

ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017
TOWN of RIPTON, VERMONT



Town Meeting: March 5, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Election Day Voting: March 6, 2018, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Ripton Community House

Please bring this Report with you to Town Meeting

Please bring this report with you to the

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Monday, March 5, 2018

7:00 p.m. Ripton Community House

PRE-MEETING SUPPER

Light supper of soup and bread beginning at 6:00 p.m. with dessert following the meeting

Call Barry King at 388-4082 for more information.

Child Care

Ripton Elementary School from 6:00 p.m. until the meeting ends

Call the School at 388-2208 for more information.

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Community House

Vote for town officers, school budgets, and other ballot items

VOTER INFORMATION

If you are not registered to vote in Ripton, you may register at the Town Office or online at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>.

You may vote early or request an absentee ballot at the Town Office Mon 2-6, Tues/Thurs 9-1.

You may also request an absentee ballot at <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>.

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Warning - Town of Ripton Annual Meeting

March 5, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Ripton Community House

The legal voters of the Town of Ripton are warned to meet at the Ripton Community House, Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business:

Article 1: Will the Town vote the sum of **\$614,762.00** to pay General Fund and Highway Fund expenses for July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019, and pay outstanding orders or obligations of the Town, with interest, the tax rate on the 2018 Grand List to be determined by the Selectboard, divided as follows:

General Fund	\$255,362.00	Highway Fund	\$359,400.00
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Article 2: Will the Town vote the sum of \$41,000.00 to the Ripton Volunteer Fire and First Response Department to pay expenses for July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019?

Article 3: Will the Town vote the sum of \$7,000.00 to the Ripton Cemetery Commission to pay expenses for July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019?

Article 4: Will the Town vote to have current property taxes collected by the Treasurer with a tax due date of Thursday, November 1, 2018?

Article 5: Will the Town vote to authorize the legislative body to appoint the municipal clerk, as allowed with the passage of Act 27 of 2017?

Article 6: Will the Town vote to authorize the legislative body to appoint the municipal treasurer, as allowed with the passage of Act 27 of 2017?

Article 7: Other Business

- A. Trash and recycling: drop-off vs pick-up
- B. Town shed and sand pile location
- C. Ripton Elementary School & FORS
- D. Announcements and any other business

The Meeting will recess until 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2018

The legal voters of the Town of Ripton are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting shall be as provided in Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Polls in the Ripton Community House are open 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, 2018 to vote the following articles by Australian ballot:

Article 1: To elect officers

Selector for a three-year term	Delinquent Tax Collector for a one-year term
Lister for a three-year term	Constable for a one-year term
Town Clerk for a one-year term	Town Agent for a one-year term
Town Moderator for a one-year term	Town Grand Juror for a one-year term
Town Treasurer for a one-year term	Cemetery Commissioner for a five-year term

Article 2: To approve or disapprove allocations from the General Fund, total **\$22,316.00**

Requested by	Amount
Addison Central Teens (ACT)	\$ 1,900.00
Addison County Home Health and Hospice	\$ 750.00
Addison County Parent/Child Center	\$ 600.00
Addison County Restorative Justice Services	\$ 170.00
Addison County River Watch Collaborative	\$ 400.00
Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR)	\$ 1,901.00
Age Well (formerly Champlain Valley Agency on Aging)	\$ 750.00
Charter House Coalition	\$ 1,600.00
Counseling Service of Addison County	\$ 1,400.00
Elderly Services	\$ 600.00
Green Up Vermont	\$ 50.00
HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects)	\$ 3,000.00
Homeward Bound	\$ 750.00
Hospice Volunteer Services	\$ 500.00
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	\$ 1,600.00
Middlebury Regional Emergency & Medical Services	\$ 1,470.00
NeighborWorks of Western Vermont	\$ 300.00
Open Door Clinic	\$ 1,500.00
Otter Creek Child Care Center	\$ 1,000.00
Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 50.00
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	\$ 475.00
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 300.00
WomenSafe	\$ 1,250.00

Laureen Cox, Chair Perry Hanson Ronald Wimett
 Ripton Selectboard January 22, 2018

Town Sample Australian Ballot

MARCH 6, 2018

Instructions to voters: To vote for a person who is on the ballot, mark (X) in the square to the right of the name. To write-in a vote for a person who is not on the ballot, write the person's name on the blank line.

<p>Selector for a 3-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Ronald Wimett-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>	<p>Moderator for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Timothy Hanson-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>
<p>Town Clerk for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Alison Joseph Dickinson-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>	<p>Grand Juror for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Richard "Kim" Kimler-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>
<p>Treasurer for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Carolyn Smith-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>	<p>Constable for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Chris Smith-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>
<p>Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Kathleen B. Sullivan-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>	<p>Town Agent for a 1-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Chris Smith-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>
<p>Lister for a 3-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Beth Eliason -----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>	<p>Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term Vote for no more than one</p> <p>Samantha Smith-----<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>_____ (Write in)</p>

WARNING
ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Member Districts are Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge

The legal voters of the Addison Central School District are hereby warned to meet at the Middlebury Union High School in Middlebury, Vermont on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM, to transact the following business:

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following officers: a) A Moderator b) A Treasurer c) A Clerk

ARTICLE 2: To hear and act upon the reports of the school district officers.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the voters of the Addison Central School District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors, under 16 VSA 562 (9), to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year.

ARTICLE 4: To do any other business proper to come before said meeting.

PUBLIC INFORMATION HEARING
FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Member Districts are Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge

The legal voters of the Addison Central School District are hereby warned to meet at the Middlebury Union High School in Middlebury, Vermont on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM, for a Public Information meeting to discuss Australian Ballot articles warned for vote on Tuesday, March 6, 2018.

Hearing will take place immediately following adjournment of the Annual Meeting of said Addison Central School District.

Linda J. Barrett, Clerk
Addison Central School District

Peter Conlon, Chair
Addison Central School District

The 2018 Addison Central School District Annual Report will be available in the following manner: <http://www.acsdvt.org/domain/30> (*Departments/Finance*) or call 802-382-1274 to request a copy.

WARNING
ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2018

Member Districts are Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge

The legal voters of the Addison Central School District are hereby warned to meet at the following polling places on March 6, 2018 to vote by Australian Ballot on the following article(s) of business:

<u>District</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Polling Hours</u>
Bridport	Bridport Community/Masonic Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Cornwall	Cornwall Town Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Middlebury	Middlebury Town Office (77 Main St)	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Ripton	Ripton Community House	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Salisbury	Salisbury Town Office	8:00 AM-7:00 PM
Shoreham	Shoreham Town Office	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Weybridge	Weybridge Town Clerk's Office	7:00 AM-7:00 PM

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters of the Addison Central School District vote to authorize the ACSD school board to expend **\$36,762,479** which is the amount the ACSD 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 **\$16,907.29** per equalized pupil.

ARTICLE 2: Shall the voters of the Addison Central School District vote to authorize the ACSD school board to appropriate **\$823,673** of the FY 2017 Unassigned Fund Balance (estimated at **\$1,523,673**) to the ACSD Capital Reserve Fund?

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Addison Central School District vote to authorize the ACSD school board to authorize disbursement from an Education Reserve Fund for the Addison Central School District, and appropriate **\$500,000** of the FY 2017 Unassigned Fund Balance (estimated at **\$1,523,673**) to said Fund?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of the Addison Central School District vote to authorize the ACSD school board to create and authorize disbursement from a Health Care Reserve Fund for the Addison Central School District, and appropriate **\$200,000** of the FY 2017 Unassigned Fund Balance (estimated at **\$1,523,673**) to said Fund?

ARTICLE 5: To elect four (4) school directors from the nominees to serve on the Addison Central School District Board for the following terms:
 Two (2) who are residents of Middlebury for a three-year term.
 One (1) who is a resident of Cornwall for a three-year term.
 One (1) who is a resident of Shoreham for a three year term.

Ballots shall be commingled and counted at Middlebury Union High School by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the member town school districts under the supervision of the District Clerk of Addison Central School District.

Linda J. Barrett, Clerk
 Addison Central School District

Peter Conlon, Chair
 Addison Central School District

WARNING

PATRICIA A. HANNAFORD REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 14 and MARCH 6, 2018

Member Districts are Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham and Weybridge.

The legal voters of the Regional Technical School District are hereby warned to meet at the Hannaford Career Center, Middlebury, Vermont in said district on February 14, 2018 at 7:00 P.M., to transact and vote on the following business:

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following officers:

- a) A Moderator
- b) A Treasurer
- c) A Clerk

ARTICLE 2: To hear and act upon the reports of the Treasurer and Auditors of the District.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the voters of said District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors to borrow money, pending receipt of payment from member districts, by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date for the purpose of paying the sum approved by the voters.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the voters of the district will vote to pay a stipend to each voting member of the Board of Directors not to exceed \$600.00 per member per year. Stipend Pro-rated based upon number of warned board meetings attended.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the voters of the said District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors to place \$25,000.00 of the FY17 unreserved fund balance in the Building and Equipment Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the voters of said District will vote to authorize its Board of Directors to use funds in the Building and Equipment Reserve Fund for capital improvements and program equipment.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the voters of said district will authorize the Board to create a Health Reserve Fund for the board to pay obligations based on the new Health Reimbursement Agreement.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the voters of said district will vote to authorize its board of directors to place \$50,000 of the FY17 reserve in the Health Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 9: To do any other business proper to come before said meeting.

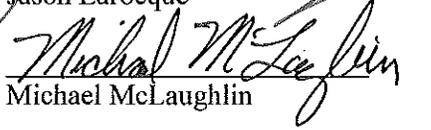
The meeting will then be recessed to March 6, 2018 on which date member district voters are further warned to vote on the article listed below by Australian ballot at their respective polling places:

ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District approve the school board to expend \$3,468,524 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 at the Patricia A Hannaford Career Center to be \$21,466.00 per full-time equivalent student. This projected spending per full-time equivalent student is 6.47% higher than spending for the current year.

The legal voters and residents of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held on the above-listed Australian ballot article on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at the Hannaford Career Center in the Town of Middlebury, Vermont immediately following the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District’s annual meeting which begins at 7:00 pm.

Dated this 10th day of January, 2018 at Middlebury, Vermont.

Jason Larocque, Chair
PAHRTSD


 Jason Larocque

 Michael McLaughlin

Michael McGrath

 Nick Causton

Kristina MacKulin

 Kim Farnham

Allison Sturtevant

Michael Giorgio

Mark Perrin


 Melissa Beckwith

Lorraine Morse
 Lorraine Morse

The polling places and hours of the member districts of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District are as follows:

District	Location	Polling Hours
Addison	Addison Town Clerk's Office	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Bridport	Bridport Masonic/Community Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Bristol	Holley Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Cornwall	Cornwall Town Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Ferrisburgh	Ferrisburgh Central School	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Lincoln	Town Clerk's Office	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Middlebury	Town Offices -- 77 Main St.	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Monkton	Monkton Fire Department	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
New Haven	New Haven Town Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Panton	Panton Town Clerk's Office	9:00 AM-7:00 PM
Ripton	Ripton Community Hall	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Salisbury	Salisbury Town Clerk's Office	8:00 AM-7:00 PM
Shoreham	Shoreham Town Offices	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Starksboro	Robinson Elementary School	7:00 AM-7:00 PM
Vergennes	Vergennes Fire Station	9:00 AM-7:00 PM
Waltham	Waltham Town Clerk's Office	10:00 AM-7:00 PM
Weybridge	Weybridge Town Clerk's Office	7:00 AM-7:00 PM

The legal voters of the Patricia A Hannaford Regional Technical School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated, and by Section 706W of Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Australian ballots shall be commingled and counted at the Middlebury Union High School cafeteria by representatives of the Boards of Civil authority of the member town school districts under the supervision of the Clerk of the Patricia A. Hannaford Regional Technical School District.

A Tribute to Dick and Sue Collitt

In 1879, George Baker, an ambitious Ripton businessman, constructed a general store beside his home on what is now Route 125. This store, later named the Ripton Country Store, provided items needed by residents of this rural mountain town. The Ripton Country Store has remained in continuous operation ever since. In 1899, Milo and Henry Day purchased the house, shed and store from George and Lovinna Baker for \$840. The store remained in the Day family for the next 68 years until purchased in 1967 by Freeman “Bud” Todd from the Day estate. Howard and Susan Wallis bought the store in 1970, reducing the number of practical goods for sale in an attempt to profit by the sale of gift items to tourists. With their business declining, the Wallis’ sold the store in 1973 to Harold “Bucky” and Jorene Doria who operated it for three years. This brings us to the purchase of the Ripton Country Store in 1976 by Richard “Dick” and Susan “Sue” Collitt, the sixth and present owners of the 139-year old building and business.

In 1976, Dick and Sue were happy in their lives outside of Philadelphia, PA. Dick was working in a bank and Sue was busy raising their two young boys. Yet, both wanted something different for their family and upon seeing the Ripton



Historic photo courtesy of Charles Billings

Country Store advertised in the *Wall Street Journal*, they planned a visit. In less than two months, Dick, Sue, and their sons, Michael and Matthew, had moved to Ripton and were living in the apartment above the store. At that time Ripton was home to loggers, carpenters, workers at the plywood mill in Hancock and seasonal Middlebury College employees. Hunting camps dotted the back roads and were active year-round. Ripton’s children attended elementary school in what is now the Town Clerk’s office. Having come from an urban setting, some within the town expressed doubts as to if the Collitts would “last”.



Photo courtesy of Charles Billings



Photo Credit: www.travellikealocalvt.com

Today, Dick and Sue value the store and its place in the community. They are not only interested in preserving the Store's past, but also the Store's future. They have worked hard to keep the building authentic, retaining the original antiques found throughout the store, while including some more modern additions, such as coconut man and jack-a-lope! Renovations made to the building, such as lighting and signage, have been made with thoughtful regard to the Store's place in history. When the State required new gasoline tanks and the old tanks removed, there was no hesitation. Despite the cost, Dick and Sue knew the residents of Ripton depended on the Store for purchasing gasoline and kerosene. In 2013 when Ripton was in danger of losing its post office, the Collitts joined the fight to keep the post office in town. Ripton no longer has a postmaster, but Dick and Sue sell stamps, weigh letters, and provide space for lock boxes, saving customers a trip to East Middlebury to retrieve packages. While the Collitts have been mindful of keeping changes to the Store at a minimum, they understand the needs of their customers. Credit cards are willingly accepted and a new ATM machine now stands beside the penny candy display. However, sometimes

there's still the need to have a purchase "set down". Dick and Sue know whose account is on a card in the box, who has a book in the drawer or a slip under the brass duck on the register. It's this level of understanding of their town and its people that has made them "last". Dick and Sue have never forgotten old fashioned caring for their neighbors.

For many, the Store is the heart of Ripton. It is often the first stop in times of emergency. Sue is quick to lift the cradled phone from beneath the worn counter for stranded travelers or anxious locals to use. The Store is where information is learned. This was particularly critical during Tropical Storm Irene and more recent weather events, causing closures of Route 125. The Ripton Store also acts as a checkpoint during the VT Gran Fondo bicycle race as it passes over Middlebury Gap. During the summer months when the Bread Loaf Campus is active, Dick and Sue work to accommodate the diverse needs of this group.

Middlebury has the Chamber of Commerce to answer visitor questions. Ripton has Dick and Sue. A typical interchange might include, "I've lost my dog" or "we just found a dog". "Is your power out?" "I'm worried about so and so, have they been in the store?" Or, "how do I get to Bread Loaf?...Silver Towers?...Where's the Dugway?...Is that the Lincoln Road?...my cell phone doesn't work!" Dick and Sue are the pulse of our town and while they hold intimate knowledge of their neighbors' lives, they hold these in confidence. Aside from drop in and phone inquiries, the Store has both an interior and exterior bulletin board warning of town hearings, local events, jobs, property sales and rentals. Dick knows the importance of town governance having spent 17 years on the Planning Commission and 7 years on the Selectboard. Sue supports the efforts of her neighbors by providing valuable floor and counter space to artists, cooks and farmers, selling note cards, jams, jellies, tomatoes and antler key rings to name just a few. Dick and Sue have continuously supported the children of Ripton and the Ripton Elementary School by donating to the Ripton Ridge Run and other fundraising efforts.

In September, the Collitts will have owned the Ripton Country Store for 42 years. Each of these years, the store has been closed only one day, Christmas Day. Until recently, Dick and Sue have divided every 10-12-hour work day between them, leaving one of them in the store every day. The bells above the front door jingle when someone enters. Dick can usually be found on his hard-wooden stool behind the counter and Sue is often in the rocker to the right of the warm wood stove. Ripton is indeed lucky to have them and they have certainly proven wrong those who speculated they wouldn't last!

Jorene Doria
Jane Phinney

Elected Town Officers

	Name (term expires)	Phone	Email
Selectboard	Laureen Cox, Chair (20) Perry Hanson (19) Ronald Wimett (18)	388-7820 388-9977 388-7346	lcox@riptonvt.org phanson@riptonvt.org
Justices of the Peace	Anza Armstrong (18) Richard “Kim” Kimler (18) Warren King (18) Perry Hanson (18) Tim Hanson (18)	388-3646 388-0083 388-4082 388-9977 388-2546	For vote at the November General Election
Town Clerk	Alison Joseph Dickinson (18)	388-2266	ajdickinson@riptonvt.org
Town Treasurer	Carolyn Smith (18)	388-2266	csmith@riptonvt.org
Board of Listers	Alison Joseph, Chair (20) Erik Eriksen (19) Beth Eliason (18)	388-2266	listers@riptonvt.org
Cemetery Commission	Bonnie Swan, Sexton (19) Elizabeth Walker, Chair (20) Marlene Thompson (20) Carole Cummings (21) Vacant (18)	388-6687 388-1634	
Moderator	Tim Hanson (18)	388-2266	
Delinquent Tax Collector	Kathleen B. Sullivan (18)	388-3471	
Constable	Chris Smith (18)	388-0337	
Town Agent	Chris Smith (18)	388-0337	
Town Grand Juror	Richard “Kim” Kimler (18)	388-0083	

Meeting Schedule

All meetings are open to the public.

Selectboard: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Town Office
 Ripton Fire & First Response: 2nd Saturday of the month, 9 a.m., Fire Station
 Planning Commission/ZBA/Historic District Commission:
 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Town Office
 Cemetery Commission: 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Town Office
 Conservation Commission: Times will be posted

Appointed Town Officers

	Name (term expires)	Phone
Selectboard Administrator	Alison Joseph Dickinson	388-2266
Assistant Clerks	Paula Scott Carolyn Smith	388-2266
Assistant Treasurers	Paula Scott, Alison Joseph Dickinson	388-2266
Zoning Administrator	Jonathan Heppell	388-2266
Road Commissioner	Ronald Wimett	388-7346
Animal Control Officer	Chris Smith	388-0337
Conservation Commission	Mark Nelson, Chair (18) Zapata Courage (20), vacant position, Warren King (18), Becky Purdum (18), Barry King (19), Jay Harrington (19), Martha McCaughin (19)	388-2857
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission and Historic District Commission	Warren King, Chair (20) Michael J. Cummings (19), Jorene Doria (20), Marlene Harrison (18), Marty Kulczyk (20)	388-4082
Zoning Board, Alternate Members	Alison Joseph (19), Amy McGlashan (20) Leonard Tiedemann (19)	
Health Officer	Tim Hanson	388-2266
Emergency Management Coordinator	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Emergency Shelter Director	Mark Nelson	388-2857
Fire and First Response Chief	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Fire Warden	Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Recycling Committee	Warren King, Barry King, Mac Cox, Mark Nelson, Steve Zwicky	
Regional Planning Delegates	Jeremy Grip; Marty Kulczyk, alternate	
Regional Transportation Delegate	Norm Tjossem; Jonathan Heppell, alternate	
Solid Waste District Delegates	Steve Zwicky; Jay Harrington, alternate	
Addison County Transit Delegate	Susan Prager	
Town Energy Coordinator	Warren King	
Tree Warden	Freeman Allen	
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Willem Jewett	
Fence Viewer	Gary Whitman	
Weigher of Coal	Richard Collitt	
Inspector/Lumber, Shingles & Wood	Mac Cox	

Selectboard Report

During the past year, the Selectboard has continued to work on improving town infrastructure, overall governmental functioning, and community life in general.

Buildings: The Community House kitchen has a new stove and refrigerator, the back steps have been repaired, and a deck across the back of the building will be added this spring. (We still won't allow grilling, however!) The generator we purchased with the help of FEMA funding was installed and now allows both the Community House and the Town Office to function during a power outage. Within the Town Office, the upstairs is no longer rented and that space is available for town use, both office and committee work. The portion of the building previously renovated from school kitchen to office is being used by the Ripton Historical Society. We continue to explore a heat pump as a heat source for this building.

Last year we asked the town's permission to transfer some or all of the cash surplus from the 2015-16 budget to the Town Building Fund, in preparation for extensive work needed on the Town Office building. We recently made the transfer of \$52,000 to that account. (Since the surplus for the 2016-17 year was considerably smaller, we decided not to request an additional transfer.) This year, we will begin this process by hiring a firm to develop a scope of work for the project. Then we will have a more specific sense of what needs to be included and the related potential costs. This will allow us to make decisions of feasibility as well as to apply for possible grant funding.

Governmental structure changes: Within the Town Office, our personnel are doing a great job of getting the increasingly complicated business of the town done effectively and efficiently. There was a time when small towns might have one person who, hopefully with some basic arithmetic and organizational skills, might manage town business and records from a room in their house. For better or worse, we have evolved far from that place. Last year, the State legislature passed a bill making it easy for towns to appoint/hire town clerks and treasurers, rather than to elect them. These jobs have become complicated to the extent that one really needs a significant body of education and experience to successfully fulfill the tasks. In Ripton, we are extremely fortunate in the team we currently have working in our town office. It is in no way a reflection of their performance that we have included an item in the Warning to change the offices of Town Clerk and Town Treasurer to be appointed. Rather, it seems like a good time to make this shift while we can easily and comfortably transfer from one system to the next without any desire or need to change personnel. It is something we have discussed for a few years as we have watched other towns in the state and in our county making this shift, even before the legislature changed the law. Our decision to ask for this change has included open dialogue with those who would be affected. If this item passes, it will go into effect later this year.

Our favorite topics: trash, garbage, recycling etc.! -- Perhaps you have noticed we had new signs made this year to help people navigate what may and may not be recycled. Perhaps you are one of many people who have not noticed, or maybe just not read them. Please pay attention to this. A couple of your neighbors volunteer to keep tabs on the state of our recycling shed. They frequently have the unpleasant job of pulling the "trash" items out of the recycling bin. If the container has items that are not recyclable in it, the town (us! our taxes!) has to pay to have the whole load dealt with as garbage. Also, if you go to the shed during the week and the container is not there, please do not leave your items. It will be back in a day or two, and you can bring them at that time. If you have any questions about how best to recycle, please contact one of the folks on the recycling committee (Warren and Barry King, Mark Nelson, Mac Cox, Steve Zwicky).

Remember: even if you have appropriate materials to recycle, the bag you have them in may NOT be recyclable if it contains plastic – or is plastic!

Illegal dumping on private property is being handled by the Sheriff's Office and the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

National Forest and Sparks Pit: We are lucky in many ways to live amidst the National Forest, with access to all of that land readily available to us. There can be a downside, as neighbors in the Sparks Pit area can attest to. Led by the determination of Chris Pike, the issues of inappropriate use/behavior have come to the attention of Forest management, law enforcement, and elected representatives at both the state and federal

level. Town officials and residents met at the pit with some of these people during the summer. The ultimate goal is to get a designated, well-run shooting area somewhere in the county that can provide for the needs of shooters while not creating dangers for those in its vicinity. If you observe illegal or questionable activity or behavior at Sparks Pit, please contact the Green Mountain National Forest office, as well as local law enforcement.

On the plus side, the National Forest is giving the town some excess materials they have stored in their property adjacent to Silver Towers for use on our road projects.

Dogs: Time to get your dog licensed! This is required by State law, and is cheaper if you do it before the end of March. Even if the extra money does not bother you, it is a waste of time for Town employees to have to "hound" you for your compliance. Also, remember to communicate and cooperate with your neighbors to minimize conflict over the behavior of any of your animals -- or maybe even of your people!

Roads: Two significant weather events led to road damage and FEMA financial support during 2017: heavy rain on July 1 and major wind on October 30. While the majority of the necessary clean-up happened immediately, some projects will continue into 2018. State grants helped us with paving and maintenance on Lincoln Road as well as the development of an inventory of roads, culverts, and related drainage areas. This inventory will help us access future grant funding for needed improvements.

Town Meeting SUPPER and more: Last year, we had a meal of soup and bread prior to Town Meeting, and desserts following the meeting. This was a lot of fun and well received. We will continue this year with similar fare. **Plan to come early to enjoy a meal, socialize with your neighbors, and meet new people!**

Other community meals include our – now annual – spring potluck dinner, end-of-July Fire Department picnic, and Ripton Elementary School Thanksgiving lunch. Watch for announcements for the dates of these events.

Our community is stronger when we get together, talk with one another, and get to know each other. For a small town in the mountains, this can be an important, even vital, asset. Last year we compiled a list of opportunities to get involved in our community (besides eating). Check them out. Try them out. There are opportunities for everyone!

Laurie Cox, Chair



Photo credit Alison Dickinson

Road Commissioner Report

Another year and two more weather related disasters. Heavy rain in July caused damage throughout the county. Ripton had \$40,000 - \$80,000 worth of damage, mostly washouts on Goshen Road, Natural Turnpike, and Peddlers Bridge Road near the town shed. Repairs were made, but more work will be done this summer. The second disaster was a windstorm in October. This storm blew down large trees and made some roads impassable. The Lincoln Road, Natural Turnpike, and the North Branch Road had the worst damage. Most of the wind damage is cleaned up but needs to be burned. Both storms were declared disasters by FEMA, and we applied for aid.

As always, we applied for grants and this year we got four. One is done, a state paving grant for the resurface of pavement on the Lincoln Road. We used approximately \$6,000 of the road budget to add distance and do much needed tree cutting and culvert work. Two Better Roads program grants will be done this summer. On the Lincoln Road from the end of pavement to Bent Bridge, ditches will be improved, and two culverts replaced with concrete headwalls added. On the North Branch Road, a culvert near Johnson's gate will be replaced with a longer culvert and will also have concrete block headwalls. A new program, the Municipal Roads Grants in Aid Program, will pay for ditching and berm removal from the Norton Bridge to the Lucky 7 water tub this spring.

This summer we will add much needed road gravel to sections of all dirt roads. We increased the ditching budget because spoil needs to be trucked farther away. We raised the paving budget to keep up with inflation. Culvert work and general maintenance will continue as summer goes on.

I would like people to think of a good place to move the town shed and sandpile as the location is getting to be a problem.

Ronald Wimett, Road Commissioner



Photo credit: Alison Dickinson

Selectboard Budget Narrative

This report addresses the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2017, a check on the current year's budgetary progress, and an overview of the proposed budget for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

Financial Status: At the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2017, the town had a combined fund balance of \$553,030 compared to \$445,568 on June 30, 2016.

General Fund and Highway Fund 7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017: In the General Fund, most areas of income exceeded budgeted amounts. Income from Middlebury College payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) was a bit lower, because it is now based on the town's tax rate, which also was a bit lower during that tax year. Meanwhile, expenses were at or less than budgeted in just about all areas, making this year rather unremarkable.

The Highway Fund's income was up a bit, in spite of the lower College PILOT amount, since the income from the US Forest Service increased and we received some reimbursement from FEMA. On the expense side, costs came in at less than budgeted. Much of the difference was related to weather and projects for which we received grants.

Current Year (7/1/2017 – 6/30/2018): Revenues for the current year appear to be well in line with what was budgeted, both for the General Fund and the Highway Fund. Expenses in each area are running appropriate to our budget, although there have been some extra storm repair costs related to the big storms of July 1 and October 30. Since they both were declared federal disasters, FEMA will be paying the major share of those expenses. We hired Robin Whitman to do some work on the Community House, and that most likely will stay within the amount budgeted for facility repairs and maintenance. We did get the generator installed to provide power to both town buildings in case of a power outage, which was a planned expense, and was primarily funded by FEMA's Disaster Mitigation program.

Proposed Budget (7/1/2018 – 6/30/2019): On the revenue side, we anticipate slightly larger payments from Middlebury College, but are not being overly optimistic on any increases from the State or National Forest payments towards our roads. We continue to apply for grants each year, so that income as well as expense is always a bit of a guess at this point in the year. In the General Fund reporting, we are now listing expenses for both the Community House and Town Office under "Buildings & Grounds". This does not include fuel and electricity budget lines, which will continue to be reported separately. The Cemetery Commission budget is moving to its own page (and vote), so it will not continue to be included in the overall budget. Adjustments in both hours and pay rates for office personnel have bumped those lines up slightly, and we plan to have more document preservation work completed this coming year.

In the Highway Fund expenses, we have moved all three categories of "gravel" into one line item which totals closely to the amount of the previous three. We have increased the amount for sand, as recent winters seem to be providing the sort of weather and road conditions requiring more sanding. The only other area of significant change is in paving, as we hope to get more done this summer.

We plan to hire someone to work with us to develop a scope of work and estimated costs for renovation of the Town Office building. After last year's vote at Town Meeting, we moved \$52,000 from the previous year (2015-2016) General Fund surplus into the Town Building fund. We will draw on this account to pay for that work. As we move forward with these plans, we will bring the information to the town, hopefully at next year's Town Meeting.

A vote of the town is not required to carry over a Highway Fund surplus to the ensuing year, but to better track this, we are now having it moved into the Major Projects fund. There it will be available for unanticipated road expenses, grant matches, and any major road projects that might be planned in the future.

Laurie Cox, Chair Ronald Wimett Perry Hanson
Selectboard for the Town of Ripton

General Fund Budget	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Revenue				
Current Year Taxes	120,000.00	86,836.35	132,300.00	113,324.00
Delinquent Taxes	55,000.00	53,615.80	50,000.00	55,000.00
Interest: Delinquent Tax	1,500.00	2,490.52	1,200.00	3,000.00
Penalty: Delinquent Tax	4,000.00	9,540.72	5,000.00	7,000.00
Legal Fee: Delinquent Tax	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Ed Tax Adjustment Credit	3,861.00	0.00	4,000.00	7,000.00
Recording Fees	6,000.00	6,115.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Copier & Vault Time	1,600.00	1,340.24	2,000.00	2,000.00
Dog Licenses	900.00	627.00	1,000.00	800.00
Liquor Licenses	255.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Zoning Permit Fees	1,200.00	1,690.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
Recycling Donations	1,500.00	2,208.02	1,500.00	2,000.00
Sheriff Fines	7,000.00	7,688.20	7,000.00	7,000.00
Marriage Licenses	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Land Posting	0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00
Green Mountain Pass	0.00	12.00	0.00	10.00
Auditor Adjusting Entry	0.00	8,770.92	0.00	0.00
Reappraisal	0.00	3,587.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
State Funds for Listers	0.00	827.00	400.00	800.00
Current Use/Land Use	28,000.00	29,330.00	28,000.00	27,000.00
Interest	300.00	448.42	413.00	314.00
Insurance reimb. estimate	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
Rent: Town Office	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00	0.00
Rent: Community House	1,000.00	2,325.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
College PILOT	79,000.00	73,733.00	73,000.00	84,000.00
Total General Fund Revenue	319,116.00	294,015.19	325,213.00	325,678.00
Expense				
Selectboard stipend	1,950.00	1,950.00	1,950.00	1,950.00
Selectboard Administrator	18,000.00	17,171.25	18,000.00	22,000.00
Town Clerk	15,000.00	12,707.50	15,000.00	16,000.00
Town Treasurer	12,000.00	12,421.25	14,000.00	16,000.00
Assistant Town Clerk	18,000.00	14,181.00	17,000.00	17,000.00
Elections	1,500.00	912.96	500.00	1,000.00
BCA Hearings	100.00	80.00	100.00	100.00
Delinquent Tax Collector	5,000.00	5,492.04	5,000.00	7,000.00
Listers	8,000.00	8,098.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Lister Training	1,000.00	405.00	1,000.00	500.00
Planning Commission	1,425.00	1,425.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Zoning Administrator	3,000.00	1,719.00	3,000.00	3,500.00

General Fund Budget	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Animal Control Officer	400.00	415.70	400.00	400.00
Officers Training	2,000.00	1,925.00	2,000.00	1,000.00
Facilities	2,000.00	1,544.16	2,000.00	2,000.00
Emergency Mgt Coordinator	300.00	300.00	300.00	400.00
Payroll Taxes	10,000.00	6,274.08	10,000.00	8,000.00
Office Supplies	1,200.00	867.74	1,000.00	1,000.00
Office Equipment/Furnish	500.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Photocopier Expense	1,500.00	1,438.65	1,500.00	1,500.00
Computer Expense	5,000.00	5,091.93	5,000.00	5,000.00
Telephone Expense	900.00	859.86	900.00	900.00
Internet Expense	650.00	745.85	650.00	900.00
Website	400.00	256.55	400.00	400.00
Postage	1,000.00	884.16	1,000.00	1,000.00
Legal Notices	400.00	42.63	400.00	400.00
Document Preservation (increase for Grand List preservation)	2,000.00	2,037.25	2,000.00	4,000.00
Clerk & Treasurer Expense	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Listers Expenses	1,000.00	477.55	1,000.00	500.00
Planning & Zoning Expense	500.00	350.57	1,000.00	1,000.00
Vermont State Treasurer	500.00	184.00	700.00	300.00
Property Insurance	16,500.00	12,646.25	16,500.00	16,000.00
Workers Comp Ins.	1,000.00	1,109.50	1,200.00	1,000.00
RVFD Ins (is reimbursed)	200.00	289.25	600.00	1,000.00
Town Report	1,500.00	1,270.77	1,500.00	1,500.00
Legal Services	7,000.00	3,059.50	7,000.00	5,000.00
Audit	7,500.00	7,925.00	7,710.00	8,250.00
Generator	2,000.00	1,665.00	0.00	350.00
Recycling	12,000.00	9,286.90	12,000.00	11,000.00
Animal Damage	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Pay to Reappraisal	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00
Cemeteries (moved to voted)	11,000.00	11,000.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Fees	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
Misc Expense (Charter date signs)	0.00	1,658.01	0.00	0.00
Buildings & Grounds	18,400.00	11,169.71	19,500.00	17,000.00
Town Office Fuel	2,500.00	1,898.57	2,200.00	2,000.00
Town Office Electric	700.00	663.00	700.00	800.00
Community House Fuel	4,500.00	3,029.63	4,200.00	4,000.00
Community House Electric	600.00	852.75	800.00	800.00
Pay Town Buildings Fund	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Public Telephone	600.00	540.00	600.00	630.00
Streetlights	1,500.00	950.91	1,300.00	1,100.00
Waste Disposal	600.00	395.87	600.00	800.00

General Fund Budget	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
VLCT Dues	1,700.00	1,597.00	1,650.00	1,685.00
Regional Planning Dues	730.00	729.39	732.00	747.00
Addison County Sheriff	12,000.00	8,988.87	12,000.00	11,000.00
Addison County Tax	2,800.00	2,924.86	2,800.00	3,000.00
Animal Holding Facility	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
Tax Mapping	950.00	950.00	950.00	950.00
Miscellaneous Dues	0.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
NEMRC - programs/fees	0.00	395.00	1,800.00	2,000.00
VT Bond Bank 2008 Flood	28,698.00	28,087.75	28,705.00	27,400.00
Total General Fund Expense	259,803.00	222,832.17	250,947.00	255,362.00
Voted Items				
Ripton Fire Department	36,000.00	36,000.00	40,000.00	41,000.00
Cemetery Commission	0.00	0.00	13,000.00	7,000.00
Funding Requests	19,215.00	19,214.84	21,266.00	22,316.00
Total Voted Item Expense	55,215.00	55,214.84	74,266.00	70,316.00
Total General Fund + Voted	315,018.00	278,047.01	325,213.00	325,678.00
General Fund	259,803.00	222,832.17	250,947.00	255,362.00
Highway Fund	313,100.00	266,183.12	323,600.00	359,400.00
Sub-Total	572,903.00	489,015.29	574,547.00	614,762.00
Voted items	55,215.00	55,214.84	74,266.00	70,316.00
Total Municipal Expense	628,118.00	544,230.13	648,813.00	685,078.00
Tax Summary				
Total General Fund & Highway Fund tax revenue	251,674.00	218,510.35 (excludes delinquent)	267,300.00	282,185.00
Education tax collected in General Fund and paid to schools				
Ripton Town School + ACSU		960,956.63	0.00	
ACSD			936,130.00	

Highway Fund Budget	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Revenue				
Property Tax - Roads	131,674.00	131,674.00	135,000.00	168,861.00
Overweight Permit Fees	250.00	335.00	250.00	300.00
State Aid to Highways	48,141.00	48,078.19	55,300.00	48,204.00
College PILOT Roads	78,000.00	73,733.00	73,000.00	84,000.00
USFS PILOT Payment	55,000.00	58,803.00	60,000.00	58,000.00
Interest - Major Project	35.00	29.97	50.00	35.00
Total Highway Fund Revenue	313,100.00	312,653.16	323,600.00	359,400.00
Expense				
Ditching	15,000.00	14,005.32	17,000.00	19,000.00
Grading	14,000.00	13,252.50	15,000.00	16,000.00
Chloride	7,000.00	5,612.95	8,000.00	8,500.00
Sweeping Roads	4,000.00	8,132.50	8,000.00	8,000.00
Culverts	5,000.00	172.57	5,000.00	5,000.00
Guardrails	1,000.00	1,912.50	1,000.00	1,000.00
Gravel	31,000.00	23,459.36	31,000.00	32,000.00
Storm Damage	4,000.00	3,862.50	4,000.00	5,000.00
Road Signs	1,000.00	1,601.12	1,000.00	1,000.00
Cutting Brush	3,500.00	4,245.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Mowing: Roadside	4,000.00	3,297.50	5,000.00	5,000.00
Mowing: Boom	2,500.00	2,437.50	2,500.00	2,500.00
Road Commissioner	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
Training	500.00	0.00	500.00	300.00
Class IV Road Work	5,000.00	5,958.25	5,000.00	5,000.00
Paving	40,000.00	39,949.15	40,000.00	50,000.00
Major Road Reconstruction	25,000.00	1,284.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Grant Match Fund	10,000.00	1,841.61	10,000.00	10,000.00
Pay to Major Project Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Misc. Summer Work	1,000.00	1,265.52	1,000.00	1,500.00
Buy/Screen Sand	29,000.00	21,105.77	29,000.00	35,000.00
Truck Sand	12,000.00	8,380.30	12,000.00	18,000.00
Salt	6,000.00	6,179.50	6,000.00	7,000.00
Sanding Roads	33,000.00	33,982.50	33,000.00	35,000.00
Plowing Roads	35,000.00	42,770.00	35,000.00	40,000.00
Winter Storm Damage	5,000.00	1,340.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Culvert Thawing	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Misc. Winter Work	2,000.00	6,535.20	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Highway Fund Expense	313,100.00	266,183.12	323,600.00	359,400.00
Balance to Major Project Fund		58,299.29		

Grants Budget	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Grant Revenue				
VTrans Class 2 BC 1762	0.00	16,574.52	0.00	0.00
VTrans Class 2 PO1760	0.00	0.00	11,9600.00	0.00
VTrans Structures	16,417.00	1,6417.00	0.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0026 Inventory	1,600.00	3,596.06	0.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0168 Brooks Rd	10,000.00	5,049.12	0.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0372 Lincoln	0.00	0.00	19,463.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0373 NBranch	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,334.00
BetterRds FY19 application	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,464.00
FEMA DR4330 (July 2017)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEMA DR4356 (Oct 2017)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEMA winter storm (2015)	3,980.47	3,980.47	0.00	0.00
FEMA 4178-3-R (generator)	0.00	0.00	10,490.92	0.00
Muni Rds Grants-in-Aid	0.00	0.00	5,300.00	0.00
Total Grant Revenue	0.00	45,617.17	154,853.92	21,798.00
Grant Expense				
VTrans Class 2 BC 1762	18,241.13	18,416.13	0.00	0.00
VTrans Class 2PO1760	0.00	0.00	15,9073.47	0.00
VTrans Structures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0026 Inventory	4,500.00	4,495.08	0.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0168	6,615.00	6,311.40	0.00	0.00
BetterRoads BR0372 Lincoln	0.00	0.00	24,328.00	0.00
BetterRds BR0373 NBranch	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,667.50
BetterRds FY19 application	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,580.00
FEMA 4178-3-R (generator)	0.00	0.00	13,987.89	0.00
Muni Rds Grants-in-Aid	0.00	0.00	6,625.00	0.00
Total Grant Expense	29,356.13	29,222.61	204,014.36	2,7247.50
The 2017 FEMA events do not yet have funds committed.				
Telling & Associates, CPA APC audited the Town's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2017. The audit report is available at the Town Office. It shows an increase in town assets and decrease in liabilities.				

Statement of Town Indebtedness

Vermont Bond Bank 2010-2019 (for 2008 flood expenses) 275,000 at net 3.047251% interest

	Payment Date	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Payment Due	Payment Made
Loan Amount	7/21/09	275,000.00				
	11/15/09		1.391%	2,605.02	2,605.02	
	5/15/10			3,606.95		0.00
	11/15/10	30,000.00	1.391%	3,606.95	37,213.90	37,213.90
	5/15/11			3,398.32		0.00
	11/15/11	30,000.00	1.691%	3,398.32	36,796.64	36,796.64
	5/15/12			3,144.69		0.00
	11/15/12	30,000.00	1.801%	3,144.69	36,289.38	36,289.38
	5/15/13			2,874.56		0.00
	11/15/13	30,000.00	2.201%	2,874.56	35,749.12	35,749.12
	5/15/14			2,544.43		0.00
	11/15/14	30,000.00	2.651%	2,544.43	35,088.86	32,544.33
	5/15/15			2,146.80		0.00
	11/15/15	25,000.00	2.931%	2,146.80	27,147.00	27,147.00
	5/15/16			1,780.44		0.00
	11/15/16	25,000.00	3.201%	1,780.44	28,560.88	26,707.42
	5/15/17			1,380.33		1,380.33
	11/01/17	25,000.00	3.491%	1,323.99	26,323.99	26,323.99
	5/15/18			943.97		0.00
	11/01/18	25,000.00	3.691%	943.97	26,887.94	0.00
	5/15/19			482.61		0.00
	11/01/19	25,000.00	3.861%	482.61	25,965.22	0.00
	Totals	275,000.00		47,211.22	320,064.62	260,152.11

Financial and Tax Reports

Account Balances

Account Balances June 30, 2017

Intermediate Account (includes General Fund & Highway Fund)	156,174.71
Checking	3,062.77
Major Projects Fund	159,842.02
Reappraisal Fund	22,760.52
Town Building Fund	30,163.63

Statement of Taxes

Tax Calculation for Year Ending June 30, 2017

Property Tax Rates	Tax Rate	Grand List	Total Raised
Non-Residential Education	1.6424	247,889.00	407,132.86
Homestead Education	1.9281	380,757.00	734,137.56
Local voted exemption	0.0079	628,646.00	4,966.31
Highway Fund	0.1974	628,646.00	124,094.70
General Fund	0.2632	628,646.00	165,459.70
Total municipal rate	0.4685		
Total non-residential rate	2.1109		
Total homestead rate	2.3966		
Total education tax			1,141,270.42
Total municipal tax			294,520.71
Total Tax:			1,435,791.13

Preliminary Tax Calculation for Year Ending June 30, 2018

Property Tax Rates	Tax Rate	Grand List	Total Raised
Non-Residential Education	1.7197	270,106.00	464,501.27
Homestead Education	1.7832	366,712.00	653,920.83
Local voted exemption	0.0097	636,818.00	6,177.16
Highway Fund	0.2106	636,818.00	134,113.87
General Fund	0.3315	636,818.00	211,105.20
Total municipal rate	0.5518		
Total non-residential rate	2.2715		
Total homestead rate	2.335		
Total education tax			1,118,422.10
Total municipal tax			351,396.23
Total Tax:			1,469,818.33

The total may change for June 30th after a final education tax calculation.

Delinquent Tax Report

As of June 30, 2017, delinquent tax was owed from the following property owners.

Joseph Charest/Carolyn Malzac
Estate of Alice Clark
Francis Jr. & Shyla Clark
Daniel Coughlan
Peter Manning
Raymond Paczkowski, Jr.
Ian, Brian, John Sr. Peck
Pamela Randall
Pamela Ryan
Stanley Stahl
James Thompson
Eugene Warner

Total FY17 tax due: \$17, 917

As of February 5, 2018, delinquent tax is owed from the following property owners.

David Bralow
Joseph Charest/Carolyn Malzac
Daniel Coughlan
Lee Herringshaw
Harris Larocque Trust
Peter Manning
Raymond Paczkowski, Jr
Ian, Brian, John Sr. Peck
Pamela Randall
Pamela Ryan
Stanley Stahl
Ronald Stevers
James Thompson

Total tax due FY17 + FY 18:
\$37,655.78

Report from the Town Office

Highlights of the year included cleaning out upstairs storage spaces and starting to use the 2nd floor; indexing, digitizing and organizing survey plats; moving documents and our land records, grand list, and accounting systems to “the cloud”; work on grants with over \$100,000 in grant awards; and two FEMA storm events. The Hazard Mitigation Program grant for a back-up generator for the town buildings was completed in time to keep us operating through the October storm. We participated in several training sessions and webinars related to the accounting and other programs.

The Town Meeting Warning includes questions about changing the clerk and treasurer positions from elected to appointed. Until this year a town charter that allowed this change was required. Legislation passed in 2017 eliminated the need for a charter to approve that the legislative body appoint these positions. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) believes that many towns will vote for the appointed option. Of 191 Vermont towns that responded to a 2017 VLCT survey prior to this change, 14 had appointed clerks and 23 had appointed treasurers. Addison County towns reporting appointed clerks and treasurers were Bridport, Pantton, Vergennes, and Weybridge. Salisbury’s treasurer is appointed.

Voting: Voters may access a “My Voter Page” at <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us> for information about absentee ballots, poll locations and hours and more. If you are not a voter and wish to register, you may do so online at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us> or at the town office. After only one election in 2017, there are three in 2018 – town meeting, an Aug. 14th primary and a Nov. 6th general election. All are in the Community House with polls open from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Voter Participation

Town Meeting			State & Federal Elections		
Year	Total Voters	Voted	Election	Total Voters	Voted
2018	409		General 2016	429	313 (73%)
2017	415	119 (29%)	State Primary	419	128 (31%)
2016	406	216 (53%)	Pres Primary	406	216 (53%)
2015	424	118 (28%)	General 2014	458	245 (53%)
2014	456	135 (30%)	Primary 2014	455	69 (15%)
2013	460	143 (31%)	General 2012	472	337 (71%)
2012	450	153 (34%)	Primary 2012	454	96 (21%)
2011	447	116 (26%)	General 2010	451	291 (65%)
2010	446	125 (28%)	Primary 2010	447	167 (37%)

Land Records	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Property Transfers	44	36	35	34	31	18
# Pages Recorded	589	635	685	409	697	641

Vital Records	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Births	6	6	9	5	2	7
Marriages	4	6	4	1	2	2
Deaths	4	5	5	5	6	4

Vital records changes: As of July 1, 2018, birth and death records will be in a statewide vital records system. Clerks will print records from the statewide system, not from town records.

Dogs: Licensing is required by Vermont law. License fees are \$9 for neutered/spayed dogs and \$13 for non-neutered/non-spayed if paid by April 1. A portion of the fee pays for rabies control programs. In 2017, 108 dogs were licensed. **Please license your dog before we file the annual “owner of unlicensed dog list” with the selectboard!**

Taxes: Please note the tax due date on the Warning for 2018 – **taxes due November 1, 2018.**

Alison Joseph Dickinson, Town Clerk and Selectboard Administrator

Board of Listers Report

Grand List: The grand list shows property ownership and assessed value as of April 1. Assessment is based on our last town-wide reappraisal year, 2011. The 2017 grand list increased \$817,200 from 2016. Values for 27 properties changed due to construction, damage, or demolition.

CLA and COD: The common level of appraisal (CLA) is the ratio of the grand list value to an “equalized” 100% value determined by the State’s Division of Property Valuation and Review. As of December 2017, the CLA is 89.2%, down from 89.26% for 2016. This means that according to the state’s study, property assessed values are about 11% below market value. The coefficient of dispersion (COD) is a measure of how fairly property tax is distributed. The December 2017 COD is 9.53%, considered a good number and slightly up from 9.47% in 2016. Both the CLA and COD are calculated from a review of three years of sales data.

Current Use exemptions: Thirty-six owners are enrolled in the Current Use Appraisal Program. Owners saved \$134,162 in municipal and education property tax on 3,346 enrolled acres.

Homestead Declarations: Vermont requires residents to file a homestead declaration by April 15th every year. The declaration determines property tax adjustment credit and classification for portions of a homestead used for business or rental use.

2017 Homestead Property Tax Reduction Information

Number of homesteads:	178
Number of adjustments:	125
Adjustment coverage:	68.7% (% of homesteads receiving adjustment)
Average education tax adjustment:	\$1,509

Those with incomes below \$47,000 receive adjustments for education *and* municipal tax, called a circuit breaker or additional adjustment.

Number of circuit breaker recipients:	37
Average circuit breaker adjustment:	\$366

The table below shows 3 years of sales data, some of which is used to determine the CLA:

Location	Description	Month	Sale Price	Town Grand List Value
1815 Route 125	1 acre	Feb-17	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 35,800.00
450 County Crossroad	1.5 ac & house	Mar-17	\$ 167,000.00	\$ 144,600.00
Natural Turnpike	2.2 acres	Jun-17	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
702 Maiden Lane	0.7 ac & house	Jul-17	\$ 59,900.00	\$ 58,200.00
947 Natural Turnpike	1 ac & house	Jul-17	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 221,000.00
2000 Chandler Hill Rd	11 ac & camp	Jul-17	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 56,600.00
28 Fire Brook Rd	20.37 ac & house	Jul-17	\$ 294,000.00	\$ 361,500.00
639 Robbins Crossroad	3.5 ac & house	Aug-17	\$ 340,000.00	\$ 291,300.00
1062 N Branch Rd	4.1 ac & house	Aug-17	\$ 305,000.00	\$ 274,100.00
1049 Lincoln Rd	5.5 ac & house	Aug-17	\$ 223,125.00	\$ 227,700.00
9 Lincoln Rd	0.3 ac & house	Aug-17	\$ 163,000.00	\$ 165,500.00
344 Hemlock Lane	10 ac & camp	Sep-17	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 39,000.00
947 Lincoln Rd	5.6 ac & camp	Sep-17	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 53,600.00
847 N Branch Rd	3.7 ac & MH	Sep-17	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
1411 Rte 125	0.3 ac & house	Sep-17	\$ 178,000.00	\$ 156,500.00

Location	Description	Month	Sale Price	Town Grand List Value
1426 Natural Turnpike	5.2 ac & camp	Oct-17	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 67,400.00
471 Robbins Crossroad	10.9 ac & house	Nov-17	\$ 292,000.00	\$ 283,800.00
N Branch Rd	23.8 acres	Nov-17	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 73,900.00
2124 Route 125	3.64 ac & house	Nov-17	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 182,700.00
701 Barrows Rd	10.1 ac & camp	Dec-17	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 49,800.00
301 Dugway Rd	10 acres	Dec-17	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 45,500.00
55 Alder Brook Road	24 ac & camp	Jan-16	\$ 50,800.00	\$ 50,800.00
4120 Lincoln Road	10.1 ac & dwelling	Apr-16	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 169,400.00
277 Robbins Crossroad	12.1 ac & house	Apr-16	\$ 127,500.00	\$ 198,600.00
320 Old Town Road	10.6 ac & house	Jun-16	\$ 320,000.00	\$ 324,600.00
301 Robbins Crossroad	1 ac & house	Jun-16	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 177,200.00
1078 Natural Turnpike	1 ac & house	Jul-16	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 150,500.00
1583 VT Route 125	0.42 ac & house	Aug-16	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 110,700.00
150 Wimett Lane	5 ac & house	Oct-16	\$ 278,000.00	\$ 215,600.00
1409 Lincoln Road	7.38 ac & house	Dec-16	\$ 512,500.00	\$ 388,400.00
113 Murray Lane	1.45 ac & house	Jan-15	\$ 163,000.00	\$ 143,400.00
277 Robbins Crossroad	12.1 ac & house	Feb-15	\$ 205,061.00	\$ 345,500.00
189 Pearl Lee Road	1 ac & house	May-15	\$ 87,500.00	\$ 73,700.00
1503 Natural Turnpike	8.2 ac & house	Jul-15	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 162,500.00
1090 Peddlers Bridge	7.3 ac & house	Jul-15	\$ 280,000.00	\$ 291,100.00
220 Lincoln Road	2 ac & house	Aug-15	\$ 312,500.00	\$ 276,700.00
1776 Alder Brook Road	104 ac & house	Oct-15	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 444,800.00
1361 Route 125	1.12 ac & house	Oct-15	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 167,600.00
808 Peddlers Bridge Road	14 ac & house	Nov-15	\$ 420,000.00	\$ 365,400.00
405 Eagles Nest Road	10.5 ac & camp	Nov-15	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 42,700.00
21 Murray Lane	2.58 ac & house	Dec-15	\$ 185,000.00	\$ 184,300.00
1238 North Branch Road	20.3 ac & house	Dec-15	\$ 473,000.00	\$ 372,300.00
847 North Branch Road	3.7 ac & MH	Dec-15	\$ 104,000.00	\$ 90,000.00

Key: Location: street address. If there is no street number, there is no building.

Grand List Value: the property value in the town grand list as of April 1 of that year.

Board of Listers

Alison Joseph, Beth Eliason, Erik Eriksen

(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	113	19,159,600	14,880,600	4,279,000	19,159,600
Residential II R2	124	34,850,700	24,218,600	10,632,100	34,850,700
Mobile Homes-U MHU	1	3,000	0	3,000	3,000
Mobile Homes-L MHL	12	980,000	446,000	534,000	980,000
Seasonal I S1	18	968,100	0	968,100	968,100
Seasonal II S2	27	2,416,900	0	2,416,900	2,416,900
Commercial C	20	3,070,000	372,600	2,697,400	3,070,000
Commercial Apts CA	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial I	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities-E UE	1	948,300	0	948,300	948,300
Utilities-O UO	0	0	0	0	0
Farm F	0	0	0	0	0
Other O	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland W	15	3,120,800	0	3,120,800	3,120,800
Miscellaneous M	67	3,525,900	0	3,525,900	3,525,900
TOTAL LISTED REAL	398	69,043,300	39,917,800	29,125,500	69,043,300
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		69,043,300	39,917,800	29,125,500	69,043,300
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	1/1	10,000	10,000	0	10,000
Veterans >10K		30,000			
Total Veterans		40,000	10,000	0	10,000
P.P. Contracts	0	0			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv (voted)	1/1	267,100			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total Contracts	1/1	267,100	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	36/36	5,871,600	1,802,100	4,069,500	5,871,600
Special Exemptions	0		0	0	0
Partial Statutory	0/0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Exemptions		6,178,700	1,812,100	4,069,500	5,881,600
Total Exemptions		6,178,700	1,812,100	4,069,500	5,881,600
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		628,646.00			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			381,057.00	250,560.00	631,617.00
NON-TAX	25 NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411				

(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	112	19,255,300	14,825,000	4,430,300	19,255,300
Residential II R2	124	35,367,500	22,642,400	12,725,100	35,367,500
Mobile Homes-U MHU	1	72,900	0	72,900	72,900
Mobile Homes-L MHL	13	1,036,100	565,800	470,300	1,036,100
Seasonal I S1	18	1,089,000	23,100	1,065,900	1,089,000
Seasonal II S2	27	2,416,900	0	2,416,900	2,416,900
Commercial C	20	3,059,400	372,600	2,686,800	3,059,400
Commercial Apts CA	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial I	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities-E UE	1	955,300	0	955,300	955,300
Utilities-O UO	0	0	0	0	0
Farm F	0	0	0	0	0
Other O	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland W	14	3,030,000	0	3,030,000	3,030,000
Miscellaneous M	69	3,665,000	0	3,665,000	3,665,000
TOTAL LISTED REAL	399	69,947,400	38,428,900	31,518,500	69,947,400
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		69,947,400	38,428,900	31,518,500	69,947,400
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	3/3	30,000	20,000	10,000	30,000
Veterans >10K		90,000			
Total Veterans		120,000	20,000	10,000	30,000
P.P. Contracts	0	0			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv (voted)	1/1	267,100			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total Contracts	1/1	267,100	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	36/36	5,878,500	1,893,900	3,984,600	5,878,500
Special Exemptions	0		0	0	0
Partial Statutory	0/0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Exemptions		6,265,600	1,913,900	3,994,600	5,908,500
Total Exemptions		6,265,600	1,913,900	3,994,600	5,908,500
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		636,818.00			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			365,150.00	275,239.00	640,389.00
NON-TAX	25 NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411				

Cemetery Commission Report

Funds approved by Ripton residents in March 2017 are allocated to Galvin Cemetery boundary fencing that will be installed by Middlebury Fence when the snow recedes. Deeds and cemetery records have been located and restored into town records for many of the plots sold between the mid- 1970's to 2000's for the Cook Cemetery. The deeds help to detail the actual layout and burials at Cook Cemetery and will help enhance the 2014 survey map. A dedicated group of volunteers and Commission members, led by David Lacey, again took on the daunting task of cleaning and preserving historic monuments in Cook and Galvin cemeteries. Commissioner Carole Cummings is making progress in mapping the historic burials in Cook Cemetery which is the only historic section where detailed burial records did not exist. Ripton had two burials this year and sold three plots in the Cook Cemetery.

The Commission is asking Ripton residents for your support in the 2018/19 fiscal year to continue the work of operating, restoring and improving Ripton's Town Cemeteries. Requested funds will pay for tree removal, trimming, landscaping and mowing, as well as work on monuments throughout the next fiscal year.

The Ripton Cemetery Commission is a town entity established in 2014 to administer Ripton's public cemeteries: Cook, Galvin, Gee & Cushman. The Commission meets every first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Town Office. The public is welcome to attend. Members are Carole Cummings, Marlene Thompson, Bonnie Swan and Elizabeth Walker. The fifth seat is open for voting on Election Day. The Commission welcomes volunteers to help clean monuments and clear overgrown shrubs and plantings throughout the year.

Elizabeth Walker, Chairperson

Cemetery Commission Budget

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-17	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Fund balance	5,272.00	44.42	1,935.00	500.00
Donations	1,000.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
Plots	1,000.00	1,600.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
Town Payments	11,000.00	11,000.00	13,000.00	7,000.00
Total Assets	18,272.00	12,644.42	16,935.00	8,500.00
Dues/Admin	120.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
Stipends	1,300.00	0.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
Sexton & Chair additional stipend	1,000.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Mowing	2,000.00	1,450.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Tree & Brush cutting & removal	1,000.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Trash & compost containment	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
Fencing	0.00	0.00	7,500.00	0.00
Repair	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Monument Clean/equip	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Survey & Site Design	10,820.00	2,929.00	2,000.00	0.00
Development-Galvin	0.00	14,361.18	0.00	1,000.00
Landscaping - Galvin	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expense	16,890.00	18,740.18	15,750.00	8,100.00

*FY17 Deficit is covered in FY18 from Cemetery Association assets

Volunteer Fire and First Response Department Report

We are in the process of updating some older equipment. The hydrant at a pond on Fire Brook Road and the thermal imaging camera are the first two items. We are applying for grants to help with both.

For the Fire Brook Road hydrant, a SCUBA diver will trace the piping to see if it clogged, settled to the bottom, needs repair or a total redoing. Also, with other hydrants in mind, there is an outfit that puts them on bridges. There is one installed in Vermont that the state dry hydrant program group is monitoring. If they think it works well, it will become available under their grant program, and we will apply for one.

The thermal imaging camera was purchased with a grant in 2003 for \$17,500. The lifespan for this camera is over as we purchased the last two batteries available for it a few years ago. We applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant to purchase a new camera. Its cost is less than half of the original, and much more convenient to use.

We thank you for your support. Remember, the RVFD open house cookout is the last Saturday in July. We hope to see you there.

Erik Eriksen, Chief

Assistant Chief: Chris Pike

Captains: Ceredwyn Alexander, Jay Harrington, Will Mathis

Lieutenants: Ross Elliot, Mark Nelson, Alison Joseph (Admin)

Members: Justin Allen, Jake Coddling, Ron Dragon, Ted Dunakin, Marty Kulczyk, Erica Mathis, Reid Peck, Billy Sneed, Dorothy Gelinias (Dispatch)

Activity Report	# Calls	Hours
Medical calls	22	22
Fire calls	19	19
Motor vehicle accidents	8	67
Medical training		185
Fire training		404
Meetings		197
Community Service		238
Total emergency or assistance calls	49	
Total hours (excluding paperwork, purchasing)		1,132

Account Balances June 30, 2017		
Checking		4,771.62
Savings		14,764.66
Balance checking + savings	Total	19,536.28
Vehicle Replacement Fund		18,061.81

RVFD/TOWN PICNIC LAST SATURDAY IN JULY THIS YEAR JULY 28, 2018 AT NOON

2017 Vehicle & Major Equipment Inventory	
Pumper. 1986. KME/International	Ladders. 1-roof, 2-24', 1-8', 1-attic
Tanker. 2005. Freightliner	Chainsaw. Jonsered
Pumper. 1988. FMC with Hale pump	Fan, positive pressure. SuperVac Fan, ventilation. GE
First-Response ambulance. 1998. Ford	Thermal Imaging Camera. Cairns Viper
Pump, portable. Hale HPX400	CO monitors – 2
Pump, portable. Hale HP300	Generator. Honda (2)
Portable pond. 1,000 gallon	Air pump. Porter Cable
Portable pond. 2,000 gallon	Compressor. Porter Cable, 3 hp
Generator & light, portable	Defibrillator. Medtronic Lifepak 500
Generator, station. Honda	Defibrillator. 2 Medtronic Lifepak 1000
Generator, portable. Generac	Defibrillator. Laerdal Heartstart

RVFD BUDGET REPORT

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY-2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
Town Payment	36,000.00	36,000.00	40,000.00	41,000.00
Donations/Grants	2,450.00	1,492.00	1,900.00	3,500.00
Prior year carry over				1,140.00
Interest on Savings	5.00	5.74	5.00	5.00
Interest on Vehicle Replacement	5.00	4.87	5.00	5.00
Total Revenue	38,460.00	37,502.61	41,910.00	45,650.00
Gear/Tools/Equipment	7,000.00	11,149.32	11,000.00	11,000.00
Vehicle Repair/Main	7,000.00	2,456.25	5,000.00	5,000.00
Fuel	1,000.00	320.97	1,000.00	600.00
Admin	2,250.00	1,964.58	1,200.00	2,000.00
Insurance	1,800.00	3,995.50	3,860.00	4,000.00
Training	3,000.00	1,341.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Computer & Internet	1,000.00	698.48	1,000.00	1,000.00
Dispatch	2,400.00	3,348.55	2,000.00	2,500.00
Electricity	1,200.00	1,153.33	1,200.00	1,200.00
Telephone	1,000.00	1,067.11	1,000.00	1,100.00
Heat/Propane	4,200.00	1,129.78	5,000.00	3,000.00
Furniture & Equipment	400.00	975.77	200.00	500.00
Hydrants	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
Maintenance	150.00	498.58	200.00	500.00
Plowing	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Operating Budget	33,150.00	30,849.22	36,410.00	40,150.00
Vehicle Replacement Fund	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00
Total Expense	38,650.00	36,349.22	41,910.00	45,650.00
New Vehicle Expense	0.00	22,150.00	0.00	0.00
Old Vehicle Sale Revenue	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00

Zoning Administrator's Report

SUMMARY OF PERMIT ACTIVITY -

Year 2017

New dwellings	
Permanent/seasonal houses	0
Camps	0
Apartments/accessory dwellings.....	0
Mobile homes.....	0
Replacements	1
Renovations/additions.....	4
Accessory outbuildings/structures	6
Exempt agricultural outbuildings.....	0
Access drives/roads/work in right-of-way	1
Ponds/dams/other land development	0
Renewable resource uses (wind turbines, solar panels).....	2
Temporary uses	0
Signs	0
Subdivisions	
Single-lot.....	1
Multiple lot.....	0
Boundary adjustments.....	1
Planned unit developments (PUDs).....	0
Renewals of permit	0
Conditional uses.....	1
Certificates of occupancy	8
Verifications of compliance.....	6
Notices of Violation.....	2
Hearing applications	
Zoning Board of Adjustment	
Conditional use	1
Site Plan Reviews	1
Variances/Waivers	0
Appeals	0
Planning Commission	
Subdivisions/PUDs	2
Site plan reviews	1
Historic District Commission	
Historic District developments	4

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan C. Heppell,
Zoning Officer

Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Historic District Commission Report

The Ripton Planning Commission (RPC) provides land use planning for the Town. The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) considers conditional and non-conforming use applications, rules on applications for variances and waivers from the Unified Development Bylaw, and serves as an appeal body for decisions by the Zoning Administrator. The Historic District Commission (HDC) provides guidance on external changes to properties in the Historic District. The Town Plan, Unified Development Bylaw, and state statutes guide the decisions of these commissions.

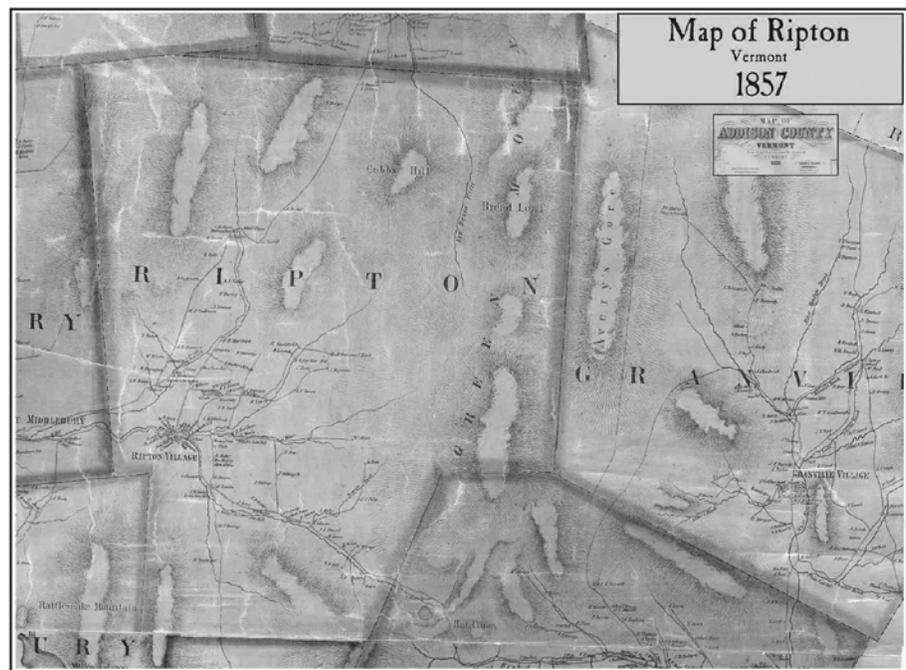
In February the RPC approved a boundary adjustment, enabling the owner to sell one parcel with a dwelling and retain three additional undeveloped parcels. In March the RPC approved moving a boundary to enable a barn to conform to setback requirements and provided a variance to reverse an erroneous zoning district change between the 2004 Land Use and Property Boundary Map and the map of the same area in 2010 and 2015. In June, the RPC approved a subdivision of the Ripton Hollow School District into a 2-acre parcel for the Ripton Fire Department and a 15-acre parcel for the school, to be under control of the Addison Central School District.

In July the HDC approved a sign in the Historic District for the Ripton Community Church. The RPC agreed to renewal of Middlebury College's use of Nordic ski trails on U.S. Forest Service land in Ripton for 10 more years. In August the RPC approved a site plan that included replacement of a carport with a garage. In September the HDC approved partial replacement of a roof in the Historic District. In October the RPC, ZBA and HDC approved rooftop solar panels on a house in the Historic District. The HDC considered approval of a stone planter in the Historic District, finally granted in December following an improperly warned hearing. In December the RPC approved a site plan for construction of 190 feet of riprap armoring of embankment of the Middlebury River. The ZBA approved the armoring with certain conditions. The HDC required dark-colored stone for the riprap and planting of grasses and shrubs on the armoring. The project is contingent upon state permits.

The RPC made progress revising the Unified Development Bylaw, begun early in 2016. The Unified Development Bylaw was approved by the Selectboard in 2012 and revised in 2013.

The RPC solicited help from the Ripton Conservation Commission and the Ripton Energy Committee in working on municipal energy plans in support of Act 174. The Addison County Regional Planning Commission selected Ripton as one of three towns to work with county staff preparing for a revised town energy plan.

Warren King, Chair



Energy Coordinator's Report

The Ripton Energy Assistance Program (REAP) provides firewood or payments for fuel oil, kerosene or propane for households that qualify under criteria provided by HOPE, with which REAP has a collaborative arrangement. The mild winter of 2016-2017 resulted in one household's request for firewood. Volunteers are needed from time to time to cut, split and stack firewood at the REAP woodshed beside the Ripton Fire Station. Contact Mac Cox at 388-7820 or millardcox@gmail.com if you know of someone in need of firewood or help paying for fuel oil, kerosene or propane.

The June 2016 Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan calls for an ambitious Vermont target of 90 percent renewable energy use by 2050. Incoming Governor Scott reconfirmed this target. Act 174, passed in 2016, provides standards and guidelines for regional and municipal energy planning that are consistent with the state goals of the Comprehensive Energy Plan. In March 2017, Ripton was accepted as one of three Addison County towns to work with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) staff to draft a replacement energy plan that conforms with ACRPC's and Vermont's plans. A first draft is in preparation and should be in the hands of the Energy Committee in January 2017.

Warren King

Conservation Commission Report

Highlights of 2017 activities for the Ripton Conservation Commission:

Beaver Meadows Wetland Reclassification – The Ripton Conservation Commission submitted a Petition to have the Beaver Meadows Wetland Complex classified as a Class I Wetland. The Beaver Meadow wetland complex is located within the towns of Ripton and Bristol wholly within the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF). It is owned and managed by the U.S. forest Service; therefore, open to the public. The Beaver Meadows Wetland Complex meets the criteria for reclassification from a Class II wetland to a Class I wetland and meets the sub-criteria outlined for a Class I wetland including existing in an intact, un-fragmented landscape and containing rare, threatened or endangered species. The Ripton Conservation Commission met with the Bristol Conservation Commission and held a public meeting in Ripton to provide information and to get public input.

Abbey Pond Hike – In July, the Ripton Conservation Commission and the Vermont Sierra Club hosted an educational hike to Abbey Pond. Twenty people participated in the hike which was led by Zapata Courage, a member of the Ripton Conservation Commission and a Vermont District Wetlands Ecologist. During the hike, several edible plants were identified and sampled, and the group learned about the overall functions and values of wetlands.

Invasive Species – The USFS and the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps worked to clear Chervil and Narrow Leaf Bitter Cress along Forest Road 54. A flyer describing Wild Parsnip and how to remove it was distributed at the recycling shed and posted on town bulletin boards.

Vermont Conservation Commissions Summit – Members of the Ripton Conservation Commission attended the Vermont Conservation Commissions Summit. During the summit they learned about the continuing problem of forest fragmentation across the state, opportunities to work with other conservation commissions on issues that cross town boundaries, climate smart conservation planning, and about wetlands now and in the future.

Mark Nelson, Chair

Recycling Report

Recycling and trash drop-off is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month at the Town Shed on Peddlers Bridge Road. Recycling drop-off is free, but a contribution of \$3 is encouraged to help offset the cost of hauling and sorting. Trash disposal is \$3-5 per bag depending on weight. Trash drop-off ends at 11:45 a.m. Please take advantage of these services. Remember: burning household waste in burn barrels is illegal. The fumes pose a serious danger to downwind neighbors. Violators are subject to a fine.

We accept leaf and yard waste including grass clippings and leaves but not branches or twigs larger around than a pencil. The charge for accepting leaf and yard waste is \$5 per bag. Clean wood (branches larger than 1 inch, stumps, roots, clean lumber) is accepted at the transfer station.

More residents are using the recycling center during hours when it is not officially open for business, which accounts for an apparent decline in use, at least in part. There has been a slight drop in the amount of materials recycled. If you wish to drop off materials when the center is not open, please obtain the recycling coordinator's approval beforehand. (Warren King 388-4082)

Under assumptions similar to those made since 1994, Ripton's total waste stream in 2017 was 216.7 tons, an increase from 210.7 tons in 2016. Recyclables comprised 37.8 percent of the total, slightly below 2016's amount, an unsatisfactory percentage.

Ripton's residents support recycling through their use of the service and their willingness to volunteer three hours every three years to keep it running. Contact the Town Clerk (388-2266) or the recycling coordinator (388-4082) to help.

Recycling Committee

Millard Cox Barry King Warren King Mark Nelson Steve Zwicky

Green Up Day

In 2018 Green Up Day is Saturday, May 5. Contact Steve Zwicky (388-2301) or Warren King (388-4082) to find out how you can participate.



Green Up Day
First Saturday in May ~ May 5, 2018 ~ 48 Years



OK TO RECYCLE

Clean glass bottles and jars, no caps
Clean metal food or beverage containers, preferably flattened, labels OK
Clean aluminum foil, pie and baking tins
Empty aerosol cans, no paint, cleaners or auto products
Clean plastic containers or lids 2” or larger with a triangular recycling symbol (any number 1-7)
Mixed paper: newspaper, magazines, catalogs, boxboard, paperback and telephone books, white or colored paper, junk mail, shredded paper, construction paper, paper towel and toilet paper rolls, paper bags, paper-lined grain sacks, wrapping paper (no foil paper or ribbon).
Molded plastic packaging (blisterpak)

Flattened corrugated cardboard may be placed in the brown dumpster outside the shed

COLLECTED ELSEWHERE IN THE RECYCLING SHED

Household batteries: alkaline, lithium, nickel-cadmium, nickel metal hydride, sealed lead acid and button.
Alkaline batteries are not hazardous waste but should be brought to the Town Shed for transport to the Middlebury Transfer Station to confirm identification.
Redeemable cans and bottles (proceeds go to Friends of the Ripton School)
Clean brown paper bags, whole cardboard egg cartons, soft cover books
Styrofoam packing peanuts (no blocks, chunks or sheets)
Scrap metal of all shapes and sizes

DO NOT RECYCLE

Household garbage, toys, laundry baskets, housewares
Any container with food residue
Bottle and jar caps smaller than 2”
Sheet glass, dishware, goblets and drinking glasses, Pyrex, light bulbs
Plastic film of any kind including plastic shopping bags and plastic lined grain sacks
Paper towels or tissues, paper plates or cups
Plastic or wax coated paper milk, juice or drink boxes
Carbon or metallized paper or ribbon
Detergent boxes
Fluorescent bulbs, including compact fluorescents
Spiral or three ring notebooks
Stickers or sticky backed material

TAKE TO ADDISON COUNTY TRANSFER STATION

Light bulbs
Styrofoam or bubble wrap
Electronics or computers
Car batteries
Hazardous waste (poisons, oil, paint, antifreeze, etc.)
Building materials
Hard cover books
Motor Oil

Ripton Community Coffee House Report

The Ripton Community Coffee House is a nonprofit concert series held at the Ripton Community House at 7:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month (except August). It has been going since May 1995. Concerts start with an open mic set followed by the featured performer. Everything is over before 10:30.

We hosted only ten concerts in 2017 instead of our usual eleven. Our July concert was canceled due to flooding which caused Route 125 to be partially closed. The concerts we did have had an average attendance of more than 125 people. Five of our featured acts included members from Vermont and one of them featured a recent addition to our Ripton community, mandolinist Matt Flinner. We had thirty-one open mic performances, including some from Ripton. We continue to encourage anyone interested in performing for the open mic to sign up. We have four available twelve-minute open mic slots at each concert. You only need twelve minutes of talent, and it might lead to unexpected fame and fortune!

Our organization is completely volunteer-run. The refreshment sales at our concerts are fundraisers for nonprofit organizations. In 2017, the beneficiaries were the Friends of the Ripton School (twice), Friends of the New Haven Library (twice), Otter Creek Daycare, Eagle Condor Humanitarian Aid, Showing Up for Racial Justice and the Ripton Community Coffee House. If you are interested in running the refreshment sales to make money for your nonprofit organization, please contact Andrea Chesman at 388-9782.

If you haven't been to the coffeehouse or haven't been for a while, please come by for a friendly all-ages evening and hear some great music. Our website is www.rcch.org.

Richard Ruane

Historical Society Report

Ripton Historical Society was re-established in April 2014 and currently has about 15 members. Monthly meetings are held in members' homes, the school, Town Office or at the Ripton Community Church. RHS seeks to collect, preserve, and restore Ripton's diverse history and to present that history to the community. Members also seek out and enjoy different aspects of our regional and Vermont history.

In 2017, Ripton Historical Society attended the Vermont Historical Society's Freedom & Unity exhibit at the Pavilion building in Montpelier. Members met locally with Ramona Morse & Sadie Stowe to gather the history of Pearl Lee. RHS also visited the Bridport and Bristol Historical Societies, and made a presentation to the Salisbury Historical Society, *A Brief History of Ripton*. RHS sponsored a presentation at the Ripton Community Church by Cyndy Bittinger on "*Vermont Women, Out of the Shadows of History*." RHS members traveled to the West Haven, VT, Galick archaeological research site where archaeologists Matt Moriarty, David Lacey and others presented artifacts and findings from this prehistoric Native American site at the southern end of Lake Champlain. RHS participated with volunteers and an archaeologist from the U.S. Forest Service in the restoration of some gravestones at Galvin and Cook Cemeteries. Thanks to the generosity of the Ripton Selectboard, RHS now has space in the Town Office building, to be called Ripton Historical Society Archive. File cabinets, a desk and other items were donated by Chip Stokes to furnish this room. RHS Curator, Patti Gray, acquired acid-free folders, sleeves and boxes to store historical Ripton photographs and documents and consulted the Curator at the Sheldon Museum to establish an archiving protocol for Ripton's historical materials. RHS has initiated a fundraising drive to purchase a dedicated computer and software, scanner, printer, and backup drive to assist in the careful archiving and sharing of Ripton history.

RHS invites anyone interested in Ripton history to attend meetings and join. RHS contact information is Charles Billings, Ripton Historical Society, P.O. Box 140, Ripton, Vermont 05766 (388-1634) or charlsbillings@gmail.com, or <http://riptonhistoricalsociety.org/contact-us/>.

Charles Billings, President

2018 Funding Requests

The following organizations request funds to be voted by ballot March 6, 2018 (see the Warning and sample ballot). Summary information and service to Ripton residents, if known, follows.

Addison Central Teens (ACT): offers a safe, supportive, substance-free, and wholly supervised space for teenagers. **Request: \$1,900.**

Addison County Home Health and Hospice: “to help defray costs for providing medically necessary home health care services to infants, children and adults who are town residents.” **Request: \$750.**

Addison County Parent/Child Center: provides “support and education to families and to assure that our community is one in which all children get off to the right start with the opportunity to grow up healthy, happy, and productive. The Center provides parenting education classes and workshops, community playgroups, home visits, pregnancy prevention programs, job training, academic classes, transportation, and childcare.” Served: 38 Ripton residents. **Request: \$600.**

Addison County Restorative Justice Services: “ACCDCJP provides a community restorative justice response focusing on the “balanced approach” in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the offender.” Programs include: Court Diversion, Youth Substance Abuse Safety, Safe Driving Program, Reparative Panels, Reentry Navigation and Circle of Support and Accountability, and Driving with License Suspended. Ripton service: 5 individuals. **Request: \$170.**

Addison County Riverwatch Collaborative: to support water quality testing in the Middlebury River. **Request: \$400.**

Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR): “Our mission is to enhance the economic, social and environmental health of the region by providing public transportation services that are safe, reliable, accessible and affordable for everyone.” Ripton service: 703 Dial-a-Ride trips for residents and more than 1,658 rides to/from Ripton on the Snow Bowl Shuttle. **Request: \$1,901.**

Age Well: in 2017 “provided services and support that allow seniors to stay independent and remain healthy at home”; programs include Meals on Wheels, community meals, wellness programs, social activities, transportation, and a helpline. **Request: \$750.**

Charter House Coalition: “to support the Community Meals and Emergency Shelter Programs” **Request: \$1,600.**

Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC): provided 15,658 hours of service to Ripton residents in 2017; to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health services to town residents in 2018, **Request: \$1,400.**

Elderly Services: provides programs to help elders live safe and satisfying lives in their homes and communities. Ripton residents received 1,623 hours of care, 690 hot meals, 760 van rides, which cost the agency \$26,130. In 2017 residents participated in the ESI College Lifelong Learning Center, 4 family caregivers received respite. **Request: \$600.**

Green Up Vermont: Vermont’s spring clean-up, May 6th this year. **Request: \$50**

Homeward Bound: “private, open-admission animal shelter with a mission to educate the community and improve the lives of animals, alleviate their suffering, and elevate their status in society.” Programs include education, Pets in Crisis, Pets Eat, Too!, investigations, microchipping, lost and found, Trap-Neuter-Return. Received 1 stray animal and 1 surrendered animal from Ripton. Seven animals were adopted by Ripton residents. **Request: \$750.**

HOPE: “to help defray the costs of providing Ripton residents with heat, housing, food, clothing, and other needs” **Request: \$2,850.**

Hospice Volunteer Services: provides free hospice and bereavement and support services. 2017 Ripton service included 2 hospice or palliative patients for a total of 8 visits and 16 hours of respite or care; invited 3 families to Service of Remembrance; facilitated discussion with MUHS students. Two Ripton residents are active Hospice volunteers. **Request: \$500.**

John Graham Shelter: Provided more than 16,000 bed nights of food, shelter, services and hope to more than 300 people at our shelter; provided rapid rehousing; helped dozens find permanent housing and employment; provided counseling, case management and support services. **Request: \$1,600.**

Middlebury Regional EMS (MREMS): provides ambulance and heavy rescue service. **Request \$1,470.**

NeighborWorks of Western Vermont: promotes safe and affordable housing, focusing on sustainable homeownership. In 2017 the HEAT Squad did an energy audit for 1 Ripton resident. **Request \$300.**

Open Door Clinic: provides access to high quality dental and healthcare, free of charge, to those who are uninsured or under-insured in accordance with 24 VSA § 2691. **Request: \$1,500.**

Otter Creek Child Care Center: supports young children and families in achieving their goals by providing high quality early care and education; served 2 Ripton residents in 2017. **Request: \$1,000** to support tuition assistance.

Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District: furnishes free technical assistance to landowners; programs include workshops, Conservation Field Day, scholarships, Tree Sale, and the Envirothon. **Request: \$48.84,** rounded by selectboard to **\$50.**

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP): volunteer management program for their programs and local non-profit organizations. Service to Ripton residents in 2017 included free income tax return preparation, Bone Builders classes, volunteer drivers, and Days of Caring projects. **Request: \$475.**

Vermont Adult Learning: provides adult education services such as basic skills instruction, GED prep, high school diploma, and English Language Learning. 2017 Ripton service: 1 resident. **Request: \$300.**

WomenSafe: “works toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change.” Programs include: 24-hour hotline, advocacy and outreach services, support groups, supervised visitation and monitored exchange, education. Ripton service: at least 10 residents including parents of at least 10 children exposed to violence. **Request: \$1,250.**

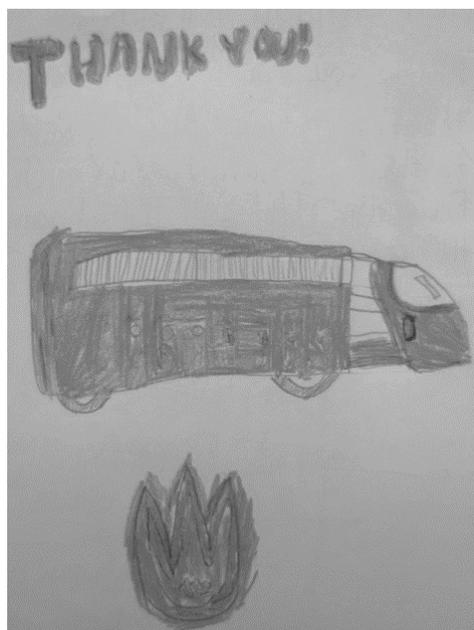


Photo courtesy of Ripton School

Green Mountain National Forest Town Meeting Report

The report that follows is condensed for Ripton. The full report is available upon request.

The employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners and contractors. The support the Forest receives helps to accomplish an extremely robust program of work. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000 acre GMNF. Receiving several million outdoor recreation enthusiast visits annually, these visitors seek enjoyment in a natural setting while providing critical benefit to the local economies. The GMNF is proud to be a part of Vermont and your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of the people -- people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. Below is a summary of what happened in your National Forest throughout the past year:

Land Acquisition: The Forest grew by 378.84 acres through land acquisition. Through this acquisition an additional mile of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT) and Long National Recreational Trail (LT) was protected.

Heritage Program: The Heritage Resources program was presented with a challenge last year when the Forest Archeologist, Tim Watkins, left the Forest to move with his family back to Arizona. Andrew Triplett from the Nantahala National Forest in North has assumed the duties of Forest Archeologist.

Road, Dam, & Facility Construction & Maintenance: In cooperation with federal, state and local governments, private contractors, and non-profit organizations, the GMNF Engineering staff repaired and maintained many roads, bridges, trails, and other facilities throughout the Forest. Some highlights are as follows:

Middlebury Office Complex: **Officials announced in September that after 51 years of operations the Middlebury Ranger District Office would officially close its doors** on Friday, September 29, 2017. The agency has worked to develop a partnership with the Addison County Chamber of Commerce (located at 93 Court Street in Middlebury) so that Forest Service staff can continue to have a presence with available services to the public in the Middlebury area.

Forest Facility Improvements & Maintenance: Completed on-going routine maintenance and repairs of Forest buildings and other infrastructure as well as out-year planning, design, and preparation for facility improvements. Completed an expansion of the Rochester Ranger District Office workshop.

Forest Road Cooperative Aid to Towns: Completed important road improvement and maintenance projects in towns including Goshen, Granville, Hancock and Rochester.

Forest Road Improvement Projects: Improved 5.8 miles of National Forest System roads in towns including Granville, Hancock, Lincoln, Ripton and Rochester. This work included the replacement of culverts, stabilization of embankments, pavement sealing of parking lots, repairing storm damage, and resurfacing of roads.

Forest Road Maintenance: Maintained 82.5 miles of National Forest System roads in towns including Ripton, Rochester, Goshen, Lincoln, and Hancock. This work included grading, ditching, culvert cleaning, mowing and brushing.

Recreation Programs: The following accomplishments highlight 2017 Recreation and Trail Program successes in acknowledgement of the outstanding collaborative effort exhibited between Forest Service employees, partner organizations, volunteers, State and local government representatives, and local businesses. The Forest Service relies on a community of collaboration and wishes to thank all of our partners, including: Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST), Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC), Rochester / Randolph Area Sports Trail Alliance (RASTA), Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA), Green Mountain Club (GMC), Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Vermont Huts Association, Catamount Trail Association (CTA), Counseling Service of Addison County, Middlebury High School Diversified Occupations Program, Moosalamoo Association, Vermont Trail Trotters (VTT), Vermont Horse Council, and many more – including our campground hosts!

The following highlights capture large program accomplishments but represent only a portion of the annual work that is completed to develop, improve and maintain recreational opportunities on the GMNF:

Forest-wide:

- Working in partnership with numerous organizations, funding for projects on the Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts totaled \$103,000 in grant dollars to increase and / or improve recreation opportunities.
- Funding received to improve forest-wide trail and bridge infrastructure resulted in bridge replacements and trail projects on the VAST and CTA trail networks.

Local Efforts:

Hancock: VYCC crews completed improvements to the Texas Falls Nature Loop trail, replacing steps and improving the trail tread. A grant-funded interpretive sign will be installed in the summer of 2018.

Leicester: Improvements at the Silver Lake Campground included the designation of an equestrian site with new infrastructure installed with the support of the Vermont Horse Council. A local host family worked diligently to maintain the campground and assist visitors.

Middlebury: Students and youth from the Counseling Service of Addison County and Middlebury High School Diversified Occupations Program continued to make tread improvements to multiple trail networks, including trails in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area.

Rochester, Chittenden and Goshen: Implementation of the Brandon Gap Backcountry Recreation Area has been completed with the support of dedicated volunteers donating over 1,300 hours of labor. This Recreation Area was created to address the lack of managed opportunities for alpine-oriented backcountry skiing and riding while aiding in the restoration of Natural Forest conditions and attempting to reduce incidents of unregulated cutting.

Ripton: VYCC crews completed minor improvements to the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail. The Forest Service continues to seek funding to replace the boardwalk infrastructure on this accessible trail.

Rochester: A trail network directly connected to the Rochester Ranger District Office is under construction with the support of RASTA volunteers and grant funding. Phase I was completed in the summer of 2017.

Salisbury: Improvements are underway at the Moosalamoo Campground, including renovations to picnic tables and construction of a mountain bike flow trail. VYCC crews completed a relocation of the Rattlesnake Cliffs Trail.

Agreements: The Forest Service continued working with partners in FY 17 through numerous agreements. The VYCC maintained day use areas and trails, removed vegetation in the Brandon Gap backcountry skiing area. The VMBA constructed a mountain bike flow trail and pump track at the Moosalamoo. The CTA and RASTA continued to clear lines for back country skiing at Brandon Gap.

Wilderness: The GMNF continued to implement the national Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP) measures. Wilderness interns hired through the GMC monitored the following: solitude, user created campsites, and outfitters and guides. The interns also inventoried and removed non-native invasive plants, removed blowdowns on trails, removed abandoned flagging in the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness, and removed large unneeded objects in Breadloaf Wilderness.

Botany Program: Staff and volunteers monitored 90 populations of 36 species of rare plants.

As part of the Robinson Integrated Resource Project, staff inventoried approximately 203 acres in the towns of Rochester, Hancock, Chittenden, Stockbridge, and Pittsfield. Nine new rare plant populations were found.

Many small infestations were controlled by staff, contractors, and partner organizations. While these infestations represent only a fraction of known infestations and many more are unmapped, they were chosen because they are in strategic locations or because they are relatively more feasible to control than others. A total of over 200 acres of the following species were controlled in towns including:

- Goshen: Wild chervil on the road to Silver Lake and the Goshen Dam Trail (9.0 acres total)
- Hancock: Wild chervil on FR 39, Texas Falls (6.4 acres total)
- Leicester: Wild chervil on the FR27, the road to Silver Lake (2.5 acres total)
- Ripton / Lincoln: Wild chervil at Steam Mill Clearing, FR233, and FR 54 (50.6 acres total)

Forest Vegetation Management: Below is a list of accomplishments for calendar year 2017:

- Approximately 11,181 CCF of sawtimber and pulpwood volume were sold in support of Vermont's forest products industry and associated employment. Approximately 15% more timber volume was sold in 2017 than the previous year. Annual timber volume sold has increased approximately 60% over the last five years.
- The Forest awarded contracts for timber stand improvement and crop tree release work on 101 acres of young forest in the towns including Ripton.
- Permits were sold for approximately 242 cords of firewood, 552 Christmas trees, 840 lbs. of wild apples, and 600 pounds of wild mushrooms.

Environmental Planning: Forest staff completed 26 site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decisions and analysis documents for multiple resource projects designed to implement the GMNF Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).

Watershed Improvement: Biologists and Technicians monitored fish populations throughout the GMNF in 2017. This monitoring is part of a long-term data collection effort to understand Forest fish populations

Wildlife Habitat Improvement: Wildlife habitat was improved and maintained through the creation and maintenance of early successional habitat important to many species. Nearly 400 acres of permanent upland openings were maintained by prescribed fire, mowing, or mastication in towns including Goshen, Hancock and Ripton.

Wildlife Biologists and Technicians continued work with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department to monitor the populations and habitat requirements of bats in the years following the advent of White Nose Syndrome. Staff also assisted the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department with bat monitoring in Middlebury.

Although Peregrine falcons were removed from the Endangered Species list a few years ago, the species remains on the GMNF Regional Forester Sensitive Species list. Nest sites on the GMNF in Rochester, Salisbury, Stockbridge, and Wallingford continue to be monitored.

In partnership with Forest Service State & Private Forestry, pollinator habitat was assessed in permanent upland openings located in towns including Goshen and Ripton. Our objective is to begin to understand how pollinators use National Forest habitats and which management activities are most beneficial to sustaining populations.

The GMNF staff assisted the Vermont Center for Ecostudies with their long-term forest bird monitoring program. Surveys were conducted twice during the breeding season at sites in Ripton and Peru.

In another partnership with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, GMNF staff has instituted a long-term program to monitor the federally-threatened Canada lynx through the use of camera traps. This program began in response to two confirmed lynx sightings in 2016 near GMNF lands. The goal is to determine if a breeding population occurs on the GMNF while also collecting valuable data on other carnivores. Camera traps were established across the GMNF in towns including Hancock and Ripton.

Soil / Water Monitoring: Best Management Practice (BMP's) monitoring was initiated on two Forest Service activities; permanent opening creation for the Wildlife program and prescribed fire used in the maintenance of permanent openings. The National BMP Program integrates water resources protection into management activities across the landscape. The program is intended to demonstrate compliance with the Clean Water Act, which is required by the EPA and administered by the states, through rules and regulations, including Vermont's AMPs for logging jobs, and Vermont water quality standards.

Forest Soil Disturbance Monitoring was conducted on ten timber sale areas throughout the Forest to estimate forest management effects on the soil resource.

Long-term Ecosystem Monitoring: Between 2008 and 2011, twenty long-term ecosystem monitoring plots (LEMPs) were established on the GMNF in order to measure change in key ecosystem parameters over the next fifty years.

During 2015, a group of collaborators from the RSEN, the VT FPR, and the VMC developed a state-wide network of forest health monitoring plots, building on past and existing forest health monitoring. This partnership led to the inclusion of a total of 12 plots on the GMNF as part of this network, including the towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Ripton, Salisbury, Leicester, Hancock and Rochester. Monitoring at these locations will provide insight into long-term changes occurring in relatively undisturbed forest ecosystems in response to stressors such as atmospheric deposition, climate change, and invasive pests.

Wildfire and Prescribed Fire Activities: Fire management personnel on the GMNF were very active this past season accomplishing eleven prescribed fires while suppressing or assisting in the suppression of three GMNF wildfires. The fire management staff would also like to thank the dedicated firemen and women from the Volunteer and Municipal fire departments that responded to and assisted in the suppression of the wildfires that occurred this past year on the GMNF.

Conservation Education: Smokey Bear was invited to attend the 2017 Addison County Fair and Field Days in Addison, where he challenged passersby to a game of Emerald Ash Borer style bean bag toss. The game was played to raise awareness about Vermont's Don't Move Firewood effort, and to help the public identify the emerald ash borer and the potentially devastating effects that it could have on our Vermont landscape.

Again, thank you for your support of your National Forest. Together, we will continue to maintain and improve this valuable treasure for generations to come. Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM. You can also visit us at our website on-line: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/gmfl>. Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GreenMountainFingerLakesNF/>

Christopher Mattrick

District Ranger, North Half - Rochester & Middlebury Ranger Districts 802-767-4261

State of Vermont
Department of Health
Middlebury District Office
156 South Village Green
Middlebury, VT 05753
HealthVermont.gov

[phone] 802-388-5732
[fax] 802-388-4610
[toll free] 888-253-8804

Agency of Human Services

Vermont Department of Health Report for Addison County

Your local health district office is in Middlebury 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 more than 50% of death in Addison 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 1,005 women and children in Addison County 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.

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In 2017 we responded to 11 cases of infectious disease in Addison County. In 2017, 16,751 doses of vaccine for vaccine-preventable diseases was distributed to healthcare providers in Addison County.

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. The United Way of Addison County is our local Regional Prevention Partner. United Way staff have been working with local law enforcement agencies to increase the number of prescription drug take back locations as well as other proactive efforts to address underage drinking and binge drinking.

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street

Middlebury, VT 05753

www.acrpc.org Phone: 802.388.3141

Fax: 802.388.0038

Annual Report –Year End June 30, 2017

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following technical assistance and planning to the Region during its 2017 fiscal year:

Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping

- Assisted member municipalities creating, adopting and regionally approving their municipal plans.
- Assisted member municipalities creating and adopting local regulations implementing their municipal plan.
- Provided data and mapping products to support on-going municipal planning activities.
- Provided technical assistance to municipal officials concerning municipal government.
- Represented the region in the Act 250 process and at the Public Service Board in Section 248 hearings.

Educational Meetings and Grants

- Hosted educational workshops, Zoning Administrators Roundtables and monthly public meetings on a wide variety of planning topics, including water quality, open meetings and planning essentials.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding.

Emergency Planning

- Worked with Addison County's Emergency Planning Committee and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning efforts.
- Hosted Local Emergency Managers Quick Training to train new Emergency Managers and hosted a Tier II workshop for municipalities and businesses required to report hazardous chemicals.
- Worked with Vermont Emergency Management to exercise local and statewide disaster plans.
- Assisted in development of hazard mitigation plans for the towns of Ferrisburgh, Monkton, Panton, Salisbury, Starksboro, Goshen, New Haven, Shoreham, Ripton, Bristol and Orwell.
- Confirmed ERAF status and assisted communities in attaining compliance.

Energy Planning:

- Assisted three pilot towns, Leicester, Ripton and Weybridge in strengthening their energy plans by adding concrete goals, strategies and policies for solar siting.
- Worked to create the Regional Energy Plan to comply with Act 174, providing more voice to municipal and regional plans in the Section 248 process.

Transportation Planning

- Supported the Addison County Transportation Advisory Committee's regional priorities and studies.
- Supported Addison County Transit Resources by providing leadership and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to produce highway structures inventories of all local roads in the region.
- Assisted Towns with enhancement, park and ride and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for sidewalk construction projects in Middlebury and Weybridge.
- Sponsored town transportation studies, planning and supported municipal capital budget development
- Facilitated Regional Walk/bike council meetings/outreach

Natural Resources Planning

- Actively support the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support forest stewardship resource planning.
- Participated on the Lake Champlain Basin Program technical advisory committee.
- Provided educational outreach regarding the Vermont Clean Water Act and tactical basin planning,
- Performed stormwater planning projects and Vermont Environmental Restoration Program projects

Addison
Lincoln
Salisbury

Bridport
Middlebury
Shoreham

Bristol
Monkton
Starksboro

Cornwall
New Haven
Vergennes

Ferrisburgh
Orwell
Waltham

Goshen
Panton
Weybridge

Leicester
Ripton
Whiting





ACSWMD 2017 Annual Report

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 20 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate from each of the member municipalities. The Board meets on the 3^d Thursday of the month at 7PM at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission Office, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT. The public is invited to attend.

District Mission: To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for: (1) Promoting **waste reduction**; (2) Promoting **pollution prevention**; (3) Maximizing **diversion** of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for **disposal** of remaining wastes.

District Office and Transfer Station

Telephone: (802) 388-2333 **Fax:** (802) 388-0271 **Website:** www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org
E-mail: acswmd@acswmd.org **Transfer Station Hours:** M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM
Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM–4 PM **HazWaste Center Hours:** M-F, 8 AM–2 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off a variety of other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. The **Reuse It or Lose It!** Centers are open for accepting reusable household goods and building materials. A complete list of acceptable items and prices is posted on the District's website.

2017 Highlights: Act 148. The District has devoted most of its resources in 2017 toward public outreach in preparation for expansion of food scrap collection in 2017. District staff spent months gathering data for the annual Implementation Report required by the State Materials Management Plan. The District also assisted haulers, member towns and businesses in implementing the new deadlines of Act 148. Facilities had to begin offering food scrap collection on 7/1/17. The deadline of 7/1/17 for commercial waste haulers to begin offering collection of food scraps was extended to 7/1/18. However, most of the haulers that offered drop-off services for trash in the District began offering the collection of food scraps on 7/1/17. Using a grant from the High Meadows Fund, the District was able to purchase educational materials, signage and totes for the new food scrap collection sites at town drop-offs. The District also provided 5-gallon food scrap buckets to those customers interested in participating in the program. The District began offering compost workshops to community members who wanted to learn about backyard composting. With a grant from the VT Agency of Natural Resources, the District provided compost bins and Green Cone solar digesters at a reduced price for workshop attendees. **Product Stewardship.** As a member of the VT Product Stewardship Council, the District has helped to lead efforts to adopt new extended producer responsibility (EPR) laws for mercury thermostats, electronic waste (E-Waste), fluorescent light bulbs, waste paint, and primary cell batteries, whereby manufacturers of those materials take over the costs of transporting and recycling their products once they are discarded. The District Transfer Station serves as a Collection Site for these programs. **Recycling.** As of September, the Transfer Station received 1,306 tons of single stream recyclables. All generators are required by District ordinance and State law to separate Mandated Recyclables from their waste. A list of Mandated Recyclables is posted on the District website. In 2017, 19 member municipalities had access to town or private recycling drop-off centers, and one – Goshen – provided a curbside program. A list of the drop-off centers can be found on the District website. **Illegal Burning/Disposal.** The District contracted with the Addison County Sheriff's Department to enforce its Illegal Burning & Disposal Ordinance. As of 9/1/17, the Sheriff's office investigated 19 illegal burning/disposal complaints. The District served once again as County Coordinator for Green-Up Day, Vermont's annual litter clean-up event. The District subsidized the disposal of 15.99 tons of roadside trash, 8.8 tons of tires, 2 auto batteries, 2 fluorescent bulbs, 22 E-Waste items, 7 appliances, and various other hazardous items, for a total economic benefit to its member towns of \$3,023.

2018 Budget: The District adopted a 2018 Annual Budget of \$2,992,908, a 0.12% increase over the 2017 Annual Budget. The Transfer Station tip fees will remain at \$123/ton for MSW and C&D. The District Fee of \$33.40/ton on all waste destined for disposal, and \$10/ton on contaminated soils approved by ANR for use as Alternative Daily Cover at the landfill will remain the same. **There will be no assessments to member municipalities in 2018.** For a copy of the full 2017 Annual Report, please give us a call, or visit the District website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

Minutes of the 2017 Town of Ripton Annual Meeting

Approximately 80 Ripton voters met at the Community House, Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon Articles 1-5 of the Annual Town Meeting Warning. Selectboard members Lauren Cox (chair), Perry Hanson and Ronald Wimett were present. Moderator Tim Hanson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., explained procedures, and read and called for discussion and vote on Articles 1-5. All Articles passed by voice vote.

Article 1: Will the Town vote the sum of **\$574,547.00** to pay General Fund and Road Fund expenses for July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018, and pay outstanding orders or obligations of the Town, with interest, the tax rate on the 2017 Grand List to be determined by the Selectboard, divided as follows:

General Fund	\$250,947.00
Road Fund	\$323,600.00
Total	\$574,547.00

Bill McKibben moved; Richard Ruane seconded Article 1.

Selectboard chair Laurie Cox explained that the proposed budget is almost the same as the current year budget. It looks about \$10,000 less because the prior budget included \$10,000 for the Cemetery Commission. This year the Cemetery Commission funds are voted separately as Article 4 because the Commission has its own account and is responsible for its budget. Ms. Cox also explained some budget decreases (Middlebury College payment because it is tied to the tax rate) and increases (recycling because of new requirements).

Article 1 was adopted by voice vote.

Article 2: Will the Town vote to apply any surplus from the 2015-16 General Fund to the Town Building Fund?

Bill McKibben moved; David Harple seconded Article 2.

For 2015-16 revenue was greater than budgeted and expenses were less than budgeted, resulting in a General Fund surplus. Ms. Cox described that this was due to delinquent tax collection, office efficiencies, and decreased fuel costs, despite under-budgeting the final payment of the fire station loan. The selectboard may not carryover a General Fund surplus without voter approval. Ms. Cox presented the selectboard's proposal to put some of the surplus in the Town Building Fund, to save for improvements to the town office building. A FEMA grant application to elevate the town office and address known problems with its underpinnings was not awarded. FEMA only considered the threat of flood from directly across from the building rather than from upstream of the building where the river has jumped the bank during floods. If the town starts saving now, it may save on borrowing costs later. Carol Ford asked the amount of the surplus. Ms. Cox responded that the exact amount to be applied would be determined. Ms. Cox clarified for Dick Collitt that the funds are in hand as surplus from the 2015-16 budget. Barry King asked if any expenditures from the Town Building Fund would be voted by the town and was answered, yes by Ms. Cox. Charles Billings commented on the age of the first floor of the current town office building, 1831 as a Congregational Church; its move to its current location in 1867-68 or earlier; and last sill work likely 1949-50. Ms. Cox noted a 1971 engineering study that found the building unsound. Some work was likely done after that because it continued as a school. Because it was school district property, the town does not have records of the work.

Article 2 was adopted by voice vote.

Article 3: Will the Town vote the sum of \$40,000.00 to the Ripton Volunteer Fire and First Response Department to pay expenses for July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018?

Bill McKibben moved; Barry (Barbara) King seconded Article 3.

Chief Erik Eriksen corrected an item on page 36 of the town report. The words “Middlebury Regional EMS” should be replaced by “MVA , motor vehicle accidents”. He explained a budget increase due to 9 new members needing gear. The new cadets are given older gear. Tom Cabot asked if any part of the department is a 501(c3) organization that may receive tax deductible donations. Tim Hanson and Erik Eriksen both responded that they thought so. Chief Eriksen said the department always needs volunteers for all sorts of stuff – such as washing trucks – and thanked the voters for their support.

Article 3 was adopted by voice vote.

Article 4: Will the Town vote the sum of \$13,000.00 to the Ripton Cemetery Commission to pay expenses for July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018?

Commission chair, Liz Walker, explained work completed and proposed for Galvin Cemetery and work at Cook Cemetery. The Commission is asking for the town contribution to continue its work. It has been spending down money from plot sales. With 450 burials in the last 150 years, the land donated to Galvin and Cook Cemeteries has us well set for the next 100-150 years.

Bill McKibben moved; Barry (Barbara) King seconded Article 4.

Article 4 was adopted by voice vote.

Article 5: Will the Town vote to have current property taxes collected by the Treasurer with a tax due date of Thursday, November 2, 2017?

Tim Hanson stated this is a boilerplate article.

Bill McKibben moved; Richard Ruane seconded Article 5.

Article 5 was adopted by voice vote.

Article 6: Any other business proper to come before this meeting

Laurie Cox spoke about the brochure, *Ripton Opportunities*, and ways to be involved in the community.

Tom Cabot asked for the location of the coal scale. Ms. Cox responded that we don't have one for the archaic position of weigher-of-coal. Mr. Cabot and Kim Kimler commented on the position of grand juror. Ron Wimett offered explanation of the archaic positions required at the time of the town charter.

Charles Billings spoke on behalf of the Ripton Historical Society, noting volunteer opportunities and semi-annual participation in the Vermont History Exposition.

Warren King spoke about energy planning, state goals for renewable energy use by 2050, and the town plan revision. He asked for 1-2 volunteers to help organize data the ACRPC will provide to help the town

comply with the state energy plan.

David Harple asked about the buzz about towns voting to require presidential candidates to show tax returns if on the Vermont ballot. The moderator, Jeremy Grip, and Barry King spoke about what could and could not be done without a warned article. The moderator ruled that we could not vote on an item that was not warned. He added that the voters could overrule him.

Jean Winter moved; Mac Cox seconded to overrule the Moderator.

Overruling the Moderator was approved by voice vote, with some opposed.

David Harple, Tom Smith, Tom Cabot, and Laurie Cox contributed to the discussion of constitutionality, and straw polls. Bill McKibben added it would be useful to be on record that candidates refrain from using Twitter.

Jean Winter and Mac Cox moved and seconded the motion to vote as a straw poll that the Town support the notion that a candidate for president on the Vermont ballot release tax returns.

Voters approved the straw poll.

Bill McKibben and Barry King moved/seconded to recess the meeting.

The meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 7, 2017 in the Ripton Community House to vote the following articles by Australian Ballot. Polls closed at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1: To elect the following officers:

Selector for a three-year term Laureen Cox	Town Grand Juror for a one-year term Richard “Kim” Kimler
Town Moderator for a one-year term Timothy Hanson	Town Agent for a one-year term Chris Smith
Town Clerk for a one-year term Alison Joseph Dickinson	Cemetery Commissioner for a five-year term Elizabeth Walker
Town Treasurer for a one-year term Carolyn Smith	Ripton School Directors for ten-month terms (vote for no more than two) Laura McIntosh Perry Hanson
Delinquent Tax Collector for a one-year term Kathleen Sullivan	
Lister for a three-year term Alison Joseph Dickinson	UD#3 School Director for a ten-month term Jerome Shedd
Constable for a one-year term Chris Smith	

All seats were unopposed and all candidates elected.

Article 2: To approve or disapprove the following allocations from the General Fund.
The total amount is **\$21,266.00.**

Requested by	Amount
Addison Central Teens (ACT)	\$ 1,500.00
Addison County Home Health and Hospice	\$ 750.00

Addison County Humane Society/Homeward Bound	\$ 750.00
Addison County Parent/Child Center	\$ 600.00
Addison County Restorative Justice Services	\$ 170.00
Addison County Riverwatch Collaborative	\$ 400.00
Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR)	\$ 1,901.00
Age Well (formerly Champlain Valley Agency on Aging)	\$ 750.00
Charter House Coalition	\$ 1,600.00
Counseling Service of Addison County	\$ 1,400.00
Elderly Services	\$ 600.00
Green Up Vermont	\$ 50.00
Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE)	\$ 2,850.00
Hospice Volunteer Services	\$ 500.00
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	\$ 1,600.00
Middlebury Regional Emergency & Medical Services	\$ 1,470.00
NeighborWorks of Western Vermont	\$ 300.00
Open Door Clinic	\$ 1,000.00
Otter Creek Child Care Center	\$ 1,000.00
Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 50.00
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	\$ 475.00
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 300.00
WomenSafe, Inc.	\$ 1,250.00
Total	\$21,266.00

All funding requests were approved.

Laureen Cox
Selectboard Chair

Timothy Hanson
Moderator

Alison Joseph Dickinson
Town Clerk

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ripton Elementary School prides itself on being a kind, caring, and collaborative multi-age community where students work together within and across grades to grow and learn. Throughout the year we set learning goals for ourselves (both students and adults) and work to create a safe, creative, courageous and inquisitive learning environment. Together with the other ACSD schools, we are using the International Baccalaureate framework to support our teaching and learning, particularly by putting students in the center of their learning --working with them to guide their thinking, questioning and inquiry towards new knowledge. It's an exciting shift in our teaching philosophy and one we're very excited to make.

We continue to enjoy many unique and valuable traditions at Ripton Elementary from our fall 5K and 10K Ridge Run which involved over 175 runners and volunteers this past October, to our early spring Artist in Residency, this year welcoming Fabio Fuá Nascimento and Capoeira (an Afro-Brazilian martial art combining elements of dance, acrobatics and music), for five days in March. We were honored to host a Naturalization Ceremony in November where students reflected on the meaning of citizenship and participated in a formal ceremony swearing in 15 new United States citizens. The winter and spring in Ripton allow for much outdoor exploration from Nordic and alpine skiing, to exploring the ponds and trails in the beautiful Green Mountains, to a week at the Keewaydin Environmental Education Center for our 5th & 6th grade students.

Ripton is committed to providing support to all students, preK - 6th grades, in developing critical and reflective thinking skills through an integrated approach to learning. We are a close-knit community which greatly values our collaboration and shared experiences across grades, with families, friends and within the larger community.

Tracey Harrington, Principal

Friends of the Ripton School

Friends of the Ripton School (FORS) is a group of volunteers who work together to make the Ripton Elementary School the best it can be. We offer our assistance to the school when needed and organize fundraising and other events at the school and in the community. Thanks to our community's generosity in donating to FORS and in supporting our fundraisers (the Ripton Ridge Run, Pizza Bakes, "Ripton" apparel and High Mowing Seed sales, redeemable bottle collections, and Coffee House bake sales) we have been able to fully or partially fund a variety of activities and events. This past year has included a week of Artist in Residency with the Burlington Taiko Drummers, the 5th/ 6th grade class trip to Osmore Pond, an all-school performance from the VT Symphony Orchestra Fanfare Brass Trio, the Thanksgiving Community Luncheon, an all-school ice-skating trip, supplies for holiday gift-making and May Day Baskets, an afternoon fruit or veggie snack for all students, tuition assistance for the Ripton Summer Day Camp and much more.

FORS mission statement: The Friends of Ripton School provide the Ripton Elementary School support through volunteering and funding to enhance and enrich the school environment by facilitating academic programs, extracurricular activities, events, and materials, which are designed to meet the expectations and changing needs of the school throughout and beyond the academic school year.

FORS recently became a 501(c)(3) and our official name is now FORS Incorporated. We meet roughly every 4-8 weeks during the school year to plan events, approve funding requests, and discuss a variety of issues. Attendance at meetings is not required to be part of FORS. Members are typically parents of Ripton Elementary School students, **however we cordially invite all interested community members to join us.** We know Ripton is rich with diversely talented people who might be interested in spending time at the school. We welcome your interest and involvement at any level. Some examples of participation have included helping with the community garden, reading stories, driving for field trips, cooking, helping with art projects, and sharing your area of interest or expertise with our students. The school belongs to the community, and we warmly invite you to experience the happenings at Ripton Elementary. **Also, FORS greatly appreciates and thanks all those involved in the Ripton Ridge Run, our biggest fundraiser.**

For more information please contact Laura McIntosh at murphyslau@gmail.com.

2017 Ripton Ridge Run

The 30th Annual Ripton Ridge Run raised about \$6,400 for FORS through the efforts of many generous local sponsors and about 60 Ripton volunteers. There were 150 runners and walkers including plenty of Ripton residents and school children. For information about the 2018 event for volunteering (beforehand, during or after the event) or participating on Sunday, Oct. 7, go to the Ridge Run website <http://www.riptonridgerun.org>, contact Barry King at 388-4082, or Wendy Leeds at the school 388-2208, wleeds@acsdvt.org.

**RIPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FY19 Function Code Budget**

Account	Description	Actual FY 16-17	Budget FY 17-18	Proposed FY 18-19	% Difference
1100	Classroom Instruction	\$456,572.43	\$447,662.49	\$473,008.34	5.66%
1190	Shared Personnel	\$63,696.88	\$47,435.00	\$0.00	-100%
1199	SPED-Local Reg Ed Portion			\$17,737.85	100%
1200	Special Education	\$74,964.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
1400	After School Program	\$11,529.63	\$14,867.30	\$14,258.96	-4.1%
2100	Support Services	\$665.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	0%
2120	Guidance	\$21,502.00	\$21,421.00	\$21,414.52	-0.03%
2130	Health	\$14,435.80	\$15,898.00	\$15,368.22	-3.33%
2220	Media	\$38,357.29	\$38,357.92	\$36,603.17	-4.57%
2230	Technology	\$8,228.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
2310	Board of Education	\$8,975.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
2313	Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
2320	ACSU Assessment	\$35,506.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
2410	Principal's Office	\$97,444.15	\$98,764.98	\$100,174.45	1.43%
2600	Operations & Maintenance	\$84,518.80	\$44,229.62	\$45,251.57	2.31%
2711	Transportation	\$23,504.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
2720	Transportation-Field Trips	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	0%
5100	Debt Service	\$19,288.70	\$19,083.20	\$18,674.00	-2.14%
5310	Food Service	\$11,064.07	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	0%
Grand Total:		\$970,253.92	\$753,519.51	\$748,291.08	-0.68%

1100: 1190 account included in this account now. Reduce a para-educator position

1199: Regular education costs of special educators and special education para-educators

**RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2016-17 FUND BALANCE REPORT**

GENERAL FUND REVENUE

Education Spending Revenue from Town & State	\$635,847.00	
State Aid - Small Schools Grant	73,547.00	
State Aid - Transportation Aid	8,350.50	
Special Education - Block Grant	11,674.00	
Special Education - Intensive	32,348.00	
Special Education - Extraordinary	2,901.13	
U. S. Forestry	9,095.41	
Interest Income	115.03	
Regular Education Tuition	77,078.00	
Miscellaneous Income	7,878.06	
Other State	8,230.71	
Transfer from Education Fund	90,094.26	
	Total Revenue	\$957,159.10

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Regular Programs	\$535,390.13	
Special Education	96,348.00	
After School Program	11,529.32	
Support Services	665.00	
Guidance	21,527.00	
Health Service	14,411.00	
Media Services	38,488.29	
Technology	7,190.06	
Board of Education	9,906.89	
Treasurer	0.00	
ACSU Assessments	35,506.00	
Principal's Office	97,444.15	
Operations & Maintenance	86,171.56	
Transportation	38,626.00	
Debt Service	19,288.70	
Food Service Subsidy	11,064.07	
	Total Expenditures	(\$1,023,556.17)

Excess Revenue over Expenditures	(66,397.07)
Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2016	1,040.41
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2017	(\$65,356.66)

The Fund Balance is committed as follows:

ACSD Capital Reserve Fund	\$382.54
Future Year Tax Reduction	\$629.46

General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance at June 30, 2017 **(\$66,368.66)**

RIPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
2016-17 FUND BALANCE REPORT
 Continued

<u>ENTERPRISE FUND</u>	Beg. Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	End. Balance
Food Service Program	\$ (5,643.51)	\$ 32,482.82	\$ (26,839.31)	\$ -
<u>CAPITAL PROJECT FUND</u>				
	Beg. Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	End. Balance
Capital Reserve*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Efficiency Vermont Rebate	2,788.02			2,788.02
Playing Field Fence-voted 3/10	939.69			939.69
Total:	\$ 3,727.71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,727.71
<u>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</u>				
	Beg. Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	End. Balance
Education Reserve	\$ 90,094.26	\$ -	\$ (90,094.26)	\$ -
Library Fund	2,371.25	536.85	(1,053.58)	1,854.52
NC FCU Educator	15.57	-	(15.57)	-
Essential Early Education	-	4,509.00	(2,254.00)	2,255.00
Efficiency VT Rebate	2,788.02	-	-	2,788.02
Playing Field Fence Vtd 3/10	939.69	-	-	939.69
Artist in Residence Donation	230.30	926.70	(971.00)	186.00
Artist in Residence Grant	-	1,250.00	(938.00)	312.00
Ripton Tots Sumer Camp	732.00	-	-	732.00
VT Stars Award	531.35	-	(531.35)	-
Greg's Groceries For Greatness	106.00	-	(106.00)	-
ACSU - Title I Subgrant	-	11,751.46	(11,751.46)	-
ACSU - BEST Act 230 Subgrant	-	250.00	(250.00)	-
ACSU Act 230	-	115.00	(115.00)	-
Total:	\$ 97,808.44	\$ 19,339.01	\$ (108,080.22)	\$ 9,067.23

* Requires voter approval to spend funds

AUDIT

Title 16 V.S.A. Section 323 requires the supervisory union to employ public accountants to audit the financial statements of its member school districts annually. Ripton's FY 2017 records were audited in October of 2017 and the audit report will be available at the office of the Superintendent or on the Addison Central School District website.

Ripton Town School District
 Combined Balance Sheet
 6/30/2017

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Project Fund	Debt Service Fund	Enterprise Fund	Trust Fund	Totals
ASSETS							
<i>Current Assets</i>							
Cash	\$16,855.06						\$16,855.06
Ed Spending Due from State	(\$16,540.03)						(\$16,540.03)
Accounts Receivable	\$500.00						\$500.00
Accounts Receivable- Adults					\$18.50		\$18.50
Accounts Receivable-Students					\$38.00		\$38.00
Inventory					\$826.05		\$826.05
<i>Current Assets Total</i>	<u>\$815.03</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$882.55</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,697.58</u>
<i>Long Term Assets</i>							
Retirement of Debt				\$199,750.00			\$199,750.00
<i>Long Term Assets Total</i>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$815.03</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>	<u>\$882.55</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$201,447.58</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
LIABILITIES							
<i>Current Liabilities</i>							
Due To Other Funds	\$8,296.93	(\$5,339.52)	(\$3,727.71)		\$770.30		\$0.00
Accounts Payable	\$56,530.36						\$56,530.36
Accrued Wages/Social Security	\$844.40						\$844.40
Credits Due Students					\$140.00		\$140.00
Credits Due Adults					(\$27.75)		(\$27.75)
Security Deposit	\$500.00				\$0.00		\$500.00
<i>Current Liabilities Total</i>	<u>\$66,171.69</u>	<u>(\$5,339.52)</u>	<u>(\$3,727.71)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$882.55</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$57,987.01</u>
<i>Long Term Liabilities</i>							
Bond Pay-VT Mun Bond Bank				\$199,750.00			\$199,750.00
<i>Total Long Term Liabilities</i>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$66,171.69</u>	<u>(\$5,339.52)</u>	<u>(\$3,727.71)</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>	<u>\$882.55</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$257,737.01</u>
FUND EQUITY							
<i>Fund Balances</i>							
Unreserved Fund Balance	\$0.00						\$0.00
Reserved For Tax Reduction	\$13,354.54						\$13,354.54
Education Reserve		\$90,094.26					\$90,094.26
Committed/Restricted Fund Balance	(\$12,314.13)	\$3,986.47	\$3,727.71				(\$4,599.95)
Retained Earnings					(\$5,643.51)		(\$5,643.51)
<i>Total Fund Equity</i>	<u>\$1,040.41</u>	<u>\$94,080.73</u>	<u>\$3,727.71</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>(\$5,643.51)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$93,205.34</u>
<i>Net of Revenue/Expenditures</i>	<u>(\$66,397.07)</u>	<u>(\$88,741.21)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$5,643.51</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>(\$149,494.77)</u>
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	<u>(\$65,356.66)</u>	<u>\$5,339.52</u>	<u>\$3,727.71</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>(\$56,289.43)</u>
TOTAL LIAB & FUND EQUITY	<u>\$815.03</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$199,750.00</u>	<u>\$882.55</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$201,447.58</u>

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury ID#4, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Weybridge, and Union District #3

The development of the FY19 budget represents significant work in building a strong fiscal foundation for the Addison Central School District. Our district was founded two years ago, with eight school districts and their individual budgets merging into one, unified organization. The FY18 budget maintained relative status quo in all of our schools to provide an effective transition, while the FY19 budget has been developed to support a more cohesive, unified direction for ACSD.

The fiscal environment this year has been challenging, as ACSD faces continued enrollment decline, estimated to be over 100 students in the next four years. In addition, we are facing an era of uncertainty in state and federal funding for education. These challenges require us to be as efficient as we can, to base our funding centrally and directly on the work of the ACSD Strategic Plan and our commitment to become an International Baccalaureate World District, and to analyze how we can best leverage resources across our district to improve student success.

We continue to work on the systems objectives of our Strategic Plan to be more efficient with our use of resources. The FY19 budget began our use of ratios as a metric to determine, as a starting point, how we are funding all of our schools. Funding with a lens of equity as a unified school district is critical to being sure that we are allocating resources to the greatest advantage of our students. Ratios do not tell the entire story for each of our schools, but they do allow us to begin to look out beyond a year-to-year planning cycle to build towards greater strength as an educational community.

We are grateful to our entire community for your support in all of our schools. As a community, we realize that we won't move forward and provide the best for our students without everyone in ACSD working together, celebrating our strengths and addressing our challenges to focus singly on making sure that every student under our care is successful. This budget represents a vision that moves us, as a community, towards greater student leadership and engagement to prepare them for life in a rapidly changing global world.

We look forward to continuing to be strong fiscal agents while providing the best educational experiences to our students.

Sincerely,
Peter Burrows
ACSD Superintendent

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Year to Year Budget Summary

Expenditures	FY18	FY19 Proposed	% Change
Student Instruction	\$22,683,636	\$22,167,807	-2.27%
Special Education	\$5,719,997	\$5,828,171	1.89%
Universal Pre-K	\$454,454	\$490,050	7.83%
Hannaford Career Center	\$1,234,119	\$1,161,058	-5.92%
Transportation	\$786,317	\$861,328	9.54%
Facilities	\$1,688,479	\$1,548,737	-8.28%
Technology	\$1,048,821	\$990,462	-5.56%
District Office Administration	\$1,113,845	\$1,111,043	-0.25%
Professional Development	\$399,500	\$307,260	-23.09%
Curriculum		\$266,855	
Board of Education	\$495,767	\$490,734	-1.02%
Debt Service	\$348,442	\$342,191	-1.79%
State aid	\$16,294	\$14,500	-11.01%
Federal aid (CFP)	\$654,363	\$632,787	-3.30%
Other aid (Medicaid, EPSDT)	\$259,553	\$204,696	-21.14%
Special Fund Expenditures	\$41,100	\$34,800	-15.33%
Contingency	<u>\$310,000</u>	<u>\$310,000</u>	<u>0%</u>
	\$37,254,686	\$36,762,479	-1.32%
Special Article - Health Care Reserve Fund		\$200,000	
Special Article - Education Reserve Fund		\$500,000	
Special Article - Capital Reserve Fund	\$481,721	\$823,673	
Total Expenditures	\$37,736,407	\$38,286,152	1.46%
Revenues			
Local (Tuition, Midd College grant)	\$892,960	\$765,868	-14.23%
State (Special Ed, Transportation, EEE)	\$3,593,970	\$3,859,049	7.34%
Federal (CFP, IDEA)	\$1,165,364	\$1,168,856	0.30%
Other (Medicaid, EPSDT, Special Funds)	\$380,589	\$291,484	-23.41%
State Health Care Clawback	<u>0</u>	<u>(\$166,000)</u>	
	\$6,034,163	\$5,918,840	-1.91%
Prior Year Fund Balance	\$1,273,441	\$1,523,673	19.65%
Total Revenues	\$7,307,604	\$7,442,513	1.85%
Total Local Education Spending	\$30,428,802	\$30,843,640	1.36%
Equalized Pupils	1,767.52	1,824.28	
Education Spending/Equalized Pupil	\$17,215.53	\$16,907.29	-1.79%
State Spending Threshold	\$17,386.00	\$17,816.00	
Eligible Deductions	\$208.14	\$182.24	
Equalized Pupil Threshold	\$17,007.39	\$16,725.05	

The complete budget is available on the ACSD Website:

<http://www.acsdvt.org/domain/30> (Departments/Finance) or call 802-382-1274 to request a copy.

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FY19 Tax Calculation

Our Total Local Education Spending amount of \$30,843,640 is the first and only figure used in calculating our tax rate that we have control over. The other components in the formula are supplied by the Tax Department or Agency of Education.

All figures are subject to changes by the State Legislature

Projected Property Yield:	\$ 9,842
Projected Income Yield:	\$11,862
Projected Non-residential rate:	\$1.629
Projected Spending Threshold:	\$17,816
Equalized pupils:	1,824.28

ACSD Tax Rate Calculation

Local Education Spending	\$30,843,640
Divided by Equalized Pupils	<u>÷ 1,824.28</u>
Education Spending / Equalized Pupil	\$16,907.29
Education Spending/Equalized Pupil	\$16,907.29
Divided by the Property Tax Yield	<u>÷ \$ 9,842.00</u>
Equalized District tax rate	\$1.7179
Equalized District tax rate	\$1.7179
Less the consolidation incentive	<u>- \$0.08*</u> *incentive decreases \$.02 each year*
Estimated District tax rate	\$1.6379 (pre CLA adjustment)
	4.35 cent increase over last year

The estimated District tax rate is divided by each Town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) as set by the VT Department of Taxes to determine each Town's estimated tax rate.

<u>Town</u>	<u>ACSD Tax Rate</u>	<u>CLA (FY19)</u>	<u>Estimated Town Tax Rate</u>
Bridport	\$1.6379	98.30%	\$1.6662
Cornwall	\$1.6379	100.59%	\$1.6283
Middlebury	\$1.6379	84.74%	\$1.9328
Ripton	\$1.6379	89.20%	\$1.8362
Salisbury	\$1.6379	96.90%	\$1.6903
Shoreham	\$1.6379	101.97%	\$1.6062
Weybridge	\$1.6379	98.21%	\$1.6677

Minutes of the Annual Ripton Town School District Meeting

Approximately 70 voters of the Ripton Town School District met at the Community House Monday, March 6, 2107 to act upon Articles 1-4 of the 2017 Warning. School Directors Carol Ford (chair), Perry Hanson, Giles Hoyler, and Laura McIntosh were present. Moderator Timothy Hanson called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m.

The Moderator explained a provision to pass over articles. He noted that Article 1 is voted by Australian ballot, March 7th.

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

Barry (Barbara) King and Tracey Harrington moved/seconded to pass over Article 1.

Passing over Article 1 was approved by voice vote.

The Moderator asked if voters approved giving the floor to Representative Peter Conlon. They did, at 7:50 p.m.

Representative Conlon spoke of being newly elected and lacking the expertise we heard from our former representative, Ripton resident, Willem Jewett. Rep. Conlon showed a town meeting newsletter, the Doyle survey, and a survey about cell phone coverage he would leave for voters. He then presented a snapshot of his work on the education committee. After expressing appreciation to the voters and encouraging voter input, he took questions. Laurel Smith, Tracey Harrington, and Mac (Millard) Cox asked about Act 166 pre-school vouchers, legislation for protection against bias, and minimum wage, respectively. After answers and discussion, Rep. Conlon closed, stating Act 46, school consolidation, has worked for our district. He left the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

ARTICLE 2: Shall the voters of the Town School District approve the Town School District Minutes of February 29, 2016?

Laurie Cox and Mark Nelson moved/seconded Article 2.

Article 2 passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Town School District accept the reports of the Town School District officers?

Mark Nelson and Richard Ruane moved/seconded Article 3.

Article 3 passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting. Upon completion of the transaction of the aforesaid business, or upon adjournment of the aforesaid meeting for any other purpose, said meeting shall be reconvened on Tuesday March 7, 2017, at the Ripton Community House for the purpose of voting on the following business of the Town School District by Australian Ballot.

Richard Ruane and Barry King moved/seconded Article 4.

Article 4 was approved.

Carol Ford said this was probably the quickest town meeting she'd sat through. Last year we knew we were voting on school district unification and didn't talk about our last Ripton School District meeting. Thank you, it's been great, she said. Voters responded with a standing ovation.

Perry Hanson explained that the Ripton board ends this year and that he is part of the new district board. He thanked Carol Ford for making it possible for him to serve. He noted Carol's quiet intellect, keen attention to detail, and focus on always doing what is in the best interest of students. Her mentoring capacity has helped him come to grips with at least some issues, and we are extremely blessed to have Carol Ford in our community.

Mr. Hanson described that since last March the new ACSD district has focused on four things: budget, governance, contracts, and community engagement. People were encouraged to attend informational meetings at the Ripton School this year and the ACSD meetings. Laura McIntosh and Perry Hanson expanded upon the importance of having a Ripton presence at the district meetings. Jeremy Grip asked about teacher contracts and arbitration. Mr. Hanson answered that the board and teachers are at an impasse. Next steps include a fact-finder who looks at contracts state-wide.

Ms. McIntosh announced the Friends of the Ripton School annual seed sale fundraiser deadline. With Barry King's assistance, Laura McIntosh presented a cake to Carol Ford saying, "We can't thank her enough, but this is a start."

Laurie Cox and Richard Ruane moved/seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

It was approved to adjourn and reconvene the following morning.

The meeting reconvened March 7, 2016 at the Ripton Community House 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to vote the following by Australian ballot:

ARTICLE 5: To elect two School Directors for the Town School District for a term of ten months (March-December 2017).

Perry Hanson and Laura McIntosh were elected.

ARTICLE 6: To elect one School Director for the Union District No. 3 for a term of ten months (March-December 2017).

Jerome Shedd was elected.

Carol Ford, Chair

Timothy Hanson, Moderator

Alison Joseph Dickinson, Clerk

Town Directory

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

www.ripton.vt.org

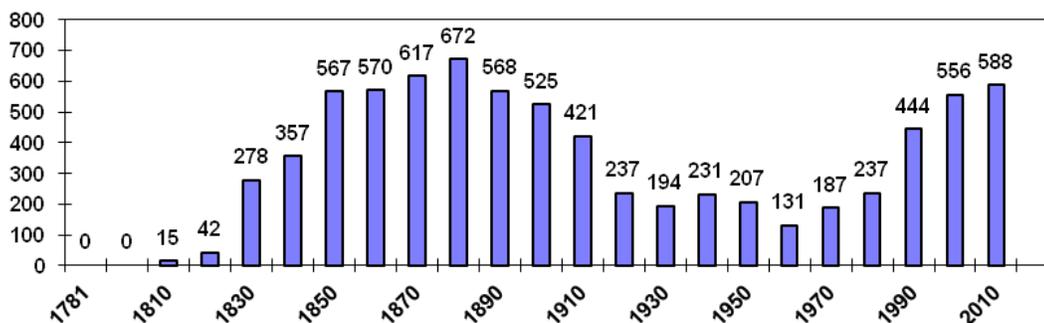
Town Office	388-2266
Elementary School	388-2208
Fire Station (non-emergency)	388-4506
Burn Permits: Erik Eriksen	388-3629
Road Commissioner: Ron Wimett	388-7346
Animal Control: Chris Smith	388-0337
Recycling	388-4082

Ripton Facts

Chartered: April 13, 1781
Organized: 1828
Total Land Area: 32,704 acres
National Forest: 22,201 acres (68% of total land area)
Middlebury College: 2,308 acres (7% of total land area)
Population: 588 (based on 2010 U.S. Census)
Density: 12 people per square mile
Altitude: 1,025 feet (village)
Mountains: Battell Mountain 3,482'
 Bread Loaf Mountain 3,835'
 Boyce Mountain 3,062'
 Mount Roosevelt 3,323'
 Robert Frost Mountain 2,513'
 Wilson Mountain 3,780'

Town Highways: 28.02 miles total
 Class I (State Rte 125): 5.786 miles Class II (Lincoln Rd): 4.9 miles
 Class III: 18.48 miles Class IV: 3.33 miles
 Legal Trail: 1.85 miles

Ripton Population 1781-2010



Town of Ripton
PO Box 10
Ripton, VT 05766