

**ROCKINGHAM, VERMONT
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2017**



View of the Town of Rockingham Square from Fall Mountain - Photo credit Doug MacPhee

Notice:

Rockingham Town & Town School District

**Business Meeting: Monday, March 5, 2018
Bellows Falls Opera House - 7:00 p.m.**

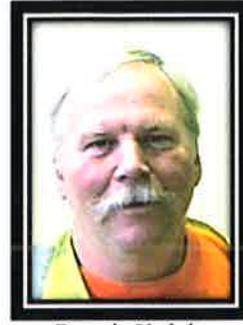
**Balloting: Tuesday, March 6, 2018
Masonic Temple - 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**



Mike Furgat
Heavy Equipment Operator



Mike Hides
Highway Superintendent



Dennis Knight
Truck Driver



Frank "Pepper" Anderson
Truck Driver/Bldg. Maintenance

The 2016-2017 Annual Town Report is hereby dedicated to Highway Superintendent Mike Hides and the Rockingham Highway Department.

The men you see here work tirelessly to keep our town safe and in the best shape they can, often working through the night into the morning hours only to come back in again a few hours later to complete the job.

The Town of Rockingham is fortunate to have these fine individuals as part of our team. We sincerely appreciate all they do and for their commitment to the Town of Rockingham.

Thank you!!!



Peter Higgins
Heavy Equipment Operator



Jerry Buffum
Truck Driver



Corbin Parker
Truck Driver



Gary Lique
Truck Driver



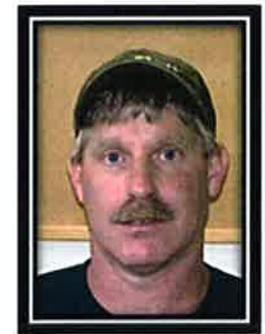
Scott Bingham
Truck Driver



Andy Howarth
Heavy Equipment Operator



Wally Kenyon
Mechanic



Jerome "JT" Tabolt
Truck Driver

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Town Officers - Elected & Appointed	1
Warning – Annual Rockingham Town School District Meeting	4
Warning – Annual Rockingham Town & Town School District Meeting	6
Warning – River Valley Technical Center School District Annual Meeting	9
Notice to Voters/Instructions for Voters	11
Minutes Summary Annual Town & Town School District Meeting	
Town Meeting Summary	13
School District Meeting Summary	16
Results of Australian Ballot Voting	17
Proposed Budget FY2019 Town of Rockingham	
Town of Rockingham Audit Letter FY2017 – RHR Smith	18
FY2019 Proposed Budget	
General Fund	19
Cemeteries & Parks Fund	30
Highway Fund	31
Equipment Fund	36
Theater Fund	37
Rockingham Free Public Library	39
Development Fund	44
Delinquent Tax Report Summary	46
Town Reports	
Report of the Selectboard	48
Municipal Manager’s Report	49
Bellows Falls Opera House	51
Cemeteries	51
Constables’ Report	52
Development Office	52
Emergency Management Director’s Report	54
Health Officer’s Report	54
Highway Department	56
Listers Office	56
Planning-Zoning Office	58
Rockingham Conservation Commission	60
Rockingham Free Public Library	63
Rockingham Recreation Department	66
Rockingham Recycling Center & Transfer Station	67
Rockingham Tree Committee	68
Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department	69
Town Clerk’s Office	70

Social Service Agency & Other Miscellaneous Reports:

Bellows Falls Area Senior Center -----	73
Connecticut River Joint Commissions Mt. Ascutney Subcommittee-----	74
The Current -----	75
Green Mountain RSVP-----	76
Health Care & Rehabilitation Services-----	77
Meeting Waters YMCA -----	77
Our Place -----	78
Parks Place Community Resource Center -----	79
Pierce Lawton Post #37 Memorial Day Observance -----	80
Rockingham Arts & Museum Project (RAMP) -----	81
Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) -----	82
Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District -----	83
Springfield Supported Housing Program -----	84
Vermont Adult Learning -----	85
Visiting Nurse & Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire -----	86
Windham Regional Commission -----	87
Windham & Windsor Housing Trust-----	89
Women’s Freedom Center -----	90
Youth Services -----	91
Emergency & Non-Emergency Telephone Numbers -----	92
Town, State & Federal Government Telephone Numbers -----	93

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
March 2017 – March 2018

	<u>DATE ELECTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<u>Moderator:</u>		
Michael P. Harty	March 2017	March 2018
<u>Town Clerk:</u>		
Kathleen Neathawk	March 2016	March 2019
<u>Selectboard:</u>		
Lamont Barnett (Resigned July 2017)	March 2016	March 2019
Ann DiBernardo	March 2017	March 2018
Stefan Golec	March 2017	March 2018
Susan Hammond	March 2017	March 2020
Gaetano Putignano	March 2017	March 2018
Cass Wright (appointed)	July 2017	March 2018
<u>Town Treasurer/Tax Collector:</u>		
Kathleen Neathawk	March 2016	March 2019
<u>Listers:</u>		
Michael Harty	March 2015	March 2018
Paul Noble	March 2017	March 2020
Camilla Roberts	March 2016	March 2019
<u>Trustees of Public Funds:</u>		
Patricia Fowler	March 2017	March 2020
Matthew Guild	March 2015	March 2018
Kathleen Neathawk (appointed)	August 2017	March 2018
<u>Town Agent:</u>		
L. Raymond Massucco	March 2017	March 2018
<u>Town Grand Juror:</u>		
George Kuusela	March 2017	March 2018
<u>Rockingham School Moderator:</u>		
Michael P. Harty	March 2017	March 2018
<u>Rockingham School Directors:</u>		
Kate Coburn	March 2015	March 2018
Margo Ghia	March 2017	March 2019
Rick Holloway	March 2016	March 2018
Evan Moore	March 2016	March 2019
Samantha Simonds	March 2016	March 2019

Town Officers – continued

	<u>DATE ELECTED</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<u>BFUHS #27 School Directors:</u>		
Colin James	March 2015	March 2018
Brenda Farkas	March 2017	March 2020
Cindy Santorelli	March 2016	March 2018
Kristin Swartout	March 2015	March 2018
Deborah Wright	March 2017	March 2020
<u>Trustees of Public Library:</u>		
John Bohannon	March 2015	March 2018
Gary Fox	March 2016	March 2019
Kate Kane	March 2017	March 2020
Leslie Lassetter	March 2015	March 2018
Heidi Lauricella	March 2016	March 2019
Martha Rowley	March 2015	March 2018
Ellen Taetzsch	March 2016	March 2019
Brady Weinstock	March 2017	March 2019
<u>Trustees of the Campbell Fund:</u>		
Kathleen Neathawk	March 2015	March 2018
Barbara Joy (appointed)	August 2017	March 2018
<u>Custodian of the Campbell Fund:</u>		
Jennifer Aldrich	March 2015	March 2018
<u>Justices of the Peace/BCA:</u>		
Steve Crofter		Chelsey Obuchowski
Patricia Fowler		Paul Obuchowski
Dennis Harty		Dorothy Read
Sally MacPhee		Nancy Tusinski
Sanford Martin		Cass Wright
L. Raymond Massucco		Deborah Wright

Justices of the Peace are elected biennially in November in the even year. However, term begins the following February of the odd year. The above justices were elected November 8, 2016, their term will begin February 1, 2017, and their term expires January 31, 2020.

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Municipal Manager

Shane O'Keefe

Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Adjustment

	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Alan LaCombe, Chair	July 28, 2014	July 28, 2018
Vincent Cherico	April 16, 2014	April 15, 2018
Kath Martin	May 18, 2013	May 18, 2017
Patrick Moyna	July 29, 2014	July 28, 2018
Renee Vondle	March 18, 2013	March 18, 2017

Planning/Zoning Administrator

Charles Wise, Jr. August 30, 2015 August 30, 2018

Rockingham Conservation Commission

	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Guy Payne	March 2017	March 2020
Mike Ghia	March 2014	March 2018
Tom Hernon	March 2014	March 2018
Paul Wilson	March 2016	March 2020
Peter Bergstrom	March 2014	March 2018
Devin Smith	April 2015	March 2019
Amy Howlet	December 2015	March 2019

Town Health Officer

Charles Wise, Jr.

Inspector of Lumber, Shingles & Wood

Raymond Perry

Town Service Officer

Christine Bullard

Weigher of Coal

Peter Golec
Robert Wheeler
Jonathan Wright

Town Fire Chief

Denis Jeffrey

Tree Warden

Cass Wright

Town Fire Warden

John Cenate

Windham Regional Commission

Susan Hammond
Alan LaCombe

Delinquent Tax Collector

Shane O'Keefe

Fence Viewers

Peter Golec
Ann DiBernardo
Jonathan Wright

Constables

1st Constable – Ronald Lake
2nd Constable – Shane Harris

Poundkeeper

Windham County Humane Society

WARNING
ANNUAL ROCKINGHAM TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
March 5 and March 6, 2018

The legal voters of the Rockingham Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall Auditorium (Falls Cinema) in said Town on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. to act upon all matters which may be voted upon by acclamation and not otherwise to be voted upon by Australian Ballot, and then adjourn to the Masonic Temple in said Town at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, to vote by Australian Ballot on Article No. 5.

The polls will be open at 9:00 A.M. and will close at 7:00 P.M.

- Article 1:** To hear the reports of the Rockingham Town School District Officers for the last year and to take action thereon.
- Article 2:** To see if the Rockingham Town School District will apply the sum of one hundred twenty three thousand, seven hundred seventy five dollars and sixty-five cents (\$123,775.65) from the fiscal year 2017 fund balance to create a reserve fund to be used for capital improvements at the Rockingham Schools and authorize the Board to expend said funds.
- Article 3:** To see if the Rockingham Town School District will reassign the sum of fifty five thousand, five hundred seventy two dollars and one cent (\$55,572.01) currently remaining in the 16-18 Cherry Street Reserve Fund to create a new reserve fund to be used for capital improvements at the Rockingham Schools and authorize the Board to expend said funds.
- Article 4:** To see if the Rockingham Town School District will apply the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) from the fiscal year 2017 fund balance to create a reserve fund to offset expenditures in fiscal year 2020 in order to reduce taxes.
- Article 5:** Shall the voters of the Rockingham Town School District approve the school board to expend nine million, seven hundred seventy six thousand, nine hundred fifty dollars and twenty two cents (\$9,776,950.22), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of sixteen thousand, seven hundred eighty one dollars and thirty cents (\$16,781.30) per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 3.09% lower than spending for the current year. (By Australian Ballot)
- Article 6:** To see if the Rockingham Town School District will vote to pay its District Officers compensation in the amounts of: Chair- \$700; Board Members- \$600, and; Treasurer- \$400?

Article 7: To transact any other proper business to be brought before the Town School District Meeting.

ROCKINGHAM TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: January 8, 2018



Richard Holloway, Chair



Kathryn Coburn, Clerk



Margo Ghia



Samantha Simonds



Evan Moore

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Rockingham, VT 05101

Received Jan. 17, 2018

at 12:40 pm

Recorded in Book 348 Page 004-5

Attest: K. Neathawk Town Clerk

WARNING**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING****MARCH 5 & MARCH 6, 2018**

The legal voters of the Town of Rockingham and Town of Rockingham School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall Auditorium (Bellows Falls Opera House) in said Town on Monday, March 5, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. to act upon all matters which may be voted upon by acclamation and not otherwise to be voted upon by Australian Ballot, and then to adjourn to the Masonic Temple (61 Westminster Street) in said Town at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, to vote by Australian Ballot on Article 1, Article 2 and Article 3.

- ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officers and Town School District Officers as required by law. (By Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 2: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers for the past year.
- ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to appoint the Town Clerk, as provided in 17 V.S.A. 2651e?
- ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to appoint the Town Treasurer, as provided in 17 V.S.A. 2651f?
- ARTICLE 5: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard and Treasurer to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of tax collection, or payment of money due the Town from the State of Vermont for highway or other purposes or payment to the Town from Federal funds.
- ARTICLE 6: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to seek out and/or accept funds available from non-property tax revenue sources and to spend those funds in appropriate ways after required public input.
- ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million Four Hundred Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Forty One Dollars (\$5,413,141.00) to pay the indebtedness of the Town, repair and maintain highways, and pay all other general and regular expenses of the Town beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, with Four Million Four Hundred Eighty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Six Dollars (\$4,487,846.00) to be raised by taxes?
- ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Twelve Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Two Dollars (\$412,352.00) in operating expenses for the support of the Rockingham Free Public Library, Three Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$357,300.00) to be raised by taxes?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Two Thousand Fifty Three Dollars (\$82,053) to be allocated to the following social service agencies as indicated?

Bellows Falls Senior Center	\$ 21,384
Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center	\$ 1,450
Health Care & Rehabilitation Services, Inc.	\$ 2,700
Meeting Waters YMCA	\$ 5,000
Our Place	\$ 5,000
Parks Place	\$ 4,000
Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)	\$ 4,770
Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc. (The Current)	\$ 3,825
Springfield Supported Housing Program	\$ 2,500
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 1,350
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT & NH	\$ 26,024
Women's Freedom Center	\$ 1,750
Youth Services	\$ 2,300

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Rockingham vote to raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$4,000 for the support of Greater Falls Connection to provide services to residents of the Town?

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town of Rockingham vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$2,500 for the support of the Bellows Falls Community Bike Project to provide services to residents of the Town?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham establish, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804(a), a reserve fund to be named "The Town of Rockingham Highway Improvement Capital Reserve Fund", the purpose of which is to support the ongoing repair, upkeep, maintenance and improvements of Town highways. Such fund may receive income either through an appropriation at an annual or special Town Meeting, through grants, gifts or donations from any source, and through accrued interest. Furthermore, to appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to this reserve fund, such funds to come from the Town's unrestricted fund balance?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham establish, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804(a), a reserve fund to be named "The Rockingham Meeting House Capital Reserve Fund", the purpose of which is to support the ongoing repair, upkeep, maintenance and improvement of the Rockingham Meeting House. Such fund may receive income either through an appropriation at an annual or special Town Meeting, through grants, gifts, or donations from any source, and through accrued interest. Furthermore, to appropriate Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) to this reserve fund, such funds to come from the Town's unrestricted fund balance?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham establish, pursuant to 24 V.S.A 2804(a), a reserve fund to be named “The Rockingham Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund”, the purpose of which is to support the ongoing repair, upkeep, maintenance and improvement of the Rockingham Town Hall, to include the Bellows Falls Opera House. Such fund may receive income either through an appropriation at an annual or special Town Meeting, through grants, gifts, or donations from any source, and through accrued interest. Furthermore, to appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars, (\$50,000.00) to this reserve fund, such funds to come from the Town’s unrestricted fund balance?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) as the municipal contribution for a grant to purchase a new pumper truck for the Bellows Falls Fire Department, such funds to come from the Town’s unrestricted fund balance? Due to grant requirements, the truck is to be purchased, owned, housed, and maintained by the Bellows Falls Village Corporation.

ARTICLE 16: To transact any other business deemed proper when not involving the expenditures of Town funds or any other business acted upon in the preceding articles.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Rockingham duly called, noticed, and held on January 22, 2018.

Kathleen Neathawk
Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

Susan Hammond
Susan Hammond, Chair

Stefan Golec
Stefan Golec, Vice-Chair

Ann DiBernardo
Ann DiBernardo

Gaetano Putignano
Gaetano Putignano

Cass Wright
Cass Wright

RECEIVED FOR THE RECORD
ROCKINGHAM TOWN CLERK’S
OFFICE January 23, 2018
at 7:35 am

Recorded in Book 348, Page 8-10
Town meeting Book

ATTEST: Kathleen Neathawk
Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

WARNING
RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SCHOOL
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL
MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

(Member districts: Bellows Falls Union High School District #27, Black River Union High School District #39, Green Mountain Union High School District #35, and Springfield School District)

ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The legal voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District are hereby warned to meet in room B118 at the Howard Dean Education Center, Springfield, Vermont, on Thursday, March 1, 2018, at 7:00 PM, to transact at that time business not involving voting by Australian Ballot or voting required by law to be by ballot.

The business to be transacted to include:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for a two year term

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Clerk for a term of two years

ARTICLE 3: To elect a Treasurer for a term of two years

ARTICLE 4: To see what compensation the School District will pay to the officers of the River Valley Technical Center School District.

ARTICLE 5: To hear and act on the reports of the School District officers.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the School District will authorize the Board of Directors to receive and expend funds received through grants, donations, or other outside sources during the ensuing year, so long as such funds do not change the technical-education tuition assessment derived from the operating budget approved by the School District voters.

ARTICLE 7: To authorize the Board of Directors to borrow funds through a bridge loan to cover expenses while waiting for state funding to arrive.

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this School District Annual Meeting.

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

VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT MARCH 6, 2018

ARTICLE 1

Shall the voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District approve the sum of **two million, seven hundred forty-eight thousand, five hundred seventy-three dollars (\$2,748,573)** to defray current expenses for the ensuing fiscal year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations?

The legal voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District are further warned that a Public Informational Meeting will be held concerning the aforementioned Australian ballot article on Thursday, March 1, 2018 in room B118 at the Howard Dean Education Center, immediately following the business portion of the School District's Annual Meeting.

For more information about the proposed 2018-2019 budget, please contact the office of the RVTC Superintendent/Director at (802) 885-8301. Copies of the RVTC Annual Report are available at town clerk offices and high schools of the member districts, on our website at rvtc.org, or upon request by contacting the RVTC office.

Robert Flint, Chair
 David Clark, Vice Chair
 Andrew Pennell, Board Secretary/Clerk
 Andrew Collins
 James Rumrill

Alison DesLauriers
 Angela Benson-Ciufo
 Jeanice Garfield
 Susan Tomberg
 Jeff Mobus, Clerk, River Valley Technical Center School District

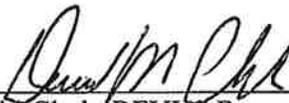
RNER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018
And
VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
MARCH 6, 2018

Dated at Springfield, Vermont, in the County of Windsor, on this 25th day of January 2018.

River Valley Technical Center Board of Directors



Robert Flint, At-Large Member
Board Chair



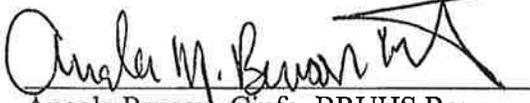
David Clark, BFUHS Representative
Vice Chair



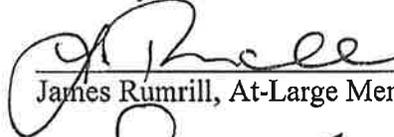
Alison DesLauriers, Green Mt. UHS Representative



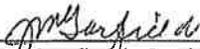
Andrew Pennell, At-Large Member
Secretary/Clerk



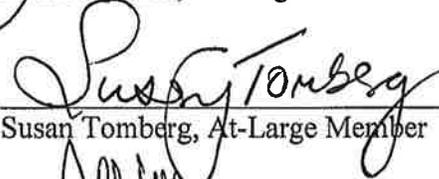
Angela Benson-Ciuffo, BRUHS Representative



James Rumrill, At-Large Member



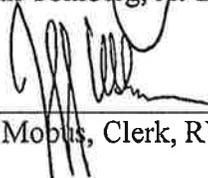
Jeanice Garfield, Springfield S.D. Representative



Susan Tomberg, At-Large Member



Andrew Collins, At-large Member, Fall Mtn. RSD



Jeff Mobus, Clerk, RVTC School District

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Rockingham, VT 05101

Received Jan. 17, 2018

at 10:45 Am

Recorded in Book 348 Page 1-3

Attest: Kneathawk Town Clerk

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY

CHECKLIST POSTED:

By Sunday, February 4, 2018 (or 30 days before town meeting) the Town Clerk must post the checklist. Make sure your name is on it. If your name is not on it, you must complete an application to the checklist. (Available online at <http://www.sec.state.vt.us>, click on Elections or from your town clerk.)

REGISTER TO VOTE:

A person may submit an application for addition to the checklist to the presiding officer at the polling place of the town during hours of voting established by the board of civil authority. Presiding officer shall review submitted applications and determine if they meet the requirement of 17 V.S.A. §2121.17:21449b)

EARLY OR ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

You, or a family member on your behalf, may request an early or absentee ballot from your Town Clerk by telephone, mail or e-mail at any time up until 4:30 p.m. or closing of the Town Clerk's office on the day before the election, **March 5, 2018**.

You can also go to the Town Clerk's office and vote your ballot while at the office. Or, you can pick up your ballot at the Town Clerk's office and take it home to vote. **(You cannot pick up a ballot for your spouse or anyone else.)**

If you take your ballot or have a ballot sent to you, you must return the ballot to the polling place, no later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

If you are ill or disabled, you can request that a pair of justices of the peace deliver a ballot to you. You can request assistance in reading or marking your ballot from the justices. They must return the ballot to the Town Clerk for you.

SAMPLE BALLOTS POSTED: February 24, 2018 (at least 10 days before election).

ON ELECTION DAY:

1. If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, explain the situation to your town clerk and ask that it be put back on.
2. If the problem isn't cleared up to your satisfaction, have the town clerk, a selectman or other members of the board of civil authority call an immediate meeting of the members of the board who are present at the polls. They should investigate the problem and clear it up.
3. If you are still not satisfied, you may take a brief written request to a superior court judge, who will rule on your request before the polls close that day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE for more information.
4. If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may bring the person of your choice to assist you or you can request assistance from two election officials.
5. If you cannot get from the car into the polling place, two election officials may bring a ballot to your car.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW:

1. Do not knowingly vote more than once, either in the same town or in different towns.
2. Do not mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote. You can only register to vote and remain on the checklist in the town of your principal dwelling place.
3. Do not display any campaign literature, stickers, buttons, etc. within the building containing a polling place; however, a voter may bring a small card or paper into the polling place for his or her own use in remembering candidates so long as it is not publicly displayed.
4. Do not solicit votes or otherwise campaign within the building containing a polling place.
5. Do not interfere with the progress of a voter going to and from the polling place. This includes not socializing in a manner that will disturb other voters.

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS

Here is some basic information for you, the voter. If you have any questions after reading this, or at any time during the voting process, ask your town clerk or another election official.

CHECK-IN

1. At the entrance checklist table, state your name, and if asked, your residence, in a clear, audible voice.
2. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

ENTER

1. Enter within the guardrail, and an election official will hand you a ballot(s).
2. Take your ballot(s) to a vacant booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT

1. **HOW TO MARK:** For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc."
2. If you are voting in a town that uses voting machines, follow the instructions on the ballot to connect the arrow next to the name of the candidate(s)
3. If you are unclear about the instructions, ask an election official to assist you.
4. **WRITE-IN:** To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and write the name, then fill in the oval.
5. **MISTAKES or SPOILED BALLOTS:** If you make a mistake in marking your ballot, you may give your spoiled ballot to an election official and receive another ballot to mark. You may request up to three new ballots.

VOTE

1. In a town using voting machines, do not fold or bend your ballot. Simply insert your ballot into the slot on the voting machine.

LEAVE

1. Leave the voting area by passing outside the guardrail.
2. Continue outside the polling place before beginning socializing or conversations that could disrupt other voters.

Posted in conformance with 17 V.S.A. § 2521 by the Town Clerk.


Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
March 6 – 7, 2017

SUMMARY

Present: Michael Harty, Moderator; Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk; Shane O’Keefe, Municipal Manager; Lamont Barnett, Selectboard Chair and Selectboard Members: Stefan Golec, Ann DiBernardo, Peter Golec, and Susan Hammond

Press: Joel Slutsky and FACT 8 TV

Meeting was called to order @ 7:08 p.m. by Moderator, Mike Harty

Lamont Barnett, Chair noted the Town Report was dedicated to Jeff Wilson; a plaque was presented to his wife, Heather Wilson.

Barnett spoke regarding resigning member Peter Golec, and his many years of service to the Town of Rockingham. Mr. Golec spoke briefly regarding his years of service.

Moderator Harty then introduced the Selectboard members, Interim Manager, Shane O’Keefe, Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk.

Moderator Harty called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Rockingham and Town of Rockingham School District, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall Auditorium (Bellows Falls Opera House) in said Town on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon all matters which may be voted upon by acclamation and not otherwise to be voted upon by Australian Ballot, and then to adjourn to the Masonic Temple (61 Westminster Street) in said Town at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 to vote by Australian Ballot on Article 1.

Article 1: To elect Town Officers and Town School District Officers as required by law (by Australian ballot).

Article 2: Motion made by Stefan Golec, seconded by Lamont Barnett
Accept the reports of the Town Officers as printed.
Motion passed.

Article 3: Motion made by Ann DiBernardo, seconded by Stefan Golec.
Authorize the Selectboard and treasurer to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of tax collection, or payment of money due the town by the State of VT for highways or other purposes or payment to the town from Federal Funds.
Motion passed.

Article 4: Motion made by Peter Golec, seconded by Sue Hammond
Authorize the Selectboard to seek out and/or accept funds available from non-property tax revenue sources and to spend those funds in appropriate ways after required public input.
Motion passed.

Article 5: Motion made by Lamont Barnett, seconded by Peter Golec.

Raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million Three Hundred Eighty Two Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$5,382,600) to pay the indebtedness of the Town, repair and maintain highways, and pay all other general and regular expenses of the town beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, with Four Million Three Hundred Eighty One Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$4,381,675) to be raised by taxes.

Discussion and questions from the floor.

Motion passed.

Article 6: Motion made by Sue Hammond, seconded by Peter Golec.

Raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Ninety Six Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Two Dollars (\$396,972) in operating expenses for the support of the Rockingham Free Public Library, with Three Hundred Forty Seven Thousand Seventy Dollars (\$347,070) to be raised by taxes.

Discussion, and motion made by Joel Love to cut library budget by \$10,426 motion seconded; additional discussion.

Vote called on the motion to amend; motion defeated.

Vote called on original motion; motion passed.

Article 7: Motion made by Stefan Golec, seconded by Ann DiBernardo.

Raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Seven Thousand Six Hundred Three Dollars (\$77,603.00) to be allocated to the following social service agencies as indicated:

Bellows Falls Senior Center	\$ 21,384
Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center	\$ 1,450
Meeting Waters YMCA	\$ 5,000
Our Place	\$ 5,000
Parks Place	\$ 4,000
Southeastern VT Community Action (SEVCA)	\$ 4,770
Southeastern VT Transit Inc. (The Current)	\$ 3,825
Springfield Supported Housing Program	\$ 2,500
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 1,350
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT & NH	\$ 26,024
Youth Services	\$ 2,300

Discussion from the floor.

Motion passed.

Article 8: Motion made by Ann DiBernardo, seconded by Peter Golec.

Raise appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,750.00 for the support of the Women's Fredon Center to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town.

Discussion from the floor.

Motion passed.

Article 9: Motion made by Peter Golec, seconded by Sue Hammond
Raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$2,700 for the support of outpatient mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services Inc. to Town residents.
Motion passed.

Article 10: Motion made by Sue Hammond, seconded by Peter Golec.
Continue to exempt from taxes for a period of 5 years, parcel #100020201, Saxtons River Village Corporation (the Trout Ponds).
Discussion from the floor.
Motion passed.

Article 11: Motion made by Lamont Barnett, seconded Stefan Golec
Formally request that TransCanada, or subsequent owners, modify current operation of the dam, and create a mitigation fund to reimburse towns and landowners for any and all damages. Barnett noted that the Bridge Street and Depot Street bridges are in existence only to serve the canal, which is part of this project, and that language should be included in the licensing that is taking place now, to require the owner to contribute to the replacement and/or maintenance of those bridges.
Discussion from the floor.
Motion passed.

Article 12: To transact any other business, not involving the expenditures of the Town funds or any other business acted upon in the preceding articles.

- Barnett thanked Josh Hearne for his years of service on the Selectboard.
- Cathy Bergman inquired about finding a Municipal Manager, who can do the job of financial Director along with his/her duties as Municipal Manager. Gary Fox advocated for the need for two separate positions.

Moderator stated he would entertain a motion to adjourn the Town portion of the meeting.
Stefan Golec made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Ann DiBernardo.
Motion passed.

Business portion of the Town Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Polls will be open from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Masonic Temple to vote on Article 1

3451 Registered Voters on Checklist
135 Voters Checked Off Entrance Checklist

Attest: Kathleen Neathawk
Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING SUMMARY
March 5-6, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Mike Harty at 8:30 p.m.

Article 1: To hear the reports of the Rockingham Town School District Officers for the last year.
Motion made by Kate Coburn. Seconded / Passed

Article 2: To see if the Rockingham Town School District will apply the sum of one hundred forty eight thousand, eighty five dollars (\$148,085.00) from the fiscal year 2016 fund balance to create a reserve fund to be used for capital improvements at the Rockingham Schools, and authorize the Board to expend said funds.

Motion made by Margo Ghia. Seconded / Passed

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Rockingham Town School District approve the school board to expend nine million, seven hundred seventy two thousand, three hundred ninety dollars and fifty cents (\$9,772,390.50) for the ensuing fiscal year.

Questions and discussion addressed by Rick Holloway.

Article 3 to be voted on by Australian ballot.

Article 4: Shall voters vote to form the Windham Northeast Unified School District

Questions and discussion addressed by Sherri Arvin.

Article 4 to be voted on by Australian ballot

Article 5: Elect directors to the initial Board of the Directors of the Windham Northeast Unified School District.

Questions and discussion addressed by Margo Ghia.

Article 5 to be voted on by Australian ballot.

Article 6: To see if the Rockingham Town School District will vote to pay its District Officers compensation in the amounts of: Chair - \$700; Board members - \$600, and Treasurer - \$400.

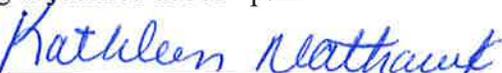
Motion made by Shari Arvin. Seconded / Passed

Article 7: To transact business brought before the Town School District Meeting.

- Shari Arvin was thanked for her work regarding Act 46 & for her years of service on the Board.
- Moderator Harty thanked volunteers helping with microphones on the floor
- Cathy Bergmann announced Marge Ladd would be running a write-in campaign for School Board.

Motion made to adjourn. Seconded / Passed

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Attest: 
Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

ROCKINGHAM TOWN & TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESULTS OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE – MARCH 7, 2017

Moderator – 1 year term	VOTES	School Moderator – 1 year term	
Michael Harty	506	Michael Harty	491
Selectboard – 3 year term		Rockingham School Director – 3 year term	
Susan Hammond	410	No candidate	
Selectboard – 1 year term (2)		Rockingham School Director – 2 year term	
Ann DiBernardo	321	Margo Ghia	466
Gaetano Putignano	360		
Cass Wright	259	BFUHS #27 School Director – 3 year term	
Selectboard – 1 year (unexpired term)		Jim McAuliffe	348
Stefan Golec	382	Deborah Wright	290
Lister – 3 year term		Article 3 – Rockingham School District	
Paul Noble	463	Budget (\$9,772,390.50)	
Town Grand Juror – 1 year term		Yes	332
George M. Kuusela	438	No	290
Town Agent – 1 year term		Article 6 – BFUHS #27 Budget	
L. Raymond Massucco	479	(\$6,439,831.33)	
Trustee of Public Funds – 3 year term		Yes	333
Patricia Fowler	481	No	225
Trustee Campbell Fund – 3 year term		Article 1 – River Valley Tech Center Budget	
Write ins	0	(\$2,808,631.00)	
Trustee Public Library – 3 year term		Yes	395
Kate Guild Kane	430	No	159
Susan Spaulding	398	Article 4 – Windham Unified School	
Brady Weinstock	363	Yes	283
		No	191



Proven Expertise and Integrity

January 25, 2018

Board of Selectmen
Town of Rockingham, Vermont
P.O. Box 370
Bellows Falls, VT 05101

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Rockingham, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017.

The financial statements and our reports thereon are available for inspection at the Town Office and on your website.

Sincerely,

RHR Smith & Company

RHR Smith and Company, CPAs
Buxton, Maine
Vermont Registration No. 092.0000697

3 Old Orchard Road, Buxton, Maine 04093
Tel: (800) 300-7708 (207) 929-4606 Fax: (207) 929-4609
www.rhrsmith.com

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - REVENUES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>TAXES</u>				
Current Taxes Received	2,141,063	2,086,458	2,270,018	2,209,738
Tax Sale Revenue	0	18,600	0	0
Railroad Land Taxes	1,000	1,926	1,900	1,900
	<u>2,142,063</u>	<u>2,106,984</u>	<u>2,271,918</u>	<u>2,211,638</u>
<u>ABATEMENTS</u>				
Tax Abatements	-5,000	-4,466	-5,000	-5,000
Penalty & Interest Abated	-5,000	0	-5,000	-5,000
	<u>-10,000</u>	<u>-4,466</u>	<u>-10,000</u>	<u>-10,000</u>
<u>PENALTIES & INTEREST</u>				
Interest Current Taxes	30,000	33,808	28,000	30,000
Interest Delinquent Taxes	20,000	14,568	22,000	18,000
Penalty 8%	28,000	32,398	28,000	29,000
Bank Interest Earned	2,000	5,965	3,000	3,000
	<u>80,000</u>	<u>86,739</u>	<u>81,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>
<u>GRANTS, RENTS, REIMBURSE</u>				
<u>TOWN/VILLAGE/SCHOOL FUNDS</u>				
Treasurer School Salary	500	625	625	625
School Share Town Expense	14,000	15,040	14,000	14,000
School Share Town Meeting	1,000	1,306	1,000	1,000
Waypoint Center Rentals	1,200	1,468	1,200	1,200
	<u>16,700</u>	<u>18,439</u>	<u>16,825</u>	<u>16,825</u>
<u>STATE FUNDS</u>				
CLG Grants	6,000	2,251	6,000	6,000
Land Use (State)	108,000	122,495	112,000	120,000
State PILOT Program	8,500	12,548	10,000	10,000
State Civil Fines	3,500	2,489	0	1,000
Planning Grant	500	0	500	500
	<u>126,500</u>	<u>139,783</u>	<u>128,500</u>	<u>137,500</u>
<u>TOWN HALL RENTS</u>				
South Storefront	7,280	7,281	7,280	7,850
North Storefront	6,600	5,800	7,280	7,400
	<u>13,880</u>	<u>13,081</u>	<u>14,560</u>	<u>15,250</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - REVENUES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>CHARGES FOR SERVICES/FEES</u>				
Town Clerk Fees	38,000	36,469	38,000	36,500
Vault Usage	400	850	400	400
Photo-copying Fees Clerk	100	33	100	100
Photo-copying Fees Zoning	25	0	0	0
Rockingham Meeting House	1,000	4,096	3,000	3,000
	<u>39,525</u>	<u>41,448</u>	<u>41,500</u>	<u>40,000</u>
<u>SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING</u>				
Westminster Tax Rebate	1,600	1,533	1,600	1,600
Tires	1,600	1,236	1,600	1,600
Soda Cans	4,700	6,337	6,000	6,000
White Goods	1,300	2,886	3,000	3,000
Brown Goods/C&D	22,000	34,782	35,000	35,000
Miscellaneous	0	0	17,500	0
Scrap Metals	4,500	3,065	2,000	2,000
Electronics	1,000	3,906	1,000	1,000
Transfer Station User Fee	58,000	57,959	58,000	58,000
	<u>94,700</u>	<u>111,704</u>	<u>125,700</u>	<u>108,200</u>
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>				
Local Fines	100	0	100	100
	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>				
Recreation Center Rental	1,000	1,363	2,000	1,500
Daily Pool Admission	2,000	341	1,500	1,200
Season Swim Pass	6,500	2,589	6,000	5,000
Swim Lessons	1,000	530	700	700
Saxton's River Day Camp	5,000	4,642	9,000	8,000
Bellows Falls Day Camp	500	0	0	0
Ski Tow Daily Pass	100	0	0	100
Ski Tow Season Pass	100	0	0	40
Youth Basketball	2,000	1,255	2,500	1,700
Youth Softball	600	380	800	800
Field Hockey	1,000	1,325	1,200	1,200
Adult Volleyball	900	420	800	500
	<u>20,700</u>	<u>12,845</u>	<u>24,500</u>	<u>20,740</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - REVENUES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>LISTERS</u>				
Listers Income	500	73	800	800
	500	73	800	800
<u>LICENSES/PERMITS</u>				
Entertainment Licenses	1,200	1,550	2,000	1,600
Alcoholic Beverages	2,100	2,385	2,100	2,100
Dog Licenses	1,350	951	1,000	1,000
Animal Control Fees	2,000	1,775	1,500	1,500
Zoning Fees	9,000	4,568	9,000	7,500
Technical Consulting	0	0	0	0
Permit Report & Fees	1,300	0	100	100
Parking Permits	1,900	2,400	1,900	2,000
	18,850	13,629	17,600	15,800
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>				
SVT Payment	8,000	9,597	9,500	9,500
Village Payment Tax Refund	0	0	0	15,240
Miscellaneous Income	2,000	64,457	2,000	2,000
Use of Unassigned Fund Balance	0	0	0	100,000
	10,000	74,054	11,500	126,740
<u>TOTAL FUND REVENUE</u>	2,553,518	2,614,313	2,724,503	2,763,593

Notes:

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>SELECTBOARD</u>				
Selectboard Wages	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300
Selectboard Expenses	3,000	1,916	1,800	2,000
	9,300	8,216	8,100	8,300
<u>TOWN MANAGER</u>				
Manager's Salary	50,000	69,398	50,000	45,000
Executive Assistant to Manager	28,300	29,774	28,300	29,000
Managers Advertising	1,250	759	1,000	1,000
Managers Telephone	1,100	1,121	1,100	300
Manager's Development	1,500	493	1,000	1,200
Auto Expense	1,200	1,050	1,000	900
Manager's Miscellaneous	1,000	348	1,000	1,000
	84,350	102,943	83,400	78,400
<u>FEES & REIMBURSEMENTS</u>				
Memorial Day Celebration	1,600	1,600	1,600	2,100
Old Home Days Fireworks	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Green Up Vermont	300	1,600	300	300
	6,400	7,700	6,400	6,900
<u>ELECTIONS</u>				
Ballot Clerks	2,700	2,452	1,400	2,000
Election Expenses	4,500	3,900	3,200	3,200
	7,200	6,353	4,600	5,200
<u>FINANCE OFFICE</u>				
Treasurer's Salary	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,260
Finance Staff	44,700	46,770	71,500	56,300
Finance Assistant/Finance Director	25,400	26,546	32,500	34,340
Other Office Help	400	0	0	0
Office Staff Training	1,000	178	1,000	1,000
	72,751	74,745	106,251	92,900
<u>AUDITING</u>				
Town Report	3,500	1,755	3,500	2,000
Auditors/Single Audit	21,000	17,700	21,000	22,000
	24,500	19,455	24,500	24,000

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>LISTERS</u>				
Listers Wages	37,800	29,828	37,500	38,250
Administrative Assistant	21,800	22,044	22,500	22,900
Mapping Maintenance	3,000	6,983	2,500	3,500
Software & Support	13,200	4,930	6,000	5,500
Training Expense	1,800	921	1,800	1,200
Listers Auto Expense	1,200	1,098	1,500	1,200
Tax Appeal Expense	1,000	0	5,000	1,000
	<u>79,800</u>	<u>65,804</u>	<u>76,800</u>	<u>73,550</u>
<u>TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE</u>				
Town Clerk's Salary	39,700	39,666	40,500	41,270
Office Assistant	37,000	36,961	37,100	37,850
Supplies Clerk	1,800	2,494	1,800	1,000
Meetings & Dues	1,000	969	1,500	1,000
Land Records System	12,540	10,187	13,000	11,500
	<u>92,040</u>	<u>90,277</u>	<u>93,900</u>	<u>92,620</u>
<u>OFFICE OPERATIONS TOWN HALL</u>				
Materials & Supplies	10,850	9,747	10,850	10,000
Software	1,500	968	2,400	2,500
Town Hall Telephone	6,500	5,968	6,500	6,000
Postage	6,900	7,191	7,200	7,500
Software Support	2,900	668	1,200	700
Web Site Support	2,500	2,945	1,000	500
Training/Consulting	500	0	700	500
IT Outside Support	16,000	7,193	16,000	12,000
Computer Hardware/Service	2,500	1,713	2,500	2,500
Office Equipment/Service	13,100	3,460	6,500	5,000
Copier/Postage Meter Leases	6,000	7,535	6,000	6,000
	<u>69,250</u>	<u>47,388</u>	<u>60,850</u>	<u>53,200</u>
<u>PLANNING & ZONING</u>				
Administrator's Salary	57,100	56,202	57,400	58,500
Wages - Board Stipend	5,150	3,525	7,500	7,000
Administrative Assistant	21,800	21,996	22,500	22,900
Administrator's Expense	1,000	1,968	3,000	4,500
Advertising	600	230	600	600
Mapping	250	0	0	0
Windham Regional Planning	9,984	9,693	11,565	11,900
Legal	4,250	1,958	4,250	4,000
Zoning-Recording Fees	900	810	900	900
Board Expenses	2,000	2,113	0	0
Planning Studies	0	0	0	3,500
	<u>103,034</u>	<u>98,495</u>	<u>107,715</u>	<u>113,800</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY</u>				
Board of Civil Authority	3,000	600	1,500	1,000
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<u>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u>				
Tax Sale Expense	50,000	52,354	50,000	50,000
Town Attorney	10,000	15,348	10,000	10,000
Property Appeals Legal	30,000	6,428	15,000	5,000
Other Professional Services	2,000	686	1,500	2,000
Union Negotiations Legal	5,000	10,608	5,000	1,000
Community Broadcasting	0	0	1,800	1,800
	<u>97,000</u>	<u>85,424</u>	<u>83,300</u>	<u>69,800</u>
<u>TOWN HALL</u>				
Custodial Supplies	5,000	3,743	5,000	5,000
Custodial Services	15,500	15,410	15,500	15,500
Rubbish Removal	3,000	2,966	3,300	3,300
Repairs & Maintenance	35,000	29,290	45,000	45,000
Electricity	18,000	15,760	18,000	18,000
Fuel	35,000	16,829	25,000	20,000
Water & Sewer	4,000	3,424	4,000	4,000
Town Hall Equipment	500	0	500	0
	<u>116,000</u>	<u>87,422</u>	<u>116,300</u>	<u>110,800</u>
<u>TOWN OWNED PROPERTY</u>				
Maintenance TLR Bldg	0	160	0	0
Maintenance Waypoint	15,000	14,199	15,000	15,000
Park & Ride Electricity	0	283	0	500
Hydro Plant - Brockways Mill	0	3,064	0	0
Tax Sale Acquired Property	0	73	0	20,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>17,779</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>35,500</u>
<u>ROCKINGHAM MEETING HOUSE</u>				
Meeting House Wages	8,200	8,018	8,500	9,000
Materials & Supplies	500	89	500	500
Meeting House Utilities	2,000	1,682	2,000	2,000
Meeting House Maintenance	6,600	9,519	2,000	5,000
	<u>17,300</u>	<u>19,308</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>16,500</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>SANITATION</u>				
SWWCSWMD Representative	650	650	650	650
	650	650	650	650
<u>RECYCLING EXPENSES</u>				
Wages-Recycling	16,800	16,264	17,500	27,300
Materials & Supplies	2,000	264	2,000	2,000
Repairs & Maintenance	5,000	1,621	5,000	5,000
Brush Chipping	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Equipment	0	147	35,000	37,500
Taxes-Westminster	1,600	1,533	1,600	1,600
Recycling Telephone	1,300	649	650	500
CFC Removal Expense	1,000	1,599	1,800	1,800
Construction & Demolition Disposal	45,000	51,224	50,000	50,000
Tires	3,000	2,874	3,000	3,000
Electricity	5,000	872	1,500	1,500
Fuel	600	109	600	200
Public Education	300		100	100
Container Transport	21,000	19,980	11,000	15,900
MRF Processing	10,000	11,779	25,000	25,000
Electronics Disposal	1,000	0	300	0
Food Compost	0	0	0	1,400
	117,600	112,915	159,050	176,800
<u>TRANSFER STATION EXPENSE</u>				
Municipal Solid Waste Disposal	30,000	31,956	30,000	42,000
	30,000	31,956	30,000	42,000
<u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>				
Director of Development	63,000	23,842	31,500	32,100
CLG Administration	11,000	11,045	10,900	11,000
Advertising & Promotion	500	1,244	5,000	2,000
Development Telephone	1,000	707	1,000	700
CLG Projects	5,000	3,021	5,000	5,000
Director's Expenses	1,000	914	2,000	2,000
BFDDA	5,000	5,337	7,500	7,500
SeVEDS	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Chamber of Commerce	600	600	1,000	1,000
	102,100	61,710	78,900	76,300

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>				
FICA	48,200	41,192	44,700	47,100
Health Insurance	84,400	63,004	74,000	66,000
Dental Insurance	3,100	2,690	3,000	2,900
Employee's Pension	25,500	34,762	25,500	40,000
ICMA-RC Contribution	0	2,615	0	6,640
Life/Disability Insurance	3,000	2,569	2,900	3,000
Insurance Incentive	22,300	7,080	18,500	11,400
Unemployment	3,000	3,466	3,000	3,250
VMERS	22,000	18,119	21,400	16,700
Misc. Insurance/Benefits	0	25	0	100
Accrued Payroll Adjustment	0	2,179	0	0
	211,500	177,701	193,000	197,090
<u>TAXES</u>				
Overassessment Repayment	0	270,085	0	0
County Tax	34,000	35,758	38,000	34,000
Town Forest Taxes	300	322	350	350
	34,300	306,165	38,350	34,350
<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u>				
Veterinary Services	800	0	800	800
Damage/Miscellaneous	500	0	500	500
WCSD/Animal Control	8,000	1,325	5,000	5,000
	9,300	1,325	6,300	6,300
<u>SERVICE AGENCIES</u>				
Meeting Waters YMCA	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
BF Senior Center	21,384	23,106	21,384	21,384
Green Mountain RSVP	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450
Youth Services	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Women's Freedom Center	1,125	1,125	1,750	1,750
Visiting Nurses Assoc	26,024	26,024	26,024	26,024
HCRS	0	0	2,700	2,700
Our Place Drop-In Center	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Parks Place Community Resource Center	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
VT Adult Learning	1,350	0	1,350	1,350
Southeast Vermont Transit	3,825	3,825	3,825	3,825
SEVCA	4,770	4,770	4,770	4,770
Springfield Supported Housing	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
	78,728	79,100	82,053	82,053

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>INSURANCE</u>				
Worker's Compensation	10,600	9,301	10,950	11,200
General Liability	11,000	10,353	12,000	7,500
Buildings and Contents	45,000	42,478	48,500	50,300
Public Officials Liability	23,100	23,082	27,800	30,300
Insurance Deductible	0	2,250	0	1,000
	<u>89,700</u>	<u>87,464</u>	<u>99,250</u>	<u>100,300</u>
<u>DUES</u>				
VLCT Dues	6,900	6,760	7,001	7,200
	<u>6,900</u>	<u>6,760</u>	<u>7,001</u>	<u>7,200</u>
<u>AMBULANCE/CIVIL DEFENSE</u>				
Ambulance	72,000	72,000	72,000	72,000
Speed Signs Electric	1,000	743	1,000	1,000
Emergency Preparedness	2,050	0	2,050	2,000
	<u>75,050</u>	<u>72,743</u>	<u>75,050</u>	<u>75,000</u>
<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>				
Insurance	3,500	2,075	3,000	2,500
Materials & Supplies	1,500	570	1,200	1,000
Equipment	7,500	5,743	7,500	7,500
Rockingham Fire Telephone	550	380	550	400
Mutual Aid Tone Contract	17,500	18,290	18,100	19,000
Seminars & Training	500	400	500	500
Gas/Oil/Maintenance	6,000	3,042	4,000	4,000
Hepititas B Shots	100	0	100	100
	<u>37,150</u>	<u>30,500</u>	<u>34,950</u>	<u>35,000</u>
<u>HEW</u>				
Deputy Health Officer	0	0	0	250
HEW - Materials & Supplies	350	0	350	350
Health Order Expenses	1,500	0	1,500	1,500
Health Recording Fees	100	0	100	100
Administrator's Expense	600	729	600	600
	<u>2,550</u>	<u>729</u>	<u>2,550</u>	<u>2,800</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>SERVICE OFFICER</u>				
Service Officer Expense	1,500	620	1,500	1,500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>620</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>				
Recreation Director	29,100	28,655	29,300	29,850
Wages - Playground	32,000	33,518	41,000	40,000
Wages - Pools	35,000	21,497	26,000	27,300
Wages-Recreation Center	13,100	7,247	11,500	11,500
Ski Tow Wages	600	608	600	600
Wages - Maintenance	4,900	4,376	5,000	5,000
Cultural Arts Supplies	4,000	380	4,000	2,000
Recreation Office Supplies	1,800	1,513	1,800	1,500
Playground Supplies/Equipment	5,500	5,841	5,500	17,500
Pool Maintenance/Supplies	6,000	11,091	6,000	6,000
Ski Tow Maint/Supplies	2,000	2,739	2,000	2,000
Training & Certification	1,000	2,343	1,000	1,000
Telephone & Internet	2,800	2,591	3,500	2,800
Cultural Entertainment	2,500	3,091	3,000	3,000
Rubbish Removal	2,500	3,244	3,300	3,300
Buildings & Grounds Maintenance	5,000	4,996	7,000	6,000
Mileage	400	49	100	100
Propane	3,000	1,006	1,500	1,500
Electricity	8,000	5,405	8,000	6,500
Rec Bldg Water	1,000	483	750	0
SRRA Lease	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	<u>162,200</u>	<u>142,673</u>	<u>162,850</u>	<u>169,450</u>
<u>CAPITAL PROJECTS</u>				
Computer Hardware	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<u>RESERVES</u>				
Fire Equipment Reserves	0	0	0	0
Gravel Pit Redevelopment	2,000	2,000	0	0
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>				
Sewer Line Ext Principal	16,072	16,072	16,704	17,360
Sewer Line Ext Interest	3,476	2,738	2,832	2,170
Library Bond Principal	147,750	147,750	147,750	147,750
Library Bond Interest	77,527	77,527	74,952	72,000
Town Hall Renov Interest	58,470	50,200	52,625	46,650
Town Hall Renov Principal	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
2017 Fire Trucks Principal	0	0	100,000	100,000
2017 Fire Truck Interest	0	0	10,000	7,400
Rec Ctr/Town Hall Principal	0	0	50,000	50,000
Rec Ctr/Town Hall Interest	0	0	4,500	3,700
Church Place Demo Principal	0	0	0	25,000
Church Place Demo Interest	0	0	0	0
	<u>443,295</u>	<u>434,287</u>	<u>599,363</u>	<u>612,030</u>
<u>LIBRARY</u>				
Library Operating Costs	<u>347,070</u>	<u>347,070</u>	<u>347,070</u>	<u>357,300</u>
	347,070	347,070	347,070	357,300
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENSES</u>	2,553,518	2,633,277	2,724,503	2,763,593
<u>NET GENERAL FUND</u>	0	-18,964	0	0

Notes:

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
CEMETERY & PARKS - REVENUES & EXPENSES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Transfer from Fiduciary	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Oak Hill	200	550	200	200
Rockingham	100	100	500	500
Saxtons River	200	400	200	200
Cambridgeport	100	156	100	100
Markers/Posts	1,000	400	1,500	1,500
Vault Fees	500	0	500	500
Opening Graves	3,000	1,100	3,500	3,500
Property Taxes	63,526	63,526	64,471	62,621
	<u>73,626</u>	<u>71,232</u>	<u>75,971</u>	<u>74,121</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
<u>CEMETERY OPERATIONS</u>				
Wages-Sexton	6,300	6,804	6,820	6,820
Cemetery FICA	500	520	525	525
Materials & Supplies	500	0	500	500
Corner Markers	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Outside Service/Equipment	8,000	2,450	8,000	8,000
Building Maintenance	4,000	0	2,000	2,000
Repairs & Maintenance	2,000	0	4,000	4,000
Miscellaneous/Surveying	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
	<u>23,300</u>	<u>9,774</u>	<u>23,845</u>	<u>23,845</u>
<u>CONTRACT WORK</u>				
Cambridgeport	2,275	2,085	2,275	2,275
Oak Hill	14,800	16,500	14,800	14,800
Restland	3,920	3,500	3,920	3,920
Rockingham	6,570	7,110	6,570	6,570
Saxtons River	9,450	10,405	9,450	9,450
Capital Improvements	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
	<u>42,015</u>	<u>39,600</u>	<u>42,015</u>	<u>42,015</u>
<u>PARKS EXPENSE</u>				
Wages-Tree Warden	100	0	100	100
FICA	10	0	10	10
Materials & Supplies	1,000	0	1,000	150
Rubbish Removal	1,500	1,272	1,500	1,500
Lawn Maint Contracting	3,000	4,125	3,000	4,000
Parking Lot Lease	1	1	1	1
Tree Maintenance	2,500	0	3,000	2,000
Tree Program	200	0	1,500	500
	<u>8,311</u>	<u>5,398</u>	<u>10,111</u>	<u>8,261</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENSES</u>				
	73,626	54,772	75,971	74,121
<u>NET CEMETERY & PARKS</u>				
	0	16,460	0	0

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
HIGHWAY FUND - REVENUES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>STATE AID & TAX INCOME</u>				
Class I Road	16,700	16,736	16,700	16,700
Class II Road	63,900	63,694	63,700	63,700
Class III Road	93,300	93,186	93,100	93,100
Lane Mileage	1,240	1,241	1,240	1,240
VTrans Structures Grant	175,000	0	175,000	175,000
Property Taxes	2,580,728	2,580,728	2,476,309	2,654,840
Highway Access Permit Fee	100	250	100	100
Miscellaneous Highway Fees	100	390	100	100
	<u>2,931,068</u>	<u>2,756,225</u>	<u>2,826,249</u>	<u>3,004,780</u>
<u>MISCELLANEOUS INCOME</u>				
Town Highway Miscellaneous	<u>10,000</u>	<u>12,008</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	10,000	12,008	10,000	10,000
<u>GRANT REVENUE</u>				
Class II Paving Grant	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>175,000</u>	<u>0</u>
	0	0	175,000	0
<u>TOTAL FUND REVENUE</u>	2,941,068	2,768,233	3,011,249	3,014,780

Notes:

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
HIGHWAY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>HIGHWAY PERSONNEL</u>				
Salary - Highway Supervisor	70,000	78,203	69,200	70,510
Salary - Public Works Director	0	0	0	80,000
Mechanic's Wages	50,000	51,367	50,000	51,000
Wages-Road Crew	488,000	498,089	483,230	496,200
	<u>608,000</u>	<u>627,659</u>	<u>602,430</u>	<u>697,710</u>
<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>				
FICA	47,500	47,443	47,100	54,400
Health Insurance	185,700	128,821	151,900	175,700
Dental Insurance	5,000	4,866	5,400	5,620
Life/Disability Insurance	4,400	4,232	4,900	5,000
Insurance Incentive	14,200	9,312	8,600	13,400
Unemployment Insurance	2,600	2,021	2,500	2,800
VMERS	32,700	33,959	33,400	38,700
Accrued Payroll Adjustment	0	693	0	0
Uniforms	16,000	16,296	16,000	16,000
	<u>308,100</u>	<u>247,643</u>	<u>269,800</u>	<u>311,620</u>
<u>HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION</u>				
Material/Supplies	1,500	331	1,500	1,000
Computer Hardware Software	500	1,466	1,000	1,000
H-Way Access Permit Fees	300	10	300	300
State Operating Fees	300	480	300	300
Advertising	1,500	288	1,000	500
Telephone & Pagers	3,500	2,015	3,500	2,000
Training	2,000	68	2,000	2,000
Safety Equipment	4,000	3,567	4,000	4,000
Engineering Services	24,000	560	24,000	5,000
Public Works Director Auto Expense	0	0	0	1,200
Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses	200	0	200	1,200
	<u>37,800</u>	<u>8,785</u>	<u>37,800</u>	<u>18,500</u>
<u>ROAD MAINTAINENCE</u>				
Material/Supplies	75,000	36,306	75,000	60,000
Cold Patch	3,500	3,695	3,500	3,500
Salt/Chloride	118,000	170,875	118,000	150,000
Sand & Gravel	85,000	57,842	75,000	75,000
Pavement Maintenance	252,000	239,652	252,000	300,000
Grant Funded Paving	0	0	175,000	0
Outside Services	100,000	80,094	100,000	70,000
	<u>633,500</u>	<u>588,464</u>	<u>798,500</u>	<u>658,500</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
HIGHWAY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>BRIDGES</u>				
Materials/Supplies	15,000	13,828	1,500	1,500
Outside Services/Equipment	3,000	2,656	1,000	1,000
Averil's Bridge 11R	0	5,141	0	0
	<u>18,000</u>	<u>21,625</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<u>STREET SIGNS/LIGHTING</u>				
Street Lights-Maintenance	10,000	5,044	10,000	5,000
Street Lights-Usage	72,000	53,858	62,000	60,000
Street Signs	10,000	5,200	10,000	8,000
	<u>92,000</u>	<u>64,102</u>	<u>82,000</u>	<u>73,000</u>
<u>SIDEWALKS</u>				
Materials/Supplies	20,000	1,631	50,000	60,000
Crosswalks/Striping	4,000	4,448	4,000	5,000
SR Sidewalk Paving	10,000	0	10,000	12,000
Contract Services	225,000	0	225,000	225,000
	<u>259,000</u>	<u>6,079</u>	<u>289,000</u>	<u>302,000</u>
<u>INSURANCE</u>				
Worker's Compensation	51,000	47,575	54,500	46,000
General Liability	13,000	12,130	13,800	8,800
Building and Contents	24,400	23,007	26,300	27,000
Vehicle Insurance	20,700	20,825	22,000	26,250
Insurance Deductible	3,000	1,937	3,000	3,000
	<u>112,100</u>	<u>105,474</u>	<u>119,600</u>	<u>111,050</u>
<u>EQUIPMENT EXPENSES</u>				
Vehicle Parts & Supplies	100,000	22,369	100,000	100,000
2002 Dodge 3/4 Ton	0	0	0	0
2003 GMC 3/4 HD	0	0	0	0
2004 Chevy 1 Ton	0	0	0	0
2011 Ford F350	0	1,396	0	0
2013 GMC 1-Ton	0	3,146	0	0
2016 GMC Lift Body	0	747	0	0
2016 GMC Pickup	0	637	0	0
2016 GMC Lift Body Rt103	0	719	0	0
2004 International 2 Ton	0	187	0	0
2006 GMC 4500	0	0	0	0
2017 4X6 6Wheel Dump	0	3,163	0	0

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
HIGHWAY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>EQUIPMENT EXPENSES - CONT'D</u>				
2017 Chev Silverado	0	47,607	0	0
1976 International Fire Tanker	0	0	0	0
2008 Freightliner 6 Wheeler	0	745	0	0
2014 Freightliner 6 Wheeler	0	1,579	0	0
2015 Freightliner 6 Wheeler	0	3,999	0	0
1996 International 6 Wheeler	0	371	0	0
2001 International 10 Wheeler	0	0	0	0
2011 Frieghtliner 10 Wheeler	0	10,304	0	0
2013 WesternStar 10 Wheeler	0	4,241	0	0
2014 WesternStar 10 Wheeler	0	647	0	0
2000 John Deere Loader	0	3,270	0	0
2002 Case 621D Loader	0	5,112	0	0
2006 CAT 928 Loader	0	0	0	0
2015 Deere 544K Loader	0	10,436	0	0
2005 CAT 140H Grader	0	0	0	0
2015 Deere 672G Grader	0	2,964	0	0
2007 CAT Backhoe	0	9,040	0	0
1994 CAT 311 Excavator	0	39	0	0
2005 Tenco Sweeper	0	254	0	0
2006 Elgin Sweeper	0	405	0	0
2001 Trackless Sidewalk Plow	0	3,662	0	0
2003 Case 120 Tractor	0	8,389	0	0
05 SNO-GO Blower	0	0	0	0
Snowrator	0	9,490	0	0
2011 Trackless Sidewalk Plow	0	2,561	0	0
1996 211 Ton Trailer	0	2,153	0	0
Hot Mix Patch Box Trailer	0	0	0	0
Equipment Misc Expense	0	0	0	0
Inventory Adjustment	0	15,431	0	0
	<u>100,000</u>	<u>175,063</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
<u>EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS</u>				
Misc. Equipment Purchases	10,000	5,760	10,000	8,000
Other Small Tools/Repairs	8,000	6,556	8,000	6,000
Radios	5,000	0	5,000	0
Diesel Fuel	100,000	67,074	65,000	70,000
Grease & Oil	10,000	4,240	7,000	5,000
Gasoline	10,000	2,521	7,000	3,000
Tire Chains	25,000	3,948	15,000	5,000
	<u>168,000</u>	<u>90,099</u>	<u>117,000</u>	<u>97,000</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
HIGHWAY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>TOWN/VILLAGE GARAGES</u>				
Material/Supplies	4,000	3,082	3,000	3,000
Telephone Highway Garage	1,100	1,368	2,000	2,000
Hwy Rubbish Removal	3,000	2,077	3,000	3,000
Building/Maint/Repairs	15,000	12,353	15,000	15,000
Electricity	16,000	14,780	16,000	16,000
Heating Fuel Town Garage	13,000	5,849	10,000	7,500
Heating Fuel Blake St.	12,000	4,912	8,000	6,000
	<u>64,100</u>	<u>44,421</u>	<u>57,000</u>	<u>52,500</u>
<u>TRANSFERS</u>				
Transfer to Equipment Fund	275,000	275,000	275,000	275,000
	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>
<u>PROJECT EXPENDITURES</u>				
Asphalt & Gravel Crushing	0	0	0	65,000
Gravel Pit Closure	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>				
Brockways Mills Principal	220,000	220,000	220,000	220,000
Brockways Mills Interest	35,468	28,137	30,619	20,400
	<u>255,468</u>	<u>248,137</u>	<u>250,619</u>	<u>240,400</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES</u>	2,941,068	2,512,551	3,011,249	3,014,780
<u>NET HIGHWAY FUND</u>	0	255,682	0	0

Notes:

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
EQUIPMENT FUND - REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>FY - 2019</u>
REVENUE				
Transfer Highway Fund	275,000	275,000	275,000	275,000
	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>	<u>275,000</u>
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u>				
Equipment Note Proceeds	165,000	165,000	165,000	165,000
Vtrans Stormwater Mitigation Grant	0	0	0	260,000
	<u>165,000</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>425,000</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>	440,000	440,000	440,000	700,000
EXPENDITURES				
<u>CAPITAL OUTLAY</u>				
Equipment Purchases	165,000	158,825	165,000	490,000
	<u>165,000</u>	<u>158,825</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>490,000</u>
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>				
PUB 2015 Note 6 & 10 Wheeler	100,000	100,000	100,000	50,000
PUB 2015 Note Interest	7,500	4,875	5,000	980
2015 Grader/Loader Principal	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
2015 Grader/Loader Interest	13,500	5,437	10,000	2,250
3 2016 Pickups Principal	50,000	50,000	30,000	35,000
3 Pickups Interest	2,500	1,865	1,800	550
2017 Freightliner 6 Wheeler Principal	0	0	15,000	50,000
2017 Freightliner 6 Wheeler Interest	0	0	3,000	2,700
6 Wheeler Principal	0	0	0	15,000
6 Wheeler Interest	0	0	0	3,000
	<u>273,500</u>	<u>262,177</u>	<u>264,800</u>	<u>259,480</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENSES</u>	438,500	421,002	429,800	749,480
<u>NET EQUIPMENT FUND</u>	1,500	18,998	10,200	-49,480

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
THEATER FUND - REVENUES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>CINEMA INCOME</u>				
Box Office	139,000	163,606	150,000	165,000
Concessions	85,000	100,620	90,000	95,000
Contribution	500	36	500	500
Gift Certificates	3,100	2,205	3,000	3,000
Bank Interest Earned	50	-230	0	0
Advertisements	0	0	6,000	7,500
Classic Film Series	10,000	3,500	5,000	7,500
	<u>237,650</u>	<u>269,737</u>	<u>254,500</u>	<u>278,500</u>
<u>THEATER INCOME</u>				
Theater Rental	5,000	8,428	5,000	5,000
BFOH Friends Membership	0	0	0	0
Donations & Contributions	0	0	500	500
Advertisements	2,000	1,050	0	0
Restoration Fee	0	0	0	1,000
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>9,478</u>	<u>5,500</u>	<u>6,500</u>
<u>TRANSFERS</u>				
Transfer - General Fund	127,050	121,728	117,450	113,900
	<u>127,050</u>	<u>121,728</u>	<u>117,450</u>	<u>113,900</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND REVENUES</u>	371,700	400,943	377,450	398,900

Notes:

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
THEATER FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>CINEMA EXPENSE</u>				
Cinema Staff	77,000	74,028	77,000	77,000
FICA	6,700	6,277	6,600	6,700
Health Insurance	18,600	6,448	8,100	8,100
Dental Insurance	420	411	450	450
Workers' Compensation	4,500	3,859	4,500	3,700
Life Insurance	320	315	350	350
Unemployment Insurance	700	380	750	800
VMERS	3,000	2,131	2,200	2,300
Accrued Payroll Adjustment	0	-1,421	0	0
Material/Supplies	4,800	4,642	4,000	4,000
Advertising	6,000	5,298	6,000	6,000
Film Carrier	2,500	2,165	2,500	2,500
Film Rental	75,000	87,468	80,000	85,000
Classic Film Series	10,000	8,184	10,000	9,000
Concession	38,000	42,094	40,000	42,000
Rubbish Removal	1,000	770	1,000	1,000
Custodial Services	10,000	10,180	10,500	10,500
Booker	4,700	3,600	4,700	4,500
WEB Development	500	350	500	0
Repairs & Maintenance Equipment	7,000	7,353	7,000	7,000
Repairs & Maintenance Facility	3,000	1,525	3,000	3,000
Electricity	11,000	9,256	10,000	10,000
Fuel	10,000	9,873	12,000	10,000
Interest Expense	37,426	31,580	33,670	33,500
	<u>332,166</u>	<u>316,766</u>	<u>324,820</u>	<u>327,400</u>
<u>THEATER EXPENSE</u>				
Theater Events	10,000	8,843	9,100	9,000
Theater Supplies	0	0	100	100
Theater Equipment	1,000	0	1,000	500
Theater Advertising	500	0	500	0
Talent Expense	350	672	700	700
Theater Maintenance	5,000	478	5,000	5,000
	<u>16,850</u>	<u>9,993</u>	<u>16,400</u>	<u>15,300</u>
<u>DEPRECIATION EXPENSE</u>				
Depreciation	66,000	65,424	65,500	65,500
	<u>66,000</u>	<u>65,424</u>	<u>65,500</u>	<u>65,500</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENSES</u>	415,016	392,183	406,720	408,200
<u>NET THEATER FUND</u>	-43,316	8,760	-29,270	-9,300

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
LIBRARY FUND - REVENUES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>TRANSFERS</u>				
Transfers In General Fund	347,070	347,070	347,070	357,300
	<u>347,070</u>	<u>347,070</u>	<u>347,070</u>	<u>357,300</u>
<u>INVEST, TRUST, INTEREST</u>				
TD Bank Interest	5	1	1	1
AXA Annuity Chittenden	1,120	1,125	1,500	0
Barker Trust Interest	10,400	12,858	11,600	13,000
Tidd Trust Interest	6,400	5,851	6,200	6,100
People's Securities Interest	5	0	0	1
Securefor 5 Interst	3,100	3,014	3,020	3,091
RVCU MMkt Interest	150	77	131	98
SecureFore 5 Annuity (2)	0	0	0	1,981
	<u>21,180</u>	<u>22,926</u>	<u>22,452</u>	<u>24,272</u>
<u>GRANTS</u>				
Miscellaneous Grants	100	0	100	100
Inter-Library Loan	0	323	550	380
Rural Gateways Grant	0	2,000	0	0
	<u>100</u>	<u>2,323</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>480</u>
<u>DONATIONS</u>				
Miscellaneous Donations	3,800	937	3,600	4,000
Miscellaneous Designation	1,000	670	1,000	500
Historical	300	25	100	100
Memorial	500	455	100	100
	<u>5,600</u>	<u>2,087</u>	<u>4,800</u>	<u>4,700</u>
<u>FUNDRAISING</u>				
Miscellaneous Fundraising	500	0	2,000	3,000
Book Fair	50	0	50	50
Book Sale	3,100	3,111	4,500	5,000
Direct Appeal	6,000	5,370	6,200	8,000
	<u>9,650</u>	<u>8,481</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>16,050</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
LIBRARY FUND - REVENUES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>FEES</u>				
Fines	2,500	1,983	2,200	2,100
Non-Resident	2,500	2,255	2,500	2,500
Printing	3,200	3,470	3,500	4,000
Lost/Replaced	350	174	350	350
Supplies	450	220	400	300
	9,000	8,102	8,950	9,250
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>				
Miscellaneous Income	300	0	300	300
	300	0	300	300
<u>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</u>	392,900	390,989	396,972	412,352
<u>REVENUE FROM RESERVES</u>				
Renovation Project		86,890	0	0
Reserve-Ostebo	0	6,664	0	0
Reserve-Whitcomb	0	7,760	0	0
	0	101,314	0	0
<u>TOTAL FUND REVENUE</u>	392,900	492,303	396,972	412,352

Notes:

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
LIBRARY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>SALARIES & BENEFITS</u>				
<u>SALARIES</u>				
Library Director Wages	45,600	51,969	57,394	59,127
Full-Time Wages	74,100	66,294	80,002	82,413
Part-time Wages	84,100	88,455	80,801	83,576
	<u>203,800</u>	<u>206,718</u>	<u>218,197</u>	<u>225,116</u>
<u>BENEFITS</u>				
FICA	17,100	17,065	18,270	19,631
Health Insurance	2,000	0	500	100
Dental Insurance	1,250	1,165	1,250	1,360
Pension/VMERS	11,600	12,345	11,600	12,960
Workers Compensation	900	694	700	750
Life/Disability Insurance	1,050	1,021	1,050	1,200
Insurance Incentive	19,650	17,511	20,630	31,500
Unemployment Insurance	1,700	1,054	1,400	1,200
	<u>55,250</u>	<u>50,855</u>	<u>55,400</u>	<u>68,701</u>
Accrued Payroll Adjustments	0	2,553	0	0
<u>OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSE</u>				
Dues & Workshops	1,000	680	700	700
Travel	750	410	400	300
	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,090</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<u>LIBRARY MATERIALS</u>				
<u>BOOKS</u>				
Adult Fiction Books	5,000	5,117	5,000	5,000
Adult Non-Fiction Books	5,000	5,075	4,800	4,800
Youth Books	4,200	3,957	4,200	4,200
Adult Audio Books	1,400	1,452	1,400	1,400
Youth Audio Books	600	596	600	600
Electronic Resources	5,400	3,359	4,800	3,800
Adult Visual/Music	1,700	1,763	1,700	1,700
Youth Visual/Music	600	620	600	600
Periodicals	3,900	3,087	3,100	3,100
	<u>27,800</u>	<u>25,026</u>	<u>26,200</u>	<u>25,200</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
LIBRARY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

Account	Budget FY - 2017	Actual FY - 2017	Budget FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019
<u>PROGRAMMING</u>				
Adult Library Programs	200	195	200	200
Youth Library Programs	700	658	700	700
	<u>900</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>900</u>
<u>SUPPLIES</u>				
Office Supplies	4,000	3,380	3,800	3,400
Printing Supplies	3,200	3,165	2,900	3,100
Custodial Supplies	1,600	660	1,500	1,100
Archival	300	271	200	100
Postage & Shipping	2,200	2,502	2,500	2,500
	<u>11,300</u>	<u>9,978</u>	<u>10,900</u>	<u>10,200</u>
<u>FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT</u>				
Fixtures	1,500	287	500	200
Tech Equipment	5,900	5,493	5,000	4,000
Tech Software	500	160	250	150
Telephone Equipment	300	362	100	50
Tools	100	10	25	25
	<u>8,300</u>	<u>6,312</u>	<u>5,875</u>	<u>4,425</u>
<u>SERVICES</u>				
Auditor	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Legal Expenses	500	3,750	500	250
Computer/Technology	1,800	640	1,500	1,200
Automated Library System	1,300	1,312	1,350	2,100
Public Relations	100	0	0	0
Custodial	12,800	11,790	11,800	12,200
Security	300	300	300	300
Repairs & Maintenance	12,500	10,286	11,500	10,500
	<u>30,600</u>	<u>29,378</u>	<u>28,250</u>	<u>27,850</u>
<u>UTILITIES</u>				
Electricity	25,700	25,358	25,000	24,000
Library Telephone	4,000	3,912	2,300	2,100
Water & Sewer	450	400	400	400
	<u>30,150</u>	<u>29,670</u>	<u>27,700</u>	<u>26,500</u>

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
LIBRARY FUND - EXPENDITURES**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2017</u>	<u>Actual FY - 2017</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2018</u>	<u>Budget FY - 2019</u>
<u>INSURANCE</u>				
Property/Liability Insurance	20,300	20,504	20,750	21,250
	<u>20,300</u>	<u>20,504</u>	<u>20,750</u>	<u>21,250</u>
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>				
Miscellaneous Expense	500	6	100	110
	<u>500</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>110</u>
<u>GRANT EXPENSE</u>				
Miscellaneous Grants	100	0	100	100
Rural Gateways Grant Expense	0	1,990	0	0
	<u>100</u>	<u>1,990</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>DONATIONS EXPENSE</u>				
Designated Donation Expense	1,000	670	1,000	500
Historical	300	25	100	100
Memorial	500	30	100	100
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>725</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>700</u>
<u>FUNDRAISING EXPENSE</u>				
Fundraising Miscellaneous	350	291	300	300
	<u>350</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
<u>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE</u>	392,900	385,949	396,972	412,352
<u>Net Operating Revenue vs. Expense</u>	0	5,040	0	0
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</u>				
Reserve-Ostebo	0	6,664	0	0
Reserve-Whitcomb	0	7,760	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>14,424</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND EXPENSES</u>	392,900	400,373	396,972	412,352
<u>NET LIBRARY FUND</u>	0	91,930	0	0

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
DEVELOPMENT FUND**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>GRANTS RECEIVABLE</u>	
Grants Receivable	2,956.74
<u>TOTAL GRANTS RECEIVABLE</u>	2,956.74
<u>RECEIVABLES</u>	
BF Housing Partnership	19,250.22
Eric Clark - RLF	16,479.79
Adams Trucking & Excavating - RLF	49,690.80
C&K Foods - RLF	35,223.02
Leslie's The Tavern - RLF	6,915.77
Greater Rockingham Area Services - RLF	94,968.10
Windham Development Group - RLF	30,000.00
Barrett Saltsman - RLF	5,429.13
Cider Magazine - RLF	3,352.80
K. Bovill - RLF	6,190.01
Valley Café, LLC - RLF	16,793.34
Great Falls Community Broadcasting Co. - RLF	19,802.71
Flat Iron Exchange - RLF	7,142.44
Alex Lawrence, DDB Mountain Tattoo - RLF	408.55
Chroma Technology - RLF	96,778.03
Bigenough - RLF	45,000.00
Exner Block - Loan	419,000.00
Howard Block Residential - VCDP	51,322.00
Howard Block Commercial - VCDP	423,678.00
Howard Block - Loan	100,000.00
BF Housing Partnership	150,000.00
Smallest City - Loan	38,500.00
Armstrong - Loan	11,250.00
Bellows Falls Area Development Corp - Loan	90,000.00
<u>TOTAL RECEIVABLES</u>	1,737,174.71
<u>DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS</u>	
Due From/To Other Funds	283,481.27
TOTAL DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS	283,481.27

**TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
DEVELOPMENT FUND**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>RESERVES</u>	
Allowance BF Housing	150,000.00
Allowance Smallest City	38,500.00
Allowance Howard Block	575,000.00
Allowance Armstrong	11,250.00
Allowance Exner Block	<u>419,000.00</u>
TOTAL RESERVES	1,193,750.00
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	829,862.72
<u>LIABILITY</u>	
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable	1,575.00
Deferred Revenue	543,424.71
Unspent Grant RMO Waypoint	3,744.52
Unspent Grant CT River Pt	<u>847.00</u>
	549,591.23
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>	549,591.23
<u>FUND BALANCE</u>	
Fund Balance	<u>365,416.30</u>
<u>TOTAL PRIOR YEARS FUND BALANCE</u>	365,416.30
<u>FUND BALANCE CURRENT YEAR</u>	<u>-85,144.81</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u>	<u>280,271.49</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITY/FUND BALANCE</u>	829,862.72

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT AS OF JANUARY 29, 2018

Parcel ID	Owner	Description	Balance as of 1/29/2018
233160014	Ainsworth, Clarence	Buildings and lot	1,414.28
100020374	Aldrich, Carol Ann	Land and trailer	28.56
110510236	Amidon, Floyd	Land and buildings	4,139.65
263880010	Amidon, Rickey	Buildings and lot	51.66
880000196	Athens Pizza House	Pizzeria Equipment	544.95
060020980	Bacon, Jennifer	House and lot	846.04
233280010	Barber, Albert	House and lot	1,268.27
880000361	Bellows Falls Chiropractic	Personal property/equipment	229.75
160030037	Boczkowski, Beverly	Bensons Mobile Home Park	497.46
020800119	Chernouski, Judith	House and land	108.49
264000016	Clark, Kevin & Mary Jo	Buildings and lot	102.91
234500064	Clark, Marilyn	Buildings and land	2,894.72
203060002	Clark, Sarah	House and lot	418.54
205010212-001	Clark, Wayne	Mobile home	1,249.78
060020934-001	Clayton, Dan	Buildings	471.29
205010212-005	Crapo, Hazel L.	Mobile home	617.84
234010040	Dal Advisors, LLC	House and lot	1,124.86
171210679	Dixon, Ezra	Buildings and land	287.40
060020696	Dolloph, Roger	Land and two mobile homes	2,208.34
233560008	Elsessor, James & Sharon	House and lot	10,726.12
100020458	Federal Home Loan	Land and buildings	4,137.29
110720012	Foster, David L.	Land, building, mobile home	938.45
274200023	Graham, Richard	Buildings and lot	271.64
880000193	Green Mountain Specialties	Personal property/equipment	5,255.47
070060299	Griffin, Christian	Land	1,430.46
263860038	Haas, Richard	Buildings and lot	890.24
030200144	Harris, Ralph	Building and land	5,100.46
234010057	Higgins, Peter	Buildings and lot	4,124.90
060140001	Higgins, Peter	Buildings and land	4,726.23
125050127-033	Holcomb, Robert	Mobile home	314.91
234400026	Horne, Eric	House and lot	3,335.52
233360012	Hurd, Margery	House and lot	1,507.69
101210995	Kennett, Joyce	Buildings and lot	2,930.35
233760013	Kingdom First Prop	House and lot	3,074.16
234500050	Lafoe Apartments	Building and lot	1,879.50
233340015	Lafoe, Floyd	House and lot	1,709.38
235020055-1	Lawrence, Alexander	Block	1,560.87

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT AS OF JANUARY 29, 2018

Parcel ID	Owner	Description	Balance as of 1/29/2018
265030110	Madden, Christopher	Land and buildings	4,249.28
264060037	McAllister, Sherry	House and lot	3,729.42
274160030	McAllister, Stephen	Buildings and lot	7,153.00
205010212-002	McElroy, Erica	Mobile home	44.94
100341125	Merchant, Claire	Mill site, mobile home & lanc	1,006.14
264010013	Mosis, John	Buildings and lot	3,207.54
264000017	Monahan, Mark	House	395.89
264040025	Noe, John	House and lot	11,398.29
070240607	Riverbend Associates	Land Rockingham	2,079.17
060820120	Robinson, William	Land and mobile home	392.85
075001153	Saunders, Brannan	Building and land	820.22
020100839	Schuld, V. George	Land and buildings	10,910.00
070220070	Shaw, John E.	Land, mobile home, garage	3,856.50
025002099	Shibley, John	Land and buildings	2,861.42
080280009	Shibley, John	Land and buildings	3,280.47
120750009	Shibley, John	Land	3,856.50
170170010	Simonds, Bruce	Buildings and land	5,059.98
110460010	St. Pierre, Gilles	Land and trailer	1,826.98
205010212-008	Tokarski, Patricia	Mobile home	29.46
261210044	Webster, Joi M	Building and land	1,675.70
223440034	Windham & Windsor Housing	Land	70.62
205010240	Zdunek, Maria	Hetty Green Motel	33,339.34
			<hr/> 173,662.14

Delinquent tax amounts reflected above are as of 1/29/2018.

This report does not reflect payments made after that date.

This report does not reflect accounts with balances less than \$25.00

Some overdue taxpayers have reached agreements with the Town.

Some overdue accounts are in bankruptcy and cannot be collected at the present time.

Some delinquent accounts have been forwarded to the Town Agent for tax sale.

REPORT OF THE SELECT BOARD

It has been a year of changes for the town of Rockingham. In June 2017, Lamont Barnett resigned from the Board to become an Assistant Judge for Windham County. The Selectboard appointed Cass Wright to fill his position until March 6, 2018 when the remaining year of this 3-year seat will be decided.

In Town Hall, Gary Fox joined the staff as the Development Director, Ron Karvosky as the Finance Director and Susan Reing as the CLG Coordinator. In December, Shane O'Keefe submitted his letter of resignation as Municipal Manager effective at the end of his contract on June 30, 2018. We will be working with the Manager Hiring Committee and the Bellows Falls Board of Trustees over the next few months to hire his replacement. Thank you Shane for stepping in and good luck in your next endeavor.

The Selectboard strives to keep taxes as low as possible while at the same time serving the needs of the town. This year we examined the budget line-by-line comparing expenses over the past three years. This exercise helped us make some cuts in some areas of the budget. It also helped confirm that the budget we have set for FY 2019 is based on the average costs needed to operate the town services.

A large portion of the town budget is the cost of maintaining our roads, sidewalks, and buildings. Maintaining our roads will get more difficult as the State of Vermont rolls out new requirements to meet the Clean-Water Act. In addition, we have two bridges to replace and about 35% of our roads are in need of rehabilitation or reconstruction over the next 10 – 15 years. The roads that are in great shape now, thanks to previous investment in infrastructure, also need continual maintenance. While the Highway crew has been going above and beyond to keep the roads maintained they are limited by time, money and man-power.

In order to tackle the large number infrastructure projects, the Selectboard is proposing the town hire a Public Works Director with engineering certification. As a result the town will save on outside engineering services. In addition, a Public Works Director will be able to stay on top of and apply for grants for the road, sidewalks and culvert work that needs to be done. He/She will also be able to plan and oversee any infrastructure projects easing the burden on our very over-stretched town highway crew.

Over the past several years the Town of Rockingham has built up a healthy fund balance of \$1,326,035 or just over 25% of our annual expenses. Our auditors recommend that we keep between 16 – 20% in our fund balance. The Selectboard is asking the residents of Rockingham to consider using \$125,000 of the fund balance to set up reserve funds for Town Hall Maintenance, Rockingham Meeting House Maintenance and for Highway Projects. We also propose using \$100,000 to help reduce the tax rate for FY 2019 and set-aside \$25,000 as a match to a potential grant for a new pumper truck for the Bellows Falls Fire Department. This will still leave us a healthy fund balance of at least \$1,080,000 as of Fiscal Year 2017.

It has been an honor to serve the residents of the town of Rockingham on the Selectboard during the past year. Thank you to the Town Staff for making our jobs easier and to the residents of Rockingham for placing your trust in us.

Susan Hammond, Chair
Stefan Golec, Vice-Chair
Ann DiBernardo
Gaetano Putignano
Cass Wright

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S REPORT

At the close of 2017 I have been serving as your Municipal Manager on an interim basis for a bit over a year and look to wrap up my service to the Town in June 2018. In concert with the Bellows Falls Trustees, the Rockingham Selectboard will soon begin the search for your next Municipal Manager.

It has been such an honor to have served the boards and the community in this important leadership position, and I look forward to providing the best possible customer service to our residents, businesses and visitors during the rest of my tenure.

It is evident that the Town is blessed with seasoned and dedicated department heads, supervisors and other staff at every level, who seek to provide top-notch service with efficiency, quality, safety and thrift always in mind. Several staff changes have taken place in 2017. In the Development office we welcomed long-time resident Gary Fox during the fall of 2017, who took over for Emmet Dunbar. Gary is an extremely talented professional with years of experience in economic development and community relations, and has jumped right in to the many projects underway with ease. Joining him in the Development Office as the new Certified Local Government Coordinator position is Susan Reing who takes over this position from Christy Hotaling. In the Finance Office we bid a fond farewell to Nicole Gay, who served the community for twelve years with true dedication and professionalism. Thank you Nicky! Hired for the newly reestablished position of Finance Director at the end of 2017 is Ron Karvosky, who comes to the Town with many years of experience, primarily in the business and finance sector, but also having served as a small-town Selectboard member for over 14 years.

Significant accomplishments over the past year include transitioning to single-stream recycling at the Recycling Center, where all recycling material is now co-mingled in a single compactor. Not only is it easier for customers to store and dispose of recyclables, this method of recycling saves the Town significant costs of trucking off materials. It is estimated that the new compactor will pay for itself within three years. Proposed for the coming year is a second compactor for trash disposal, which again will reduce costs for the department.

We also saw the orderly transition in the Town's development review and planning functions from the combined Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Adjustment to a separate Planning Commission and a Development Review Board. The former concentrates all of its efforts on long- and short-term planning activities of the Town such as updating the Town Plan and recommending bylaw and regulation changes, while the latter handles all elements of specific project reviews such as applications for subdivision, variances and site plan approval.

In September of 2017, after several months of amicable collective bargaining, the Selectboard and Bellows Falls Village Trustees reached a labor relations agreement with the membership of Local 98 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, which covers the Highway Department and Town Hall employees (as well as the Bellows Falls Water and Wastewater Departments). The agreement covers fiscal years 2018 through 2020, and sets forth wages, work hours and conditions of employment over that period.

The Board of Listers finalized a town-wide revaluation that affected the tax rate set by the Selectboard in 2017. Conducted in-house (except for utilities) by our Listers at a great savings over contracted serves, property valuations for taxation purposes now better reflect their true and fair value.

The long-standing tax assessment disputes with TransCanada, where the Town has prevailed in every case, saw the Town having to pay \$346,265 at the midpoint of FY2017 to account for an adjustment in value made by the Vermont Supreme Court in the appeal from the 2012-2014 tax years; this included overpayment of taxes plus interest. While this amount was not in the budget, the Town had enough of a fund balance to handle this expense. The Village of Bellows Falls will repay its proportional share over a five-year period while recouping the school's proportional share is doubtful due to current statutory provisions. In April 2017, the Connecticut River Hydroelectric projects, including the Bellows Falls station, were conveyed to Great River Hydro, LLC. At the close of 2017 the Town has been working cooperatively and collegially with the company to settle ongoing tax disputes and pave the way for future valuation stabilization efforts in order to create predictability and reduce legal and consulting expenses for all parties.

The Town received grant funding of \$175,000 for downtown paving from the State of Vermont, which unfortunately became available relatively late in the construction season. With only a single bid received for the project, it was decided to push the project out to the summer of 2018 to ensure more competitive bidding and better project coordination. The summer of 2018 will see both paving and sidewalk improvements in the Square, and the Town will work to ensure there is as little disruption to commerce and public events as possible. With increased funding from the Voters, and the Selectboard's decision to carry forward unused paving and sidewalk funds from FY2017, additional paving and sidewalk improvements will be seen in other parts of the community as well.

Rockingham is served by many volunteers without whom the wheels of progress would not turn. Boards, commission, committees and task forces made up of community members dedicated to good governance and public service make it all happen, and we tip our collective hat to them all with a big thank you. Anyone wishing to serve on these municipal bodies should keep an eye out for vacancy notices, or simply contact the Manager's office.

I urge you to read through the detailed departmental reports in the Annual Report which will provide a deeper understanding of last year's activities. If you have questions or would like additional information, feel free to contact me or any of the department heads.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Selectboard, Town staff and citizens of Rockingham for welcoming me back to the community as your Municipal Manager, and for the support and feedback that has helped me to serve the Town over the past year. And I wish to acknowledge that without the talents, dedication and initiative of the Town's department heads and other key staff, particularly Executive Assistant Kerry Bennett, my ability to manage the delivery of municipal services you expect and to help maintain an open and responsive local government would not be possible – thank you all so very much.

Yours truly,

Shane P. O'Keefe, AICP
Municipal Manager

BELLOWS FALLS OPERA HOUSE

The Bellows Falls Opera House continues to be an attractive and popular site for individuals and families to come and enjoy first-run movies and Wednesday Night Classic films. The theater employs a combination of courteous customer service, affordable ticket and concession pricing, and comfortable accommodations all housed in the historic Opera House, home of the largest movie screen in Southern Vermont.

In addition to presenting hit movies the Opera House has been host to a wide variety of live and filmed events this year. Main Street Arts brought a successful two-week live performance of SWEENEY TODD to our stage in March. Southern Vermont Idol competition performances filled the Opera House with music during the summer. The Capitol Steps entertained a large crowd with music and comedy in September. Caravan of Thieves with the Meadows Brothers performed musically in October. FACTv premiered their original short film "Strange Events at the Vilas Bridge" in November. The BF Rotary club continued its tradition of bringing a free community movie to the Opera House in December. RAMParts Presents brought, and continues to bring, Exhibitions on Screen, National Theatre Live (live to film) and the Bolshoi Ballet (also live to film) to further enhance the artistic and cultural diversity of the Opera House schedule.

The Opera House and the Lower Theater continue to be utilized by local groups and organizations for meetings, lectures, and presentations. We look forward to a busy and entertaining 2018.

Rick Angers
Bellows Falls Opera House Manager



CEMETERY REPORT

Five cemeteries are owned by the Town of Rockingham - Oak Hill Cemetery, Restland Cemetery, Saxtons River Cemetery, Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery and Cambridgeport Cemetery.

Oak Hill Cemetery, located on the Bellows Falls/Westminster town line, is the largest cemetery based on the number of lots. All mapped lots are sold at this time, but roadways are still being filled in. Work continues in clearing of brush and small trees around the perimeter of the cemetery. A huge thanks to the Rockingham Highway Department for utilizing the roadside mower to assist with this task.

Restland Cemetery is located at the corner of Oak Hill Terrace and West Street in Bellows Falls, currently has no lots available for sale and is considered inactive.

There are still lots available in the Saxtons River Cemetery, located in the village of Saxtons River but these are being sold at a relatively steady rate. In addition, the Cambridgeport Cemetery has mapped lots available and also has a considerable amount of room for expansion.

Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery is located behind the Rockingham Meeting House located just off Route 103 in Rockingham. All lots in the original lot are sold at this time. However, a new section was opened several years ago and it is anticipated that lots will be available for several years. Also available is a large lot adjacent to the Meeting House Cemetery which can be developed if necessary.

It is anticipated that cemetery space in the town of Rockingham will be sufficient for the next 200 years or so. All cemeteries are monitored closely and repairs are ongoing as time and funds allow.

If you have questions related to the Town-owned cemeteries or any information relevant to Town cemeteries, please call the Cemetery Sexton at Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, VT at 463-4111.

Submitted by:
J. Malcolm Potter, Cemetery Sexton



CONSTABLE REPORT

During 2017, the Constables for the Town of Rockingham served a significant number of civil processes in the Greater Rockingham area. In addition, various animal complaints, to include dog bites, unregistered dogs and dogs running at large.

We would like to thank the municipality for the opportunity to serve the community.

Submitted by:
Ronald Lake 1st Constable
Shane Harris 2nd Constable



DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Development Office carries out economic improvement projects and programs with the goal of making the town a better place to live, work, and do business. The role of the Office is to advocate for the Town's economic interests at the state and regional level, obtain and manage grants on behalf of our local partners, and do whatever it can to improve the economic climate and future prospects of the community.

In 2017 this office worked with the existing owners and potential new owners on a couple of development projects that start with bringing a couple of commercial industrial sites into the Windham Regional Commission Brownfields Program. The benefit to the Town of this work is the end product of returning defunct industrial facilities back to production and increasing the grand list.

This office oversees the Town Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), a source of capital to assist start-up or expansion of businesses and attracting new business to town. This program is not a substitute for the activities of existing financial institutions, but provides additional capital or working capital to create or retain jobs. The loans facilitate and encourage new and additional private investment in the town and assist with purchase, construction, rehabilitation, or renovation of commercial/industrial facilities or equipment. This year the RLF:

	7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017	7/1/2017 – 12/31/2017
New loans opened	0	1
Number of loans closed	0	1
Number of active revolving loans	14	15
Realized interest from repayment	\$11,974.95	\$0
Amount loaned	\$165,000.00	\$356,320.78
Amount of outstanding loans	\$434,174.49	\$356,320.78
Fund balance	\$280,271.49	\$360,815.58

Types of businesses that are participants in the program include a “tiny house” developer, a trucking company, a specialty foods producer, three restaurants, two multi-program facility based organizations, a jeweler, a magazine publisher, a broadcasting company, and a coffee shop.

The Development Office works with new and expanding businesses on requests to the Town for stabilization of taxes for property and equipment used for the business. If recommended by the five-member Tax Stabilization Committee and approved by the Selectboard, business owners may receive a reduction in the municipal portion of local property and equipment taxes for a period up to five years, to help stimulate start-up and expansion activity.

The Development Office works closely with the regional development corporation for Windham County, the “Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation” (BDCC), and local development corporations including the “Bellows Falls Area Development Corporation” (BFADC), that focus on industrial and commercial development. The Rockingham Development Director serves as Executive Director of the BFADC. In 2017 the Development Office and BFADC worked to ensure the Robertson Paper Co. project is fully funded for the environmental clean-up and construction slated to begin in September 2018. The end product will be a developable “Greenfield” property. Work for 2018 is to market the Robertson Paper Co. Greenfield property to appropriate end users / developers and secure the end user or developer commitment.

The Development Office participates on the Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance (BFDDA), a not-for-profit organization devoted to downtown revitalization. BFDDA carries out activities in Bellows Falls’ “designated downtown district” in collaboration with the Vermont Downtown Program. The designation permits property owners in the district to benefit from specific State tax credits, and grants when available. In 2017 this office worked with BFDDA on a grant application to update the streetscape/sidewalk/landscape design and lighting of the square in Downtown.

The Development Office oversees the Certified Local Government (CLG) program for the Town of Rockingham historic preservation marketing, education, and development. Susan Reing is the new part-time CLG Coordinator for the five-member CLG Commission. This past year, CLG held the “Old Home Awards” program, ran an historic preservation speaker series to encourage residents’ interest and education in preservation, and reprinted the historic Hayes book, “The Old

Meeting House”. This year CLG secured grants for architectural assessment of three historic municipally-owned structures including the old Gate House at Minards Pond, which CLG is working towards improving to be an interpretive visitor display.

The Historic Preservation Coordinator also provides support to the Town in its stewardship of its own historic buildings and resources.

The Development Office is located on the 3rd floor of the Town Hall.

Questions for or assistance from the Development Office: Gary Fox at development@rockbf.org, 463-3456, ext. 110 or 376-5425

Certified Local Government: Susan Reing at clg@rockbf.org, 463-3456, ext.112

Submitted by:
Gary Fox, Development Director



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

During FY2017, the Town of Rockingham was fortunate to not experience any emergency situations which would have required the use of our Emergency Management plan. As Emergency Management Director, I monitor all situations which could have an impact on our community and remain in active communications with other department heads and outside agency directors to better serve our community should an incident occur which would require the activation of our Emergency Operation Center and applicable management plan.

I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Rockingham for their continued support and look forward to another calm year.

Submitted by:
Ronald Lake, Emergency Management Director



HEALTH OFFICERS' REPORT

What is a Health officer?

Health Officers are Town employees that are granted legal authority by the State of Vermont to investigate and address public health hazards in their town.

What is a public health hazard?

Health hazards are conditions with the potential to harm a person's health. The public piece is the health hazard impacts numbers of people. Sometimes a health hazard is extremely bothersome, but is confined to an individual or property and fails to meet a public threshold. In those instances, the Health Officer cannot get involved. A Health Officer is protected by the State of Vermont only if that Health officer acts within their legal authority. A Health Officer who exceeds that authority, however well-intentioned, exposes the Town (not the state) to legal liability.

Health officers enforce rental housing health codes.

Any rented building or structure that is partially or wholly used as a primary residence must follow Vermont's Rental Housing Health Codes. The landlord must provide the tenant with minimum habitability and living standards that protect the health and well-being of the occupants. The most common rental housing deficiencies are lead paint exposure, trash accumulation, pest infestations, and insufficient apartment heating. The Health Officer typically receives a tenant or landlord complaint, does an inspection of the apartment, and works with the landlord to address the violation.

Public health inquiries.

We field approximately 2-3 public health inquiries every week. If requested, inquiries are treated with confidentiality to protect person(s) making the public health complaint. The majority of public health inquiries are legitimate and related to rental housing code violations with our older housing stock.

Investigate, cooperate, but rarely mandate.

With all the public health complaints over the last year, the Town did not enforce a single health order! We have been unusually successful in working with land owners cooperatively and addressing violations before the Town issues a formal violation. The goal is always to work cooperatively and address the violation before official action is considered. In almost all cases, the problem is solved quickly and relieves all parties from costly legal action.

Lead safety is the law.

The Vermont Department of Health has frequently requested the Health Officer review rental properties for lead paint safety violations. All rental housing must follow essential maintenance practices for protection against human exposure to lead paint. Every landlord must submit an annual compliance statement to the Department of Health stating they have complied with the regulations. Falsification of compliance statements has resulted in significant fines for local landlords; as Health Officers it is the most common violation we discover. The better option is to report deficiencies and develop a schedule to address them; landlords will discover the Department of Health very willing to work with landlords.

Cats and dogs.

By their own nature, feral or neglected animals have the potential to impact a larger neighborhood. Animals that bite are automatically quarantined and Health officers work with owners to better secure those animals and avoid future bites. In the extreme cases, we have had to work with owners to euthanize animals whose potential to harm others is just too great a risk. Citizens that see feral or neglected animals are encouraged to contact us early so that we can begin monitoring and documenting these concerns and eventually intervene when conditions warrant.

Bellows Falls Police and Fire partnership

The vast majority of public health complaints are in the village of Bellows Falls. Public health issues are rarely singular issues, but symptoms of larger individual and family stresses. This is compounded by the fact we are working in or near people's homes. Police and Fire officials are essential partners in being a successful Health Officer. We thank you for responding to the calls, answering our questions, and helping enforce our decisions.

Submitted by:

Charles Wise, Health Officer, and Frank Anderson, Deputy Health Officer

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

I welcome this opportunity to thank the taxpayers of the Town of Rockingham along with the Selectboard and Municipal Manager for their support of the Highway Department. Thank you to the Town Hall Staff and to the other departments within the municipality for their assistance as well.

In FY2017 the Department purchased a 1-ton utility body pick-up truck to assist with the ever-growing building maintenance needs of the Town & Village.

Again this year the Highway Department, in addition to general maintenance duties, continues to replace its many aging or failing culverts and numerous replacements/repairs to manholes and storm drain structures. This decline in culverts/storm drains is due in part to their age and the volume of water they receive during the heavy rains and runoffs we continue to face throughout the year. This will be an ongoing task for many years to come.

The Highway Department applied for and received 3 grants this year.

- One will help in finishing the downtown paving project which began in 2014.
- We received a grant for a vacuum type truck to maintain the storm system, culverts, and other infrastructure throughout the town. In the future this piece of equipment will be a great cost savings to the Town of Rockingham.
- Due to a mandated Clean Water Act, the Town is required to have many of its ditches redesigned in an attempt to keep runoff water as clean as can be before it reaches the waterways. This grant will help pay just some of the costs to do this. Materials, equipment, and man-hour expenses are eligible under this grant as well.

Thank you to all my co-workers for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Rockingham. Thank you to their families for the early morning phone calls and the long hours away from their home. A special thanks to my family for their continued understanding and patience.

Submitted by:

Michael B. Hindes, Highway Supervisor



LISTERS OFFICE

Grand List

The 2017-18 Rockingham Grand List is based on 2171 parcels with a municipal total taxable value of \$473,827,089 (includes 72 taxable business personal property parcels with a value of \$12,728,689). While the actual Grand List is at 1% of full value for tax calculation purposes, the values for this report are at 100%.

Equalization Study:

- Rockingham CLA 103.14% COD 16.88%. effective 1/1/2017
- Rockingham CLA 98.51% COD 7.71% effective 1/1/2018

The Vermont Department of Taxes conducts a study to compare the Town Grand List values with the real estate sales of the previous three years. The resulting statistics establish a Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and Co-efficient of Dispersion (COD).

If the CLA drops below 80% then a town wide reappraisal is mandated. While the ideal CLA is 100%, it is reasonable to see some minor variation around the 100% mark because markets are dynamic, and the evaluation and reporting of the grand list is a snapshot at a specific time.

The COD is a measure of fairness within the town. Assessment standards generally hold that CODs of 15% or less are good. When a town COD rises above 20%, a town wide reappraisal is mandated by state law.

Town Wide Reappraisal

Your Board of Listers completed the Town Wide Reappraisal this past year. The 2017-18 tax bills were based on the new individual valuations. The purpose of a reappraisal is to improve equity among property taxpayers throughout the town. By inspecting every property and analyzing the patterns of real sales data, we were able to revise values for each property to within an accepted range compared with sales of comparable properties.

As can be seen by the Common Level of Appraisal and Co-efficient of Dispersion results in the equalization study section above, the reappraisal significantly improved the accuracy and fairness of your real property valuations.

The Listers are proud of the fact that we were able to complete the reappraisal on budget, and on time, and are especially pleased that the State's equalization study confirms the accuracy of our work. Also of note is that by virtue of continuing to maintain a high level of professional training, we were able to conduct the reappraisal in-house. By not having to hire outside appraisal firm we were able to conduct the reappraisal utilizing saved-up state parcel maintenance support dollars at no additional local cost. We want to thank the people of Rockingham for the wonderful cooperation and assistance we received during the reappraisal process.

Grievances

Annually, if we change your assessed value for any reason, formal Change of Appraisal Notices are sent out to all affected property owners by June. All property owners have the right to grieve the value of their property by sending their concerns in writing to the Board of Listers by the Grievance Day date provided on that Notice and posted public notices. If you have any questions or concerns about your property value, please feel free to contact the Listers Office informally at any time. However, once the grand list is lodged in June the formal grievance period begins.

Homestead Filing and Property Tax Adjustment for State Payment

The Homestead declaration is required to be filed with the State annually. (Form HS-122) The normal due date is April 15. **It is important to file on time as a penalty is assessed for late filing.** Optionally, resident taxpayers may also file for a Property Tax Adjustment based on income, usually at the same time as filing State income tax documents and HS-122. Approximately 60% of Rockingham resident homeowners qualify for an adjustment. Forms (HS-122 and HS-141) and information can be found in the Vermont Income Tax booklet, or online at Vermont Department of Taxes website. Forms can be ordered by email at formsrequest@state.vt.us or call 802-828-2515.

Business Personal Property Reporting

For business personal property Rockingham only taxes equipment used in producing income. Such property is taxable for municipal tax only, not the state education tax. In 2008 Rockingham voted to exempt the first \$5,000 of taxable business personal property value, but business owners must still file an inventory report with the Listers by April 20. A copy of this form is available from the Listers office.

Online information

Much property information including GIS mapping information, listed values and property record cards are available online to the public. To gain access, go to the Town website www.rockbf.org, click on municipal government/Listers for the map link. Of course the same information is also available at the Listers Office on the third floor of Town Hall. We are always happy to see you!

Rockingham Board of Listers: Office Hours - weekdays 9:00 am to 11:00 am, or call 463-1229 extension 117 for an appointment

Camilla Roberts (Chair), Paul Noble & Michael Harty



PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Planning & Zoning Department is comprised of a professional planner, an assistant planner, and fourteen citizen planners who serve on either the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board. We also rely upon the Windham Regional Commission, the Selectboard and Village Trustees, the Town's Attorney, and participating land owners/residents. These partnerships are essential as we approve land development and maintain the Town's plans and land use regulations.

Development Review.

Residents and businesses have been able to contact our office and receive feedback before submitting an official application. We strongly encourage all applicants to contact us early so we can develop a zoning application together. This is especially true of development proposals that have complicated engineering, planning, and permitting requirements and can benefit from early input.

The great majority of applications can be handled administratively which means the applicant works with planning staff who issue the permit. We made every effort to issue permit approvals promptly. Staff approved a total of 41 permits. No permits were denied.

Some applications are sophisticated enough that they can only be approved by the Development Review Board. This process involves a public meeting, hearing testimony, and a written decision. The Development Review Board approved a total of 13 applications. Two zoning applications were denied because they proposed operating commercial businesses in residential zoning districts. One of the decisions has been appealed and will be decided through the Vermont Environmental Court.

With a combined total of 54 applications permitted, the hard working residents and land owners of Rockingham have projects that will invest a projected \$3,590,000 into our Town.

Improving the services offered.

The Planning & Zoning Department now reviews and coordinates the approval of highway access permits, excavation/work within the public right-of-way permits, and water/sewer connection permits. Whereas before an Applicant that wanted to build a house may have had to visit five separate municipal offices, now that same Applicant has to visit Planning & Zoning and we will take care of all their municipal permitting needs.

Digital Zoning.

Every zoning application and decision since 1992 has been scanned, loaded onto the Town's servers, and is available for download by request. We have scanned 2,342 permits into a database. To put it into perspective, if all those dusty paper files were placed into one pile it would measure slightly longer than 33 feet! In addition to being easier on our lungs, electronic files allow us to work efficiently with residents, business owners, financial institutions, and land use attorneys. Permit research has always been a time consuming task, and the electronic file system has accelerated that research considerably.

Enforcement.

Zoning enforcement is a rewarding job. We sometimes see violations firsthand, but more often depend on input from neighbors and active community members. We will only issue a zoning violation after all other avenues to achieve voluntary compliance have been fully exhausted. Our goal when addressing a violation is to promote positive, respectful and voluntary steps that achieve a timely and sustained compliance. If zoning violations exist, especially those that are negatively impacting neighbors, we strongly encourage you to contact us. We process zoning violation complaints promptly and when necessary with full confidentiality.

Windham Regional Commission.

The Windham Regional Commission continues to provide us with essential planning, grant development, and project management support. For example, this year we worked with WRC on five different grant applications. Not all those applications were funded, but we did secure technical assistance (staff time) for developing an energy chapter, \$15,000 to update the Town Plan, and \$300,000 to purchase a vacuum truck that cleans storm drains and sewer lines (a collaboration with the Highway Department). On all tasks, Windham Regional Commission can be counted upon to provide expert assistance that serves our community well.

Flood Hazard Planning.

All development located in flood prone areas is tightly regulated by the State and federal government. The Town chooses to comply with these standards so all land owners are able to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. Even development that does not require a Town zoning permit (e.g., small fence), it might need a permit if it is located in a flood prone area. If you want to build anything, anywhere near a river or stream, please call us and we will help you navigate the process.

Planning and Development review separate!

The Planning Commission – Zoning Board of Adjustment has officially separated into two boards called the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board. On July 1st, the Selectboard dissolved the old board and created the two new boards. In 2017, the Planning Commission updated the Zoning Bylaws and in 2018/2019 will be updating the Town Plan. The Development Review Board now has the exclusive focus of administering the Town’s zoning and subdivision regulations.

Technical update of the Zoning Bylaws

The Planning Commission did a technical update of the Rockingham Zoning Bylaws. The technical update now correctly lists the Development Review Board as responsible for all permitting. The update was also an opportunity to correct errors and to standardize document layout, organization, and referencing. In 2018, the Selectboard will hold public hearings and work to approve the updated Zoning Bylaws.

Please come by!

We have an open door policy and want to help all those interested in developing their property. We are available to give advice, help develop applications, and to provide everyone an efficient path to obtaining their permits. Please stop by, we want to work with you!

Copies of the Town Plan, Zoning Bylaw, Flood Hazard Area Bylaw, and the Subdivision Regulations are available at www.rockbf.org. Application forms for various permits are also available on the website or by contacting us directly at planning@rockbf.org.

Submitted by:
Charles Wise and Joan Harlow



ROCKINGHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mission Statement: The Rockingham Conservation Commission is an official non-regulatory body of the Town of Rockingham with the mission of providing education and addressing issues pertaining to natural resource conservation and environmental protection, specifically as these topics relate to the town of Rockingham, its land, its waters, and its citizens. The RCC also serves as the Energy Committee for the Town of Rockingham.

For more information or to join a committee or to be added to our email list contact:

Mike Ghia, Conservation Commission Chair, 869-1214 rockinghamconservation@gmail.com
Also, the Rockingham Conservation Commission now has a [Facebook page](#) where we periodically post news, events, and pictures, so please “like” us on Facebook.

Meeting Times and Location: Currently, the RCC generally meets the second Monday of the month at 7 pm, though we usually do not meet in August. We usually meet in Meeting Room on the Third Floor of Town Hall. The public is always welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Current Official Appointees: Mike Ghia, Amy Howlett, Tom Herson, Guy Payne, Paul Wilson, Peter Bergstrom, Devin Smith, and Margaret Perry. However, participation is not restricted to appointees and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Activities: The Rockingham Conservation Commission (RCC) is always very open to ideas for activities, programs, and projects. We are also looking for people who would like to volunteer for a committee or project or to become a full appointee on the commission. So don't be shy.

The RCC has two standing committees: natural resources and energy. This year we had quite a few activities that fell under both categories. In doing so, we also continue to work with other area organizations to fulfill our mission. For instance, member Peter Bergstrom continued to work with the Windham Regional Commission and representatives from adjacent towns on the **Saxtons River Watershed Collaborative**, which is working on various conservation and **flood resiliency projects** in the Saxtons River Watershed. In October 2017, we helped members of that group organize a second landowner workshop to highlight local efforts towards flood resiliency, this time in Grafton near Houghtonville. RCC members Devin Smith and Peter Bergstrom are working to secure new riparian tree planting sites and trees to plant for May 2018, similar to the planting we organized with partners from this group in May 2016 at the FEMA buyout parcels near Ski Bowl Rd., now owned by the Town of Rockingham.

Member Peter Bergstrom built on the project he completed in 2016 to get official names assigned to 32 waterways in Rockingham, by getting official names for several hills in Rockingham. Naming natural features promotes their stewardship—people are more aware of them and care more about them. With hills, more awareness could also encourage more hiking to them. Seven hills were identified to name, and were approved by the Rockingham and Westminster Select Boards in June 2017. Once they have State approval, they will go to the US Board of Geographic Names for final approval, and start to appear on new maps. The 6 “new” hill names in Rockingham (most of these names were already in use) are Hitchcock Hill, Berry and Wiley Hills, Rockingham and Shepard Hills, and Hyde Hill, plus Bemis Hill in Westminster. Maps and descriptions of these hills are posted on the RCC web page on the Town website at www.tinyurl.com/RockConsComm, under “Reports & Information” at the bottom of the page.

The RCC continued to work on an ambitious project called the “Saxtons River Valley Trail Initiative” together with the Pinnacle Association and several other local partners; RCC members Mike Ghia, Paul Wilson, and Peter Bergstrom are involved. The group's first goal is to connect an existing short trail along the Connecticut River in Bellows Falls



with trails along the

Saxtons River to Rt. 121 west of Gageville, ideally via the Pinnacle's Bald Hill Reserve. We plan to eventually connect Gageville to the Pinnacle Association's trails in the Athens and Cambridgeport area via the Village of Saxtons River. The RCC has been recruiting additional community members to participate in this project and more participation by any interested parties is welcomed and encouraged. The RCC helped organize a Public Forum on the project on March 29, 2017, which was attended by about 50 people and covered in two local papers. RCC member Peter Bergstrom helped write a grant proposal to the National Park Service for technical assistance, which was funded in fall 2017. We will get two years of technical assistance from a trails specialist, Jennifer Waite, based at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock, VT. Members of the

group did another walk from Bellows Falls to Gageville in November with Ms. Waite to further scout options for that part of the trail.

In 2016, the RCC took over responsibility for coordination of **Green Up Day activities** in Rockingham, with RCC members Guy Payne and Amy Howlett taking over the coordination and organized Rockingham efforts in 2017. The RCC is hoping to increase citizen participation in 2018. The RCC also plans to work with the Recycling Center on examining how Rockingham will comply with the State's new "**universal recycling law**" particularly as it pertains to awareness for options for organic material disposal and composting.

The **Energy Committee** was also busy in 2017. RCC member Peter Bergstrom volunteered to replace Guy Payne as the Town's Energy Coordinator. The committee continued to work with local municipalities to increase their use of renewable energy through **Group Net Metering**. This effort bore fruit in November 2017 with the Village of Bellows falls agreeing to use net metering credits for most of its electric usage from arrays to be built in Guilford and Rockingham, saving the Village about \$10,000 a year. The Rockingham Free Public Library and the Town of Rockingham will be considering similar money-saving net metering agreements in early 2018. Committee members also continued to work on education, staffing a table at the March 2017 Town Meeting and at the Herricks Cove Festival in May 2017, where we collected surveys on local efforts to reduce fossil fuel usage, in exchange for a free LED bulb. Committee members entered the data from about 40 surveys that were collected into the Vermont **Community Energy Dashboard** (<http://www.vtenergydashboard.org/>), a web site that tracks town-by-town progress towards the "90% by 2050" goal for renewable energy in Vermont, documenting 572 actions so far in the town, which is about half of all the actions listed for Windham County. We also worked with SEON (Sustainable Energy Outreach Network) to bring another **Sustainable Home Tour** to Windham County in October 2017. The Energy Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in our efforts. Contact Peter Bergstrom, Rockingham's Energy Coordinator and chair of the RCC's Energy Committee for further information at 869-1020 or email pwbergstrom@gmail.com

The RCC has also begun to work more closely with Rockingham Planning Commission and is planning to increase collaboration and coordination. The RCC has begun to **assist the Planning Commission in revising the Energy and Natural Resources Chapters of the Rockingham Town Plan**. To this end, we worked with the Planning Commission and the Town (Staff) Planner, Chuck Wise, to secure one of the grants handed out at the end of 2017 to three Towns by the Windham Regional Commission to be used to cover the cost of technical support to revise the Energy Chapter so that it is compliant with Vermont's Act 174, "an act relating to improving the siting of energy projects", while helping Rockingham contributing to the 90% by 2050 renewable goal and also simply improving energy efficiency and utilization by Rockingham and its citizens and businesses. Rockingham residents and business owners will be encouraged to participate in this public process, provide input and feedback.

Members of the RCC also participated this last year in efforts of coordination amongst the other town conservation commissions in Windham County as well as activities of the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC).

There are a number of other projects that RCC would like to carry out, **but we need more people to become involved. The RCC is very open to participation by any resident**, and we encourage the participation of everyone at whatever level that you are able to contribute. If you have any interest at all, please sign up for our mailing list or feel free to contact us to learn more about the RCC and opportunities to become involved.

Submitted by:
Mike Ghia, Commission Chair



ROCKINGHAM FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Year in Review

The Rockingham Free Public Library had another busy year in Fiscal Year 2017, inspiring and serving the community.

We:

- Continued to play an important role in early childhood learning and family engagement, offering programs that ranged from baby and toddler story times, to a challenge to read 1,000 books before Kindergarten, a Nurturing Parent series of workshops, and the Summer Reading Program, “On Your Mark, Get Set... Read”.



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

- Received a CLiF Summer Readers grant for a storyteller program and free books, became a Maker Camp Affiliate and received training and tech when the Library’s STEAM program was accepted by Google, and completed a second year of the VELI-STEM program, funded by a Vermont Early Literacy Initiative IMLS grant.

- Continued our strong partnerships with local and state organizations, participating in the Bellows Falls Promise Community playground project, setting up a library table at the Farmers Market, and collecting diaper donations for Parks Place, who was the first organization in Vermont to establish a Diaper Bank for babies.

- Continued our strong partnerships with area public & private schools, pre-schools and daycares, providing elementary school class tours, and attending the WNESU Early Ed Services Summer Playgroup Kick-Off Party.



Choosing Books at the CLiF Storyteller

- Provided a variety of other Youth programs including Storytime for Social Justice, a Harry Potter fan party, Starnet, Breakout Rooms, gaming programs, and science/technology/engineering/math (STEM).

- Provided a wide variety of adult programs: the Humanities Council’s 2017 Vermont Reads series Brown Girl Dreaming, the Opiate Effect organized by Greater Falls Connection, Elayne Clift’s memoir writing workshop, Cuba Past and Present, Intro to Wellness, Preparing Your

Estate Plan, Ghost Hunters, Endangered Alphabets, research sessions with genealogist Wayne Blanchard, Discovering Your Family History, and monthly RFPL Reads book discussions.

- Provided outdoor and nature programs including the Cheshire Railroad, the Power of Water, the Saxtons River Trail Initiative, Rockingham Meeting House Tour, Vermont Timber Rattlesnakes, identification of Hemlock scale, and invasive plants and insects presented by the Southeastern Vermont's Watershed Coordinator for the VT Department of Natural Resources.
- Received a Pushing the Limits Califa Library Group grant for a series of programs, led by Peter Bergstrom, on the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) of everyday life.
- Hosted the Friends of the Library-sponsored programs and fundraisers such as the annual May plant sale, December's holiday party, Pub Trivia Night, Crescent Dragonwagon's writing workshop, a book signing of *Intimate Grandeur* on the State House's history, and Gardening with Pollinators presented by Henry Homeyer.
- Assisted Charlie Hunter and the Friends with their special project to raise funds to purchase the Vilas Bridge painting by artist Jerry Pfohl, with the goal to donate it to the Library's Historical Collection. The Friends planned a series of programs focused around the 6-foot painting, which was installed in the Library's Biography Room.
- Hosted exhibits including Jerry Pfohl's Vilas Bridge Painting, Middle School students' art display, Kim Grall's *Enchanted Gourds*, and a National Archives Bill of Rights display sponsored by the VT Humanities Council, which complemented the Community Read of Frederick Douglass's Fourth of July Speech. Historical Collection items were also on display including Hetty Green's writing lap desk, a tree trunk with two embedded cannonballs, a butter churn & washing machine manufactured in Bellows Falls, and the Tucker Toll Bridge sign.
- Received e-rate Fiber Grant, and Videoconferencing equipment, through the Vermont Department of Libraries, which allows two or more locations to communicate through audio and video transmissions over the Internet, to use for online trainings, meetings, and programs.
- Continued to focus on reader's advisory and educational handouts, including the annual gift guide of recommended books, audio books and movies, and a history of town bridges.
- Increased our technology focused educational activities, including tech help classes and one-on-one tech tutoring assistance with online services and personal electronic devices, and continued to provide access to online resources, public computers, copier, printer, scanner and fax machines.



*Exhibit Opening for Jerry Pfohl's
Vilas Bridge Painting*

We are proud to serve a community that is so interested in reading and education, and are thankful for the funding we received from the Town of Rockingham to support library service. We are also thankful to the many individuals, businesses, organizations, and volunteers who donated to the Library and the Annual Appeal, and especially the Friends of the Library, and all those who supported their fundraising efforts.

The Library Board and staff understand the transformative nature of today's libraries, and the critical role libraries play in the digital age. We will continue to explore ways of providing services that support access to learning and technology, for everyone in our community.

Submitted by: Celina Houlne



Hoopoe, the Mime at the Summer Reading Program



Success in the Break Out Room!

Rockingham Free Public Library	Hours
65 Westminster Street	Mon, Tues, Wed 10 - 7
Bellows Falls, VT	Thur & Fri 10 - 5:30
(802) 463-4270	Sat 10 - 2
http://rockinghamlibrary.org	

FISCAL YEAR 2017

BY THE NUMBERS

Hours Open | 2,392
 Library Visits | 35,412
 Library Card Holders | 5,758
 Info Transactions | 19,448

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Number of Child/Teen Activities | 198
 Total Attendance | 5,293
 Number of Adult Activities | 103
 Total Attendance | 1,168

TECHNOLOGY

Public Computers | 12
 Computers Sessions | 7,384
 WiFi Sessions | 16,172
 Website Visits | 62,317
 Library Databases Use | 50,004

COLLECTIONS/CIRCULATION

Books | 36,826
 Magazines & Newspapers | 61
 Audio & Visual Items | 4,034
 Online Audiobooks, e-books | 13,319
 Online Databases, Ancestry | 60
 Print/Media Checked Out | 61,459

ROCKINGHAM RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation Center had a rough start to the summer! After being closed all winter due to repairs to the building, most of the pool's pipes had to be repaired or replaced along with the pool pump. This set back the pool opening for the summer by a week, but with everything repaired and replaced we are all set to go for this upcoming summer.

I would like to thank the Highway Department for all the help they gave the Recreation Department throughout all the projects this past year! With their help it saved the Town a lot of tax payer's money and is really appreciated.



The pool had good attendance this summer. Many residents have found that the Rockingham Recreation Center is a great spot to bring their families to swim, play, and just to have fun. All the programs that the Rec provides were very busy this year, providing many different programs for all ages. All programs and resources are presented through the year both at the Bellows Falls Village Playground, the Saxtons River Recreation Area, and the Bellows Falls Middle School. Please stop by the Recreation Center to get any information

or check the web site www.rockbf.org

The playground staff, along with the lifeguards, did a great job keeping all the children safe and entertained all summer with field trips, clinics, and activities. Our Saxtons River Day Camp staff of Sam Barth, Karen Stoodley, Bethany Aumand and Reno Tuttle, did an outstanding job yet again this summer with an awesome turnout again! Swim lesson, arts and crafts, afternoon activities, Family Friday Nights and many other programs were also well attended this summer at the Rec!

The Rock Rec had another great turnout for its Carnival Day on the Friday of Old Home Days! There was a bounce house, dunk tank, sponge toss, ring toss, bottle toss, and many more games and prizes that kids of all ages really enjoyed this summer! We will be holding it again this summer with more games and prizes to be had!

The ski tow had a late set back as well this year, when a tree fell in the late fall and knocked down the power lines to the safety net and lights along with the rope. Repairs were made to the ski tow and things got back to business as usual.

Winter recreation included four youth teams for boys' and girls' basketball teams for grades 3-6 and along with co-ed basketball skill development for grades k-2. There were seven adult co-ed volleyball teams, a sledding hill, and night skiing at the ski tow which is also at the Recreation Center. The Rec also provides week-long activities during the school vacations in December and February for the school children. Santa Claus and his little helpers did not come this year to the Rec Center due to the construction, but they plan on being there this Winter!



The spring time at the Rec started with the Annual Easter Egg Hunt in April, which was well attend with over a 100 children visiting the Easter Bunny and looking for the prized golden egg. The Rec stuffed over 2,500 eggs this year! Girls softball for grades 3-6 went very well with two teams and played ball through a very warm and yet sometime cold spring.

Lastly, please visit our website (www.rockbf.org), or Facebook us at Rockingham Recreation for updates or upcoming events or programs going on at the Rec Center, and remember that the Rec is open year-round now so feel free to stop up and check it out! We are open Monday – Friday 3:30-5:30pm and closed on weekends for our off-season hours. During school vacations we are open 11am-5pm and our summer hours are 10am to 8pm Monday-Friday, and weekends 12-5pm. For anyone who would like more information please call the Rec Center and ask for me (802-463-9732).

The Rec Center is also available to rent for birthday parties during the week and weekends, please call the Rec for more information.

Anyone interested in volunteering for programs or helping coach any sports please contact Ryan at the Rec Center.

Submitted by: Ryan Stoodley, Recreations Director

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ROCKINGHAM RECYCLING CENTER AND TRANSFER STATION

The past year has been a busy and transitional year at the Rockingham Recycling Center and Transfer Station. On July 1, 2017 the recycling center began “single stream” recycling after many years of “dual stream” recycling. The initial transition was less than ideal, but thankfully was only temporary while a new compactor was installed. The new recycling compactor was finally installed and put into service in mid-September. Since then, the dust has settled, things have spread back out and people seem to be getting used to the “new” way of recycling. Special thanks to Mike Hindes and the members of the Rockingham Highway Department for all their help in doing the site work and constructing the concrete pad for the new compactor and for coming in on Saturdays and packing the temporary recycling containers with the backhoe. We were fortunate that the costs associated with the purchase and installation of the compactor was offset by funds received from our solid waste district.



The cashier’s office was moved from the big building to a refurbished smaller building which is closer to the trash containers. This move was made to improve efficiency and for the convenience of the general public when paying for their trash disposal and purchasing tickets. Many thanks to Bob Fogg, our cashier, for his flexibility during this change.

On July 1, 2017 the Recycling Center began accepting food scraps as required by Vermont’s Universal Recycling Law. We have contracted with a Vermont company that picks up the food scraps on a weekly basis. They convert our food scraps, along with those from many other locations, to certified organic compost which they then market. This service has been a little slow to catch on, but we expect that it will become more widely used as the landfill ban for food scraps gets closer.

That ban is currently scheduled to go into effect in 2020. Those residents who prefer to compost their food scraps in their own backyard composters are certainly encouraged to do so. Our solid waste district has offered composters for sale at reduced prices for many years in the spring. Our district is the Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District. More information can be found on its website www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org or by calling 802-674-9235.



It has been recommended that the Recycling Center and Transfer Station purchase and install another new compactor in the upcoming year for the collection and disposal of municipal solid waste. This is based on the volume of trash we receive and the consistent trash overflow which is disposed of in the construction debris containers.

As always, I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to the volunteers. They are the backbone of the Recycling Center and Transfer Station. With the exception of the cashier and myself, the staff that you see there on a daily basis is all unpaid volunteers who give up their time to make the operation work. They don't have to be there, but they choose to be. Thank you Donnie, Linda, Willie, Rich, James, Duane, Gerry, Francis, Phil, Charlie, Larry and Cherokee for all you do for the recycling center.

Submitted by: Gary DeRosia, Recycling Center Coordinator

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ROCKINGHAM TREE COMMITTEE

The Rockingham Tree Committee was successful in securing a Tree Planting Grant in 2017 from the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program. The grant is for planting trees on School Street to replace trees lost over the past years whether due to age, disease, accident, or construction. The grant paperwork was not finalized until July 2017 which means the planting will be done in the spring of 2018.

Trees on Green Street and South Street which had been planted under a prior Tree Planting Grant were found to be infected with a borer. The Committee worked with the supplier and replacement trees were planted. Several of these were damaged due to a vehicular accident, but the individual involved replaced the damaged trees. Committee member Betsy Bradon took upon herself the watering duties for the Green Street trees and the Committee thanks her for all the work hauling water to each tree. The Committee purchased a large plastic tank which fits into the rear of a vehicle and allows for hauling water to planting sites. Newly planted trees need to be watered weekly and the tank is extremely useful in making sure that the new trees receive an adequate amount of water during the warm months of the year.

The tree inventory done for Rockingham in 2015 by the State of Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program is available for any member of the public to view. The inventory is of public trees - those between the road and sidewalk, within the highway rights-of-way in the villages, and in parks and other public spaces. It can be found on the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry web site under Resources, Inventory and Assessments, Public Tree Inventories, Rockingham Public Tree Inventory Report 2015.

The Urban and Community Forestry Program has since developed a computer program that allows the Town to update its inventory without State intervention. Co-chairs Ellen Howard and Polly Thompson received the training along with members of the Brattleboro tree group. Information will be obtained from the Tree Warden as to trees which have been removed so that the inventory can be kept up to date.

The Committee worked again with students from River Valley Technical Center Horticulture and Natural Resources Program who returned to Bellows Falls to prune trees on Green Street. This program benefits the students by providing hands-on training work and benefits the Town by excellent tree pruning at no cost except for the removal of the tree debris by the Rockingham Highway Department crew. In previous years, pruning by the students was done in the Square, the Waypoint Center, and Island Park.

The Committee welcomes new members who are interested in the health of the community's trees. Contact information can be obtained through the municipal office.

Submitted by:
Ellen Howard, Co-Chair



ROCKINGHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department would once again like to thank the residents of the town of Rockingham and surrounding towns for the support and donations over the past year. A special thanks to the Vermont Country Store for the two donations. The donations went toward the purchase of ten new Minator VI pagers. We would also like to thank all personnel and departments that have assisted us at fire and rescue calls over the past year. One Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department member has completed the EMT course, which gives us two certified EMT's.

All fire and rescue personnel are continuing to train at local, state and federal levels. All fire and rescue members have been recertified in CPR. Rescue members have also been recertified as first responder ECA's and EMT's.

The new rescue truck that was delivered in April 2016 has been a great help and should cut down on fuel and maintenance costs. The new 3,000 gallon tanker pumper was delivered in April 2017 and has a 1,500 gallon per minute pump, two 1 ½ cross lays, one 2 ½ cross lays, all with foam, a hose bed with 1,000' of 4" hose, and 500' of 2 ½" hose.



Following is a list of the fire and rescue calls for the year 1/1/2017 through 12/31/2017:

Type of Call	Number of Calls	Man Hours
Structure Fires	3	24.50
Chimney Fires	1	4.00
Brush Fires	2	26.00
Vehicle Fires	1	2.00
Power Lines & Trees Down	12	59.75
Smoke Investigation	1	2.00
Set Up Landing Zone for DART	0	0.00
Fire Alarm Sounding	6	14.50
Propane Leaks	3	4.00
CO Detectors Sounding	2	5.25
Illegal Burns	1	10.00
Auto Accidents	29	170.00
Emergency Medical Calls	94	201.50
Service Calls	3	16.50
Training		521.00
Totals	159	1,064.00
Mutual Aid Calls		
Chester	3	37.00
Saxtons River	3	24.50
Springfield	1	9.00
South Londonderry	1	3.50
Athens	1	25.50
Westminster	1	3.00
Bellows Falls	3	74.50
Keene, NH	1	22.00
Total Mutual Aid Calls	14	199.00
TOTAL CALLS	173	1263.00

Submitted by: Chief Denis Jeffrey



TOWN CLERK REPORT

This has been a great year for the Town Clerk's Office. We spent a great deal of 2016 working on elections, and those kept us very busy. Although we've still been very busy, we were able to turn our attention to other issues and projects that we hope will be helpful to the residents, and potential residents, of Rockingham.

We are currently working on a project to record additional information in regard to land surveys. The procedure in the past has been to record only the name and address of the property owners, who commissioned the survey. Our goal is to also list all streets and all property owners found on each survey; thus broadening the scope of information available in regard to each property surveyed. Although it is a work in progress (and will be for quite some time), we are hoping that when we've completed recording this information, it will assist countless property owners, and those potential property owners, with questions and issues regarding specific areas and properties throughout Rockingham.

We are also looking into a new and better way to handle the filing of zoning information. This will require a lot of collaboration between the Town Clerk and Planning offices, which we're looking forward to, as this will offer us a chance to expand our knowledge of the zoning process, as well as make more information readily available to the public.

A few changes were made in the layout of the office, allowing us to create another work area for anyone coming in to search our land records. The researchers coming in have found this additional space helps make visiting our office extremely accommodating, and we've received nothing but positive feedback.

The annual Rabies and Dog Licensing Clinic will be on Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the village garage on Blake Street; the rabies vaccination fee is \$10.00.

The limited storage space in the vault will eventually have to be addressed, and we anticipate this will be a costly endeavor. However, we have begun to consolidate, repackage, and rearrange some of the older records. By doing this, we have been able to free up a significant amount of space, which will give the Town several years before we have to take on the cost of expanding the vault.

Overall, our goal has been to enhance the value of this office and show our residents that by eliminating redundant procedures, consolidating what we can, streamlining as many applications as possible, and using what we have more efficiently, we can keep this office moving on a productive and positive path.

In closing, we'd like to extend an invitation to all Rockingham residents to come and visit this office, and share any ideas or thoughts you may have as to improvements or additions you would like to see. After all, this is your Town Clerk's Office, and we want everyone to feel welcomed and heard when they visit us. What you have to say is important to us, and we're here for you.

Submitted by:

Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk

Barb Joy, Assistant Town Clerk

Vital Statistics for 2017:

Births	40
Marriages	27
Deaths	50

Revenues:

Town Fees	\$ 2,625
Clerk Fees	<u>150</u>
Total	\$2,775

Auto Registration Renewals:

144 @ 3.00/ea	\$432
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Dog Licenses:

Rabies – State	\$ 350
Spay/Neuter – State	1,396
Dog Fee – Clerk	704
Dog Fee – Town	852
Late Fee	82
Animal Control	<u>1,748</u>
Total	\$ 5,132

Total Revenue of Town Clerk's Office:

Liquor Licenses	\$2,775
Auto Registration Renewals	432
Dog Licenses	<u>5,132</u>
Town Clerk – Total Revenue	\$ 8,341

SUMMARY OF FREDERICK K. CHAMPAGNE TRUST

I/We the trustees of public funds of the Town of Rockingham, trustee of the above names trust estate account to the court as provided in this summary and the schedules attached hereto for the period 07/01/2016 to 06/30/2017.

Total from Inventory or pervious accounting	\$2,548.32
Other Receipts	\$197.34
Net gain (or loss) on sales or other disposition	0.00
Distributions	0.00
	<hr/>
Balance:	\$2,745.66

The foregoing is a just and true account, Kathleen Neathawk (Trustee)

Subscribed and sworn to this 29 day of January, 2018

Before me, [Signature]
Notary Public

BELLOWS FALLS AREA SENIOR CENTER

It has been another exciting and busy year for the Center!

Building maintenance this year included scraping and repainting the center doors, power washing the building and the repair of rotted window frames. Major service was performed on the center van, including; all new hoses, A/C units, shocks and a new battery.

We continued serving a daily average of 30 Meals-on-Wheels and 33 congregate meals were served which translates into 16,380+ meals for the year.

Our dedicated volunteers donated 2700 hours of in-kind service.

Activities and services remained constant with the addition of multiple driver safety courses with AARP, the annual AARP free tax preparation, VNA-sponsored flu clinic for our area residents, AARP Fraud Watch presentations, Efficiency Vermont presentations, Basic Tai Chi for fall prevention class, multiple weekly Bone Builders classes, SMP Medicare Rights, Vermont Legal Aid presentations, Annual Senior Picnic, safe drug disposal presentation and collection, numerous nutritional presentations, VNA Footcare clinic, VNA Blood Pressure Clinic, 90 years young celebration, special day trips, birthday celebrations, ice cream socials, various musical and historical presentations and well attended holiday luncheon celebrations. This year we added 41 new members, and hope to increase that number next year. Major fundraising efforts included the Holiday Bazaar, Annual Appeal Letter, Senior Center Cookbook, and Jamboree.

Financially, the center has seen a rise in meals cost of 3% coupled with a decrease in federal funds by \$12996.00, it will be a challenging year ahead for the meals program. The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center is a non-profit serving the needs of older people ages 50+ in the towns of Rockingham, Westminster, Grafton, Athens, and Walpole, New Hampshire. Provides help for fostering successful aging through services and activities in areas of education, recreation, social work, arts, employment, health and our Meals On Wheels and Congregate Meals program.

The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center would like to request level funding in the amount of \$21,384.00 from the Town of Rockingham.

We thank the voters and the Town of Rockingham for your continued support of our center and local area seniors.

Submitted by:
Teagen Kosut, Executive Director

CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS

CRJC continues its mission to preserve the visual and ecological integrity and working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley. With five local subcommittees and over 100 volunteers, it is guiding the watershed's growth by reviewing and commenting on proposed actions, from large scale development projects including the Northern Pass and Hydro-Electric Dam Relicensing, to proposed regulatory changes, such as the NH shoreland protection rules.



Headwaters of the Connecticut River, Fourth Connecticut Lake, Pittsburg, NH

During FY 17 CRJC convened a meeting on the Conte Wildlife Refuge with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to learn about their Water-on-Wheels Express and to develop a partnership to bring this educational exhibit to Connecticut River communities. CRJC was a sponsor of the 20th Annual Source-to-Sea Cleanup with the Connecticut River Conservancy and partnered with them on an analysis of erosion studies as part of the FERC relicensing process of hydro-electric dams. As a result, FERC requested the dams' owner to provide additional information on erosion along the river.

CRJC emphasized the Vermont Clean Water Initiative with a focus on best agricultural practices to reduce impacts on surface waters. CRJC continues to bring public policy decision makers to our meetings to keep them abreast of the issues facing the Connecticut River. Finally, CRJC worked with the students of the Rockefeller Center at Dartmouth to conduct a valuation of the Connecticut River to the New Hampshire Economy. Read or download the study here: <http://www.crjc.org/news-and-events/>.

The current officers of the Joint Commissions are *Jason Rasmussen, President (VT)*; *James McClammer, Vice President (NH)*; *Jennifer Griffin, Treasurer (NH)*; *Steven Lembke, Secretary (VT)*. For a full list of Commissioners see the following website: <http://www.crjc.org/about-crjc/commissioners/>.

Mount Ascutney Subcommittee Annual Report - 2017

The Mount Ascutney Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions consists of appointed volunteers from the Vermont towns of Hartland, Windsor, Weathersfield, Springfield, and Rockingham, and the New Hampshire towns of Plainfield, Cornish, Claremont, and Charlestown.

The subcommittee meets every two months; specific responsibilities include providing advice to NHDES, VTANR, and municipalities on matters pertaining to the river; reviewing and commenting on proposed permits and plans; and developing and periodically updating a corridor management plan.

This year, the subcommittee reviewed and commented on numerous regulatory applications, reviewed and provided comments on the Water Quality section of the Weathersfield Town Plan, and actively participated in the Wilder Dam federal re-licensing process by participating in stakeholder meetings and keeping municipal officials updated on re-licensing progress.

The subcommittee has also continued to work to update the Mt. Ascutney chapter of the Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan, which serves as a guide for the stewardship of the Connecticut River for residents, businesses, organizations, and municipalities along the river.

The subcommittee planned and hosted their annual Septic Smart public workshop, for which there was record attendance (26 attendees). The subcommittee also partnered with the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge to perform public outreach and education at the Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival.

There are currently openings on the Subcommittee in several communities. If you are interested in representing one of our towns, please contact Nancy Heatley (nancy_heatley@hotmail.com) for more information.



THE CURRENT

The Current has been southern Windsor and Windham County's public transit provider since 2003. Our mission is to provide a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for the 27 towns we serve. As a private non-profit 501c3, we rely more than ever on local contributions to deliver rides and to provide the required local match for replacement vehicles.

The Current is funded by state and federal grants, contributions from towns and resorts, fares on some routes, and contributions from our human service partners. We operate bus routes and senior or disabled transportation services via our fleet of 36 buses, vans, and a network of over 50 very dedicated volunteer drivers.



Our operating expenses last year were \$5,164,289. With that we provided 282,102 bus, van, taxi, and volunteer rides. Our buses and vans traveled 910,711 miles over 50,096 hours.

In Rockingham we operate van and volunteer services which last year provided 25,555 rides at a cost of \$487,634. We also operate fixed route bus services which last year provided 1,847 at a cost of \$49,533.

We are requesting a \$3,825 contribution from the Town of Rockingham this year. We hope you will once again support us.

We are always seeking your input to improve our services. Please contact me by email (rgagnon@crtransit.org); phone (802) 460-7433 x 201; or visit us at www.crtransit.org to let us know how The Current may improve service in your community.

Submitted by:
Rebecca Gagnon, General Manager

GREEN MOUNTAIN RSVP

Green Mountain RSVP, a Senior Corps program of the Corporation for National and Community Service is a nationwide program for people age 55 and older who want to contribute to their communities through volunteering. Volunteers donate their skills and knowledge and provide meaningful services to nonprofit organizations in the local area. Our motto is Do Good, Feel Good – we know that there are many benefits to volunteering for both the community and the volunteer.

Green Mountain RSVP helps local non-profit and civic organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers to meet community needs. Our goal is to ensure that volunteers contribute their time and talents to programs that have a positive impact on the quality of life in Windham County. They address community concerns for our senior population and their neighbors they include: supporting Healthy Futures and Aging in Place through food pantry support, meal delivery, and transportation. They also assist residents with tax preparation and support local blood drives.

Currently there are five very active volunteers living in Bellows Falls that serve in multiple programs at the Senior Center. One volunteer driver in Saxtons River has recently been placed in the medical trips driver program for Grace Cottage Hospital. RSVP volunteers deliver between 24-36 total meals on three days each week year round for the Meals on Wheels program. RSVP conducted a Bone Builder certification course at the senior center in 2016 and added a third class that year to the activity schedule. There are four RSVP instructors now leading the classes twice weekly. RSVP trains and supports the volunteer instructors and provides all the weights and materials to class participants at no charge.

GMRSVP volunteers from Windham County generously donated over 14,596 hours of service last year at 40 local nonprofits. RSVP will continue to build programming around support of Aging in Place and Healthy Futures in Windham County in the upcoming year.

You are welcome to contact Steve Ovenden in our Windham office at (802) 254-7515 or speak to me directly in the Bennington Office at (802) 772-7875. Thank-you for your continued support.

Submitted by:
Cathy Aliberti, Green Mountain RSVP Director

volunteer
do good, feel good



HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION SERVICES

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windsor and Windham counties. HCRS assists and advocates for individuals, families, and children who are living with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. HCRS provides these services through outpatient mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment program, community rehabilitation and treatment program, developmental services division, and alternatives and emergency services programs.

During FY17, HCRS provided 23,981 hours of services to 279 residents of the Town of Rockingham. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Rockingham.

Anyone with questions about HCRS services should contact George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer, at (802) 886-4500.

Submitted by:

George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer



MEETING WATERS YMCA

Founded in 1895, Meeting Waters YMCA is the area's largest provider of state-licensed school-age child care programs. Its Y-ASPIRE program (After-School Program for Inspiration, Recreation and Education), and Y Day Camp provide year-round out-of-school care for elementary school youth and their working parents.

Meeting Waters YMCA's Youth Development programs are designed to meet the needs of a wide-range of constituents and stakeholders. The hours of operation of all of our programs are designed with the needs of working parents in mind. Y-ASPIRE runs each of the 180 school days from the close of school until 6pm. In addition, the program is offered during in-service and vacation days, as well as most holidays, from 8am until 6pm. With bussing, our Y Day Camp cares for Rockingham youth from 8-5 every day throughout the summer, a schedule that supports working parents and their employers.

By supporting parents' ability to work, we are helping them meet their basic needs of food, shelter and clothing which contributes to decreasing the need for them to depend on other community and state agencies to do that for them. We are helping these parents contribute to—and participate in—the local economy while at the same time building fundamental skills in their child(ren)—academic enrichment, healthy lifestyle habits, self-discovery, and critical social skills needed in today's business world and civil society. Our monthly Family Strengthening events at Y-ASPIRE and Family Nights at

camp provide skill-building experiences for parents to provide a healthy, enriching home environment.

Last year, 79% of the Rockingham program participants received financial assistance in order to take advantage of these youth development and family strengthening programs. Your \$5,000 investment was part of a total of more than \$58,000.00 in financial assistance to Rockingham parents for participation in MWYMCA's youth development programs. Your support helps youth and families live healthier and happier lives; enables kids to do better in school; and gives young people the chance to learn, grow and thrive in the summer months through their day camp experience. With the support of the citizens of Rockingham, we are helping both parents and youth reach their full potential. Thank you for your continued support.

Submitted by:
Susan Fortier, Executive Director



OUR PLACE DROP-IN CENTER

Our Place is a daytime drop-in-center that provides help with food and other essential needs in a non-judgmental, safe and respectful atmosphere. The people who need our help are living on a limited income; some due to a job loss or reduction in work hours and wages, others like the elderly and disabled have fixed incomes that do not cover their rising expenses. Some of the people we serve have children and work one or more part-time jobs. Our kitchen staff prepares fresh food that is either donated or purchased from a variety of sources including local markets and farms, Thomas Dairy, UNFI and Vermont Food bank. Our Place serves breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday each week – an average of 1100 meals in the dining room or as to go meals for peoples to have at home for dinner.

In our food pantry we provide a selection of free groceries to an average of 200 different households each month. We serve approximately 1800 different people each year in the food pantry. The majority of these people reside in the villages that make up the Town of Rockingham: Athens, Bellows Falls, and Saxtons River. We collect data about household composition each time a person visits the food pantry. In the past year, we have served 430 different households who reside in the town of Rockingham. There are 1300 people living in these households including 800 adults and 500 children. Of these 800 adults, 107 have identified themselves as seniors, and 202 as officially disabled (receiving SSI or SSDI income) 120 are employed and 185 were unemployed when they used our services. There are people who visit the food pantry on a regular basis and some who only need supplemental food when there is an unexpected expense such as a car repair, family emergency or other financial crisis in their lives. The food we offer includes fresh produce, milk, orange juice, frozen meat, canned tuna, vegetables, fruit, shelf stable juice and soups, pasta and cereal. In addition to the families and individuals who access the food pantry and meals at Our Place, we deliver an average of 40 bags of groceries each

month to seniors and disabled people in our service area from Rockingham to Athens and south to Westminster. We help coordinate the Healthy Harvest Network, which is a partnership of seven local food shelves that are sharing surplus perishable food to reduce waste. These food shelves in southeastern Vermont are mainly staffed by volunteers who work to help their neighbors. We also help coordinate a direct food distribution from the Vermont Foodbank that occurs on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Waypoint Center near the Bellows Falls train station. On a regular basis, 250 families attend this food distribution that focuses mainly on fresh produce as well as other surplus food that the Vermont foodbank has on hand.

We are grateful for the financial support that the residents of the Town of Rockingham provide to Our Place each year. The five thousand dollars that you provide helps us purchase food that is not available through donations and helps pay for a portion of our rent and utilities. We thank the community for all of the ways that you support our work.

Submitted by:

Board of Directors and Employees of Our Place Drop-In Center.



PARKS PLACE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Parks Place Community Resource Center occupies a comfortable old house in Bellows Falls, Vermont. Opened in 1995, the Resource Center provides access to health and human services, education, community justice, parenting, substance abuse prevention and treatment, youth programs, and mental health counseling among others. Parks Place offers a convenient, welcoming space for programs and services that would otherwise be inaccessible to members of this community. Parks Place serves approximately 3,000 persons annually who are seeking to find what they need to move their lives forward.

Traditionally Parks Place has reported data using an unduplicated system, which means that we have reported only the number of unique individuals we serve, rather than the number of services they receive. For instance, if somebody comes in to use the computer and then goes on to apply for 3Squares, join a peer group, and take a parenting class, they would have traditionally only been counted one time. We believe that reporting the number of “connections” that our clients make, rather than the number of unique individuals we serve, more accurately represents both our philosophy and our mission.

In Fiscal Year 2016 Parks Place served 2,606 unique individuals, 1,586 of which were from the Town of Rockingham. By comparison, when we look at FY17 we see that 7,621 total connections were made and of those, 5,065 were made by residents of the Town of Rockingham. This new way of interpreting data focuses on the number of services our clients are accessing, rather than the number of unique individuals that we serve.

Parks Place mission is to open doors to opportunities by connecting people with the resources they need to move their lives forward in a positive direction. Over forty different agencies and non-profits provide services at Parks Place on a regular, on-going basis. Many meet weekly with clients and hold regular office hours, while others are present on a monthly-basis, or as needed. This partnership allows a distinct opportunity for collaboration and success in serving this community.

Parks Place uses a survey each year to evaluate our success in serving this community. As one survey respondent reports: "Bellows Falls is small. Basically all needs are met at one place. PARKS PLACE!" This message is demonstrated in the fact that 40% of all respondents reported that they have accessed Parks Place more than twenty times and when asked which services they learned about through using Parks Place a common theme was "all" or "too many to list."

Parks Place would like to thank you for your support in helping us to serve our mission. This work would not be possible without contributions like that of the Town of Rockingham.

Submitted by:

Christine Bourne Bullard, Executive Director



PIERCE LAWTON POST #37 MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Pierce Lawton Post #37 has hosted the Town of Rockingham Observance for over 50 years with pride. We now find that with the large number of WWII, Korean War and Vietnam veterans' deaths annually, the budget that has been provided to us for, at least two decades, has not adequately funded the flags that decorate our town veterans' graves. Over 2,000 veterans are buried in the local cemeteries that we care for. It is our hope that the board would be willing to increase the stipend for just the flags and the markers needed. Post #37 will continue to provide the after observance reception at its cost.

For those that may not know the history of what we do, I wanted to briefly explain this program. We are responsible for finding the guest speakers, coordinate with the local bands and other organizations and local clergy for a program that would honor our fallen heroes. This, in itself, consumes many hours of phone calls, and communication to develop a program. We prepare and print a program for those who attend.

We decorate the graves of over 2,000 veterans at 9 cemeteries with all volunteer assistance. Last May, one of our dedicated volunteers, Stan Rumrill, suffered a heart attack at Oak Hill Cemetery. Mr. Rumrill's dedication to decorating these graves was a priority as he was a WWII veteran. Hours are spent placing the flags, updating our grave registration and replacing broken or unserviceable markers. We also return in the fall and remove them and dispose of them prior to November 11th with a dignified ceremony.

Each year we have 30-35 veterans die from our area. Our post also provides ceremonies and flag folding with military honors for those who request our services.

We typically have replaced, or place new, markers for deceased veterans - approximately 60 a year. As you may know, flags cannot be re-used and suffer from the inclement weather of our area as well as vandalism. These flags are placed annually and all old flags are disposed of in a proper, respectful ceremony.

Wreaths for Lady Liberty and each local cemetery are placed annually following the close of the program and the short parade into town. The color guard visits each town gravesite and provides military honors and taps with the laying of the wreath to follow.

The Legion continues to provide the reception following the program each year. It is our way of thanking those who attend the program.

We thank you for the confidence and honor of assisting the Town of Rockingham in organizing this event. We would be more than happy to provide more information if you would like.

Submitted by:

Linda Perham, Past National Vice Commander
Adjutant Post #37



ROCKINGHAM ARTS AND MUSEUM PROJECT (RAMP)

The Rockingham Arts and Museum Project (RAMP) founded in 1995 continues to fulfill its mission: *Develop public awareness of the arts, Create vitality in the community with the arts and Demonstrate that the arts favorably impact the local economy.* In this fiscal year, partners included:

- The Town of Rockingham
- The Vermont Arts Council (VAC)
- The Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance
- The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- Housing Vermont
- Preservation Trust of Vermont
- Rockingham Free Public Library
- The Windham Reg. Commission
- Stone Church Arts
- Main Street Arts
- Fact TV
- Chroma Technology
- Sovernet
- New England Fdn for the Arts
- CT River National Byway Council
- Vermont Performance Lab
- Stewart Property Management
- Vermont Council on Rural Development
- Windham Foundation

RAMP's mission is to make the arts physically and culturally accessible to all by providing: affordable housing for artists, hosting quarterly artists' town meetings, initiating RAMParts that presents films and performances at the Bellows Falls Opera House. All of the programming and projects produced by these creative collaborations on the local, state and national levels reflect the vital and beneficial socio-economic impact that the arts bring to our community.

www.ramp-vt.org

RAMP is proud to be a member of this community and is motivated to fulfill its mission. For more information or suggestions please contact RAMP at (802) 463-3252 or by e-mail at ramp@sover.net, and visit our website: www.ramp-vt.org.

Submitted by:

Robert McBride, Founding Director



SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965.

Our mission is to enable people to cope with and reduce the hardships of poverty; create sustainable self-sufficiency; reduce the causes and move toward the elimination of poverty. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Emergency Services/Crisis Intervention (fuel/utility, housing and food assistance), Micro-Business Development, Individual Development Accounts, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), VT Health Connect Navigation, Homelessness Prevention, Jobs for Independence, and Thrift Stores.

In the community of Rockingham we have provided the following services during FY2017:

- **Weatherization:** 17 homes (27 people) were weatherized at a cost of \$99,832
- **Emergency Heating System Program:** 8 homes (10 people) received furnace repairs or replacements at a cost of \$30,601
- **Emergency Home Repair:** 6 households (13 people) received services to address health and safety risks, repair structural problems, and reduce energy waste, valued at \$17,677
- **Micro Business Development:** 2 household (4 people) received counseling, technical assistance and support to start, sustain or expand a small business, valued at \$3,522
- **Tax Preparation:** 34 households (55 people) received services and tax credits totaling \$32,298
- **VT Health Connect:** 68 households (115 people) received assistance to enroll in the Vermont Health Exchange, valued at \$8,204

- **Emergency Services:** 242 households (535 people) received 1,259 services (including crisis intervention, financial counseling, nutrition education, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services), valued at \$8,732
- **Fuel/Utility Assistance:** 132 households (338 people) received 206 assists valued at \$91,326
- **Housing Assistance:** 33 households (65 people) received 36 assists valued at \$44,781
- **Jobs for Independence Program:** 1 households (1 person) were recruited, screened and referred for enhanced employment services, valued at \$402
- **Thrift Store Vouchers:** 27 households (85 people) received goods & services valued at \$2,046

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of federal, state, private, and town funds allow us to not only maintain, but to increase and improve service. We thank the residents of Rockingham for their support.

Submitted by;
Stephen Geller, Executive Director

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SOUTHERN WINDSOR/WINDHAM COUNTIES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The District was chartered in 1981 and currently serves fourteen Vermont towns. Each member municipality appoints a representative and an alternate to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Rockingham's representative is Gary DeRosia.



Just a reminder...As of July 1, 2016 leaf, yard and clean wood debris was banned from the landfill and haulers were required to offer leaf and yard debris collection (they may charge a fee). Transfer stations also offer collection.

The District applied for and received a grant from Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources to subsidize the cost of backyard composters for participants of backyard composting workshops. The workshops were very popular (254 attendees) More workshops will be held in the spring of 2018. All food scraps will be banned from the landfill in 2020.

Two hundred and fifty-one District residents attended the household hazardous waste (HHW) collections in September 2016 and two hundred and fifty-five attended the May 2017 collections. That's a very small percentage of the 31,280 people in the District. The greatest volume of material that comes in is paint. The District's disposal cost for the four collections is about \$40,000 annually.

Two retailers in Springfield Bibens Ace Hardware or dispose of the paint for free what happens to the paint at



accept unwanted paint year-round. Bring paint to Sherwin-Williams during regular business hours and (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty). Find out paintcare.org.

The HHW events in 2018 will be held on Saturdays, May 12 and September 8 at the Springfield Transfer Station. We will have other collections on May 19 and September 15 but the locations have yet to be determined.

The District received a USDA grant to support our work on the Solid Waste Implementation Plan and educational outreach efforts. We took turns attending Selectboard meetings in each of the fourteen District towns to give presentations regarding the Universal Recycling law.

The transfer stations continue to see a rise in the tonnage of batteries that are brought in for recycling. All batteries, including button, coin cell, alkaline, and rechargeable batteries are accepted.

This year, the Ludlow, Rockingham and Springfield transfer stations collected 95 working but unwanted sewing machines to ship overseas with the Sewing Peace program (p4p.org) – a 60% increase over the previous year’s total.

“Recycling Resources” is the District’s annual 12-page newsletter devoted to local recycling information. It’s available in town offices and libraries.

Submitted by:
Thomas Kennedy
District Manager

Ham Gillett
Outreach Coordinator

Mary T. O’Brien
Recycling Coordinator



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SPRINGFIELD SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM

The Springfield Supported Housing Program, Inc. (the “Organization”) is a Vermont non-profit corporation established in 2008. The Organization provides temporary housing and case management for families and individuals at risk of homelessness from offices in Springfield, VT and satellite offices in Bellows Falls and Windsor, VT.

This is done with a variety of programs administered by SSHP. First being the Housing Opportunity Program. This program, known as HOP, provides housing coordination for individuals and families who are likely homeless or living in motels. Once a referral is made, a meeting is scheduled within 3 days of that referral. We work intently with the client to help them get the services they need. SSHP staff helps with connecting the participant to local service agencies to get any medical or mental health appointments as necessary. This includes but not limited to, help with employment, child care, substance abuse treatment, budgeting and landlord/tenant mediation. We have a grant that enables us to help those eligible with security deposits or first month’s rent, back rent, or utilities.

We also administer a Reach-Up program for those referred to SSHP by Economic Services. SSHP staff will coordinate team meetings with the participant and any other agency that is involved with the client to establish a unified case plan. This plan will include personal goals such a high school diploma, child care, employment, and any other support services necessary for the client to maintain a safe and secure home.

The next program is Agency of Drug and Alcohol Program (ADAP). This program works with clients dealing with substance abuse. High priority is given to those coming out of a treatment facility. We work intently with the client to help them get the service they need to maintain a healthy and safe environment for their continued recovery. SSH staff will help the client connect with a recovery network, such as meetings, recovery coach, IOP meetings, and sometimes assist with getting clients to medical appointments.

The funds received from the Town of Rockingham go towards the part of the program that services the Rockingham area. Meetings at Parks Place and the Pilot shelter apartment on Center St Bellows Falls.



VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

Vermont Adult Learning is a state-wide, private non-profit corporation with a public mission to provide basic education and literacy skills for Vermonters. Vermont Adult Learning instructors and Educational Advisors work with adult learners to identify and achieve educational and career goals.

Vermont Adult Learning Mission Statement:

To provide adults 16 years and older with necessary skills to successfully transition to employment and post-secondary education.

Vermont Adult Learning Vision:

All Vermonters are literate and have skills to successfully participate in family, community and workplace. At VAL, individuals transform their lives through the integration of education, life and workplace skills. VAL is a recognized essential partner in an integrated fabric of services educational system assuring that every Vermonter has access to opportunities for advancement

Vermont Adult Learning Values:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ Academic Rigor | ✓ Lifelong Learning |
| ✓ Student-centered Learning | ✓ Community Integration and Collaboration |
| ✓ Continuous Improvement | ✓ Responsive to Individual and Community Needs |
| ✓ Climate of Respect and Accountability | |

VAL provides adult learners with personalized education plans that identify their learning styles, career goals and work readiness skills in an adult learning environment. VAL students learn math and literacy skills in class, online and with one on one support when needed. There are two ways students can achieve a high school diploma - High School Completion Program and GED. In HSCP, a competency based study program is developed by the HSCP plan manager with the student. Upon satisfactory completion and approval by the local VT High School Administrator, the student receives a high school diploma. VAL administers the nationally recognized General Equivalency Diploma (GED) exam twice monthly to individuals 16 and older. The VAL Basic Skills program works with adult learners to improve their math, reading and writing skills to the designated levels required to enter the HSCP and to be successful with the GED exams. In addition, the Basic Skills program helps individuals who want to improve their literacy skills for the workplace or prepare for the Community College of Vermont Accuplacer Exam. VAL has a very active English Language Learning program, and we work very closely with local businesses that have non-English speaking employees. VAL employs one full-time Employment Specialist who works in the Brattleboro Reach Up (RU) Program. The VAL Employment Specialist works with RU clients to help them develop workplace skills, job seeking skills and prepare for the workforce. VAL holds the license for the Career ready 101 Program which is designed to provide all aspects of career readiness training in one system: foundational skills, vital life skills such as financial literacy, career exploration, resume writing and interviewing skills, and soft skills such as customer service and positive work habits. VAL offers the Work Keys Assessment twice a month. Work Keys is a job skills assessment that measures "real world" skills that employers believe are critical to job success.

Submitted by:
Cathryn Hayes, Regional Manager



VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH
Home Health, Hospice and Maternal Child Health Services in Rockingham, VT

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is a compassionate, non-profit healthcare organization committed to providing the highest quality home health and hospice services to individuals and their families. VNH provides care for people of all ages and at all stages in life, and delivers care to all, regardless of ability to pay.

VNH services reduce costs associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 VNH made 5,554 homecare visits to 205 Rockingham residents. This included approximately \$173,840 in unreimbursed care to Rockingham residents.

- **Home Health Care:** 2,803 home visits to 137 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Long-Term Care:** 1,458 home visits to 30 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in the home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- **Hospice Services:** 1,245 home visits to 29 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care:** 48 home visits to 9 residents for well baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

Additionally, residents made visits to VNH wellness clinics at local senior and community centers throughout the year, receiving low- and no-cost services including blood pressure screenings, foot care, cholesterol testing, and flu shots.

Rockingham's annual appropriation to VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jeanne McLaughlin, President & CEO (1-888-300-8853)



THE WINDHAM REGIONAL COMMISSION

The mission of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) is to assist towns in Southeastern Vermont to provide effective local government and to work cooperatively with them to address regional issues. In the absence of county government, we provide an essential link between towns, the state, and the federal government. The region is comprised of 27 member towns: the 23 towns of Windham County; Readsboro, Searsburg and Winhall in Bennington County; and Weston in Windsor County.

The Commission, a political subdivision of the state, is composed of and governed by town-appointed Commissioners. Towns choose their own representatives to serve on the Commission. After town meeting, each Selectboard appoints up to two representatives to serve on the Commission for the coming year. Rockingham is currently represented by Susan Hammond and Alan LaCombe. Each Commissioner represents their town's interests before the Commission, brings information from the Commission back to their town, and serves on at least one of a number of WRC committees that address regional and municipal issues and concerns. Active service on these committees is very important because the WRC is organized around a strong committee structure. It's within these committees that most Commission decisions are made. All WRC meetings are open to the public and subject to Vermont open meeting law.

We assist towns with a number of different activities, including town plans and bylaws; community and economic development; local emergency and hazard mitigation planning, including flood hazard bylaw assistance; natural resources including assisting towns with

watershed restoration projects and implementation of the state's new clean water law; town energy planning; transportation, including traffic counts (automotive, bicycles, pedestrian), inventories (bridges, culverts, signs, road erosion), road foremen training, and serving as a liaison with VTrans to report damage to town road infrastructure to the state as a result of flooding; redevelopment of "Brownfields" sites (sites that are or may be contaminated by hazardous substances); review of projects submitted for review through Act 250 (land use), Section 248 (energy generation and transmission, telecommunications), and federal permitting processes; grant application and administration; training of municipal officials and volunteers across a range of topics; and mapping and geographic information system (GIS) analyses. The maps in your town office were likely produced by us.

We help towns make the most of the financial and human resources they have both individually and collectively, assisting with projects between and among towns, building and augmenting the capacity of volunteer-based town boards and commissions, and providing professional services to towns that may want to take on a project that is beyond what they can comfortably manage with their own staff and volunteers. Our relationship with towns is inherently collaborative. For instance, towns choose to have their plans reviewed by the Commission; town plan review and approval by the WRC is not mandatory. The regional plan, which was updated in 2014 following a 2-year process, is developed in consultation with our towns, reflects town plan policies, and is ultimately approved by our towns.

Highlights from the past year reflect the range of services we provide to the towns of the region. We're collaborating with the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation and our counterparts in NH and MA to improve economic opportunity and household income. We provided assistance to 24 towns with plans, zoning, updating flood hazard area regulations, community revitalization and general town planning technical assistance. We coordinated the formation of the Green River Watershed Alliance, which builds off of the successful Saxtons River Collaborative, with funding through the High Meadows Fund. We're leading two renewable energy grant programs. One provides assistance to schools and other public buildings to install modern wood-fueled heating systems. The other provides grants for renewable energy development. We've helped towns apply for grants to conduct road erosion inventories, and to do work to reduce road erosion. We also continue to be the primary GIS and mapping resource for our towns. An annual report is available on our website (www.windhamregional.org). Click on the heading "About Us." We encourage you to visit your town's page on our website to see highlights of our work for you over the last two years, as well as your town's profile (<http://windhamregional.org/towns>). A video about the WRC is available on our homepage.

Funding for the WRC is provided through contracts with state agencies, federal grants, and town assessments. Town assessments make up a relatively small percentage of our budget; about 7% of a \$1.4 million budget for FY 2017. But it is the only funding we receive that has no conditions placed upon it by entities beyond the WRC's borders. Your town's assessment makes it possible for us to leverage the resources to serve you. The town's assessment for this year is \$11,771. To see our detailed Program of Work and budget for FY 2018, visit our website and click on the heading "About Us."

WINDHAM & WINDSOR HOUSING TRUST

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and southern Windsor County. We provide housing for residents of low and moderate incomes, preserve and revitalize neighborhoods, help residents acquire their own homes, and generally improve the social, economic, and cultural health of communities of Windham and southern Windsor County.

WWHT's mission is *to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.*

Homeownership Center

The **Home Repair Program** provides low cost loans to low and moderate income homeowners throughout Windham and Windsor counties to make critical home repairs. These include repairs necessary to bring a home up to code and make it a safe place to live. Our rehabilitation specialist inspects the home, determines which repairs are necessary, and works with the homeowner to plan and finance the project. We assisted 24 homeowners in 2017 with home repair projects.

One-to-one Counseling helps renters and homeowners understand and navigate their options and make smart financial decisions. The program is available to all residents in both counties. We provide homebuyer education, financial literacy training and credit counseling. In 2017, 79 of our clients were able to purchase a home.

The **Shared Equity Program** provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes. Grants are used toward the purchase price of the land underneath the home, lowering the cost to the homebuyer. Windham & Windsor Housing Trust retains ownership of the land and ensures long-term affordability through special ground lease provisions. 135 homes are in the shared equity program.

Rental Housing Development Program-In order to meet the diverse housing needs of a community, WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities. This takes the form of both rehabilitation of existing housing and the construction of new apartments. WWHT works with towns to plan for meeting local affordable housing and community development needs. In 2017, WWHT began renovation of a historic apartment building and broke ground on 18 new apartments in Putney, as well as breaking ground on 22 micro-apartments for the homeless in Brattleboro.

Rental Housing Management Program-WWHT owns 707 rental apartments with over 1,074 tenants. We manage the rental properties in and near Brattleboro and contract with Stewart Property Management Services for the properties in northern Windham and Windsor Counties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure long-term health and safety for our residents as well

as preservation of property values. Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our rental properties and our shared-equity homeowners pay property taxes to the Towns and Villages.

For more information, please visit us on the web at www.w-wht.org



WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER

The mission of the Women's Freedom Center is to work to end physical, sexual and emotional violence against the women and children of Windham and Southern Windsor Counties. The Freedom Center works to fulfill its mission by educating the community regarding the root causes of violence against women, challenging the systems that help keep it in place and by providing support and services, including shelter and safe housing, to women and their children who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Since our beginnings in 1977, we have provided support to the survivors of these crimes, as well as consultation and educational activities to a wide range of community groups to help create a community in which violence is not tolerated.

Emergency support such as shelter, safety planning, financial assistance, and information and referral is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Ongoing individual and group support for women and children; legal, medical, housing and social services advocacy; and cooperative work with other agencies are provided during the week. Due to the rural nature of Windham County and the isolation inherent in many abusive relationships, we are committed to meeting with women wherever we may do so safely. Sometimes this means assisting her to get to us and other times it means us going to her, somewhere safe in her community.

During the fiscal year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the Women's Freedom Center responded to over 1,700 crisis telephone calls and provided hundreds of hours of individual and group support, advocacy, emergency financial and housing assistance, access to legal representation, transportation and childcare to 638 women, 17 men, and 478 children who had been abused. These figures include 31 survivors and their 24 children from Rockingham / Bellows Falls. In addition, we provided over 200 community outreach activities including school presentations and workshops throughout Windham County.

The Women's Freedom Center is a private, non-profit organization relying heavily on community support to provide our free and confidential services. We thank you for your town's contribution to the Freedom Center and hope you will look at it as an investment in creating a future free from violence, something we all deserve.

Submitted by:

Vickie Sterling, Executive Director

YOUTH SERVICES

Youth Services was established in 1972. We provide transformative programs in prevention, intervention and development for young people and families in Windham County Communities. We assist over 1,000 children, youth, and families annually. We help youth and young adults living in difficult circumstances learn the life skills that will assist them in living successfully on their own and as engaged and productive community citizens. Our broad array of program services include:

- Transitioning youth in foster care to independent living as young adults
- Assistance to teens leaving home or at-risk for running away with counseling, family mediation, and housing
- Court Diversion for youth and adults, an alternative to the traditional court system using a restorative justice approach to repair the harm to victims and the community while addressing the underlying issues of the people who violated the law
- Therapeutic case management services, support and referral
- Career development focused groups and one-on-one mentoring for high school students with behavioral and learning disabilities
- Substance abuse prevention for youth and adults
- Supervised visitation and Child Advocacy services
- Counseling services for young adults including Assessment, Intervention and Recovery

This year, we respectfully request \$2,300 from the Town of Rockingham to help fund our agency's services. We served 171 residents from Rockingham during Fiscal Year 2017 and remain available to provide services in the future. Your continued support is beneficial to the children, youth and families in your town.

For additional information please see our new website at www.youthservicesinc.org, call 802-257-0361 or email info@youthservicesinc.org. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Submitted by:
Russell Bradbury-Carlin, Executive Director

EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (Golden Cross)

Business 463-3726
Emergency **9-1-1**

Fire – Bellows Falls

Non-emergency..... 463-4343
Emergency**9-1-1**

Fire – Rockingham

Non-emergency 1-603-352-1291
Emergency **9-1-1**

Fuel Assistance

During working hours 1-802-722-4575
Crisis assistance after hours or on week-ends 1-866-331-7741
Furnace repair - after hours, weekends, holidays 1-877-295-7998

Health Center at Bellows Falls463-9000

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 am- 5:30 pm/Sat & Sun 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

Highway Department (problems Monday-Friday, 7:00 am – 3:30 pm)

Within Bellows Falls Village463-3059
Outside Bellows Falls Village463-5106
After hours emergencies 9-1-1

Poison Control Information:

Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center1-603-650-5000
Vermont Poison Control Center, Portland, Maine 1-800-222-1222

Police – Bellows Falls

Non-Emergency463-1234
Emergency**9-1-1**

Police – State722-4600

Windham County Sheriff1-802-365-4942

TOWN GOVERNMENT

Civil Defense	463-3964
Development Office	463-3456
Health Officer	463-1229
Highway Department	463-3059
Listers' Office	463-1229
Manager	463-3964
Recreation	463-9732
Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department	463-4382
Service Officer	802-591-3396
Tax Information	463-3964
Town Clerk/Treasurer.....	463-4336
Zoning Administrator	463-1229

STATE GOVERNMENT

1-800-322-5616

State Representatives

Carolyn W. Partridge	cpartridge@leg.state.vt.us
Matthew Trieber	mtrieber@leg.state.vt.us

State Senators

Becca Balint	bbalint@leg.state.vt.us
Jeanette White	jwhite@leg.state.vt.us

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

United States Senators

Patrick Leahy	1-202-224-4242
senator_leahy@leahy.senate.gov	
Bernard Sanders	1-202-224-5141
sanders.senate.gov/comments/	

United States House of Representatives

Peter Welch	1-202-225-4115
http://welch.house.gov/	

OTHER

Chamber of Commerce	463-4280
Parks Place Community Resource Center	463-9927
Rockingham Free Public Library	463-4270
Rockingham/Westminster Recycling Center	463-9219
Schools:	
Central Elementary	463-4346
Middle	463-4366
Saxtons River Elementary	869-2637
Union High School	463-3944
Superintendent's Office	463-9958
Senior Center	463-3907
SEVCA	722-4575