salary	\$ -	\$ 1,093	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Spec Ed FICA	\$ -	\$ 84	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
EEE Assessment WCSU	\$ 7,762	\$ 35,139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
EEE Svcs WCSU				\$ 56,565	\$ 56,565	0.0%	
Special Ed Assessment WCSU	\$ 128,062	\$ 128,064	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Special Ed Svcs WCSU	\$ 241,167	\$ 296,962	\$ 191,981	\$ 234,740	\$ 42,759	22.3%	7.77
Subtotal of: Function 1200 - Special Ed	\$ 376,991	\$ 461,341	\$ 191,981	\$ 291,305	\$ 99,324	51.7%	
Subtotal of: Function 1000 - Direct Instructional Serv	\$ 1,032,643	\$ 1,163,500	\$ 856,465	\$ 971,344	\$ 114,879	13.4%	
Guidance Svcs WCSU	\$ 8,349	\$ 8,348	\$ 23,938	\$ 24,281	\$ 343	1.4%	0.30
Nurse Svcs WCSU	\$ 11,149	\$ 11,148	\$ 11,963	\$ 11,314	\$ (649)	-5.4%	0.17
Nurse Supplies	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	0.0%	
Subtotal of: Function 2100 - Support Services - Studi	\$ 19,498	\$ 19,608	\$ 36,101	\$ 35,795	\$ (306)	-0.8%	
Professional Development-Health Ins	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Prof. Dev. Admin Directed FICA	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Prof. Dev. Admin Directed	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,187	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0.0%	
Prof Development Svcs WCSU	\$ 3,634	\$ 3,636	\$ 3,435	\$ 5,115	\$ 1,680	48.9%	
Tech Svcs WCSU	\$ 5,717	\$ 5,738	\$ 15,211	\$ 15,593	\$ 382	2.5%	0.20
Library Svcs WCSU	\$ 5,155	\$ 6,508	\$ 6,127	\$ -	\$ (6,127)	-100.0%	0.00
Subtotal of: Function 2200 - Support Services - Instr	\$ 18,006	\$ 18,125	\$ 28,273	\$ 24,208	\$ (4,065)	-14.4%	
School Board Salary	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board FICA	\$ 115	\$ 115	\$ 115	\$ 115	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Svcs WCSU	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,482	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,400	\$ 400	40.0%	
School Board Legal Svcs	\$ 1,500	\$ 171	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Auditing Fees	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Liab & Bond Ins	\$ 1,182	\$ 824	\$ 1,182	\$ 1,182	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Post/Advertising	\$ 200	\$ 1,030	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Supplies	\$ 100	\$ 305	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	0.0%	
School Board Dues	\$ 800	\$ 874	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ -	0.0%	
Admin Assessment WCSU	\$ 75,550	\$ 75,552	\$ 78,545	\$ 84,868	\$ 6,323	8.1%	
Subtotal of: Function 2300 - Support Services Gener	\$ 88,947	\$ 88,853	\$ 92,042	\$ 98,765	\$ 6,723	7.3%	
Principal Salary	\$ 84,297	\$ 90,283	\$ 85,000	\$ 82,400	\$ (2,600)	-3.1%	1.00
Principal Admin Assist Salary	\$ 41,309	\$ 41,309	\$ 42,135	\$ 43,399	\$ 1,264	3.0%	
Principal Health	\$ 36,963	\$ 36,953	\$ 41,928	\$ 34,999	\$ (6,929)	-16.5%	
Principal Dental	\$ 1,041	\$ 1,017	\$ 1,341	\$ 1,894	\$ 553	41.2%	
Principal H.S.A.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	0.0%	
Principal FICA	\$ 9,609	\$ 9,650	\$ 9,726	\$ 9,624	\$ (102)	-1.1%	
Principal Life/Disability Ins	\$ 280	\$ 453	\$ 483	\$ 483	\$ -	0.0%	
Principal Retirement 403b	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Principal Tuition & Prof. Dev.	\$ -	\$ 473	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	
Principal Tuition & Prof. Dev.	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,215	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,876	\$ 2,376	158.4%	
Principal Repairs/Maint	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ (450)	-100.0%	
Principal Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,046	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	0.0%	
Support Services- School Adm-Dues	\$ 565	\$ -	\$ 565	\$ 565	\$ -	0.0%	

FY 19 Proposed Townshend Budget

Revenue	FY 17 Budget	FY17 Actual (Unaudited)	FY18 Budget	FY19 Proposed Budget	\$ Variance	%Variance
Subtotal of: Function 2400 - Support Services- Scho	\$ 178,014	\$ 183,400	\$ 184,128	\$ 187,240	\$ 3,112	1.7%
Treasurer Salary	\$ 1,790	\$ 1,790	\$ 1,790	\$ 1,790	\$ -	0.0%
Treasurer FICA	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ -	0.0%
Subtotal of: Function 2500 - Support Services - Busin	\$ 1,927	\$ 1,927	\$ 1,927	\$ 1,927	\$ -	0.0%
Custodian Salary	\$ 32,760	\$ 36,813	\$ 33,416	\$ 21,936	\$ (11,480)	-34.4%
Custodian FICA	\$ 2,506	\$ 2,816	\$ 2,556	\$ 1,678	\$ (878)	-34.3%
Custodian Workers Comp	\$ 260	\$ 685	\$ 334	\$ 685	\$ 351	105.1%
Facilities Support (Asbestos)-Svcs WCSU	\$ 525	\$ 523	\$ 290	\$ 290	\$ -	0.0%
Building Lawn/Snow/Mowing/Disposal Services	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,947	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	0.0%
Building Repairs/Maint	\$ 26,000	\$ 40,161	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,500	\$ -	0.0%
Building Construction Services Cap Plan	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,640	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	0.0%
Building Property Ins	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,741	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	0.0%
Building Telephone	\$ 4,000	\$ 386	\$ 1,000	\$ 800	\$ (200)	-20.0%
Building Supplies	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,103	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0.0%
Building Electricity	\$ 13,000	\$ 11,912	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	0.0%
Fuel Oil	\$ 18,500	\$ 11,082	\$ 9,862	\$ 11,000	\$ 1,138	11.5%
Subtotal of: Function 2600 - Operation & Maintenan	\$ 111,551	\$ 120,810	\$ 90,958	\$ 79,889	\$ (11,069)	-12.2%
Student Trans Svcs WCSU	\$ 28,995	\$ 28,996	\$ 29,865	\$ 30,761	\$ 896	3.0%
Subtotal of: Function 2700 - Student Transportation	\$ 28,995	\$ 28,996	\$ 29,865	\$ 30,761	\$ 896	3.0%
Subtotal of: Function 2000 - Support Services	\$ 446,938	\$ 461,718	\$ 463,294	\$ 458,585	\$ (4,709)	-1.0%
Food Salary	\$ 21,102	\$ 16,814	\$ 25,870	\$ 23,393	\$ (2,477)	-9.6%
Food Health	\$ 7,908	\$ 7,906	\$ 7,908	\$ -	\$ (7,908)	-100.0%
Food FICA	\$ 1,614	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,979	\$ 1,790	\$ (189)	-9.6%
Food Svcs - WCSU	\$ 4,520	\$ 4,520	\$ 3,284	\$ 4,505	\$ 1,221	37.2%
Food Equip Repairs/Maint	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,098	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	0.0%
Food Program Supplies	\$ 100	\$ 1,572	\$ 100	\$ 1,000	\$ 900	900.0%
Food Purchases	\$ 38,000	\$ 27,465	\$ 38,000	\$ 30,000	\$ (8,000)	-21.1%
Food FFVP Purchases	\$ -	\$ 3,043	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Subtotal of: Function 3100 - Food Purchases	\$ 75,244	\$ 63,619	\$ 79,141	\$ 62,688	\$ (16,453)	-20.8%
Subtotal of: Function 3000 - Non Instructional Servic	\$ 75,244	\$ 63,619	\$ 79,141	\$ 62,688	\$ (16,453)	-20.8%
Debt Service Interest (short term TAN)	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	25.0%
Subtotal of: Function 5100 - Debt Service	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	25.0%
Subtotal of: Function 5000 - Other Uses of Funds	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 500	25.0%
Total of Account Type: Expenditure	\$ 1,556,825	\$ 1,691,462	\$ 1,400,900	\$ 1,495,116	\$ 94,216	6.7%
FY 17 Fund Balance Deficit (unaudited)			\$ -	\$ 29,205	\$ 29,205	
			\$ 1,400,900	\$ 1,524,321	\$ 123,421	8.8%

Statistics from the 3 Year Comparison						
CLA%	106.90%		110.38%	108.47%		
Estimated Tax Rate PreK-6 47.95% of students	\$ 0.7437	\$	\$ 0.7290	\$ 0.9048	\$ 0.18	24.1%
LGUHS Taxrate for Townshend 52.05% of students	\$ 0.8522	\$	\$ 0.9059	\$ 0.9790	\$ 0.07	8.07%
Combined Estimated Tax Rate	\$ 1.5959	\$ -	\$ 1.6349	\$ 1.8838	\$ 0.2489	15.23%
Income Sensitivity Statistics						
Anticipated income cap percent PreK-6 47.95%	1.42%		1.37%	1.63%		
LGUHS portion of income cap 7-12 52.05%	1.62%		1.69%	1.76%		
Combined Estimated Income Cap	3.04%		3.06%	3.39%	0.33%	10.8%
Estimated School Tax Impact: 200,000 home and two acres-NO income sensitivity		\$	\$ 3,270	\$ 3,768	\$ 498	15.23%
Estimated Max School Tax Impact @ \$80,000 of household income*		\$	\$ 2,448	\$ 2,712	\$ 264	10.78%
*Individuals with less than \$90,000 of household income qualify for the income sensitivity cap on education property tax liability. Individuals pay the lesser of their property tax or income cap. Subject to the provisions of V.S.A T32 Chapter 154						

District: Townshend County: Windham		T208 Windham Central				Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$9,842 of spending per equalized pupil
					9,842	1.00	
					11,862	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income	
Expenditures		FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019		
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$1,602,232	\$1,556,825	\$1,400,900	\$1,495,116		1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-		2.
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		3.
4.	Locally adopted or warned budget	\$1,602,232	\$1,556,825	\$1,400,900	\$1,495,116		4.
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-		5.
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	\$29,205		6.
7.	Total Budget	\$1,602,232	\$1,556,825	\$1,400,900	\$1,524,321		7.
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-		8.
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	\$29,205		9.
Revenues							
10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$326,462	\$338,226	\$185,661	\$159,107		10.
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-		11.
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-		12.
13.	Offsetting revenues	\$326,462	\$338,226	\$185,661	\$159,107		13.
14.	Education Spending	\$1,275,770	\$1,218,599	\$1,215,239	\$1,365,214		14.
15.	Equalized Pupils	75.89	74.12	70.01	71.93		15.
16.	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$16,810.78	\$16,440.89	\$17,358.08	\$18,979.76		16.
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	-	-	-	-		17.
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		18.
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		19.
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		20.
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		21.
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		22.
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		23.
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-		24.
25.	Excess spending threshold	threshold = \$17,103 \$17,103.00	Allowable growth \$16,941.90	threshold = \$17,386 \$17,386.00	threshold = \$17,816 \$17,816.00		25.
26.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	\$1,163.76		26.
27.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$16,811	\$16,441	\$17,358	\$20,143.52		27.
28.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	177.723% based on \$9,285	169.476% based on \$9,701	170.847% based on yield \$10,160	204.669% based on yield \$9,842		28.
Prorating the local tax rate							
29.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [\$(20,143.52 ÷ (\$9,842.00 / \$1,000))]	\$1.7595 based on \$0.99	\$1.6948 based on \$1.00	\$1.7085 based on \$1.00	\$2.0467 based on \$1.00		29.
30.	Percent of Townshend equalized pupils not in a union school district	46.35%	46.91%	47.10%	47.95%		30.
31.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (47.95% x 2.05)	\$0.8155	\$0.7950	\$0.8047	\$0.9814		31.
32.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	105.03%	106.90%	110.38%	108.47%		32.
33.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.9814 / 108.47%)	\$0.7764 based on \$0.99	\$0.7437 based on \$1.00	\$0.7290 based on \$1.00	\$0.9048 based on \$1.00		33.
34.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(20,143.52 ÷ \$11,862) x 2.00%]	3.20% based on 1.80%	3.03% based on 2.00%	2.90% based on 2.00%	3.40% based on 2.00%		34.
35.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (47.95% x 3.40%)	1.48% based on 1.80%	1.42% based on 2.00%	1.37% based on 2.00%	1.63% based on 0.00%		35.
36.	Percent of equalized pupils at Leland And Gray UHSD #34	53.65%	53.09%	52.90%	52.05%		36.
37.		-	-	-	-		37.

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$9,842 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$11,862 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.629. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

**Townshend School District Annual Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M.

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend, in the County of Windham and the State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at 1:00 P.M. in the Town Hall in said Town of Townshend on the first Tuesday, March 7, 2017, to transact the following business and act upon the following Articles:

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

Carole Melis nominated David Liebow as Moderator for a one year term. There being no further nominations, the Moderator made a motion to close nominations and the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for David Liebow as School District Moderator. Motion carried by voice vote.

Article 2. To accept the reports of the School Directors as presented in the July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 Auditors' Report.

So moved by William Lincoln and seconded by Caleb Kiernan.

There being no discussion, Article 2 passed by voice vote.

Al Claussen gave a preamble on the Town School District Annual Report.

Article 3. To elect School Directors for the following terms:

One (1) - three year term - until March 2020 Nominated: Cliff Passino

There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared nominations closed and instructed the Clerk to cast one ballot for Cliff Passino for a three year term as School Director; seconded and carried by voice vote.

One (1) - one year term - until March 2018

Nominated: Brud Sanderson – Respectfully Declined

No nominations. Seat vacant.

One (1) - one year term - until March 2018

Nominated: Manse Jennings – Respectfully Declined;
Kristina Wright

There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared nominations closed and instructed the Clerk to cast one ballot for Kristina Wright for a one year term as School Director; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Article 4. To elect a School District Treasurer for a term of one year.

One (1) - one year term - until March 2018 Nominated: Anita Bean

There being no further nominations, the Moderator declared nominations closed and instructed the Clerk to cast one ballot for Anita Bean for a one year term as School District Treasurer; seconded and carried by voice vote.

Article 5. To compensate the Townshend School District Officers:

Treasurer	\$1,790.00
School Directors:	
(1) Chair	\$500.00
(4) Members	\$250 each

So moved by Kathy Greve and seconded by Anita Bean.

There being no discussion, Article 5 passed by voice vote.

Article 6. “Shall the voters of the Townshend School District approve the school board to expend \$1,400,900 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?” It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$17,368 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 5.6% higher than spending for the current year.

So moved by Joe Wright and seconded by Paul Jerz.

Al Claussen gave a brief explanation of the budget.

Brief Discussion – Comparison of per equalized pupil amount compared to other towns.

There being no further discussion Article 6 passed by voice vote.

Article 7. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of revenue?

So moved by William Lincoln and seconded by Paul Jerz.

There being no discussion Article 7 passed by voice vote.

Article 8. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to spend “unanticipated” funds such as grants or gifts that may be received by the District for school purposes?

So moved by Charlie Marchant and seconded by Paul Jerz.

There being no discussion Article 8 passed by voice vote.

Article 9. To set the date and time of the Annual Meeting of the Townshend School District for the First Tuesday of March in the year of 2018 at 9:05 a.m.

So moved by Joe Winrich and seconded by Paul Jerz.

There being no discussion Article 9 passed by voice vote.

Article 10. To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before this meeting.

Items Discussed: Act 46 – positives and negatives, board of directors, tax implications, Grant diminishment, funding and school choice

Motion to Adjourn at 1:55 P.M. made by Paul Jerz, seconded and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Bean, Town Clerk

Alfred Claussen – School District Chair

David Liebow, Moderator

Approved Minutes
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
TOWNSHEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Present:

Board: Al Claussen (Chair), Kristina Wright

Town Officers: David Liebow (Town Moderator), Anita Bean (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public: Joseph Winrich, Twilla Holden, Rick Hege, Dominick Schmidt, Peter Barus (Recorder)

Call to Order

Mr. Liebow called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Mr. Hege noted that the meeting was Warned for the gym and is being held in the Library. Mr. Liebow explained that this could call the meeting into question, the meeting should move to the gym, and this was done.

The Moderator opened nominations for two representatives on the L&G Board, School Director, a three-year term until 2020.

Joseph Winrich was nominated by Kristina Wright and the Town Clerk was directed to cast one ballot for Joseph Winrich, as L&G School Director.

All in Favor.

Ms. Wright nominated Twilla Holden and the Town Clerk was directed to cast one ballot for Twilla Holden as L&G School Director.

All in Favor.

Adjournment

Mr. Winrich moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Bean.

Adjourned at 7:10

Respectfully submitted, Peter Barus, Recorder, June 13, 2017



David Liebow, Moderator



Alfred Claussen, School Board Chair

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