

CHARLESTON VERMONT



Annual Town Report
for the year ending
December 31st, 2017



Contacts

Town Clerk.....895-2814/ FAX 895-2714
5063 VT Route 105, West Charleston, Vermont 05872
townofcharlestonvt@comcast.net
www.charlestonvt.org

Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, unless otherwise posted
Closed Wednesdays and Fridays. Other hours by appointment.
Special Hours Oct 15–19, 2018: Monday–Thursday 8-3; Friday 8–5

Listers.....895-2814
charlestonlisters@comcast.net
Road Foreman/Town Garage.....895-2932
Charleston Elementary School.....895-2915
Constable.....home 895-2647 / cell 323-2898
Town Fire Warden (Burn permits) 723-4549
State Police Barracks, Derby.....334-8881
Orleans County Sheriff’s Dept.....334-3333
Fire, Ambulance, Police.....911

Selectboard

Meetings are held at the Town Clerk’s Office on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 pm. Open to the public. Minutes are available for inspection at the Town Clerk’s and at www.charlestonvt.org. Business may be brought to the Selectboard at a meeting or by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk. If urgent: Larry Young 895-2889; Meghann Carter 535-5555; or Glenn Peterson 598-6265.

Planning Commission

Meetings are held quarterly at the Town Clerk’s Office at 6:30pm. 2018 schedule: March 8, June 14, September 13, and December 13. Business may be brought to the Planning Commission at a meeting, by submitting written comments via the Town Clerk, or by email to charlestonplanningcommission@comcast.net

Public Posting Locations

Notices and agendas for regular and special meetings, elections and the like are posted at the Town Clerk’s Office, East & West Charleston Post Offices, Charleston Elementary, Scampy’s Deli and www.charlestonvt.org

Cover:

Thank you to Patti Przybylinski for use of her beautiful photos taken throughout town.

Town of Charleston, VT Annual Report 2017

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Town Officers

ELECTED POSITION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Moderator	1 Yr	Jean Wilson	2018
Town Clerk & Treasurer	3 Yrs	Teri Gray	2019
Selectboard	3 Yrs	Dean Bennett (<i>resigned</i>)	2018
		Glenn Peterson (<i>app't'd</i>)	2018
		Meghann Carter	2019
		Larry Young	2020
Listers	3 Yrs	Jean Wilson	2018
		Steve Wilson	2019
		Robert Wilson	2020
Town Auditors	3 Yrs	Michael Morelli	2018
		Diana Marckwardt	2019
		Janice Bowen	2020
Delinquent Tax Collector	1 Yr	Grace Frizzell	2018
First Constable	2 Yrs	Jonathan Bruce	2019
Second Constable		Edward Brown (<i>resigned</i>)	2018
Cemetery Commissioners	5 Yrs	Dean Bennett	2018
		Dale Carpenter	2019
		Sherman Allen, Jr.	2020
		Wayne Bowen	2021
		Martin Davis	2022
School Directors	3 Yrs	Jonathan Bruce (<i>resigned</i>)	2018
		Laura Becerra (<i>app't'd</i>)	2018
		Jason Brueck	2019
		Pat Austin	2020
Town Agent	1 Yr	Julianne Woolard (<i>app't'd</i>)	2018
Town Grand Juror	1 Yr	Meghann Carter (<i>app't'd</i>)	2018
N.C.U.H.S. Director	3 Yrs	Peter Moskovites	2018
ELECTED AT GENERAL ELECTION	TERM	OFFICER	EXPIRES
Justices of the Peace	2 Yrs	Sherm Allen	1/31/2019
		Wayne Bowen	1/31/2019
		Meghann Carter	1/31/2019
		Peter Engels	1/31/2019
		Jean Wilson	1/31/2019

Town Officers cont.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Truant Officer	Orleans County Sheriff
Welfare Officer	Julie Lamoreaux
Town Fire Warden	Blair Moulton
Tree Warden	Justin Taft
Fence Viewers	Blair Moulton Darald Moulton <i>(open seat)</i>
Poundkeeper	<i>(open seat)</i>
Surveyor of Wood & Coal	Michael Currie
Health Officer	Martin Davis
Road Commissioner	Meghann Carter, Glenn Peterson, Larry Young
Road Foreman	Bernie Pepin
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	Colleen Kellogg
911 Coordinator	Jean Wilson
Planning Commission	John Kellogg, Chair Jayson Benoit, Clerk <i>(resigned)</i> Dean Bennett <i>(resigned)</i> Eleanor Leger Blair Moulton
Community Solar Oversight Committee	Tom Jensen, Colleen Kellogg, Diana Marckwardt
Hazard Mitigation Plan Committee	Pat Austin, Meghann Carter, Tom Jensen, Colleen Kellogg, John Kellogg, Jamie LeClair, Bruce Melendy, Duane Moulton, Bernie Pepin, Glenn Peterson, Larry Young

Statement of Surety Bonds - 2017

Town and School District Officers

Town Clerk & Treasurer.....	\$25,000.00
Ass't. Clerk & Treasurer.....	5,000.00
Delinquent Tax Collector.....	5,000.00
Selectmen, three.....	9,000.00
Road Foreman.....	1,000.00
Chairman of Cemeteries.....	1,000.00
Constable.....	1,000.00

Important Dates

2018

- 1/1 New Year's Day – Town Office Closed
- 1/15 MLK Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/19 Presidents' Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/24 2018 Town Reports available
- 3/6 2018 Town Meeting, 10:00 am at Charleston Elementary
- 4/1 Deadline to License Dogs w/o late penalty
- 4/17 Deadline to file VT Income Tax Return, Homestead Declaration AND Property Tax Adjustment Claim (VT form HS-122)
- 5/1 Deadline to apply to VT Office of Veterans Affairs for property tax exemption
- 5/5 GreenUp Day, drop off bags at Town Office
- 5/28 Memorial Day – Town Office Closed
- 7/5 Independence Day Observed – Town Office Closed
- 8/1 2018 Property Tax Bills mailed (approximate)
- 8/14 Statewide Primary Election, polls open 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- 9/3 Labor Day – Town Office Closed
- 10/8 Columbus Day – Town Office Closed
- 10/17 Town Office OPEN 8-3 for payment of property taxes
- 10/19 Property Tax payments due to Town Clerk by 5 pm, (Office OPEN 8-5)
- 11/6 General Election, polls open 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- 11/12 Veterans Day Observed - Town Office Closed
- 11/22 Thanksgiving – Town Office Closed – NO Selectboard Mtg
- 12/24 Christmas – Town Office Closed
- 12/25

2019

- 1/1 New Year's Day – Town Office Closed
- 1/14 MLK Day – Town Office Closed
- 2/18 Presidents' Day – Town Office Closed
- 3/5 2019 Town Meeting

Town Clerk Services

DOG LICENSES: Licenses are available by Feb 1st of each year, and dogs must be licensed by April 1st. Fee is \$9.00 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$13.00 for intact dogs. Must present certificate of current rabies vaccination and proof of spay/neuter. Late fees apply after April 1st.

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS: Persons 62 or older are eligible to apply for a Green Mountain Passport, which provides free admission to Vermont State Parks and discounts at participating businesses and state sponsored events. Contact the office for further information.

LAND POSTING: If you wish to post your land you must file a form at the Clerk's office annually for a cost of \$5.00. If you post your land for the first time in March, your posting expires the following March, and you must file a new form. Guidelines for "legal posting" are available with sign location and size.

LAND AND HISTORICAL RECORDS: Property and other official records are available for self-service viewing during normal business hours. If you require assistance, please call ahead.

MARRIAGE LICENSES: Marriage licenses can be issued up to 60 days prior to the event for a fee of \$60 plus \$10 for your own copy. For questions about getting married in Vermont, contact Dept. of Health at 863-7275 or 800-439-5008.

NOTARY: Notary services are available to Charleston taxpayers and residents at no cost. Please call ahead.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS: The Clerk will accept tax payments in person or by mail up to the 5:00pm October 19, 2018 deadline. At that time, unpaid taxes are placed in the hands of the delinquent tax collector, subject to penalties. Please note that post markings are not acceptable as payable dates.

RECORDING: Documents for recording in the Charleston Land Records can be mailed or presented in person along with the \$10 per page fee.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS: The Town Clerk's Office is able to renew selected registrations and give temporary "R" stickers. If your registration is up for renewal and there are no changes other than address change, you may renew at the Town Clerk's Office during regular hours. Payment by check to the VT Department of Motor Vehicles for renewal fee, as well as a \$3.00 payment to the Town is required.

VITAL RECORDS: Certified copies of Birth, Marriage, and Death Certificates are available for \$10 each. Non-certified copies are \$1 per page. Beginning July 1, 2018, an application must be filled out to obtain certified copies of a birth or death certificate.

Teri Gray, Town Clerk & Treasurer

Recycling Options

Option	Cost	Sorting	Contact	Schedule
TOWN RECYCLING	Paid by Town	Must be CLEAN & SORTED	Darald Moulton 895-2901	West: 1st Mon. of each month East: 2nd Mon. of each month
PRIVATE HAULER	Paid by Individual	Single-stream (no sort)	Austin's 895-4889 Dave's 766-8042	Contact Hauler

Due to Labor Day holiday, Town Recycling will be picked up in West on the 2nd Monday, and East on the 3rd Monday in September 2018.

Town Recycling Guidelines

(if you use a private hauler, contact them for guidelines)

↓	SORT ITEMS	↓
<p>NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES & OFFICE PAPER (JUNK MAIL) Mix together - catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts and paperback books, colored paper, white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper can be in this category except: NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper</p>	<p>CORRUGATED CARDBOARD & BROWN KRAFT BAGS & BOXBOARD Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. Please no strings, handles, or bags with plastic layers. NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food waste, coffee cups, ice cream cartons or Styrofoam. *BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED*</p>	
<p>TIN CANS Labels are OK. Flattening is not required. Separate from aluminum cans (a magnet will stick to tin but not to aluminum.) *Must be Rinsed*</p>	<p>ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS Labels OK. Flattening is not required. Snack bags and candy wrappers are not aluminum foil. *Must be Rinsed*</p>	
<p>GLASS (ALL COLORS) Any color bottle or jar. Window glass, mirror, ceramic, Pyrex and drinking glasses also accepted. NO crystal, lids, metal or wood. NO light bulbs. *Must be Rinsed* *Remove lids – they generally go with tin*</p>	<p>PLASTIC BAGS Must be labelled #2, #4, or #5. Any color accepted. Includes bubble wrap. No Ziploc or nylon woven bags (like grain/cat litter bags)</p>	
<p>PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1-#4 & #5 FOOD 2 Gallons or smaller. / NO Black Plastic / *Must be Rinsed* Look for the recycling number stamped on the container. Labels are OK, please crush larger containers. #5 accepted if it's a food container. NO black plastic of any kind. NO automotive fluid bottles. NO vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes or medical devices. These are trash.</p>		



NO... Dirty or Unrinsed Items, Black Plastic Containers, or Plastic Containers Larger than 2 Gallons

Lyndonville walk-in recycling center is also open to Charleston residents Wednesday 8am – 4pm & Saturday 8am – 3pm. Contact NEKWMD at (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602 / www.nekwmd.org / progmgr@nekwmd.org

Voter Registration & Elections

Beginning January 1, 2017, eligible residents are able to register to vote at the Town Clerk's office on any day up to and including Election Day during regular hours. The Clerk's Office appreciates advance registration whenever possible. **APPLICANTS MUST REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE TOWN OR CITY WHERE THEY CURRENTLY RESIDE.**

You may also register to vote online at <https://olvr.sec.state.vt.us/>

First Time Registering by Mail or Online

If you are registering to vote in Vermont for the first time by mail or online, you must include a scan or photocopy of an acceptable form of ID. Acceptable forms of ID are:

- Valid photo ID (driver's license or passport)
- Current utility bill
- Current bank statement
- Another government document

Once you are registered to vote, you may update your information, request an absentee ballot, or print a voter registration certificate online at My Voter Page <https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us/>

Am I eligible to register to vote?

To be eligible to vote in Vermont you must: (Eligibility requirements are in 17 V.S.A. § 2121, 2122)

1. be a citizen of the United States;
2. be a resident of Vermont and a resident of the town in which you apply to be added to the checklist; (OR be a military or overseas voter qualified under the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act whose last place of residence in the United States immediately prior to moving overseas was in a Vermont town or city);
3. take, or have previously taken, the Voter's Oath; and
4. be 18 years of age or older or will be 18 on or before the day of election.

2018 Charleston Elections

- Mar 6 Town & School District Annual Meeting, Charleston Elementary School, 10:00 am until all business is concluded
- Mar 6 Annual High School District & NEK Waste Management District Budget Votes, Charleston Elementary, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Aug 14 Statewide Primary Election, Town Clerk's Office, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Nov 6 General Election, Town Clerk's Office, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Can I attend Town Meeting if I am not a registered voter?

Charleston residents and property owners who are not voters are encouraged to attend Town Meeting, however, you may not vote on any measure. Non-voters may not comment on any business unless they are given permission by a majority of voters present.

Poll Workers Needed

Poll workers are always needed on election days to check in voters, process voter registrations, and count ballots. Equal representation from the major political parties is preferred. If you are interested, please contact the Town Clerk.

Road Right-of-Way Policies

The Town's ROW. Vermont law gives towns a legal maintenance right-of-way (ROW) on all Town highways, which extends 24.75 feet in either direction from the center of the road. Within the ROW, the Town has the authority to perform maintenance like ditching, cutting trees, and altering the roadbed as needed. State law also specifies that items are placed in the ROW at the owner's risk, and the Town assumes no responsibility for damage to these items—this includes mailboxes.

The Town is obligated to maintain road drainage networks—road crown, ditches, and culverts—according to new state standards. Proper drainage means fewer washouts, fewer costly repairs over time, and less road pollution and sediment in our waterways. The Selectboard has adopted the following policies to make sure the Town highway department can perform needed maintenance.

Driveway Culvert Policy: It is the responsibility of a property owner to buy, install, and maintain driveway culverts. For ANY driveway entering a town highway, property owners must consult with the Road Foreman, who will determine the required culvert specifications (never smaller than 15 inches in diameter per state standards). If a property owner fails to install the appropriately sized culvert, the town highway crew may cut a ditch across the driveway to maintain proper road drainage. (*adopted June 11, 2015*)

ROW Fencing Policy: Fencing in the Town ROW is installed at the owner's risk. Fencing installed in the ROW, or which blocks access to the ROW, must be removed upon request of the Road Foreman for maintenance and construction projects. In such cases, the Road Foreman will notify the property owner of the deadline to remove fencing. If fencing is not removed, it will be removed by the highway crew or contractor, and the Town is not responsible for damage incurred. Owners are responsible for reinstalling fencing and must install it outside of the ROW. The Town cannot take responsibility for damage caused by necessary snowplowing, so it is strongly recommended that fences be taken down before winter (*adopted 12/14/2017*)

Policy on Utilities in the ROW: Any cable or utilities installed under the road or within the Town's highway ROW must be buried at a minimum depth of four feet below the level of the road or ditch to allow the highway crew to perform routine ditching and culvert replacement without interrupting residents' services. Keep in mind that 'Dig Safe' does not detect low voltage cables, like telephone and television cables. (*adopted 12/14/2017*)

No Plowing of Snow Across Highways. State law prohibits plowing, blowing or shoveling of snow across or onto a Town or state highway. It also gives Towns authority to levy fines and penalties, and to hold violators liable for damage to property, vehicles, and any undue cost to the Town for removal of this snow. By law, the actual cost for the specific equipment and manpower used to remove this snow may be charged to the private property owners, with a minimum charge of one hour per Road Department personnel and equipment.

Update on the Charleston Community Solar Project

In last year's update on the solar project for the Town Report, we discussed the impact of various changes made to the state's net-metering rules by the Public Service Board (now the Public Utilities Commission) which took effect at the beginning of 2017. At the time of the update, we were not aware of one additional rule that changed the process of applying for a Certificate of Public Good from a relatively straight-forward application form to a complicated petition involving witness testimonies and various exhibits for all solar projects larger than 15kW.

As a result of this change, we ended up in a position of having to hire attorneys, an engineering firm, and land use consultants in order to complete the process, which took from the end of January, when we filed the initial advance 45-day notice, until the end of June, when the filing was considered complete by the Public Utilities Commission. Upon approval of our petition, the Commission finally issued our Certificate of Public Good in mid-September, which made it essentially impossible to install the array during 2017, given the eight-week turn around time required by the installer in order to purchase the necessary equipment.

Needless to say, there was some frustration involved in having the project pushed out another year, but on the positive side, we now have all the required pieces in place to be able to state with certainty that the array will be installed this year, in late spring or early summer, depending on scheduling by VEC's engineer and our installer.

Another positive note is in the changes to the project budget despite the additional costs of having to hire the attorneys, engineer, and consultants. Below is a summary comparison of the budget as originally passed at the 2015 Town Meeting and where it currently stands:

	<u>Mar 2015</u>	<u>Oct 2017</u>
Amount of Loan	\$348,000	\$265,000
Length of Loan	20 years	16 years
Interest Rate	3.25%	3.75%
Net Savings During Loan Period	\$7,000	\$1,900
Net Savings Following Loan Period	<u>\$140,450</u>	<u>\$168,300</u>
Total Savings Over Life of Project	\$147,450	\$170,200

Because of the costs and length of time involved, a permanent subcommittee has been created by the Select Board to monitor this project over time and provide the Board with periodic updates. Additional committee members are being sought and a request for volunteers will be included in the Town Meeting agenda under Other Business, along with an opportunity to seek answers to any further questions about the project itself. If you are interested in getting involved, or know someone else who might be, please contact Colleen at 895-2814 or charlestonadmin@comcast.net.

Tom Jensen, Chair
Charleston Solar Subcommittee
January 22, 2018

Dog Licenses - It's the Law!

Avoid late fees by licensing your dog on or before April 1st

All dogs must be licensed in their town per state law. Dog licenses expire April 1st of each year. Please make sure your dog has a current rabies vaccination and certificate signed by a veterinarian.

License fees:

- Spayed or Neutered dogs are \$9.00 on or before April 1st;
- Dogs not spayed or neutered are \$13.00 on or before April 1st.

2017 Dog Licenses Sold (199 dogs were licensed in 2017)

On or Before April 1	Cost	Qty	Total Fees
Spayed/Neutered Dogs	9.00	92	828.00
Intact Dogs	13.00	25	325.00
Kennel License (up to 10 dogs)	56.00	2	112.00
After April 1			
Spayed/Neutered Dogs	11.00	35	385.00
Intact Dogs	17.00	8	136.00
New Neutered Dogs	9.00	12	108.00
New Intact Dogs	13.00	8	104.00
Total Due for Dog Licenses			\$1,998.00
Total Collected			
Town License Fees			1096.00
State License Fees			902.00
Total Dog Fees Collected			\$1,998.00

Pet Dealers

A breeder/kennel selling 3 or more litters in a year is required to obtain a Pet Dealer permit.

Ordinance Regulating the Keeping of Dogs and Wolf Hybrids

A Town Dog Ordinance authorizes the Constable/Animal Control Officer to issue tickets and fines for failing to license, for having a dog running at large (on any street, school property, or on any land owned, used or occupied by another), or for otherwise allowing a dog to be a nuisance to others. These range from \$100 for a first offense up to \$500 with impoundment of the dog for repeat offenses. The full text of the Dog Ordinance can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office.

2017 Vital Statistics



Births

Layla-Mae Skinner to Alyssa-Mariea LaMadeleine & Todd Skinner Jr.	February 2017
Bradley Carpenter to Jessica Buckles & Dillon Carpenter	March 2017
Gunner Sheltra to Miriah Lawton & Dustin Sheltra	June 2017
Arlo Nadeau to Heather Johnston & Dana Nadeau	June 2017
Carson Murray to Brittany-Leigh Scott & David Murray	August 2017
Renley Hunt to Brittany Hunt	September 2017
Agnira Wirgau to Allegra Grieco & Jacob Wirgau	October 2017



Civil Marriages

Tyler Norris to Amy White	1/1/2017
Louis Nemeth III to Pamela Patch	4/8/2017
Jessica Buckles to Dillon Carpenter	4/29/2017
Mary Harney to Stephen Mackay	7/15/2017
Brianna Moulton to Cody Glover	7/29/2017
Krystal Willey to Jordan Mead	9/2/2017
Shaynea Devaney to Nathan Shover	9/16/2017
Darrin Preston to Amy Rivers	9/17/2017
Arlean Hillis to Michael LaBounty	10/22/2017
Cierra Henn to Rock Ovitt Jr.	11/11/2017



Deaths

Carroll Lyle Silloway	age 71	1/10/2017
Larry F. Hosford, Sr.	age 76	2/15/2017
Erich A. Biedermann	age 89	6/4/2017
Dexter Morse Bennett	age 89	6/13/2017
Rose E. Flanders	age 96	11/23/2017
Michael F. LaBounty, Sr.	age 61	12/21/2017
Walter Tischbein	age 58	12/25/2017

2018 Town Meeting Warning

The legal voters in the Annual Town Meeting are hereby warned to meet at the Charleston Elementary School Building on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 10:00 am until all business is completed to transact the following business.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2. To elect all officers as required by law.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to have its taxes collected by the Treasurer with a final due date of Friday, October 19, 2018, with the policy of turning over to the delinquent tax collector taxes not received by the treasurer in the town clerk's office by October 19, 2018 at 5:00 pm, with postmarks not accepted as timely payment.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$938,795.22 less anticipated revenue and separately voted articles, for a net assessment of \$561,227.30, necessary to support the town's general, highway, and cemetery expenses for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2018.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to apply the 2017 Road Surplus of \$13,063.09 to make an additional principal payment on the 2015 loan for a Truck, Excavator, and Trailer.

Article 6. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be added to the Road Equipment Fund, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to waive petition requirements for organizations that received an appropriation from Charleston the previous year and that are not increasing the amount of funds requested, and, instead, require a letter of request to the Selectboard by December 31st for consideration to be included on the Town Meeting Warning.

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$38,245 to support the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same.

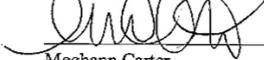
Article 9. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,174 to support the following organizations and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same:

2018 Town Meeting Warning

- a. \$500 to Charleston Historical Society
- b. \$1,000 to Echo Lake Protective Association Milfoil Prevention Project
- c. \$800 to NorthWoods Stewardship Center
- d. \$900 to Dailey Memorial Library
- e. \$700 to Island Pond Library
- f. \$1,650 to Rural Community Transportation
- g. \$500 to the Orleans County Citizen Advocacy
- h. \$600 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging
- i. \$1,074 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.
- j. \$500 to the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter
- k. \$3,000 to the Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice
- l. \$50 to GreenUp Vermont
- m. \$100 to VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force Dry Hydrant Program
- n. \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra Symphony Kids
- o. \$700 to Umbrella

Article 10. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

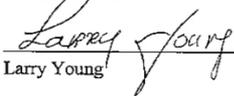
DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 25th DAY OF January, 2018



Meghann Carter



Glenn Peterson



Larry Young

Selectboard, Town of Charleston

2018 Proposed Town Budget

REVENUES		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
00-6-10	Tax Revenues			
00-6-10.05	Current Property Taxes	194,847.72	159,342.07	204,604.80
00-6-10.15	Land Use/Hold Harmless	51,000.00	54,948.00	55,000.00
00-6-10.18	Delinquent Taxes	0.00	100,074.10	0.00
00-6-10.19	Delinquent Taxes Interest	0.00	4,821.45	0.00
00-6-10.20	PILOT taxes	1,460.00	1,459.92	1,260.00
00-6-10.23	Tax overpays	0.00	9,880.80	0.00
00-6-10.30	Tax Collector Fees	0.00	8,000.56	0.00
Total Tax Revenues		247,307.72	338,526.90	260,864.80
00-6-20	Permits Revenues			
00-6-20.05	2nd Class Liquor License	70.00	70.00	70.00
00-6-20.10	Marriage Licenses (State)	200.00	450.00	200.00
00-6-20.15	Marriage License (Town)	40.00	90.00	40.00
00-6-20.20	Dog Licenses	900.00	1,096.00	900.00
00-6-20.25	Dog License Fees	750.00	902.00	750.00
Total Permits Revenues		1,960.00	2,608.00	1,960.00
00-6-40	Fees & Other Revenues			
00-6-40.05	School Department	3,750.00	3,750.00	3,750.00
00-6-40.10	Town Clerk's Fees	8,500.00	10,113.41	8,500.00
00-6-40.15	Records Preservation Fee	700.00	845.00	700.00
00-6-40.20	Interest, Checking Acct.	500.00	684.12	500.00
00-6-40.32	Interest, Non Arbitrage	0.00	7,564.23	0.00
00-6-40.35	Insurance Returns	0.00	1,123.00	0.00
00-6-40.62	Prev. Yr School Tax Adjust.	0.00	7,723.37	0.00
00-6-40.80	DMV renewals	45.00	72.00	45.00
00-6-40.83	Reappraisal Transfers	0.00	15,868.39	0.00
00-6-40.85	Reappraisal Fund	0.00	7,382.00	0.00
00-6-40.90	Clerk Grants	2,086.50	212.50	1,000.00
00-6-40.91	Aquatic Nuisance (Echo)	0.00	10,540.00	0.00
00-6-40.92	Water Quality Grant (Echo)	0.00	900.00	0.00
00-6-40.96	Community Solar	0.00	38,860.91	0.00
00-6-40.99	Misc. Fee Receipts	0.00	675.41	0.00
Total Fees & Other Revenues		15,581.50	106,314.34	14,495.00

2018 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
00-6-50	Road Dept Receipts			
00-6-50.10	State Aid, Highways	87,800.00	87,827.63	87,799.08
00-6-50.17	Better Roads Grant	38,388.80	58,389.00	0.00
00-6-50.20	Special Highway Grants	143,939.39	80,495.11	216,753.84
00-6-50.35	Taxes for Roads (Hwy & CI IV)	398,778.78	418,778.78	344,792.50
00-6-50.40	Due from/to other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
00-6-50.99	Misc. Road Receipts	0.00	6,794.84	0.00
Total Road Dept Receipts		668,906.97	652,285.36	649,345.42
00-6-60	Cemetery Receipts			
00-6-60.10	Sale of Lots	0.00	735.00	0.00
00-6-60.15	Interest (savings, inv.)	250.00	281.16	250.00
00-6-60.20	Dividends (Dominion)	50.00	54.63	50.00
00-6-60.25	Perpetual Care	0.00	1,350.00	0.00
00-6-60.30	Posts	0.00	315.00	0.00
00-6-60.37	Taxes for Cemetery	9,630.00	9,630.00	11,830.00
Total Cemetery Receipts		9,930.00	12,365.79	12,130.00
TOTAL REVENUES		943,686.19	1,112,100.39	938,795.22
EXPENSES				
05-7	Select Board			
05-7-10.00	Salaries	3,600.00	3,500.00	3,600.00
05-7-12.00	Social Sec. Exp. Board	223.20	217.00	223.20
05-7-13.00	Med exp. Board	52.20	50.75	52.20
05-7-17.00	Selectboard Mileage	0.00	39.05	0.00
05-7-20.00	Advertising & Printing	1,700.00	1,550.04	1,700.00
05-7-26.00	Legal Services	1,500.00	810.00	1,000.00
05-7-27.05	Loan repayment, interest	0.00	6,193.43	0.00
05-7-31.00	Watershed Quality Expenditure	0.00	11,440.00	0.00
05-7-50.00	Pit Purchase expenses	54,488.38	54,488.38	54,488.38
05-7-55.00	Planning Commission	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
05-7-99.00	Misc. Select Board Expense	500.00	0.00	500.00
Total Select Board		66,063.78	78,288.65	65,563.78

2018 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
10-7	Election Unit			
10-7-10.00	Election Officers	300.00	0.00	300.00
10-7-12.00	Election Officers FICA	0.00	0.00	0.00
10-7-21.00	Election Supplies	300.00	0.00	600.00
Total Election Unit		600.00	0.00	900.00
15-7	Finance Department			
15-7-10.00	Clerk/Treasurer Salary	37,700.00	37,696.07	37,856.00
15-7-10.05	Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	17,950.00	16,946.31	18,160.00
15-7-10.10	Auditors Wages	1,000.00	906.00	1,000.00
15-7-10.20	Health Officer	60.00	0.00	60.00
15-7-10.25	Fire Warden	50.00	50.00	50.00
15-7-12.00	Social Security Expense	3,515.40	3,447.14	3,541.81
15-7-13.00	Medicare Expense	829.40	806.16	828.33
15-7-14.00	Retirement Expense	6,292.44	6,257.05	6,511.68
15-7-16.00	Workers Compensation Ins.	20,839.00	20,839.00	21,074.00
15-7-17.00	Mileage, Clerk & Ass't.	850.00	728.86	850.00
15-7-19.00	Training/Workshops/Dues	1,267.00	822.00	1,437.00
15-7-21.00	Office Supplies	2,000.00	1,916.91	2,000.00
15-7-22.00	Postage	1,200.00	1,231.96	1,200.00
15-7-23.00	Telephone	450.00	513.49	900.00
15-7-24.00	Office Equipment/Repairs	1,400.00	806.78	900.00
15-7-24.50	Records Preservation	500.00	1,234.56	1,100.00
15-7-25.00	Computer, Website, Support	2,000.00	1,929.95	2,500.00
15-7-30.00	Commercial Insurance Pkg	19,940.00	20,093.00	19,103.00
15-7-99.00	Misc. Finance Dept Expense	50.00	10,028.48	50.00
Total Finance Dept		117,893.24	126,253.72	119,121.82
17-7	Listers			
17-7-10.00	Listers' Salaries	12,000.00	16,590.50	12,000.00
17-7-10.40	Due to/from other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
17-7-12.00	Soc. Sec. Exp. Listers	744.00	1,028.61	744.00
17-7-13.00	Medicare Exp. Listers	174.00	240.57	174.00
17-7-17.00	Listers' Mileage	600.00	1,118.87	600.00
17-7-19.00	Listers' Training/Dues	1,000.00	275.00	1,000.00
17-7-20.00	Listers' Postage	250.00	162.90	250.00
17-7-21.10	Listers' Supplies	250.00	99.99	250.00

2018 Proposed Town Budget cont.

Listers Cont.		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
17-7-22.00	BCA Tax appeals/abatement	200.00	0.00	200.00
17-7-23.00	Computer support/maps	2,200.00	2,125.00	2,200.00
17-7-25.00	Reappraisal Expenses	0.00	16,902.39	0.00
17-7-99.00	Misc. Lister Expense	0.00	575.41	0.00
Total Listers		17,418.00	39,119.24	17,418.00
20-7	Delinquent Tax Collector			
20-7-10.00	DTC Wages	8,500.00	8,000.56	5,915.00
20-7-12.00	DTC Soc Sec Expense	527.00	496.05	367.00
20-7-13.00	DTC Medicare Expense	124.00	116.00	86.00
20-7-17.00	DTC Mileage/Expenses	75.00	29.40	75.00
Total Delinquent Tax Collect		9,226.00	8,642.01	6,443.00
30-7	Plant (Town Office)			
30-7-21.00	Janitor & Supplies	500.00	285.68	500.00
30-7-22.00	Grounds Maintenance	400.00	308.00	400.00
30-7-28.00	Repairs & Upkeep	3,000.00	1,958.71	3,000.00
30-7-30.00	Community Solar	0.00	38,860.91	0.00
30-7-32.00	Electricity	2,000.00	1,714.78	2,000.00
Total Plant (Town Office)		5,900.00	43,128.08	5,900.00
35-7	Public Safety			
35-7-10.00	Law Enforcement Salary	800.00	640.00	800.00
35-7-10.40	Due to/from other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
35-7-12.00	Law Enforcement Soc. Sec	49.60	39.69	49.60
35-7-13.00	Law Enforcement Medicare	11.60	9.29	11.60
35-7-15.00	Law Enforcement Equip.	500.00	0.00	0.00
35-7-16.00	Law Enforcement mileage	500.00	166.65	250.00
35-7-21.00	Law Enforcement Signs	200.00	0.00	200.00
35-7-25.00	911 Road Signs	1,300.00	1,197.43	1,300.00
35-7-32.00	Street Lights	4,800.00	5,452.67	5,700.00
35-7-34.00	Ambulance Service	14,701.00	14,701.00	29,462.00
35-7-35.00	Dispatch Services	0.00	0.00	0.00
35-7-44.00	Solid Waste/Recycling	4,400.00	4,338.86	4,368.00
35-7-99.00	Misc. Law Enforcement Exp	0.00	380.00	0.00
Total Public Safety		27,262.20	26,925.59	42,141.20

2018 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
45-7	Assessments			
45-7-54.00	County Tax	15,500.00	15,522.24	14,800.00
45-7-56.00	Westmore (Town Farm) Tax	140.00	132.74	140.00
45-7-57.00	Barton Pit Tax	1,800.00	1,767.36	1,800.00
45-7-58.00	VLCT Dues	2,146.00	2,146.00	2,192.00
Total Assessments		19,586.00	19,568.34	18,932.00
90-7	Fees Expenses			
90-7-36.00	Marriage License (State)	200.00	450.00	200.00
90-7-38.00	Dog License Fees	700.00	902.00	700.00
Total Fees Expenses		900.00	1,352.00	900.00
Total Selectboard Expenditures		264,849.22	343,277.63	277,319.80
50-7	Highway Department			
50-7-10.00	Wages	150,000.00	161,457.24	162,000.00
50-7-10.05	Road Admin	5,000.00	5,665.18	5,500.00
50-7-11.00	Road Commissioner	3,600.00	3,500.00	3,600.00
50-7-11.50	Mileage	200.00	71.50	200.00
50-7-12.00	Social Security Expense	9,835.00	10,588.40	10,266.00
50-7-13.00	Medicare Expense	2,300.00	2,476.50	2,480.95
50-7-14.00	Retirement Expense	15,562.50	16,065.79	17,010.00
50-7-15.00	VLCT Unemployment Ins.	4,453.00	4,454.00	674.00
50-7-21.00	Supplies	8,500.00	8,423.59	8,500.00
50-7-22.00	Tools/Equipment	3,500.00	3,591.45	3,500.00
50-7-23.00	Telephone	800.00	753.35	800.00
50-7-24.00	Parts & Repairs	24,000.00	21,380.95	24,000.00
50-7-30.00	Hired Services	206,642.00	154,780.00	171,735.00
50-7-32.00	Electricity	1,600.00	1,597.06	1,600.00
50-7-70.00	Gasoline	4,000.00	1,650.82	3,000.00
50-7-71.00	Diesel & Oil	45,000.00	39,756.21	45,000.00
50-7-72.00	Tires	10,000.00	9,855.24	10,000.00
50-7-73.00	Blades & Shoes	8,000.00	5,230.29	8,000.00
50-7-74.00	Sand, Gravel, Stone, Crushing	47,900.00	16,618.00	50,800.00
50-7-76.00	Chloride, Salt	55,906.00	36,463.26	39,700.00
50-7-78.00	Road Supplies	12,000.00	17,927.21	12,000.00
50-7-78.15	Road Equipment	20,000.00	79,700.40	0.00

2018 Proposed Town Budget cont.

		FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget
Highway Department Cont.				
50-7-78.25	Building Repairs (Garage)	5,000.00	3,570.08	5,000.00
50-7-78.30	Road Signs	2,150.00	2,454.51	2,150.00
50-7-78.50	Fire Wood	2,500.00	1,920.00	2,500.00
50-7-79.00	Paving	8,816.14	8,517.80	1,500.00
50-7-85.00	Rd Equip Loan Payment	42,889.47	42,889.47	42,889.47
50-7-87.00	Equipment Rental	1,725.00	205.00	2,500.00
50-7-88.00	Municipal Rd Gen Permit	0.00	0.00	2,640.00
50-7-95.40	Due to/from other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
50-7-99.00	Misc. Road Expenses	2,000.00	927.97	1,000.00
Total Highway Department		703,879.11	662,491.27	640,545.42
54-7	Class IV Highway Dept.			
54-7-10.00	Wages	2,300.00	158.14	2,300.00
54-7-30.00	Hired Services	0.00	265.00	0.00
54-7-74.00	Sand & Gravel	2,000.00	80.00	2,000.00
54-7-78.00	Road Supplies (culverts)	0.00	0.00	0.00
54-7-95.40	Due to/from other funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
54-7-99.00	Misc Class IV	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
Total Class IV Highway Dept.		8,800.00	503.14	8,800.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY		712,679.11	662,994.41	649,345.42
60-7	Cemetery Expenses			
60-7-10.00	Wages	6,000.00	5,663.00	6,000.00
60-7-12.00	Social Security Expense	400.00	351.10	400.00
60-7-13.00	Medicare Expense	100.00	82.12	100.00
60-7-21.00	Flags	200.00	0.00	0.00
60-7-24.00	New Equipment	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
60-7-28.00	Repairs & Supplies	2,500.00	278.14	2,500.00
60-7-60.25	Perpetual Care	0.00	1,800.00	0.00
60-7-60.30	Posts	0.00	420.00	0.00
60-7-70.00	Gasoline & Oil	600.00	289.51	600.00
60-7-87.00	Fencing	0.00	0.00	0.00
60-7-99.00	Misc. Cemetery Expense	130.00	0.00	130.00
Total Cemetery Expenses		9,930.00	8,883.87	12,130.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/o Appropriations)		987,458.33	1,015,155.91	938,795.22

2017 Proposed Appropriations

		FY 2017 Voted	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2017 Proposed
85-7-95	Appropriations			
Article 6	Road Equipment Fund	20,000.00	<i>See page 18</i>	20,000.00
85-7-95.10	Volunteer Fire Dept.	38,245.00	38,245.00	38,245.00
85-7-95.20	NEK Human Services	1,074.00	1,074.00	1,074.00
85-7-95.25	VNA & Hospice	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
85-7-95.30	Citizens Advocacy	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.35	Area Agency On Aging	400.00	400.00	600.00
85-7-95.55	Daily Memorial Library	900.00	900.00	900.00
85-7-95.60	Orleans Cty Historical	475.00	475.00	0.00
85-7-95.70	Umbrella	700.00	700.00	700.00
85-7-95.75	Charleston Hist. Society	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.80	NorthWoods	800.00	800.00	800.00
85-7-95.85	Rural Comm. Transport	1,650.00	1,650.00	1,650.00
85-7-95.94	VSO Symphony Kids	100.00	100.00	100.00
85-7-95.95	Echo Lake Milfoil Project	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
85-7-95.96	VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00	100.00	100.00
85-7-95.97	Pope Mem. Fr. An. Soc.	500.00	500.00	500.00
85-7-95.98	Island Pond Library	700.00	700.00	700.00
85-7-95.99	Green UP Vermont	50.00	50.00	50.00
Total Appropriations		70,694.00	50,694.00	70,419.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (w/ Appropriations)		1,058,152.33	1,065,849.91	1,009,214.22

Minutes of the 2017 Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at the Charleston Elementary School

The Annual Town & School District Meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Moderator Jean Wilson, with School Business concluding at 10:50am. With Moderator Jean Wilson having been re-elected during School Business, town business began with Article 2.

Article 2. To elect all officers as required by law.

- **Selectperson: Larry Young** nominated by Tom Jensen, second by Dean Bennett. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 3 years.
- **Lister: Bob Wilson** nominated by Steve Wilson, second by Tom Jensen. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 3 years.
- **Town Auditor: Janice Bowen** nominated by Pat Austin, second by Sherman Allen. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 3 years.
- **Delinquent Tax Collector: Grace Frizzell** nominated by Jeannine Bennett, second by Tom Jensen. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 1 year.
- **First Constable: Jonathan Bruce** nominated by Dean Bennett; second by Larry Young. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 2 years.
- **Second Constable: Ed Brown** by Jon Bruce; second by Tom Jensen. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 1 year.
- **Cemetery Commissioner: Dexter Bennett** nominated by Sherman Allen, second by Wayne Bowen. **Martin Davis** nominated by Richard Colburn Sr., second by Robert Frizzell. Robert Frizzell and 7 others called for paper ballot. Vote: 51 for Martin Davis; 21 for Dexter Bennett. Davis elected for 5 years.
- **Town Agent: Julianne Woolard** nominated by Jeannine Bennett, second by Tom Jensen. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 1 year.
- **Town Grand Juror: Meghann Carter** nominated by Nancy Engels, second by Jeannine Bennett. Unopposed. Ayes have it; elected for 1 year.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to have its taxes collected by the treasurer with a final due date of Friday, October 20, 2017, with the policy of turning over to the delinquent tax collector taxes not received by the treasurer in the town clerk's office by October 20, 2017 at 5:00 pm, with postmarks not accepted as timely payment. Moved by Dan Whipple, second by Jonathan Bruce. No discussion. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$943,686.19 less anticipated revenue and separately voted articles, for a net assessment of \$603,256.50, necessary to support the town's general, highway, and cemetery expenses for the year beginning Jan. 1, 2017. Moved by Nancy Engels, second by Tom Jensen. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Selectboard Chair Dean Bennett said that state mandates continue to drive up the budget, and the town's match on grant-funded highway projects have increased expenses for 2017. Tom Jensen congratulated the Selectboard on a lower tax assessment than last year Colleen Kellogg noted that an equipment loan had been paid off in 2016 thanks to voter approval at Town Meeting 2016 to apply the road surplus to that purpose.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to apply the 2016 Road Surplus of \$23,772.14 to pave the apron of Dane Hill Rd where it meets VT Route 105, with any remaining funds to be used to purchase additional chloride for town roads. Moved by Tom Jensen, second by Diana Marckwardt. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Medora Jensen asked how far up Dane Hill Rd would be paved. Dean Bennett said the town would go with the state's recommendation, probably 30 or 40 feet to where the road narrows to 22 feet.

Article 6. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to the Road Equipment Fund, and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax [over and above the budget] sufficient to meet the same. Moved by Tom Jensen, second by Maurice Cerutti. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: Dean Bennett explained that the Town highway department owns all of its equipment, including two

Minutes

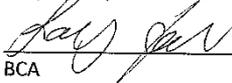
old bucket loaders that will need replacing. The board hopes to build the equipment fund to reduce the amount borrowed.

- Article 7.** To see if the town will vote to renew a property tax exemption for the fire station parcel in East Charleston owned by the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department for a period of five years (through 2020) Moderator noted the article had been placed on the warning in error; it had been voted in 2016. With no objection, the motion was passed over.
- Article 8.** To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$38,245 to support the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department. Moved by Peggy Stevens, second by Sue Dwelle. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed. Discussion: When asked about anticipated expenses and a \$100,000 fund balance, Dan Whipple said equipment is purchased on an ongoing basis—recently costing \$30,000. The department also added a snow machine for trail rescue—because ambulance services aren't equipped for this—as well as low-angle water rescue capacity, important in the Clyde River area. Major future expenses are: repair or rebuilding the firehouse, and replacement of two aging trucks.
- Article 9.** To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,449 to support the following and direct the Selectboard to assess a tax over and above the budget to meet the same: a. \$500 to Charleston Historical Society; b. \$1,000 to Echo Lake Protective Association Milfoil Prevention Project; c. \$800 to NorthWoods Stewardship Center; d. \$900 to Dailey Memorial Library; e. \$700 to Island Pond Library; f. \$1,650 to Rural Community Transportation; g. \$475 to Orleans County Historical Society; h. \$500 to the Orleans County Citizen Advocacy; i. \$400 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging; j. \$1,074 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.; k. \$500 to assist the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter; l. \$3,000 to the Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice; m. \$50 to support GreenUp Vermont; n. \$100 to VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force Dry Hydrant Program; o. \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra Symphony Kids; p. \$700 to Umbrella. Moved by Nancy Engels; second by Peggy Stevens. No discussion. Vote: Ayes have it. RESULT: Passed.
- Article 10.** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Discussion: Penelope Newcomb said it was difficult to contact everyone in town quickly regarding local issues. Voters suggested a town Facebook page or email list. Town Clerk Teri Gray said landowner emails had been collected a few years back but not maintained. Colleen Kellogg invited interested residents to supply their email by emailing townofcharlestonvt@comcast.net. Dean Bennett said the town was looking to organize the school as an emergency shelter and welcomes volunteers, especially people familiar with the school building, to contact the Town Clerk. Duane Moulton said that the fire department has a keyholder. Rust Brown suggested holding town meeting at a time other than 10am on a workday.

Seeing no other business, the Annual Town Meeting was adjourned at 11:28am.

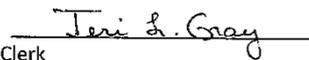
DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH 2017.

Respectfully submitted:


BCA


Moderator

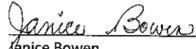

Selectboard

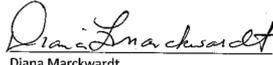

Town Clerk

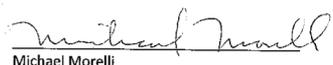
Auditors Report

We have audited all Town Officers' books and find them correct as reported herein. As part of this audit, we reviewed revenues, disbursements, payroll records, and financial statements and all backup records for transactions. We believe this to be a correct statement of the condition of the Town of Charleston as of December 31, 2017. The reports may be picked up at the Town Clerk's Office, Scampy's Country Store, East and West Charleston Post Offices.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of January 2018,


Janice Bowen


Diana Marckwardt


Michael Morelli

Town Auditors

General Fund Comparative Statement

Current Assets	Dec. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2017
General Cash Account	243,804.12	290,054.60
Revenues not yet received		
Delinquent Taxes	69,368.20	43,107.19
Lynwood Crown, use of grader	61.24	61.24
Michael Bowen, culvert	247.00	247.00
Charles Moulton, culvert	315.85	315.85
Clifford Crowe, culverts	40.00	40.00
TOTAL ASSETS	313,836.41	333,825.88
Liabilities		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00	0.00
SURPLUS (Assets - Liabilities)	313,836.41	333,825.88
Increase in Surplus from previous year		19,989.47
Encumbered Funds		
Road Surplus	23,772.14	13,063.09
Records Preservation	4,038.90	4,883.90
Listers' Education Fund	1,293.25	0.00
Constable Fund	8,664.32	7,827.67
	37,768.61	25,774.66
Unencumbered Funds	276,067.80	308,051.22
	313,836.41	333,825.88

NOTE: The surplus is used by the General Fund for operating expenses until the current year's taxes come in.

Special Funds Balance

Road Equipment Fund

Balance January 1, 2017	65,476.57
Voted at 2017 Town Meeting	20,000.00
Interest	66.60
Balance December 31, 2017	85,543.17

Reappraisal Fund

Balance January 1, 2017	99,362.21
Add Receipts, State of Vermont	7,382.00
Deduct 2017 Reappraisal Expenditures	-15,868.39
Interest	99.01
Balance December 31, 2017	90,974.83

Statement of Indebtedness

The Town now has the following loans with Community National Bank:

Purpose of Loan	Barton Gravel Pit	2017 10-Wheel Mack Truck, Excavator & Trailer	Current Operating Loan (non-arbitrage)
Date	7/16/2012	10/27/2015	1/12/2018
Principal	400,000.00	317,049.00	216,615.00
Interest Rate	1.95%	1.79%	3.00%
2017 Payment	54,488.38	42,889.47	0
Next Payment Date	7/26/2018	10/27/2018	12/28/2018
Next Payment Amount	54,488.38	42,889.47	TBD
Balance 12/31/2017	157,280.67	241,970.10	0

Solar Array Line of Credit

On October 10, 2017, the Town secured a \$300,000 line of credit, at a rate of 2.00%, to finance set-up costs, purchase, and installation of the town solar array. As of December 31, 2017, a total of \$38,860.91 had been drawn to cover permit fees, professional services and a down payment. Upon completion of the array in 2018, the line of credit will convert to a loan with set payment amounts and dates.

Statement of Assets

The Selectboard reports the following assets of the Town of Charleston in addition to those reported in the Financial Statements:

Asset	Purchase Date	12/31/2017
Barton Gravel Pit	2012	400,000.00
Town Garage	-	246,000.00

Statement of Assets cont.

Asset	Purchase Date	12/31/2017
Town Clerk's Office & Equipment	-	160,000.00
Worth Gravel Pit	2009	200,000.00
Town Farm (Westmore Acreage)	-	55,400.00
Town Farm (Charleston Acreage)	-	104,800.00
Cemeteries	-	44,200.00
Blake Lot	-	5,000.00
Loader (Volvo)	2005	120,000.00
Loader (Hough)	1977	25,000.00
2017 Mack Truck	2016	194,500.00
2015 Mack Truck	2014	186,000.00
2009 International Truck	2008	119,000.00
2017 Ford F-350 Diesel w/Plow	2017	57,755.00
2015 CAT Excavator w/attachments	2015	103,000.00
CAM Equipment Trailer	2015	18,575.00
John Deere Grader	2009	195,000.00
3 Snow Plows	-	12,000.00
Motorized Screen	2007	13,500.00
4 Sand Spreaders	-	4,500.00
Culvert Thawer	2014	7,500.00
Small tools, etc.	-	11,000.00
Grizzley Screen	2013	7,000.00
2 Way Radios	2012, 2016	5,400.00
Security Equipment	2014	3,600.00
Wood Splitter	-	3,000.00
Tool Cabinets	-	2,050.00
Garage Furnace	-	800.00
Tire Safety Cage	-	500.00
(2) Road Machines	-	100.00
3/4 HP Drill Press	2015	400.00
Steel Chop Saw	2014	1400.00
75 Gal Fuel Tank	2015	400.00
Fuel Transfer Pump	2015	300.00
Wedge Locks, pair	2017	600.00

Treasurer's Report: 2017 Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

Tax Receipts

2017 Property Taxes Collected	1,842,596.24
HS122 Payments from State	26,875.20
2017 Overpayments by individuals	9,528.00
Current Use Hold Harmless from State of Vt.	54,948.00
Delinquent Taxes from Del. Tax Collector	100,074.10
Total Tax Receipts	2,034,021.54

Licenses

Liquor Licenses	70.00
Dog Licenses	1,096.00
Marriage Licenses	90.00
Total Licenses	1,256.00

Fees Received

Recording, etc.	10,113.41
Motor Vehicle Renewals	72.00
Fees for Records Preservation	845.00
Total Fees	11,030.41

Transfers to State of Vermont

Fees for Dog Licenses	902.00
Fees for Marriage Licenses	450.00
Total Transfer to State of Vermont	1,352.00

Delinquent Tax Collector

Interest on delinquent taxes	4,821.45
8% Penalty on delinquent taxes	8,000.56
Overpayments	352.80
Total Delinquent Tax Collector	13,174.81

Grants

Aquatic Nuisance / Watershed Grants (Echo Lake)	11,440.00
Total Grants	11,440.00

Miscellaneous

Charleston School District, financial services	3,750.00
Charleston School Overpay	5,656.59
Community National Bank, NOW account interest	684.12

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements cont.

Miscellaneous cont.

NCUHS, Overpayment of School Tax returned by Treasurer	2,066.78
Return Petty Cash	150.00
State of VT Reappraisal Fund, per-parcel payment	7,382.00
Clerk Grants Refund	212.50
Reappraisal Fund, Transfer to Checking	15,868.39
Community Solar LOC, Transfer to Checking	38,860.91
Lister Training Reimbursement from State of VT	525.41
VLCT Insurance Refund	1,123.00
State of VT, PILOT	1,459.92
CNB, Non-arbitrage interest	7,564.23
Total Miscellaneous	85,303.85
Total 2017 Road Receipts (see Road Report)	233,506.58
Total 2017 Cemetery Receipts (see Cemetery Report)	2,735.79
Total	2,393,820.98

Transfer to School Accounts as voted	-1,281,720.59
Total after transfer	1,112,100.39

Add Balance, January 1, 2017	243,746.41
Total including January Balance	1,355,846.80

Deduct Disbursements:

Cemetery Orders	-8,883.87
Road Foreman's Orders	-662,994.41
Selectmen's Orders	-393,971.63
Total Disbursements	-1,065,849.91

GENERAL FUND BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2017	289,996.89
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Accounted for as follows:

Community National Bank NOW account	289,996.89
Cash on hand	57.71
Balance December 31, 2017	290,054.60

Statement of 2017 Municipal Tax Rate

General	194,847.72
Roads	418,778.78
Cemetery	9,630.00
Veterans Exemption	4,376.40
Appropriations	50,694.00
Charleston Historical Society	500.00
Charleston Volunteer Fire Department	38,245.00
Dailey Memorial Library	900.00
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00
Green Up	50.00
Island Pond Library	500.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	1,074.00
Northeastern VT Area Agency on Aging	400.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00
OEVNA & Hospice	3,000.00
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	500.00
Orleans County Historical Society	425.00
Pope Memorial Animal Society	500.00
Rural Community Transportation, Inc	1,650.00
VSO Symphony Kids	100.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00

TOTAL BUDGET TO BE RAISED	678,326.90
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Municipal Grand List	990,677.00
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Tax Rate for Municipal	0.68471
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AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	678,326.45
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Statement of Taxes Raised

Taxes Billed	Grand List	Tax Rate	Total Raised
Non-Residential Education	510,778.00	1.5460	789,662.93
Homestead Education	485,328.00	1.4370	697,416.52
Cemetery	990,574.00	0.0097	9,608.70
Appropriations	990,574.00	0.0714	70,727.07
Roads	990,574.00	0.4025	398,706.84
General	990,574.00	0.1967	194,845.00
Veterans	990,574.00	0.0044	4,358.50
Total Original Taxes Billed			2,165,325.56

Adjustments to Original Billings

Late Homestead penalty	642.04
Final Taxes Billed	2,165,967.60

Taxes accounted for as follows:

Property Taxes Collected by Treasurer	1,869,471.44
State Payment to School	222,557.64
Delinquent Taxes Turned Over to Delinquent Tax Collector	73,938.45
	2,165,967.53
Bank Adjustment	0.07
	2,165,967.60

Distribution of Treasurer's Collections

General Fund	766,899.08
School Fund	1,112,100.36
	1,878,999.44

Selectboard Report

EXPENSES

Town Officers

Total Wages paid to Employees & Officers	84,329.44
Social Security paid	5,228.49
Medicare paid	1,222.77
VMERS Retirement	6,257.05
	<hr/>
	97,037.75

Insurance

VLCT/PACIF, Commercial Package	20,093.00
VLCT, Workers Comp. Insurance	20,839.00
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	40,932.00

Printing & Advertising

Reprodigital, 425 Town Reports	396.90
Kelsey Evans, Town Report Layout	225.00
Newspaper Ads	928.14
	<hr/>
	1,550.04

Other Expenses

Clerk & Treasurer Supplies	1,916.91
Clerk & Treasurer Postage	1,231.96
Listers' Expenses (postage, supplies, tax maps, misc.)	2,963.30
Listers' Mileage	1,118.87
Listers' Training/Dues	275.00
Listers' Reappraisal Expenses (equipment, support, hours)	9,520.39
Tax Collector's Expenses	29.40
Town Office Janitorial	285.68
	<hr/>
	17,341.51

Utilities & Upkeep

Electric	1,714.78
Street Lights	5,452.67
Community Solar	38,860.91
Telephone	513.49
Solid Waste/Recycling	4,338.86

Selectboard Report cont.

Utilities & Upkeep cont.

Lawn Care	308.00
Records Preservation	1,234.56
Equipment & Repairs	806.78
Building Upkeep/Repairs	1,958.71
	<hr/>
	55,188.76

Taxes Paid Out

Orleans County Treasurer, County Tax	15,522.24
Town of Westmore, Town Farm Tax	132.74
Town of Barton	1,211.75
Barton Inc. School District	555.61
	<hr/>
	17,422.34

Miscellaneous

Community National Bank, interest paid	6,193.43
CNB, Gravel Pit loan payment	54,488.38
Lyndon Rescue (Ambulance)	14,701.00
VT State Treasurer, Marriage Licenses	450.00
VT State Treasurer, Dog Licenses	902.00
VMCTA, dues	55.00
VLCT, dues	2,146.00
Legal Fees	810.00
Tax refunds	9,878.48
NEMRC, computer support/contract	1,376.96
Kevaco, website hosting	195.00
Tech Patrol, IT support	40.00
Colleen Kellogg, Reimb. For monitor, etc.	317.99
Clerk & Treasurer & Selectboard mileage	767.91
Constable Expense (mileage, equip, kennel, misc.)	546.65
Transfer to other funds - Reappraisal	7,382.00
911 Signs	1,197.43
NVDA Dues	767.00
Other Misc.	150.00
	<hr/>
	102,365.23

Selectboard Report cont.

Grant Expenses

Echo Lake Protective Association	11,440.00
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	11,440.00

TOTAL SELECTBOARD BUDGET EXPENDITURES	343,277.63
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Voted at Town Meeting (Appropriations)

Area Agency on Aging	400.00
Charleston Historical Society	500.00
Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc	38,245.00
Dailey Memorial Library	900.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00
Island Pond Public Library	700.00
NEK Human Services	1,074.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	800.00
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	500.00
Orleans County Historical Society	475.00
OEVNA & Hospice	3,000.00
Rural Community Transport	1,650.00
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Society	500.00
Echo Lake Protective Association	1,000.00
VSO Symphony Kids	100.00
VT Rural Fire Protection	100.00
Umbrella	700.00
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	50,694.00

TOTAL SELECTBOARD DISBURSEMENTS	393,971.63
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Road Department Report

SUMMARY

Road Dept Receipts

State Aid, Class 2 & 3 Highways	87,827.63
VT Better Roads Grant (Gratton Hill Rd)	58,389.00
VTrans Engineering Grant (Hudson Rd Br5)	4,005.00
VTrans Structure Grant (Hudson Rd Br7 Repair)	11,862.00
VT, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant (Hudson Rd)	32,037.79
VLCT PACIF Equip Grant (work signs)	690.32
VLCT PACIF Equip Grant (wedge locks, lift chain)	503.40
USDA Community Facilities Grant (Pickup)	31,900.00
Sale of 2005 Chevrolet	1,717.00
VT Family Network, Reimb for Child Safety Signs	61.50
No-fault Insurance Claim Truck #3	2,545.00
Charleston School, Reimb. for concrete tank pad	1,650.00
H. Levin, Reimb. for driveway culvert	187.94
Sale of used culverts	130.00

Total Road Receipts **233,506.58**

Voted for 2017 Road Budget (Taxes)	398,778.78
Voted for 2017 Road Equip Fund (Taxes)	20,000.00

Total Voted for Roads **418,778.78**

TOTAL ROAD REVENUES **652,285.36**

Voted carry-forward of 2016 surplus	23,772.14
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Total Available Road Funds **676,057.50**

Deduct Disbursements

Highways	662,491.27
Class IV	503.14

Total Disbursements **662,994.41**

Surplus **13,063.09**

EXPENDITURES

Highway Department

Wages	170,622.42
Social Security paid	10,588.40
Medicare paid	2,476.50

Road Department Report cont.

Expenditures cont.

Retirement Expense	16,065.79
Mileage	71.50
VLCT Unemployment Ins.	4,454.00
Supplies	8,423.59
Tools/Equipment	3,591.45
Telephone	753.35
Parts & Repairs	21,380.95
Hired Services	154,780.00
Electricity	1,597.06
Diesel, Oil, Gas	41,407.03
Tires	9,855.24
Blades & Shoes	5,230.29
Sand, Gravel, Stone & Crushing	16,618.00
Chloride/Salt	36,463.26
Road Supplies (culverts/guardrail)	17,927.21
Road Equipment (Pickup purchase)	59,000.00
Road Equipment (deposit to Equipment Fund)	20,000.00
Road Equipment (Truck radio)	700.40
Road Equipment loan payment	42,889.47
Building Repairs (Garage)	3,570.08
Road Signs (35 MPH)	2,454.51
Paving	8,517.80
Firewood	1,920.00
Equipment Rental	205.00
Misc. Road Expenses	927.97
Summer/Winter Road Total	662,491.27
Class IV Highway Dept.	
Wages	158.14
Hired Services	265.00
Sand & Gravel	80.00
Excavating	0.00
Class IV Total	503.14
TOTAL ROAD EXPENDITURES	662,994.41

Cemetery Commissioners' Report

Receipts	Total
Hillside - Dividend from Dominion Resources	54.63
Hillside - CD Int from People's United & Passumpsic	176.37
West Village - CD Int from People's United & Passumpsic	104.79
Lot(s) sold	2,400.00
Voted at Town Meeting for Cemetery Dept.	9,630.00
Total Receipts	12,365.79

Interest to be received from Passumpsic Savings Bank:	
\$89.73	Hillside
<u>\$66.15</u>	West Village
\$155.88	

Note: CD interest is withdrawn once annually, and deposited to checking.

Disbursements

Wages Paid for Labor	5,663.00
Social Security & Medicare	433.22
Heritage Memorials, corner posts	420.00
Driver's Outdoor Power Equipment, supplies, etc.	278.14
Reimbursement, gas	289.51
Fence & Stone Repairs	1,800.00
Total Disbursements	8,883.87
Receipts Less Disbursements	3,481.92

Cemetery Trust Funds

Cemetery Trust Funds	Total
Hillside: Passumpsic Bank CD @.25% matures 7/1/18	44,455.84
West Village & Bly et al: Passumpsic Bank CD @ .25% matures 7/25/18	29,330.74
Total Trust Funds, December 31, 2017	73,786.58

Note: Bly et al = Bly, Crawford, Buck & Morrill Cemeteries

Policies of the Cemetery Commissioners:

No graves are to be opened after November 15th or before April 15th.
 No shrubs or bushes will be planted on lots in any cemetery.
 All flowers will be removed before the first cutting in the spring.
 Green burial is not permitted.
 Prices are as follows: Full lot \$1,000; half-lot \$800; \$500 cremation lot.

Listers' Report & Property Tax Exemptions

The townwide reappraisal is underway and will be completed by June 2019. Most of 2018 will be focused on property inspection by the listers. This project includes new software, therefore all data will be newly entered. We are working closely with an outside consultant who has helped develop our cost and land schedules. In the meantime, it is still our job to keep the current Grand List updated with any changes in property values and transfers.

For 2018, Charleston's CLA is 104.22%, and the COD is 16.55%. The CLA means that the overall average of valid sales is at 104.22% of listed values (sales are slightly under listed values). The COD means that the deviation from market value of sold properties from the listed values is 16.55%

The following statistics are available for your information and review:

Charleston 2017 Municipal Grand List Summary

Property Type	# of Parcels	Listed Value
Residential	397	63,875,700
Mobile Homes	92	5,296,000
Seasonal	104	14,464,400
Commercial	9	670,900
Utilities	3	5,067,200
Farms	27	11,406,400
Open Land/Wood	121	6,770,300
Other (Industrial)	1	51,900
PP Cable (education tax only)	1	553,200
Totals	755	108,156,000
Less exemptions*		9,115,300
Total Grand List (municipal)		98,580,500

**Exemptions include: Current Use: \$8,093,500, Veterans: \$400,000; Contracts: \$605,100*

TOWN RESIDENTS are reminded to file their HOMESTEAD DECLARATION (form HS 122) by April 17th:

For more information or to file online, visit www.myvtax.vermont.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charleston Board of Listers

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

Jan 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2017

Tax Year	2016	2017
Uncollected Taxes	69,368.20	73,938.45
Uncollected as of	1/1/17	10/20/17
Collected in 2017	51,467.24	30,831.26
Collected by Tax Sale	17,775.60	0.00
Abated in 2017	125.36	0.00
Uncollected as of 12/31/2017	0.00	43,107.19

2017 Delinquent Tax Revenue

2016 Taxes Collected in 2017	51,467.24
2016 Collected by Tax Sale 8/8/2017	17,775.60
2017 Taxes Collected	30,831.26
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	100,074.10

2017 Delinquent Taxes

Owner	Unpaid Tax
Andrews, Clifford F	975.50
Bennett, John W	1,037.28
Bennett, Leila M Estate Of	1,262.58
Bowen, Gary	692.28
Broe, John W & Pauline A	148.90
Carter, Rachel (Gray)	212.17
Chandler, June Life Estate & Grissom, Jessica L J et al	1,030.58
Connor, Michael & Vickie	343.52
Dane, Brian C & Cynthia	4,693.20
Desanto, Derrick	1,393.91
Firestine, Robert W & Patricia	2,935.61
Fitzpatrick, (Cleverly) Dawn Trustee	2,525.15
Griffin, Francis E	384.62
Jensen, Thomas & Dwelle Susan	1,405.32
Joslyn, Bryce & Brenda	1,307.19
Keenan, Scott & Deanna	2,275.31
Labounty, Michael Sr. & Hillis, Arlean	1,184.29
Martin, Gail D	1,576.03

2017 Delinquent Taxes, cont.

Owner	Unpaid Tax
Messier, Norman	1,065.72
Moulton, Dwight & Shirley	2,534.40
Moulton, Victoria (Carpenter)	2,618.17
Mount, Jeffrey & Bellavance Dana P	829.82
Pidgeon, Richard	1,180.04
Plankey, Larry & Frances	1,592.72
Sachs, Peter & Clow, Laurie	136.08
Smart, Aaron & Kay, Amanda	1,695.33
Smith, Richard Estate	1,119.81
Valenti, Michael	1,370.67
Van Luvender, Vincent A & Manzi Paula J	890.76
Veronesi, Amy	2,690.23
Total	43,107.19

Charleston Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

P.O. Box 106
East Charleston, VT 05833
(802)723-5029

Fire Department Report to the Town of Charleston Year Ending 2017

The year 2017 marks the 63rd year for the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department.

2017 has seen the department called out a total of 31 emergency calls. This represents a very slight downward trend in the past couple of years. The breakdown of the calls included structure/chimney fires, ambulance/medical assists, motor vehicle accidents, fire or carbon monoxide (CO) activations and brush/debris fires.

2017 represented key equipment purchases including a series of specialized vehicle stabilizers arms in addition to finalizing an agreement in late 2017 to purchase a set of "Jaws" from the Derby Line Fire Department. The purchase of this equipment allows for easier rescue of victims of motor vehicle accidents. The cumulative cost of these purchases was \$12,000. We believe that it is money well spent.

Also in late 2017 CVFD replaced the old shingle roof on the fire station with a new steel one, which cost about \$9,000.00.

Our regular membership for 2017 was stable and stands at 25 senior members and 3 junior members.

The 64th annual oyster supper was held on Saturday October 14th. This event continues to be successful both financially and as a matter of tradition. We thank all of those, both in town residents and out of town part time residents who have generously donated to this event as well as to our department. Please mark your calendars for the first Saturday in October for the 65th annual oyster supper!

The Kenneth Frizzell Memorial Scholarship fund did not have any applicants in 2016. If anyone knows of a college bound senior that would like to apply, please have them contact the NCUHS Guidance office. We usually award up to two, \$250.00 or one \$500.00 scholarship per year.

As last year, the budget request for 2018, of \$38,245 reflects a level funded amount in recognition of an economy that is still recovering and the board's ability to be prudent with expenditures. The board has functioned with a level funded budget since 2012.

On a final note, the CVFD has a limited number of smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors available for residents that need them but might not be able to purchase them. If anyone knows of someone that needs one, please contact Chief Duane Moulton.

As always the commitment of CVFD members to their community is voluntary, with no members being financially reimbursed for their time. All dollars which the department receives, goes directly to defray cost of operation.

We thank the Charleston community for their continued support.

Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept 2017 Income & Expenses

Income

Columbia Forest	\$245.00
General Donations	\$235.00
Interest	\$78.85
Donation	\$1,722.00
Oyster Supper	\$7,785.00
Charleston Town	\$38,245.00
Morgan Town	\$14,754.31
Total Income	\$63,065.16

Expenses

New Roof	\$9,300.00	Office Supplies	\$318.90
Communication	\$743.34	Small Tools	\$1,709.38
Computer	\$525.00	Snowmobile service	\$249.23
Dues	\$468.00	Spates	\$213.00
E. Dispatch	\$1,747.00	Supplies	\$11.00
Equip Repair	\$1,357.56	Training	\$1,795.00
Workers Comp	\$1,534.00	Truck Repair	\$10,380.23
UI Insurance	\$11,228.00	Turn out Gear	\$2,705.47
Oyster Supper	\$1,704.11	Vt. Electric	\$859.43
Plowing	\$720.00	Heating Oil	\$2,901.55
Postage	\$501.50	Comcast	\$1,045.41
Pat Hunt	\$609.00	Jaws of life	\$6,000.00
Raffle	\$40.00	Equipment	\$10,172.12
SCBA Repair	\$1,728.35	Total Expenses	\$70,566.58

2018 Beginning Balance

Checking	\$192.15
Savings	\$43,419.76
Building Savings	\$50,749.59
Equipment Savings	\$26,734.83
	\$121,096.33