

Town of Ryegate Vermont

2021 Annual Report



Please bring this report to
Town Meeting
On Tuesday, March 1, 2022
1pm

Dedication

It is with mixed emotions that we dedicate this Annual Report to these five people who have held Town Office in Ryegate. We are saddened that they have passed from us during 2021, but remember them with thankfulness for the time they served the Town of Ryegate, their community and their state.

Who will forget Robert Zambon, his sugar shack stacked with perfectly split wood or the chuckle in his voice when telling a story? He was born in Haverhill, New Hampshire, graduated from Woodsville High and Norwich University and then served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He worked for 25 years with the Vermont Department of Transportation as the regional paving engineer for the southeast quadrant of Vermont. His experience “on the roads” came in very handy while serving as a member of the Select Board from 1976 until 1991. He served for many years on the Budget Committee for the Town and his snappy advice was often remembered long after the meeting itself. His perseverance during ill health served as an inspiration to all as he continued to hay, farm and sugar all the while stacking that wood.



John Zampieri was born in South Ryegate. He was well known throughout the State of Vermont and served the State in many capacities, as a Trustee for the University of Vermont, a State Representative in Montpelier serving Ryegate, and was appointed the Commissioner of State Buildings and General Services. Ultimately, the state office building in Burlington was named the John J Zampieri State Office Building. John also found time to serve as a Ryegate Lister from 1998 until 1999 and remained in his elected town office of Town Agent from 1986 until the office itself was disbanded in 2021. His keen interest in Ryegate’s people and events was appreciated and will be remembered.



The Report of the Officers of the

Town
of
Ryegate
Vermont

In preparation for Town Meeting Day

On

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

2021

Annual Report
Of Town Officers
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2021

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Ryegate Summer Festival 2021

Selectboard Narrative

2021 has been a year of learning for the Select Board with Covid dictating the necessity for Select Board Meetings being held by Zoom and Town Meeting being an Australian Ballot vote rather than an in person meeting.

We have continued to do business that we feel is making improvements to our Town. We received our new town truck, a 2021 Kenworth. We were able to sell the property purchased at tax sale at 1276 Creamery Road in South Ryegate after Steve and Andy put in a couple of days cleaning out the garbage and doing outside clean up and we thank Steve and Ginny Ross, Linda Libuda, and Tyler Pokines for their help in this project.

The road project on Blue Mountain Road was finished this year, East Road was repaved along with a short area from the Town Clerk's office headed south. We replaced two pieces of playground equipment at the South Ryegate Playground. A handicapped porta potty was purchased to be used mainly at Ticklenaked Beach but also can be moved around to different activities in Town. An air purifier was bought to hopefully make our air safer to breathe in the Town Office during essential meetings held there.

We continue to work on several projects: A possible car charging station in South Ryegate, and flood lights on the end of the Town Hall. We have been working most of the year to figure out the original Tom Meader Road and to hopefully make it so it will once again be possible to use the trail. Thanks Andy, for all your research.

One project that the Board worked on this year was looking at possibilities for changing the town garage and the Ryegate Corner fire station to a renewable energy heating system. We considered a wood pellet boiler, a wood fired boiler, air source heat pumps and geothermal. Geothermal appears to be a natural fit for both buildings and a long term cost saving for the town. While geothermal carries a high upfront cost much of the initial cost is in drilling the wells. With a balanced system the wells are a virtually permanent heat source and the town is perfectly positioned to take advantage of that permanence. We have received one grant from the Vermont Council on Rural Development and another from GMP to help with the cost of this project. With the 2021 appropriation from the town these grants bring us to nearly two thirds of the estimated cost of the project. Frustratingly there are currently no grant programs available from the state or federal government for this project. We have been in contact with the state Office of Energy Management and it appears that they will have funding for a grant program to assist municipalities with the design of renewable energy heating systems in their next cycle and we hope to be first in line when they do. At this writing your board is working with the legislature to move forward a bill to provide funding for a grant program to help municipalities with the cost of installing renewable energy heating systems once they are designed.

We received a large grant from the US government this year under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that we are still learning about making use of. Until recently the uses were very limited for a town of Ryegate's size but new rule changes have made the grant much more usable. So far we have used the grant to purchase an air filtration system for the town office building to make our various meetings safer. We voted a modest bonus to six essential town employees who stayed on the job during the lockdown. These six were the town clerk, treasurer, and the road crew. We are investing in four laptop computers for the select board and the clerk of the board to facilitate moving to a hybrid format for our meetings. Under this plan the board will meet in person, with masks and social distancing, while anyone who wishes will be able to attend virtually. In addition these computers will be dedicated to town use so that the board members will be able to keep town business and communications separate from their personal and business use. Other possible uses of the grant will be to help the villages with both freshwater and wastewater system upgrades, town building upgrades, and extra progress on our paving projects. Feel free to contact a board member if you have a good idea we could consider funding with the ARPA grant.

To finish off this report we have had two wonderful town employees who have decided to retire so we thank Lister Betty Beauvais, and Clerk for the Select Board Marsha Nelson. We thank them for the many years of service. Their experience and knowledge will be missed.

State Representative Narrative

Hello to all. Looks like we will not be able to meet in person again this year, so I just wanted to touch base with you. Another year has gone by, and we are still doing some zoom and some in person meetings at the State House.

Unfortunately for the people of the State of Vermont zoom is definitely not a very good way to do legislative business. as probably many of you know, having to zoom with your children for school or your own work. The only good thing was that as everything is livestreamed all could see what is happening in each committee and on the house floor. This will continue ..I believe, even when we are able to go back completely in person.

As usual there have been many bills already introduced, starting the second half of the biennium.

Some are quite interesting:

Legalizing prostitution

Reinstating of an operator's license after a lifetime suspension or revocation

Working on a secure facility for justice-involved youth

Informed consent for the administration of immunizations

Creating a Vermont child tax credit

Establish the Vermont Nursing Scholarship

A lot of the bills that have been introduced for this two-year biennium, seem more of a personal conflict than for the good of Vermonters. (That is just a personal opinion from me), but there also are some the state would truly benefit from.

Proposal 5 (abortion rights) will be coming to the floor soon, please be advised that if the proposal is passed you will be voting on it at your general election in November. The bill number was H57, reading this bill will give you a clearer idea of what the Proposal is, if passes in November it will become a part of the Constitution of the State of Vermont.

There is a lot of money that has come to the state because of COVID, let's just hope we can all benefit in worthwhile ways for our towns and the state.

Thank you all for letting me serve as your representative. If you have any questions, you can email at: mmartel@leg.state.vt.us or call me at 802-748-9134.

Rep. Marcia Martel

Auditors' Narrative

In accordance with Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, §1681, the board of auditors has verified the existence of cash balances, and examined the accounts and records of town officers. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements, reports of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities contained in this annual report present an accurate record of the funds handled in the year ending December 31, 2021.

The auditors as a group verify bank accounts and paid bills on a monthly basis and fund balances on a quarterly basis. We will start a review during 2022 of the Grand List following the completion of the reappraisal during 2021.

Thanks to Town Clerk Liz Page for keeping the last Friday morning of each month open for our work sessions and to Town Treasurer Cheryl Slayton for getting everything ready for our reviews and being available to answer questions.

We lost a long-time valuable member of the Ryegate board of Auditors with the passing of Dick Fraser on Dec. 2nd, 2021. Dick was a friend, an active member of the community, and known to many in the community from his years as a teacher at Blue Mountain Union School. We will also miss his box of cupcakes or bag of cookies to get us through our morning work sessions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Dole

Richard Hodgson

Towns Officers Appointed by the Selectboard

Road Foreman	Nelson Elder
Clerk for the Select Board	Marsha Nelson
Fence Viewers	The Selectboard
Pound Keeper	Riverside-Lunenberg
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber & Weigher of Coal	Bruce Beauvais
Tree Warden	Darcy Nelson
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Dean Rowden
Town Service Officer	Vacant
Health Officer	Stephen Genereaux, MD
Animal Control Officer	Rachel Clough
Energy Officer	The Selectboard
Green Up Chairmen	Makayla Perkins
NEK Waste District	Gene Perkins, Supervisor
	Andrew Smith, Vice Super
Planning/Zoning Commission:	
Term expires 2022	Walter Bragg
Term expires 2022	Richard Colby II
Term expires 2022	Nancy Perkins
Term expires 2023	Alice Allen
Term expires 2023	Stephen Genereaux
Term expires 2024	Mary Dole
Term Expires 2024	Catherine Davie
Term Expires 2024	Regina Hazel
Term Expires 2024	Fremont Nelson
Zoning Administrator	William Elder
Northeastern Vermont Develop Assoc.	Darryl Perkins
Connecticut River Joint Commissions	Sally Wilson
First Grand Juror	Dean Rowden
APPOINTED BY THE TOWN CLERK	
Town Clerk's Assistant	Marsha Nelson
APPOINTED BY THE TREASURER	
Treasurer's Assistant	Patricia Crocker



Town Officers 2021

MODERATOR Regina Hazel-1 year term
TOWN CLERK Elizabeth Page-1 year term
TREASURER Cheryl Slayton-1 year term

SELECT BOARD

Term expires March 2022 Darryl Perkins-3 year term
Term expires March 2023 Steve Crandall
Term expires March 2024 Andrew Smith

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR Dale Wright

FIRST CONSTABLE Vacant

LISTERS:

Term expires March, 2022 Sally Wilson -3 year Term
Term expires March, 2023 Regina Hazel
Term expires March, 2024 Betty Beauvais (Resigned 10/31/21)
Kate Davie (Appointed by Selectboard)

AUDITOR

Term expires March 2022 Richard Hodgson -3 year term
Term expires March, 2023 Thomas Dole
Term expires March, 2024 Richard Fraser (Vacant as of 12/02/21)

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Term expires March, 2022 Richard Fraser -5 year term
Term expires March, 2023 Marsha Nelson
Term expires March, 2024 Jennifer Nelson
Term expires March, 2025 Mary Dole
Term expires March, 2026 Deanna Arnosky

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER:

Term expires March, 2022 William Nelson - 5 year term
Term expires March, 2023 Melissa Mann
Term expires March, 2024 Richard Colby II
Term expires March, 2025 Daniel LaCoss
Term expires March, 2026 Bruce Nelson

UNION SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Term expires March, 2022 Kristen Murray- 3 year term
Term expires March, 2022 Paul Hazel
Term expires March, 2023 Allana Page
Term expires March, 2024 Angeline Alley



Ryegate Summer Festival 2021



Ryegate Summer Festival 2021

Accounts Administered by SelectBoard and Treasurer 2021

FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY SELECTMEN & TREASURER 2021					
	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
1) So. Ryegate Sewer					
#273086	\$1,590.17			\$0.80	\$1,590.97
2) Fire Dept Building Fund					
#634466	\$525.92			\$0.27	\$526.19
3) Fire Dept Eq. Repl.					
#632300	\$25,327.90	1) \$11281.98		\$18.61	\$36,628.49
4) Machine Fund-Hgwy					
#612080	\$33,266.14	2) \$75000.00	7) \$5877.00	\$17.92	\$102,407.06
5) Ryegate History Committee					
#524317	\$7,702.04			\$7.70	\$7,709.74
6) Nicole A. Hayne					
#528494	\$23,344.98	3) \$ 5000.00	4) \$11025.00	\$19.82	\$17,339.80
#905929	\$9,835.72			\$98.80	\$9,934.52
7) M. Hall Library					
#195892	\$436.82		5) \$402.00	\$0.19	\$35.01
#905933	\$2,463.42			\$24.73	\$2,488.15
#909982	\$88,111.44			\$855.93	\$88,967.37
8) W. Sutton Memorial					
#552067	\$106.38			\$0.04	\$106.42
9) Fire Dpt Truck Repl					
#673078	\$75,203.20	6) \$18000.00		\$43.58	\$93,246.78
10) E. Ryegate Library					
#935881784	\$2,008.52			\$0.24	\$2,008.76
1) Budget to Actual Fire Dept Contribution			5) So Ryegate Library Donation & Svc. Charge		
2) 2021 Budget Contribution			6) 2021 Contrib. Fire Truck Replacement Fund		
3) Donation By Gitta Weeser in Mem of John V			and Sale of 1992 FireTruck		
4) S. Ryegate Playground, Summer Fair,Vt Fair			7) Extended Warranty 2021 Freightliner		

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
11) John F. McColi Cemetery					
#810875	\$3,504.67			\$35.21	\$3,539.88
#905930	\$2,381.64			\$23.92	\$2,405.56
#234630	\$106.41			\$0.04	\$106.45
12) McDonald Cemetery					
#290409	\$321.14			\$0.16	\$321.30
13) Byrne-Buchanan Cemetery					
#304502	\$492.63			\$0.24	\$492.87
14) C A Park Cemetery					
#506625	\$699.55			\$0.36	\$699.91
15) E. Hall Cemetery					
#195915	\$1,425.94			\$0.72	\$1,426.66
#905932	\$7,563.40			\$75.98	\$7,639.38
16) M. Hall Cemetery					
#195928	\$1,558.29			\$84.02	\$1,642.31
#905931	\$4,039.13			\$40.57	\$4,079.70
146 Shares Bank of A	\$4,467.76				\$4,467.76
#909983	\$1,435.56			\$13.95	\$1,449.51
17) Ticklenaked Pond Checking					
#389315	\$6,581.43	\$238.00			\$6,819.43
18) BMU Little League					
#565393	\$664.81			\$0.32	\$665.13
19) Lind Homes Housing					
#565353	\$4,363.98			\$4.37	\$4,368.35

2021 Town Employee Compensation

Employee Name	2021 Pay Rate	Gross Wages	Retirement	Bonus	Health Insurance	FICA	Total Compensation
Nelson Elder	23.65 Hourly	53,015.73	4,262.82	1,100.00	11,221.72	4,102.64	73,702.91
Road Foreman							
Andrew Nelson	17.50 Hourly	38,063.80	3,086.31	1,100.00	11,221.72	2,965.82	56,437.65
Road Crew							-
Larry Welch	20.34 Hourly	45,534.55	3,673.35	1,100.00	11,221.72	3,546.81	65,076.43
Road Crew							
Bruce Boyce	19.50 Hourly	39,733.10	3,217.97	1,100.00	11,221.72	3,015.65	58,288.44
Road Crew							
Marsha Nelson	13.00 Hourly	3,288.50		100.00		259.24	3,647.74
AsstClerk/Sel. Clerk	3000.00 Annual						
Cheryl Slayton	406.90 Weekly	21,258.80		1,100.00	9,695.16	1,710.56	33,764.52
Treasurer							
Patricia Crocker	13.00 Hourly	1,751.00		100.00		141.60	1,992.60
Asst. Treas/ Clerk							
Elizabeth Page	445.22 Weekly	23,679.44	1,953.42	1,100.00	11,221.72	1,895.67	39,850.25
Town Clerk							
Richard Fraser	13.99 Hourly	132.91				10.17	143.08
Auditor							
Thomas Dole	13.99 Hourly	286.81				21.93	308.74
Auditor							
Richard Hodgson	13.99 Hourly	244.84				18.73	263.57
Auditor							
Dale Wright	8% Collection Fee	39,478.64				3,020.13	42,498.77
Tax Collector							
Regina Hazel	16.59 Hourly	4,583.00				350.59	4,933.59
Lister							
Elizabeth Beauvais	16.59 Hourly	3,446.59				263.66	3,710.25
Lister							
Sally Wilson	16.59 Hourly	2,260.39				172.93	2,433.32
Lister							
Gene Perkins **	11.75 Hourly	5,704.65				436.40	6,141.05
Recycling							
Andrew Smith	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Darryl Perkins	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Steve Crandall	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
		285,462.75	16,193.87	6,800.00	65,803.76	22,162.03	396,422.41
		Additional Employer Costs:		Worker's Compensation Ins.			13,910.00
				Road Crew Uniforms/Laundry Service			6,221.30
**Town of Groton Reimbursed \$2852.32 for their share.				Unemployment Ins.			528.00
				TOTAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION			417,081.71

Balance Sheet Comparison

	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021
Current Assets				
Wells River - Checking	214.47	2,276.08	8,936.75	65.43
Petty Cash	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Wells River Savings - Debit Card Acct	154.55	154.55	154.55	154.55
Wells River Savings - Money Market	409,667.79	445,499.35	655,337.75	961,884.50
Woodsville Savings - Money Market	163,350.10	163,840.83	164,335.66	164,749.05
Passumpsic Savings - Money Market	202,712.54	203,088.25	203,469.05	203,836.83
Property Tax - Delinquent	75,216.02	71,057.51	31,290.10	18,429.45
Property Tax - Current	112,476.00	116,249.00	65,571.50	76,627.32
South Ryegate Sewer Receivable	6,456.34	3,395.00	3,429.52	2,500.00
East Ryegate Sewer Receivable	1,946.27	1,516.14	1,281.90	0.00
Receivable, Town of Groton	2,715.50	2,050.50	2,746.95	3,368.10
Total Assets:	974,939.58	1,009,157.21	1,136,583.73	1,431,645.23
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	1,692.00			
Ticklenaked Pond Grant-Milfoil		5,691.00	5,691.00	
FICA Withheld	-0.04	-0.04	-0.05	-0.05
State Withheld	-3.92	-3.92	-3.92	-3.92
Prepaid Property Tax	800.78	2,074.54	2,185.18	2,449.61
Zoning Admin Fees	1,191.00	1,166.00	1,241.00	1,291.00
Due to/(from) other accts	4,431.08	10,858.80	10,281.98	27,906.37
Total Current Liabilities:	8,110.90	19,786.38	19,395.19	31,643.01
Long Term Liabilities				
Fund Balance - Reappraisal	84,978.75	73,489.75	44,026.25	11,359.01
Fund Balance - Town Highway	33,643.29	77,839.75	155,493.93	169,316.38
Fund Balance - So. Ryegate Sewer	43,412.98	43,097.37	39,187.82	36,654.59
Fund Balance - Roads	66,872.93	61,168.93	31,819.77	31,819.77
Fund Balance - Creamery Road Bridge	42,633.77	42,633.77	42,633.77	42,633.77
Fund Balance - 68 Church St.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Fund Balance - External Audit	17,500.00	17,500.00	17,500.00	17,500.00
Fund Balance - Zoning/Planning Commission	2,109.33	2,109.33	2,109.33	2,109.33
Fund Balance - Accounting Software	10,000.00	15,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Fund Balance - Cemetery Restoration	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Fund Balance - Ticklenaked Dam			30,000.00	30,000.00
Fund Balance - Listers	5,700.00	9,556.49	9,556.49	7,285.99
Fund Balance - Energy Eff Town Bldgs		2,400.00	3,759.67	7,159.67
Fund Balance - ARPA Money				157,558.67
Fund Balance - Renew. Energy System				50,000.00
Fund Balance - Climate Catalysts				3,000.00
Fund Balance - Restoration	13,713.95	15,352.39	19,303.69	22,033.82
Total Long Term Liabilities:	328,565.00	368,147.78	423,390.72	616,431.00
Total Liabilities:	336,675.90	387,934.16	442,785.91	648,074.01
Capital				
Retained Earnings	592,536.63	638,263.68	621,223.05	693,797.82
Net Income	45,727.05	-17,040.63	72,574.77	89,773.40
Total Capital:	638,263.68	621,223.05	693,797.82	783,571.22
Total Liabilities and Capital:	974,939.58	1,009,157.21	1,136,583.73	1,431,645.23

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Your property tax bill is broken down to show education, highway and town taxes and their respective rates. Your total tax rate is the sum of these rates.

The tax rate is per \$100 of your assessment; therefore, to figure the tax you owe, first move the decimal point in your assessment two places to the left, then multiply that number by the total tax rate.

Sample Tax Bill:

Your Assessment	Tax Rate (per \$100)	Tax Due
\$200,000.00 (Homestead)	2.1407	\$4281.40
\$200,000.00 (Non-Homestead)	2.2572	\$4514.40

Comparative Budget REVENUES

2021	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
REVENUES			
Property Taxes (minus BMU school pymts.)	905,719.00	898,323.98	939,509.70
PILOT (Paymt. In Lieu Of Taxes)	1,500.00	2,488.20	1,500.00
Equi Ed Gr List Main		760.00	
Property Tax Adj. from prior year		11,181.71	
Interest, Delinquent Taxes	10,000.00	18,821.82	10,000.00
Tax Collectors 8%		39,478.64	
Permits - Zoning & Planning	200.00	450.00	200.00
Marriage Licenses	200.00	300.00	200.00
State Aid for Highways	120,000.00	128,307.67	120,000.00
Highway Supplement Grant		7,100.30	
East Road Paving Grant		104,000.00	
Hold harmless - State of VT		49,189.00	
Town Clerk Fees	9,000.00	11,002.78	9,000.00
Dog Licenses	2,000.00	2,174.00	2,000.00
Interest Income	3,000.00	3,922.40	3,000.00
Traffic Control	200.00	-	200.00
Grant Revenue		7,584.25	
VLCT PACIF		289.00	
Town of Groton - Recycling Building	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Spencer/Creamery Rd Property Rev		32,395.13	
Revenues Total:	1,053,319.00	1,319,268.88	1,087,109.70

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Elected and Appointed Officials	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Animal Care	500.00	156.82	500.00
Auditors Salary	1,500.00	664.56	1,500.00
Auditors Supplies	50.00		50.00
Ballot Clerk Salaries	700.00	387.75	1,500.00
Cemetery Appropriation	13,000.00	13,000.00	14,100.00
Cemetery Fencing & Repair			1,000.00
Dog Catcher Expense	1,500.00	571.88	1,500.00
Dog Catcher Supplies		-	
Health Officer Expense	50.00	-	50.00
Lister's Computer Support	4,500.00	4,003.88	4,500.00
Lister's Salaries	15,000.00	10,289.98	15,000.00
Lister's Supplies & Expenses	800.00	2,101.47	800.00
Lister's Telephone	500.00	555.20	550.00
Selectman's Salary	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Selectman's Field Compensation			3,500.00
Selectman's Clerk	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Tax Collector's 8%		39,478.64	
Tax Collector's Expense	275.00	110.00	275.00
Town Officer's - Conf/Mtgs	500.00	164.00	500.00
Town Patrol Sheriff Contract	12,000.00	4,431.50	8,000.00
Town Patrol State Police Contract	8,000.00	4,276.44	8,000.00
Zoning - Salaries	1,000.00	655.42	1,000.00
Zoning - Advertising	100.00	96.40	100.00
Zoning/Planning Comm.	1,000.00	14.56	1,000.00
Recycling Coordinator	2,700.00	2,852.34	4,000.00
Elected & Appointed Officials Total:	69,675.00	89,810.84	73,425.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Town Offices	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Marriage License Fees	-	300.00	0.00
Medical Benefits	21,250.00	20,916.88	20,950.00
Retirement Benefits	1,850.00	1,953.42	2,000.00
State Dog license Fees	1,200.00	1,070.00	1,200.00
Machinery & Equipment, Repair	200.00	1,010.00	500.00
Machinery & Equipment, Purchase	500.00	141.82	500.00
Town Officers - Dog Fees	460.00	428.00	460.00
Propane	2,200.00	2,167.82	2,200.00
Ground Work	2,300.00	2,290.00	2,500.00
Postage	1,200.00	933.40	1,200.00
Town Clerk Salaries	23,500.00	23,351.44	24,675.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salaries	1,500.00	788.50	1,500.00
Town Treasurer Salaries	21,500.00	21,358.80	22,575.00
Assistant Town Treasurer Salaries	1,500.00	1,451.00	1,575.00
Supplies	1,600.00	1,639.46	1,600.00
Telephone & Internet	1,300.00	1,263.79	1,300.00
Utilities	600.00	799.52	600.00
Computer Support	4,200.00	4,530.08	4,500.00
Website	175.00	173.87	450.00
Workers Compensation	508.00	508.00	520.52
Town Offices Total:	87,543.00	87,075.80	90,805.52
General			
Ambulance	31,598.00	31,598.00	33,470.40
Appraisal Consulting		-	
Beach Repairs & Maint.	1,000.00	1,028.57	1,000.00
Cemetery Flags	250.00	311.04	200.00
County Tax	14,900.00	15,211.00	15,000.00
Elections Advertising	300.00	402.85	300.00
Fast Squad - Groton/Ryegate	13,000.00	12,469.20	13,000.00
FICA - Employer	19,600.00	22,162.03	23,500.00
Fire Warden Expense	400.00	-	400.00
Hazard Mitigation Plan		2,210.00	
Legal Fees	1,000.00	1,664.00	2,000.00
Meeting/Bid Advertising	200.00	-	200.00
Portable Bathroom			2,577.30
Recycling	6,300.00	3,318.67	6,300.00
Recycling Building & Maintenance	3,500.00	2,385.00	3,500.00
Renewable Energy system	50,000.00	50,000.00	
Ryegate Green Up	100.00	-	100.00
Ryegate Green Up - Disposal	500.00	460.00	500.00
Ryegate Historical Society	350.00	350.00	350.00
Tax Maps	1,675.00	1,675.00	1,675.00
Tax Sale Purchase		4,219.65	
Town Bldgs – Energy Efficiency	3,400.00	3,400.00	2,000.00
Town Building Repair & Maintenance	5,500.00	2,954.98	5,500.00
Town Report	1,700.00	1,324.25	1,700.00
Town Report - Delivery	250.00	204.60	250.00
VLCT Dues	2,528.00	2,528.00	2,550.00
VLCT PACIF Insurance	17,596.00	18,278.00	18,693.00
General Total:	175,647.00	178,154.84	134,765.70

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Fire Department	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Fire Truck Replacement Fund	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
Bldg - So. Ryegate	5,000.00	-	500.00
Bldg - Ryegate Corner	1,500.00	1,113.35	1,500.00
Diesel	1,500.00	1,666.00	1,800.00
Dispatch	3,000.00	2,830.00	3,000.00
Dry Hydrant	1,200.00	150.00	1,200.00
Dues	1,200.00	1,424.00	1,500.00
Dumpster	200.00	188.46	200.00
Equipment Replacement Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Fuel Oil - Ryegate Corner	2,000.00	1,266.36	1,500.00
Fuel Oil - So. Ryegate	800.00	638.85	1,000.00
Gasoline	50.00	32.19	50.00
Insurance/Accident	2,000.00	1,861.00	2,000.00
Mach. & Equip.	10,000.00	2,962.51	10,000.00
Repairs	10,000.00	3,612.75	10,000.00
Supplies	1,500.00	397.55	1,500.00
Telephone/ Internet	1,000.00	940.21	1,000.00
Training	6,000.00	-	6,000.00
Utilities - Ryegate Corner	500.00	476.21	500.00
Utilities - So. Ryegate	300.00	284.19	300.00
Admin.	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Workmans Comp	1,219.00	1,219.00	1,219.00
Fire Department Total:	68,969.00	41,062.63	64,769.00
Transfer to Fire Dept. Equip. Replacement Fund	-	27,906.37	
Fire Department Grand Total:	68,969.00	68,969.00	64,769.00
Highway Department	-		
2011 Loader	5,000.00	1,285.42	5,000.00
2018 John Deere Grader	4,000.00	4,126.16	4,000.00
2014 Ton Truck	2,000.00	6,226.44	2,000.00
2014 Plow & Sander	1,000.00	531.51	1,000.00
2015 Kenworth Truck	3,000.00	4,559.06	3,000.00
2015 Kenworth Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,535.72	2,000.00
2016 Intl. Truck	3,000.00	2,096.17	3,000.00
2016 Intl. Plow & Sander	2,000.00	3,432.57	2,000.00
2017 Freightliner Truck	3,000.00	961.28	3,000.00
2017 Freightliner Plow & Sander	2,000.00	2,042.59	2,000.00
2021 Freightliner Truck	3,000.00	100.00	3,000.00
2021 Freightliner Plow & Sander	2,000.00	840.27	2,000.00
Wood Chipper	500.00	-	500.00
Culvert Steamer	250.00	-	250.00
Class IV Roads	4,000.00	2,473.80	4,000.00
Highway Depart – Computer/Printer	500.00	-	500.00
Cold Patch	1,000.00	602.49	1,000.00
Diesel Fuel	30,000.00	30,272.04	32,000.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Highway Departmnet	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Equipment Rental	6,000.00	5,235.00	6,000.00
Heating Oil	3,700.00	2,845.41	3,800.00
Gasoline	1,000.00	144.04	1,000.00
Gravel	54,000.00	48,986.59	54,000.00
Hydroseeder	700.00	200.00	700.00
Guard Rails	3,500.00	477.75	3,500.00
Machine Fund	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Blue Mtn Road Project	.00	12,589.90	.00
Highway Dept. Advertising	100.00	-	100.00
Highway Insurance Claim	.00	1,000.00	.00
Medical Insurance - Roads	45,350.00	44,886.88	42,950.00
Motor Oil	2,000.00	1,231.94	2,000.00
Physicals - Road crew	500.00	-	500.00
Repairs - Other	1,000.00	246.00	1,000.00
Retirement - Town Highway	13,800.00	14,240.45	14,500.00
Road Repairs	15,000.00	4,982.25	15,000.00
Road Resurfacing	100,000.00	206,764.27	100,000.00
Road Signs	500.00	375.46	500.00
Roadside Mowing	6,800.00	6,800.00	9,000.00
Storm Water Mgmt Prog Act	.00	1,590.00	1,600.00
Summer Road – Mg. Chloride	15,000.00	15,927.20	15,000.00
Summer Road - Culverts	6,000.00	4,723.42	6,000.00
Summer Road - Labor	70,000.00	75,410.96	78,000.00
Supplies	5,000.00	4,925.12	5,000.00
Telephone	900.00	923.99	900.00
Tires	7,000.00	7,256.58	7,000.00
Tools	1,500.00	1,018.32	1,500.00
Town Garage Upkeep	6,000.00	1,551.54	6,000.00
Training	250.00	-	250.00
Tree Removal/Brush Cutting	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Uniforms	6,000.00	6,221.30	6,300.00
Utilities	1,000.00	515.08	1,000.00
VLCT Unemployment	526.00	528.00	576.00
Winter - Labor	102,000.00	101,336.22	105,000.00
Winter Road - Salt	35,000.00	40,382.36	41,000.00
Winter Road - Sand	24,000.00	19,152.00	24,000.00
Workers Comp. - Road Crew	12,183.00	12,183.00	12,492.48
Highway Grant Revenue		(104,000.00)	
Highway Department Total:	690,559.00	676,736.55	712,418.48
Transfer to Highway Fund Balance		13,822.45	
Highway Dept. Grand Total:	690,559.00	690,559.00	712,418.48

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Contributions			
American Red Cross	500.00	500.00	500.00
Little League	100.00	100.00	100.00
Catamount Arts	400.00	400.00	400.00
4th of July Committee	200.00	200.00	200.00
Groton Food Shelf	500.00	500.00	500.00
Home Health Care	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00	500.00	.00
Libraries	200.00	200.00	200.00
Little Rivers Health Care	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
NEK Human Services	500.00	500.00	500.00
NEK Learning Services	200.00	200.00	200.00
NEK Youth Services	250.00	250.00	250.00
Vermont Rural Fire	100.00	100.00	100.00
No. VT Development Assoc.	881.00	881.00	881.00
Riverside Rescue, Inc.	-	-	500.00
Rural Community Transport	850.00	850.00	850.00
Umbrella	800.00	800.00	800.00
VT Cent. For Indep. Living	265.00	265.00	265.00
VT Green-Up	100.00	100.00	100.00
VT Office of Aging	330.00	330.00	330.00
VT Vet. Mem.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Baldwin Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Community Restorative Justice Center	250.00	250.00	250.00
Groton Public Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Senior Meals	500.00	500.00	500.00
		-	
Contributions Total:	10,926.00	10,926.00	10,926.00
		-	
Total Expenses:	1,103,319.00	1,125,495.48	1,087,109.70
		-	
Current Earnings:		193,773.40	
School Appropriation			
BMU School		1,729,778.73	
School Appropriation Total:		1,729,778.73	

Capital Needs: Town Highway Machinery and Equipment

Capital Item	Year 2013	Year 2014	Year 2015	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2020	Year 2021	Year 2022	Year 2023
2011 Loader—Trade 2001											
2004 Grader--Trade 1993											
2015 Truck –Trade 2006			132,464								
2016 Truck –Trade 2008				86,400							
2017 Truck --Trade 2009					110,637						
2011 Truck --Trade 2004											
2018 Grader – Trade 2004						258,400					
2020 Truck – Trade 2011								131,647			
2014 Ton Truck								25,000			
Wood Chipper											
Other- Equip Fuel Tank											
Welder	2090										
Warranty on Truck				3,146	3,590	5,848			5,877		
Hydro Seeder Contract					500						
Stone Plate Compactor							350				
Sale of Utility Trailer				200							
Balance in Savings Jan 1	196,636	264,740	340,005	282,809	268,684	229,193	40,136	114,831	33,266	102,407	177,507
Annual Deposit	70,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Annual Expense	(2,090)	-	(132,464)	(89,346)	(114,727)	(264,248)	350	(156,647)	-5877		
Annual Interest Earned	194	265	268	221	236	191	45	82	18	100	100
Balance in Savings Dec 31	264,740	340,005	282,809	268,684	229,193	40,136	114,831	33,266	102,407	177,507	252,607

Real Estate

Town House & Contents	\$388,769.00
Town Office & Contents	293,028.00
4.9 Acres Land at East & Bayley Hazen Rd	30,000.00
Storage Shed	20,183.00
Corner Fire Station	292,383.00
South Ryegate Fire Station	202,712.00
Town Garage & Contents	604,817.00
Whitelaw Hall (Historical)	371,723.00
Recycling Building	147,896.00
Ballfield (Property in the Open)	52,595.00
Playground Equipment	51,263.00
TOTAL REAL ESTATE	\$2,455,369.00

Highway Equipment

2011 John Deere 524 Loader	\$95,500.00
2019 John Deere 672 Grader	317,400.00
2021 Freightliner Truck & Plow	128,765.00
2015 Kenworth Truck & Plow	132,464.00
2016 International Truck & Plow	85,685.00
2017 Freightliner Truck & Plow	110,437.00
2014 Chevrolet 1-Ton Truck & Sander	25,000.00
Wood Chipper	3,500.00
Culvert Thawer & Trailer	8,000.00
TOWN HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT	\$ 906,751.00

Fire Equipment

2005 International Tanker	\$250,000.00
1997 Ford Pumper	125,000.00
1980 Forestry Equipment Truck (South Ryegate Station)	60,000.00
1988 Sutphen Fire Truck	7,500.00
1988 Ford Mini Pumper	30,000.00
TOTAL FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$472,500.00

TOTAL ALL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT \$3,834,620.00



Fund Balance Changes

Fund	Entry	Start of Year	Increase	Decrease	End of Year
Reappraisal	Beginning Balance:	\$ 44,026.25			
	FY20 per parcel payment from State of VT:		\$ 6,460.00		
	Reappraisal Contract			\$ 39,127.24	
	Ending balance:				\$ 11,359.01
Town Highway	Beginning Balance:	\$ 155,493.93			
	"Budget to Actual" transfer from Highway Fund		\$ 13,822.45		
	Ending balance:				\$ 169,316.38
S. Ryegate Sewer	Beginning Balance:	\$ 39,187.82			
	Sewer Charges:		\$ 9,500.00		
	Repairs and Maintenance:			\$ 11,721.18	
	Utilities:			\$ 312.05	
	Ending balance:				\$ 36,654.59
Roads	Beginning Balance:	\$ 31,819.77			\$ 31,819.77
Creamery Rd. Bridge	Beginning Balance:	\$ 42,633.77			\$ 42,633.77
68 Church Street	Beginning Balance:	\$ 500.00			\$ 500.00
External Audit	Beginning Balance:	\$ 17,500.00			\$ 17,500.00
Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 19,303.69			
	Percentage of Town Clerk Fees Collected:		\$ 2,946.00		
	Town Land Record Books:			\$ 215.87	
	Ending balance:				\$ 22,033.82
Zoning & Planning	Beginning Balance:	\$ 2,109.33			\$ 2,109.33
Accounting Software	Beginning Balance:	\$ 20,000.00			\$ 20,000.00
Cemetery Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 7,500.00			\$ 7,500.00
Listers	Beginning Balance:	\$ 9,556.49			
	Technical Support:			\$ 2,270.50	
	Ending balance:				\$ 7,285.99
Energy Eff- Town Bldg	Beginning Balance:	\$ 3,759.67			
	2021 Budget to Actual Transfer:		\$ 3,400.00		
	Ending balance:				\$ 7,159.67
Ticklenaked Pond Dam	Beginning Balance:	\$ 30,000.00			\$ 30,000.00
Renewable Energy System	2021 Budget to Actual Transfer:		\$ 50,000.00		\$ 50,000.00
American Rescue Plan Act			\$ 157,558.67		\$ 157,558.67
Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund			\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00
General	Beginning Bal:	\$621,223.05			
	2020 Earnings/Loss:		\$72,574.77		
	Ending balance:				\$693,797.82

List of Vendors

Vendor	Amount	Vendor	Amount
646 Fairpoint Communications	3,524.30	Elizabeth Beauvais	58.70
Aaron W. Newton	500.00	Elizabeth Page – Supplies, Retirement	2,007.03
Active911, Inc.	260.00	Endyne, Inc	410.00
Aflac	3,272.10	Everett J. Prescott, Inc	5,851.84
All Around Power Equip	41.94	EZ Steel & Fabrication	750.00
Allegiance Trucks	3,479.02	Fisher Auto Parts	2,310.83
American Rock Salt	20,295.16	Foggs Hardware	533.08
American Red Cross	500.00	Fred's Energy	2,167.82
Apex Software	215.00	Fremont Nelson Lawns	950.00
B & T Equipment Repairs	200.00	Gene Perkins- Fire Dept.	500.00
B – B Chain, Inc	2,334.00	Gene Perkins-Fire Dept Supplies	243.34
Baldwin Library	200.00	George Sansoucy, PE	20,000.00
B & B Towing & Recovery	525.00	Golden West Industrial	176.02
Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT	60,196.86	Great Planning Tech	3,520.50
Blue MedicareRx-VT	2,042.90	Grafton County Sheriff's Dept	1,625.00
Blue Mountain Little League	100.00	Green Mountain Kenworth	1,696.31
Blue Mountain Trucking & Exca	7,595.80	Green Mountain Power	2,333.58
Blue Mountain Union School	1,729,778.73	Greg Murray - Fire Dept	500.00
Breann Electric	123.88	Groton - Ryegate Fast Squad	12,469.20
Bridge Weekly	313.20	Groton Library	200.00
CAI Technologies	1,675.00	Groton Food Shelf	500.00
C. Ainsworth Trucking	4,975.00	Howard P. Fairfield, LLC	9,684.60
Caledonia County NRCD	200.00	IDS	130.82
Caledonia County Sheriff's Department	4,431.50	Innovative Municipal Prod	15,927.20
Caledonia Home Health	1,000.00	Instrumart	564.00
Caledonian-Record	160.00	J D's Repair	1,366.97
Capital Fire Mutual Aid	250.00	Jack Kinerson	30.00
Cargill, Inc.	20,087.20	John Bogie	544.29
Catamount Arts	400.00	Joe's Repair	67.22
Vermont Center for Independent Living	265.00	Jordan Equipment	2,458.53
Cheryl Slayton –Medicare Reimbursement	3,564.00	Journal Opinion	107.25
Chief Crushing & Excavation	30,954.54	Justin Danforth – Fire Dept	500.00
Christopher Chartier	500.00	K&T Environmental Equipment, Inc.	133.95
Charlebois, Inc.	6,401.84	Kristine Elder	129.25
Cintas	6,221.30	Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00
Collins Group, Inc.	311.04	Kofile Preservation, Inc	215.87
Copies & More	1,025.77	Kimball Midwest	211.00
Community Restorative Justice	250.00	Kristie Gilbert	500.00
County Treasurer	15,211.00	Lauren Nelson	423.00
CVC Paging	945.00	Levi Welch – Fire Dept	500.00
Dads 4 By Tool and Supply	199.34	Little River's Health Care	2,000.00
Darlings AutoRepair	173.44	Lowell Mcleods, Inc.	3,118.57
David Bedor	625.00	Lucas Welch – Fire Dept	500.00
Davies Law, PLC	1,880.00	Maine Oxy	189.00
Dept. of Public Safety #7	4,276.44	Manchester Brook Materials	27,771.50
Dufresne & Associates	1,114.12	Marsha Nelson	288.14
		Matthew R. Danforth – Fire Dept	500.00
		McCullough Crushing, Inc.	19,967.50

List of Vendors

Vendor Expense- continued	Amount	Vendor	Amount
Municipal Emergency Service	705.89	## Spectrum Northeast LLC	13.11
Myers Container Corp	8,932.12	St. J. Fire Extinguisher	25.75
Napa Auto Parts/FMS Auto	4,534.41	State of Vermont- Wastewater Testing	1,790.00
Needham Electric Supply	115.60	Steve Kimball Repair	525.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	200.00	SC Lawn Care	1,825.00
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management	7,029.55	Swampguana	5,691.00
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	250.00	Tenco New England	1,510.05
NEMRC	24,962.31	Thomas Cole - Fire Dept	500.00
Nelson Elder – Town Hgwy Supplies	169.04	Thomas Fadden- Fire Dept	500.00
New England Truck Tire	4,231.00	Tom Powley	2,460.00
New England Water System	7,939.90	Town of Ryegate	99,281.98
NEK Mental Health	500.00	Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Assoc.	650.00
NVDA	3,091.00	U I Insurance Services Inc.	1,861.00
Oakes Brothers	406.39	Umbrella	800.00
O'Reilly Automotive	478.23	United Construction & Fo	209.10
Frank Page	2,385.00	United States Postmaster	1,304.60
PIK.Comm	503.60	Vt Rural Fire (VACD)	100.00
Patricia Crocker	130.51	Vermont Area Office on Aging	330.00
Perry's Oil	604.29	Vermont Family Network	250.00
People's United Bank	799.16	Vermont Fire Extinguisher	112.95
Pete's Rubbish	2,947.95	Vermont Green Up	100.00
Pike Industries, Inc	207,366.76	Vermont State Treasurer	1,370.00
Power Plan	2,492.31	Vermont Department of Taxes	7,494.37
Rainbow Play Systems	10,055.00	Veterans Memorial	100.00
Rachel Clough	571.88	Viking – Cives USA	4,139.13
Regina Hazel-Lister Supplies	2,359.50	VLCT	2,624.00
Repro Digital/Champlain Valley	1,651.25	VLCT Prop & Casualty Interm. Fund, Inc.	33,188.00
Reynolds & Son, Inc	917.76	VLCT Employment Resources	528.00
Reed Supply	21.07	VMERS DB	33,451.22
Rick Colby	510.00	Vermont State Firefighter	524.00
Rowden Bros. Co., Inc.	5,700.00	Walter E. Jock Oil Co., Inc.	35,986.21
Ryegate Small Animal Hospital	156.82	Wells River Chevrolet	591.03
Ryegate Cemetery Commission	13,000.00	William Elder	1,369.98
Ryegate Historical Society	2,845.00	West Barnet Meal Site	250.00
Rural Community Transportation	850.00	Woodsville Area Fourth of July	200.00
Sarah Despins	250.00	Woodsville Fire District	31,598.00
Scott Stuart	125.00	Work Safe	853.21
Scott Sulham	500.00	Woodsville Power Equipment	165.00
South Ryegate Library	600.00	Various- Tax and Payable Overpayments	10,736.24
Andrew Smith	1,068.12		
South Ryegate Senior Meals	250.00	TOTAL	2,696,940.68

Town Clerk's Dog License Report

Total dog licenses sold: 214 licenses Total Receipts: \$2174.00

Less Fees Paid town Clerk: \$428.00

Less Fees Paid State of Vermont: \$1070.00

Net Revenues: \$676.00

All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies. The Town Clerk is required to see evidence that all dogs are currently protected against rabies. The law requires that a dog of less than 2 years of age shall have been vaccinated within the past 12 months. After its second rabies shot, an adult dog should be vaccinated every 36 months (3 years). A dog must wear its tag. Due date: License fees may be paid after January 1 and are due April 1 and subject to a 50% penalty after April 1. Fee: Due to State regulations licensing fees are \$13 for males, females and wolf hybrids. \$9 each for a neutered dog or wolf hybrids. \$5 from each license is forwarded to the State Treasurer. Ryegate enforces a Civil Dog (Leash Law). Rachel Clough has been appointed as the Animal Control Officer in Ryegate. She can be reached at 802-588-2020

Riverside Rescue

Riverside Rescue, Inc proposes to provide shelter to dogs/cats that are roaming at large. The Animal Control Officer, Police or Town Official must approve drop off of a dog/cat by a community member. All animals will be kept for a period of five business days; on the sixth day, the dog/cat will become the property of the Town who in turn releases the dog/cat into the custody of Riverside Rescue, Inc where it will be placed into a new home if adoptable.

If the owner claims the dog/cat, they are to pay the current board fee for dog/cat care at the facility as well as any necessary medical expenses incurred by Riverside Rescue, Inc. The owner must produce a current Rabies Certificate and proof of license in the town where the animal resides. If no current Rabies Certificate is available, Riverside Rescue, Inc will transport the animal at additional fees for the owner to the vet before release of the animal.

The town agrees to pay \$500 per year for housing and care during the holding period for all unclaimed animals. The town also agrees to pay for disposal (euthanasia) of animals that are deemed unsuitable for adoption (severe aggression or vet recommended illnesses) with a max time of 10 days from arrival. On day 11, Riverside Rescue, Inc takes full responsibility for animal's adoptability.

VSNIP

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program aka "VSNIP", under the oversight of the VT Economic Services Department, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSA). VSNIP helps financially challenged Vermont residents spay/neuter cats and dogs for \$27.00. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters when dogs are licensed by an added \$4.00 fee, the major funding for this important program. Funds are determined by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law when a dog is six months of age. A current rabies vaccination is required to register, and a rabies vaccination can be administered after 12 weeks of age for both cats and dogs. Prostate and mammary cancer is more likely to occur in unsterilized cats and dogs. It's not pretty and they're likely to die. Animals live longer and happier when they're spayed and neutered, are less likely to fight for territory, and mark what they claim to be "theirs"! **Licensing a dog:** 1) helps identify your dog if lost, 2) provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, but would still need immediate medical attention, 3) if your dog bites an animal or person – which could result in quarantine or possible euthanasia to test for infection, and 4) helps pay for VSNIP, addressing the population situation in Vermont. Farms with cats should especially be aware that one rabid cat or dog can affect an entire population of animals on the premise. The answer is neutering through VSNIP which includes a rabies vaccination and the first of the two part distemper series. Look for Rabies Clinics in March across the state. You can call your veterinarian and ask the cost of a rabies vaccination only, or call your nearest Tractor Supply Store for their Monthly Rabies Clinic schedule. Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

To receive a VSNIP Application, send a 9" S.A.S.E to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. For more information, call 802-672-5302. Please visit our website: www.VVSAHS.org VVSA will be hosting Rabies Clinics in March. Call for dates and locations.

Listers' Report

The Listers determine all property values within the Town of Ryegate. Additionally, we maintain an accurate Grand List by reviewing and updating all property transfers, tax maps, permit work, deeds, surveys, and the Current Use Program.

As of January 2022, Ryegate's CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) is 100.75% (2020: 100.25%). Our COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) is at 3.92%!!! (2020: 18.21%)

The town-wide reappraisal was completed and values were reflected in your 2021 property taxes. We appreciated all the cooperation from property owners during this year-long process with Covid restrictions.

April, 2021 tax maps are on display at the Town Office along with orthophoto aerial maps. We strongly recommend that you check your property location and acreage on the tax map; let us know if you feel there is any incorrect information. Tax maps will now be updated yearly.

IMPORTANT: Taxpayers must file a Vermont Homestead Declaration every year by April 15th. The state form is HS-122 and is contained in the Property Tax Adjustment Claim. Forms can be obtained online (www.tax.vermont.gov), or from the Income Tax Return booklet or your tax preparer. Property owners can also file their homestead directly online. You will need your property SPAN number and SSN.

REMINDERS:

Property changes: Please notify the Listers of any change of address, or any changes to your property—including new construction, or major renovations to basements, attics, or unfinished areas. In addition, let us know of any removal of property including tear downs and blow downs or fires.

Surveys: Certified surveys are important in creating accurate tax maps and are considered the strongest determinant of parcel ownership, i.e., exact location, size, acreage, etc. Please file any surveys you have for your property with the Town Clerk.

Building Permits: A building permit is required for any structure 64 square feet or larger. Permits may be obtained from the Town Clerk, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, or on the town website: www.ryegatevt.org.

Current Use: The Current Use Program has changed their application form and process. New applications are available online at <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/current-use>. Questions about the program can be directed to Property Valuation and Review at 802 828-6608.

9-1-1 Program: Please notify the Listers office to obtain a 9-1-1 number for new construction.

Listers Office hours are Tuesdays, 9 am – 3 pm. Stop by or make an appointment. You may also leave messages at 584-4247.

Ryegate Listers: Regina Hazel, Sally Wilson, Betty Beauvais (retired 10/31/21), Kate Davie appointed December 27, 2021

Ryegate Fire Department Report

We are in need of volunteers to meet our week day responses of five members and two trucks. Our membership is at 14, but day time responses are usually just five members. We rely on mutual aid towns to respond with us if we cannot meet the required Firefighters to accomplish a response. Even if you are not interested in running into a burning building, you can be of help to us doing other jobs on the incident to free up those that can to accomplish their duties. Please think about helping out as a volunteer firefighter.

Respectfully submitted, Gene A. Perkins, Chief

Ryegate Fire Warden Report

If you wish to burn, a permit is required for any outside burning of clean wood that is unfinished or unpainted. No manufactured wood, plywood, particle board and the like and no trash of any kind may be burned. Please contact the Fire Warden.

Gene Perkins 584-3611
Fremont Nelson 584-3667

Respectfully submitted, Gene A. Perkins, Fire Warden

Delinquent Taxes

South Ryegate Village Lighting District, South Ryegate, VT 05069

Carolyn Adams	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Gregory Brower	2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Terry & Robin Christy	2021
Keith Coburn & Margaret Florentine	2021
John & Gillian Correira	2021
Priscilla Darling	2020, 2021
William & Christy Dickey	2021
Thomas & Michele Dow	2021
Robert & Brenda Gelsleichter	2021
Robert Davis & Robin Gilleland	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Christine Hannaford	2020, 2021
William & Loren Hosmer	2019, 2020, 2021
Dennis Hurley	2020, 2021
Casey Johnson	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Ryan Karpuska	2020, 2021
John Olive	2021
Angela Paye	2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Douglas & April Paye	
Hall Road Parcel	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Creamery Road Parcel	2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Tracy & Sherri Phelps	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Nathaniel Ricker & Michele Dow	2021
Ystueta-Natalizia Trust	2021

Justices of the Peace

Justices of the Peace, elected to office on November 3, 2020, make up the Board of Civil Authority. The new term begins February 1, 2021 and continues to February 1, 2023.

	Todd Colby	
Catherine Davie	Darcy Nelson	Lauren Nelson
Michael Murray	Nancy Perkins	Robert Rowden

Delinquent Taxes

SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER USERS TAX DUE				2021 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			
2021 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES				Beaulieu, Priscilla			
Hurley, Dennis				Beland, Lynn & Stanley			
Christy, Robin				Bell, Josh			
Longmoore, Norman, Marie & Jamie				Bickel, Donna			
Total Due by Report Printing				Blood, Brian			
Total Paid Since 12/31/21				Brower, Gregory A			
Total Due 12/31/21				Davis, Robert L. & Gilleland, Robin			
				Gibson, Charles Jr			
				Gibson, William & Martha			
				Guay, Julia			
				Hamill, Peter			
				Haskell, Elizabeth			
				Hendler, Andrew			
				Hurley, Dennis			
				Jackson, Mark & Brenda			
				Johnson, Robert C. Jr.			
				Karpuska, Ryan			
				Koski, Hope Reverend			
				Kyes-Lucero, Cheyenne			
				Laundry, Marshall Life Lease			
				McLure, Jared & Katherine			
				Minard, Susan			
				Mitchell, Leslie			
				Moulton, Katie			
				Murphy, Judy A			
				Olive, John			
				Paye, David & Elizabeth			
				Pelletier, Carlton			
				Perkins, Darryl & Dottie			
				Phelps, Tracy & Sherri			
				White, Randy & Barbara			
				Wright, James & Patti-Jo			
				Wright, Ulric Jr.			
				Total Due by Report Printing		\$ 61,069.62	
				Total Paid Since 12/31/21		\$ 15,557.70	
				Total Due 12/31/21		\$ 76,627.32	

Due to the Vermont Supreme Court decision on the disclosure of confidential tax bill information, we have not included the amount of the delinquency for any individual property.

Planning Commission/ Zoning Board Report

Appropriately, much of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board's work centered on planning this year, specifically energy planning. An energy subcommittee was formed to produce an Enhanced Energy Plan for the town. The adoption of an enhanced plan will require the state's Public Utility Commission to grant the town "substantial deference" when siting energy generation projects. This status provides the local community with significantly more authority when questions of power generation siting occur. Alison Low and Allyson Webster of the Northeastern Vermont Development Agency have been assisting with this effort.

The town's application for Vermont's Village Center Designation was approved. This program provides financial incentive, training, and technical assistance to help revitalize historical village centers.

Additionally, the board reviewed a number of home improvement and outbuilding construction projects, most of which met all zoning requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Davie, Secretary, for Richard Colby II, Chairperson; Regina Hazel, Vice Chairperson; Alice Allen; Walter Bragg; Mary Dole; Stephen Genereaux; Fremont Nelson; and Nancy Perkins. Zoning Administrator Bill Elder.

Cemetery Commissioners Narrative

Our Commission met three times in 2021. We kept our elected officers the same as they were in 2020 with Rick Colby as Chair, Bruce Nelson as Vice Chair, Bill Nelson as Treasurer, Dan LaCoss as Clerk and Melissa Mann as Member at Large.

This year we contracted with Rouleau's Property Maintenance of Groton. They kept the cemeteries beautifully mowed and trimmed during the spring, summer and fall seasons. The board would also like to thank our cemetery attendant, Tony Dennis, for his efforts in handling burials and requests in a timely manner.

There were granite signs with names of each cemetery installed at both Hillside and Pinehurst cemeteries this past year. We have plans to install a similar sign at Blue Mountain Cemetery in 2022, as well as continuing with the stone cleaning and restoration projects.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryegate Cemetery Commissioners

Rick Colby, Chairman 802-584-3159

Bruce Nelson, Vice Chairman 802-584-3487

Bill Nelson, Treasurer 802-584-3296

Dan LaCoss, Clerk 802-584-3120

Melissa Mann, Member at Large 802-274-1181



Cemetery Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 1/1/21..... ..\$4,470.68
Income for 2020
 Town of Ryegate.....\$13,000.00
 Sale of Lots..... \$1,800.00
 American Funds..... \$333.50
 \$15,133.50
 Total Income for 2020 \$19,604.18

Expenses for 2020
 Lawn Care..... \$9,400.00
 Electricity at Pinehurst..... \$136.22
 Gandin Bros- Sign for Hillside.....\$408.00
 Tina Peterson- Lot 21A at Pinehurst.\$200.00
 Tony Dennis- posts/maintenance....\$1,075.00
 Dan LaCoss- postage.....\$14.76
 Service charge/WRSB.....\$18.00
 Total Expenses for 2021 \$11,251.98
 Balance on Hand 12/31/2021 (Checkbook Balance) \$8,352.20

Savings/Investments 12/31/2021	
CD#907623.....	\$52,460.07
AmeriPrise Fian.....	\$50,528.64
CD#811855.....	\$10,937.29
Savings Acc't 566388.....	\$908.88
American Funds.....	\$28,909.61
Total Investment Income:	

Interest Earned in 2021	
\$209.38	12 mos. @ .40%
\$72.64	12 mos. @ .05%
\$43.64	12 mos. @ .40%
\$44	3 mos. @ .05%
<u>\$333.5</u>	<u>12 mos.</u>
\$663.60	



Northeastern Vermont Development Association

The NVDA- the State's only regional planning commission and economic development corporation- has been serving Ryegate for more than 60 years. We continue to assist local officials with land use, transportation, and emergency planning, and we serve the businesses of the Kingdom, promoting sustainable economic growth.

How have we served your community?

In Ryegate, NVDA staff worked to provide Emergency Planning and Preparation, provided Covid 19 information, provided Grants in Aid Technical Assistance. Staff assisted with the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, met with the Planning Commission and provided technical assistance on zoning issues.

Ryegate Historical Society

Disappointedly, because of restrictions due to COVID, 2021 was another year in which we were not able to gather as a large group. However, the Board forged ahead completing necessary tasks.

Under the advisement of the Vermont Historical Records Program, we completed an extensive Disaster Plan Assessment, which had not been reviewed since 2008, for our Society, the Collections and Whitelaw Hall. As a result of this, we plan to investigate expanding the storage capacity for our Collections, under more suitable and safe conditions for historical records.

Because this review brought many things to light, the Board of Directors voted to donate to the Vermont Historical Society our 1790's map of the southern half of Ryegate. Our building does not have temperature and humidity controls and because of the deteriorated condition of the map, the Board felt that the safest place was with the VHS, which has the expertise for both its conservation and preservation. We hope they are able to supply us with a copy for our collection.

At our Annual Meeting, which was held October 13, 2021, the Board voted to establish the "Dwight and Jean White Speakers' Fund" in recognition of their long time leadership at the RHS. This will be supported by donations given in their names and will subsidize our Summer Speakers' Series.

Throughout the year, sales were robust for both the original Miller and Wells History of Ryegate 1774-1912 and for Dwight White's The Down of the Thistle, the latter of which we reprinted twice this year in a paperback edition. Copies of both history books are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

The Ryegate Cane was presented to Luvia Irene Emerson Darling, born September 20, 1924, who has lived in Ryegate since 1942 when she married Delton Darling.

As in other years, we held three Open House events at Whitelaw Hall during the summer and fall.

The Board of Directors of the Ryegate Historical Society is extremely grateful for all the donations it has received from our members, the public and the Town of Ryegate.

Membership Dues: Annual Membership: Individual \$10; Family \$15; Lifetime Membership: Individual \$100; Family \$125. Dues payable to:

Ryegate Historical Society, c/o Tim Wilson, Treasurer; 979 Boltonville Rd., Wells River, VT. 05081

If anyone is interested in helping or in joining the Board, please let us know!

Board of Directors: Tom Dole, Molly Fisher, Dover Ford, Linda Libuda, George Murphy, Marsha Nelson, Melvin Nelson, Ginny Ross, Peter Sinclair, Tim Wilson.



Ryegate Summer Festival 2021

Ryegate Energy Committee

From the International Panel on Climate Change, September 27, 2021:

A1. It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land. Widespread and rapid changes in the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere have occurred.

B1. Global surface temperature will continue to increase until at least the mid-century under all emissions scenarios considered. Global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the 21st century unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades.

We knew this report was coming and with it the challenge to us as individuals, neighborhoods, towns, regions, states and nations to adapt to climate change, mitigate some of its effects, and develop resilience. The Energy Committee is part of Ryegate's effort to address the need to decarbonize the planet. This year we helped form a Regional Energy group of 10 towns and the Northeast Vermont Development Association to exchange information and ideas and speak with one voice to our legislators. We have made public comment at the Vermont Climate Council, appointed by the Governor and Legislature, to come up with a Comprehensive Action Plan to combat climate change. We have also made public comment to the Climate Solutions Caucus, made up of a broad spectrum of legislators, who are taking responsibility to create legislation for the same reason. We have also advocated for climate change legislation with individual legislators. Some of our suggestions have been to increase monies to weatherize residential and municipal buildings; for renewable energy heating/cooling systems; for charging stations for electric vehicles; for financial support for battery-powered farming and construction equipment and digesters; and for a plan to increase sequestration of carbon in our forests and soils.

Concerning transportation, the largest producer of carbon emissions in Vermont, we participated in electric vehicle and small battery-powered tool displays at the Ryegate Summer Fair, the Peacham Energy Fair and the Danville E Vent. We also asked the Selectboard to consider a level 2 charging station in South Ryegate and Global Partners to put a level 3 charging station at P/H.

Concerning weatherization and energy efficiency, the Town voted, in March, for an energy budget for town buildings. The Selectboard has planned to complete insulating the basement at the town office this spring, but we also need a plan to insulate the first floor. Re-Insulating the town garage doors is almost complete. The town also voted in March to provide subsidies for 10 residents to get a \$50 energy audit from the Heat Squad. There are still 5 slots left, so call the Heat Squad for your audit and recommendations, at 802-438-2303. The town also voted, in March, for funds for a renewable energy-efficient heating system for the fire station and town garage. We are now working with the Selectboard on getting a design and more funding for a renewable geothermal system that will serve the town much longer than fossil fuels or biomass fuels systems.

The Energy Committee also reports to the Planning Commission and is working with them on an Enhanced Energy Plan for Ryegate. This will enable the town to have a seat at the table when it comes to siting energy systems like solar fields or wind towers. in town.

The Energy Committee is exploring having a Community Solar Project in town. We are also collaborating with the Peacham Community Solar Program, by helping them sign up Ryegate residents who are on Green Mountain Power. When they have 40 subscribers they will go out to bid. If you are interested, please talk to one of us or contact the PCS at peachamsolar@gmail.com, 802-272-2328.

Please contact one of our members if you are interested in helping.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Bayer, 802-592-3318, pinecone@kingcon.com

Other members: Alice Allen, Gail Brown, Kate Davies, Dan LaCoss, Michael McLellan, Peter Sinclair, Gil Steil, Donna Waelter

Baldwin Memorial Library

33 N. Main, P.O. Box 337, Wells River, VT 05081 (802) 757-2693

Mon. 10-5, Wed. 12-6, Fri. 12-7 librarian@baldwinlibraryvt.org

In this second pandemic year, I'm musing about my change in focus as steward of a public facility. Bringing people together for programming, conversation, and fellowship has taken a necessary back seat to guarding public health. We all have different thresholds for risk, but it feels imperative to operate on the most vigilant level to protect those most vulnerable. Thank you for not pushing back too much on these precautions!

In fact, this has also been a year of uncommon gifts. Our annual appeal met a generous response, which is both gratifying and humbling. We resumed our two annual book sales which were both hugely successful. We qualified for American Rescue Plan Act funding, which will help update and fill gaps in our non-fiction, add to our "library of things" (look for some new tools & toys to lend), and expand diversity in our collection. We'll also add some science and art activity stations for families. And then there are our wonderful volunteers, our Wells River business neighbors, and all the donors of books, movies, puzzles, and magazines – you've all been steadfast in your support.

We embraced the opportunity to do all outdoor programming this year. The traditional seed & seedling swap in support of the Rowe Community Garden was in May. We engaged Kelsey Root-Winchester of Rising Spirit Yoga for a 6-week family yoga series at the Berry Memorial Field this summer. We joined a regional "Libraries Love Lakes" initiative with two educational story times, one at Halls Lake and one at Ticklenaked Pond, with help from Polly Rouhan & grandson. We co-sponsored storyteller Kurt Valenta with Groton Library at the recreation park in S. Ryegate. We continued our "bike for ice cream" tradition with a family ride on the rail trail to Hatchland Dairy. Beginning in the fall, Wendy Buhner helped set our sights on higher ground with monthly "Libraries Love Mountains" hike-'n-read treks on Tucker Mountain.

The library was privileged to host a bountiful Share the Harvest table all summer and fall. Staffed and supplied by local gardeners, Newbury United, and Willing Hands, this resource was a bright spot for many. It inspired us to set up an on-going Little Free Food Pantry shelf just inside our front door.

We participated in VT READS, the state-wide reading and discussion program through the VT Humanities Council. This year's book was *We Contain Multitudes* by Sarah Henstra, and our partners included 302 Cares, Blue Mountain School, WRAP, Little Rivers Health Care, and Groton Library.

We join the town of Ryegate in grieving the passing of Dick Frazer, long-time S. Ryegate Librarian.

Visitors: 2,600 adults and 293 children (56/week)

Reference Questions: 267 (5/week)

New Members: 27 adults and 3 children

Computer Use: 336 (6/week)

Home Deliveries: 80

Interlibrary Loans Supplied: 103

Curbside Loans: 285

Interlibrary Loans Received: 531

Total Circulation: 5,051 (97/week)

(Not recorded: # of free e-books & audiobooks downloads)

Library Trustees: Karen Kreis (Chair), Sandy Parker, Kim Goody, Ann Fredella, Chip Conquest, Chris Buhner
Respectfully submitted, Peggy Hewes, Librarian

2021 Report of Marion Hall Trust Fund S Ryegate Public Library, Inc

Balance in Treas. 1-1-21.....	\$517.43
Received Town of Ryegate 2021.....	\$400.00
Total Receipts.....	\$917.43
Books Purchased.....	(\$480.00)
Balance in Treas. 12-31-21.....	\$437.43

Ticklenaked Pond Association Report

We are very excited to be the first body of water in Vt. to be removed from the impaired lakes list! Thanks to so many Ryegate residents that helped to make this happen. The beach and playground area were very busy this year, it appears that our residents are taking advantage of this Town treasure.

The issue with the lake's failing dam has been put on hold during the Covid pandemic. We hope to move forward on this in the future. In the meantime we will keep our fingers crossed that the dam will continue to hold. The water levels stayed fairly consistent past summer.

The Association continues to battle the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), which chokes and clogs our waterways, crowding out native plants and entangling propellers, fishing lures and the arms and legs of swimmers. In 2021 the Town of Ryegate was awarded \$4,402.00 from the State of Vermont (Department of Environmental Conservation) for an Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aide grant to manage and remove EWM, which first appeared at Ticklenaked Pond in 2010. We were able to employ a Suction Harvesting company this summer who worked primarily in the boat launch area, out to the middle of the lake. They also spent time removing EWM along the east side of the lake where it is thick and full. Several of the divers reported seeing VERY large snapping turtles.

Our nesting pair of Loons were not successful this past summer, they did build a nest and it was reported that eggs were seen but no chicks were seen. Hopefully this year!

In 2021 we had only one minor outbreak of Cyanobacteria (Blue/Green Algae that effect many lakes in Vermont). It is most likely due to the efforts of the Lake Assoc. and local farms to keep the excess phosphate out of the lake. The weather patterns also affect outbreaks and the conditions were favorable this year.

The Ryegate community can help the health and enjoyment of Ticklenaked Pond in several ways;

- 1. Wash off your boat before putting it in the lake and after taking it out.** This will ensure the invasive plants are not being transported to or from another body of water.
- 2. Remove any floating pieces of Eurasian Water Milfoil you see on the lake.** Fragments that are not attached to the stemmed plant will reestablish themselves as a new plant. A picture and information about EWM is at the State boat launch.
- 3. Pick up any EWM plants on the shoreline.** The plants need to be removed from the beach area, composted or bagged and thrown away.
- 4. Please do not take a motorboat or paddle through a dense patch of EWM.** If the plants have surfaced they will fragment and drop to the bottom of the lake, root and become another plant.



Vermont Center for Independent Living

Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. Final numbers for our FY'21 (10/2020-9/2021) show VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability.

During FY '21, 4 residents of **Ryegate** received services from the following programs:

- RISE Fund (Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency)
- AgrAbility
- Information Referral and Assistance

Request Amount: \$265.00

To learn more about VCIL, please call: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

Umbrella

Since 1976, Umbrella has ensured that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties have access to services that make for strong women, supported families and safe homes. Umbrella operates 4 multi-faceted, client- centered programs and plays a crucial role in decreasing the incidence and impact of domestic and sexual violence. Services offered include:

Social Change focuses on prevention education and initiatives in schools and in the community that aim towards preventing gender-based violence, and creating a community where abuse and oppression are acknowledged and addressed. One of our strategies is to provide pathways for girls to work within this social change and prevention field through the Youth in Power Program. In FY21, we provided 1,780 youth with educational workshops throughout our 15 school partners. We provided 197 adults with educational programs through 18 workshops.

Advocacy Program serves survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, teen dating violence, as well as violence related to gender or sexual orientation - which in total we characterize as gender-based violence. In our work, the client leads and we support them in any way they need us to including legal advocacy, housing advocacy, support with parenting after trauma and more. In FY21, 451 individuals received direct advocacy, 65 people were housed in our emergency shelters as a result of fleeing domestic or sexual violence and 25 were housed in our Transitional Housing program.

Family Based Services focuses on child-care and strengthening family relationships. *Kingdom Child Care Connection (KCCC)* assists families in the St. Johnsbury district to receive subsidized childcare, appropriate child care referrals and specialized childcare placement support. *The Family Room* offers supervised visitation for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom. In FY21, KCCC served 620 families and the Family Room worked with 44 families, serving 79 children.

Economic Empowerment serves women with significant barriers to employment in Orleans and Northern Essex Counties. Our *Cornucopia* program, and our social enterprise, *Dolcetti* each wrap around women to support them in building job readiness skills while helping them to address challenges in their lives so they are able to move towards financial self-sufficiency. In FY21 6 of our graduates received ongoing support and we had 1 new graduate from the program who also gained employment post- graduation. In addition, as part of the skill-building program, participants packaged and prepared 35,823 meals for homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels.

Woodsville Area Fourth of July Committee

The parade, day long events on the Woodsville Community Field and evening fireworks display create the only full day and evening celebration in the Upper Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire. As you can well imagine, the event is very costly, averaging close to \$25,000 in costs every year. The plans for the 2022 celebration are still being completed, but at present there are plans to make this event as big, or bigger than ever. Your donation allows us to continue to offer local residents and visitors a safe, exciting place to celebrate our nation's birthday.

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

The RFP helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and Natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments

Identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations and find financial support to cover the costs of construction. During the 23+ years of the program, over 1200 grants totaling \$2.6 million have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems as well as for replacements and repairs. We are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Since last years appropriation request, we have received nearly \$11,000 in town appropriations from almost 100 towns. We are deeply grateful for this ongoing support.

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Thank you, Town of Ryegate voters, for your appropriation support last year. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to support the provision of needed services for residents who cannot otherwise afford care.

Summary data for the past year:

- Total number of individuals of all ages in our service area that utilized mental health crisis intervention, mental health, addiction, behavioral health, and/or intellectual/developmental disabilities support services in the past year: 2945
- Number of individuals from the Town of Ryegate who accessed supportive care at Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.: 24
- Employees provided community consultation, education, and outreach in community meetings, events, and trainings in Northeast Kingdom Human Services offices, area schools, and businesses; training examples include suicide prevention and awareness, trauma informed care, and parenting. 219 hours
- This agency is proud of the dedicated professional employees who support community members in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, in homes, and in schools throughout the communities in the Northeast Kingdom. – 464 total, 1 from Ryegate
- Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving the Vermont's system of care, Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. has a responsibility for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need. Northeast Kingdom Human Services is asking the Town of Ryegate voters to again consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy and fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member in your community through this 2021 appropriation request of \$500. This amount is calculated on \$1.05 per person according to the 2010 Census or the amount voted last year. www.nkhs.org

The Community for Restorative Justice

The Community Restorative Justice Center holds restorative justice panel meetings for cases referred directly from law enforcement as well as cases referred from the Department of Corrections. Cases that go through the CRJC have a 32% reduction in recidivism. In the past 12 months, the CRJC heard 1 restorative justice case involving Ryegate resident as well as serving as a navigation resource for 2 residents and Free Legal Clinic to one more.. Appropriations from the Town of Ryegate would also give technical support to neighborhood associations as requested. The CRJC mission states that we are committed to providing a safe environment for neighbors and parties to resolve conflict in our communities, to restore relationships, and to take responsibility to repair harms caused.

Caledonia County Sheriff Annual Report

Good bye 2021, it looked a lot like 2020. We completed another audit for our office in 2021 and it resulted in no findings or problems of any kind. The state of the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department is very good. We have kept our rates for service the same for the past few years and have a slight increase with construction and traffic. This increase is do to the fuel prices. We continue to add vehicles to our fleet, 3 new cars coming in the spring, replacing cars that have served us well. We have 6 marked cars, a 2014 van for prisoner transports, one unmarked car being used for civil process service. The radar cart is working well and in many towns. That purchase was with the use of Governors Highway Safety Grant funds. We have a large enclosed trailer that we use as an office at the fair and other security details. This trailer may be utilized as a command post at a mass casualty incident as well. We have an ATV and two golf carts. With project (ROAD), Responsible Operators Against Distractions, we want to continue to educate operators about phone use and texting while driving. We continue to do town patrols and we feel that the towns that we patrol are a safer place to live & drive in because of our presence. The patrols are community based. Which means each town is different, so the patrols may be different. We are taking a proactive response instead of a reactive response. This effort has helped with both fighting crime and communications with the towns. The Sheriff's Department has 11 Law Enforcement Officers to start the new year, with hopes to send a couple new hires to the academy in the spring. Our goal is to have 20 to 25 deputies to cover all details. We have become more active with local schools to ensure the safety of students and staff. We have been involved with drills and evacuation plans and will continue to assist as needed. We continue to look at 24 hour dispatching for the county, but are unable to do that right now. Our new location is wonderful and working as it should. We've had a lot of visitors and people stopping by with question. We are more visible and easier to reach. Plus the savings on the tax payers went from \$62,000, down to \$30,000. In 9 years, that expense will go away and the county will own the building.

If anyone has questions or concerns, please call me or stop by the office. My door is always open. I look forward to serving this county as the Sheriff. We will again do snowmobile patrols throughout the county. Doing our best to keep the trails as safe as possible, and we will again answer snowmobile related complaints.

Please check out our facebook page. Thank You and stay safe.

Sincerely,
Sheriff Dean Shatney

Vermont State Police

The Vermont State Police continues to provide dedicated police coverage for Ryegate. Throughout the Year, Troopers responded to a broad range of calls and the total number of cases generated by the VT State Police was 178. A complete breakdown of this number can be found at the Town Clerk's office.

American Red Cross

Our mission at the Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Last year, we provided the following service throughout the region-

- Trained almost 26,957 people in CPR, first aid and water safety skills
- Collected 153,000 units of blood -Helped in 2 disaster incidents in Ryegate, and helped 6 individuals during those responses
- Assisted 850 of Caledonia county's service members, veterans and their families

We respectfully request an appropriation of \$500.00. These funds will stay right here in our region, so that we can continue to serve your friends and neighbors during their hours of greatest need.

www.redcross.org/nhvt

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services

NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975. In 2021, NEKYS served 503 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties, including 4 people in Ryegate. NEKYS is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Please call our office at 802-748-8732 if you have any questions or concerns. Request= \$250.00

Little Rivers Health Care

Little Rivers Health Care would like to request appropriations funding from the Town of Ryegate again this year to help support the primary care services we provide the community. As in past years, we are asking for \$2,000 for the upcoming year. Little Rivers provided services for 337 Ryegate residents last year which represents ~30% of the town inhabitants. As the only safety net health care provider in our area, Little Rivers is likely the only option for many residents who are Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured. We provide a sliding fee scale for those under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, making deeply discounted medications available to those who can't afford them otherwise. We are very grateful to the Town of Ryegate for its part support of our mission and health care services and we hope that you will continue to support us in the future. Thank you very much.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services

It is our mission to inspire and empower learners, birth and beyond. In FY 2021, NEKLS in collaboration with partnering high schools awarded 24 high school diplomas. NEKLS awarded 6 GED's in 2021. The Adult Education And Literacy Programs served 121 students for more than 4,507 hours in 2021. NEKLS served 3 English as a Second Language Students. In 2021, the Early Intervention and Family Support Specialists received over 162 referrals to EI and Family Support Services. The Tutorial Program served 13 K-12 students in the tri County region. Thank you for your continued Support.

Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

RCT has been providing service in your community for over 25 years and must reach out again for community support in order to maintain the quality of service that is needed for the members of our community. RCT is a non profit corporation providing transportation to the elderly and disabled, Medicaid and the general public through a van/bus and volunteer service. RCT transports people to adult day services, senior meal sites, necessary medical treatments, and other appointments In 2021 RCT provided 10 Ryegate residents with 347 rides, travelling 9,426 miles at a cost of \$7,680.66. RCT also operated the Greenleaf Shuttle route serving Ryegate, providing 4,319 rides along its service route at a cost of \$136,143.00.

RCT is requesting an appropriation of \$850 from the town of Ryegate. RCT can be reach at 802-748-8170.



Ryegate Summer Festival 2021

Catamount Arts

The residents and voters of Ryegate have consistently played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts. Through your support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the films and performances offered throughout the year, the citizens of Ryegate help to keep the Arts vital and available to all of the residents of the Northeast Kingdom.

After 15 long months, Catamount Arts opened its doors once again! We spent 2020 exploring our capacity to adapt, and in 2021 we were excited to invite and encourage the residents of Ryegate to participate in many of our community offerings. New offerings that began during the pandemic such as StJ Art on the Street and our Hey St. J! #GetDownTown events continued in 2021, and we welcomed back some old favorites like the Tap into Film Student Film Slam, PoemTown St. Johnsbury, Open Stage at the Cavern, the Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series at Dog Mountain, and North Country Youth Chorus Camps. These free events were funded in large measure through appropriations from communities in our area.

Catamount Arts produced over 50 community events this past year, events that allowed us all to reconnect with the world we missed so much during isolation. Our KCP Presents season is well into its most ambitious season yet, and by the time you read this request, we will have successfully brought to you eight hours of comedy, magic, storytelling, music and more via First Night North with 200 performers in 60+ shows in 12 venues across St. Johnsbury. In 2021, Catamount Arts resumed indoor arts center programming including films, opera, ballet, and theater screenings as well as gallery shows, also in large measure due to the generosity of the voters of Ryegate. Your appropriations helped to underwrite the costs of these presentations as well as helping Catamount pay for such general operating expenses as heating and electricity.

We repurposed 20,000 square feet of empty retail space in the Green Mountain Mall to bring live in-person shows, including Kingdom All Stars, comedian Bob Marley, and our first heavy metal show, safely back indoors. We are excited to announce that this space is now the new site of Catamount Bluegrass Night, a long standing event loved by all communities we serve.

As part of our mission to promote lifelong community engagement in the arts, Catamount Arts is back on track to offer a wide range of classes, workshops and camps for people of all ages, including partnerships with local elementary, middle and high schools to provide in-school and out-of-school creative learning activities. Inspired by El Sistema, Catamount Arts once again partnered with Northeast Kingdom Community Orchestra, Northeast Kingdom Classical Series, and the St. Johnsbury School District to continue our EPIC Music program, which provides stringed instrument instruction to students in grades 4-9, now in its fifth year.

The safer, flexible programming strategies we developed to get through the pandemic will play key roles in re-establishing and sustaining the vibrancy of Catamount Arts and the entire Northeast Kingdom. With the continuing growth of its many cultural offerings and Arts Education program, Catamount and its patrons directly and indirectly contribute more than \$1,500,000 each year to the local economy while also securing a meeting space for local Masons for generations to come. Thanks so much for your patience, engagement and encouragement, and continued support! We look forward to continuing to grow with you, and hope to have your special appropriation support in 2022!

NEK Waste Management District Executive Report

The NEKWMD finished 2021 by processing slightly more recycling compared to 2020 – 2,952 tons in 2021 compared to 2,882 tons in 2020. Significant increases in organics, cardboard, and scrap metal offset decreases in mixed paper. Most other material tonnages were at or slightly above 2020 amounts. Recycling markets were very strong for nearly all of 2021.

The District ended 2021 with a surplus of \$74,405.44. Revenues in 2021 were 22% above projections, while expenses were 13% above projections. The COVID19 pandemic did not disrupt our work schedule to any large degree in 2021. In fact, the main impact of the pandemic on District operations was to drive commodity prices to near record levels. Revenues for the sale of recyclables, the surcharge, grants, and recycling pick-up fees were the primary drivers for above average revenues in 2021. Fees used to generate revenues will remain mostly unchanged or decrease in 2022. The per capita assessment will decrease from \$0.94/person to \$0.84/person, the surcharge will remain the same at \$24.99, and hauling fees will remain unchanged at \$49 and \$33/stop for facilities and schools, respectively.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2021. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2022 with a proposed budget of \$846,615.50 – an increase of 4.6% compared to 2021.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and three part-time employees in 2021. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 47,600 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

Groton/ Ryegate Recycling Attendants Report

OPERATING HOURS FRIDAY 3 pm to 6 pm SATURDAY 8 am to 12 noon

Again this year we have seen an increase in your recycling . We have had some issues with tin cans and aluminum materials ending up in the wrong box. A reminder, plastic containers are Numbers 1 thru 5 only and NO black plastics at all.

Please see the helpful guides on the following to pages to help you understand what we can and cannot recycle.

Respectfully Submitted, Gene Perkins

NEK Waste Management Supervisors Report

Groton & Ryegate Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

269 School St., East Ryegate. Fridays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm & Saturdays, 8:00am – 12:00pm

↓ SORT ITEMS ↓	
<p><u>MIXED PAPER</u> Newspapers, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored & white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper. <i>NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.</i></p>	<p><u>CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD, & BROWN KRAFT BAGS</u> All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. <i>NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam.</i> *BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED*</p>
<p><u>TIN CANS</u> Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans. Tin is magnetic. *MUST BE RINSED*</p>	<p><u>ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS</u> Labels OK. Flattening not required. <i>NO snack bags, candy wrappers, coffee bags.</i> *MUST BE RINSED*</p>
<p><u>GLASS BOTTLES & JARS</u> *Rinse, Remove Lids (recycle with tin) * <i>NO porcelain, Pyrex, windows, crystal, light bulbs, lids, metal or wood.</i></p>	<p><u>BATTERIES</u> All types including primary and rechargeable batteries. Please bag similar types together and bag damaged batteries separately.</p>
<p><u>PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1 – #4 & #5 Food Containers</u> <u>REMOVE CAPS / MAX. SIZE- 2 Gallons / NO BLACK PLASTIC / *MUST BE RINSED*</u> Includes food containers, health/beauty product, and cleaner containers. #5 included <i>if it's a food container.</i> <i>NO plastic bags or films, black plastic, screw-top caps, motor oil bottles, pesticide bottles, vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, or medical devices.</i></p>	
<p> <u>NO DIRTY OR UNRINSED ITEMS</u> <u>NO BLACK PLASTIC CONTAINERS</u> <u>NO CONTAINERS larger than 2 GALLONS</u></p>	

ADDITIONAL ACCEPTED MATERIALS:

FOOD SCRAPS: All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy. **Remove PLU stickers. No plastics, metals, paper.**

HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Trash disposal available at transfer station, \$3.00/15 gallon bag, \$4.00/30 gallon bag, \$5.00/contractor bag. Other fees apply for Bulky Wastes. Fees subject to change, contact the Town Office for most current prices. Residents may contract with private haulers for curbside collection services, find our Licensed Hauler List at <http://www.nekwmd.org/pdf/haulerlist.pdf>

SPECIAL WASTES: Oil, oil filters, automotive batteries, metal aerosol cans, hard-cover books, agricultural bale wrap, scrap metal, fluorescent bulbs and electronics (televisions, computers, phones, radios, gaming consoles).

STUMP DUMP: Clean, unpainted, untreated wood and yard debris only.

SWAP SHOP: Pick-up or drop-off any small, clean household item in good working condition.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – May through the end of September **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** in Lyndonville, & special Saturday events (no appt necessary) throughout the District. June – September. Call for details.

In addition to services provided at this location, district residents have access to disposal services at the Lyndonville Recycling Center, 224 Church St, Lyndonville.

Recycling, Food Scraps, Scrap Metal, E-waste, Waste Oil, Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, Freon-Containing Appliances (Refrigerators, Freezers, A/C units, and Dehumidifiers), Stump Dump, all free of charge, and Tire Disposal, fees apply, available at the Lyndonville Recycling Center.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org
Updated 11/2021



NEK Waste Management Supervisors Report

List of Common Items **NOT ACCEPTED** for Recycling
Please dispose of the following items in the trash unless otherwise stated.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT SAFELY AND PROPERLY DISPOSING OF A
MATERIAL– CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM
WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
(802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org

Unacceptable Plastics Include:

Any **black** plastic containers
Screw-top Caps
Motor oil, gas containers
Pesticide containers
Styrofoam of any kind
Planting pots and trays
Plastic furniture
Plastic Toys
Coffee Makers
Coat hangers
Vinyl Siding
Maple Tubing
CDs, DVDs, VHS, and cases
Water line pipes and plastic tubing of any size
Hard, rigid plastic (if it shatters, it's not accepted)

Unacceptable Plastic Bags and Films

Any type

Unacceptable Cardboard

Pringles containers
Milk and Juice Cartons of any kind
Ice cream and waxy or plastic frozen food boxes
Cardboard with metallic interior
Single-use coffee cups
Soiled Cardboard
Waxy Cardboard

Unacceptable Paper

Kraft brown paper bags (recycle with cardboard)
White or Brown Boxboard (recycle with cardboard)
Shiny, glossy, or metallic papers
Paper plates, cups, bowls
Single-use cups
Napkins, paper towels, tissue paper

Unacceptable Glass

Crystal
Incandescent light bulbs
Automotive lights
Pyrex
Porcelain

Unacceptable Aluminum

Chip Bags, Snack Wrappers, Pop tart Wrappers
Aluminum Flashing (recycle with scrap metal)
Coffee Bags

Unacceptable Tin

Recycle these with Scrap Metal

Frying Pans
Large Pieces of Metal
Nails, Screws, Fasteners
Any tin that is a non-food container

Unacceptable Food Scraps

PLU Stickers (sticks on fruits, vegetables)
"Biodegradable" bags, cutlery, bowls, plates
Food utensils
Plates, bowls, cups
Plastic bags
Styrofoam
Keurig cups

Vermont Green Up Inc.

Green Up Vermont is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and organize a statewide clean up day, always the first Saturday in May, and to raise public awareness for a litter free environment. Quick litter stats from 2021: 418 tons of litter and 16,250 tires were collected. Mark your calendar for Green Up Day 2022, May 7th, and help us celebrate 52 years of keeping Vermont green! Thank you for your past contribution of \$25 for Green Up Vermont, your help is crucial to sustain our mission of cleaning up our roadways and waterways.

www.greenupvermont.org

NEK Community Broadband

We are excited to share the progress we've made towards bringing high-speed internet to the 50 member towns of NEK Broadband. Our pilot project in Concord, Waterford and Lunenburg will offer 100 Mbps symmetrical service or higher to 342 addresses in late 2021 and early 2022. We've received additional state and federal grant funding and are finalizing plans for a full-length construction season beginning the spring of 2022.

The organization has matured with the addition of three key partners. The National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC) is experienced in design, construction management, and materials procurement. Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT) will be our network operator and internet service provider. WCVT brings over a century of experience in telecommunications and provides all the modern services customers expect. Mission Broadband serves as an advisor and adjunct staff.

Who We Are:

A Communications Union District (CUD) is a municipal entity made up of multiple towns. Our district is building fiber-optic based internet access that has a capacity far beyond most current services available. Each town appoints at least one representative to our Governing Board, which has chosen to develop a publicly-owned network.

Member Towns: All but these five towns in the Northeast Kingdom (Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties) have joined the district: Granby, Jay, Lemington, Norton, Victory. Wolcott in Lamoille county is also a member.

Project Plans: The overall project will require roughly \$140 million and take at least five years to complete. Funding will be through grants and municipal revenue bonds, as well as income from subscribers. The team is establishing technical standards as well as analysis of all locations and their current internet access. Utility pole surveys are in progress, fiber optic cable has been ordered, and we will be ready to continue construction in the spring of 2022.

Grants Received: NEK Broadband has received three different federal grants totaling \$1,045,000 for the Concord-Lunenburg-Waterford project, which began construction in November, 2021. We have been awarded almost \$7 million for designing the entire network, hiring additional staff and preparing for the 2022 construction season. Smaller grants were received from Vermont Community Foundation, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, Northern Community Investment Corporation, and Northern Enterprises.

Obligations: Community National Bank Letter of Credit (\$3.5 million); Northern Enterprises loan (\$80,000)

Residents can sign up to receive regular general updates and, in the future, information about when service will be available at specific locations at:

get.nekbroadband.org

Budget Summary

2021 Budget to Actual (Projected)

	Budget	Actual
Total Income	\$93,700	\$3,087,767
Total Expenses	\$90,350	\$1,353,932
Total Capital Investment	\$5,360,000	\$945,000
Annual Net Cash Flow		\$788,835

2022 Proposed Budget

Projected Surplus from 2021	\$788,835
Grants	\$25,000,000
Net Operations Revenue	-\$52,900
Total Income	\$25,735,935
Administrative Costs	\$495,000
(Pre) Construction Costs	\$25,000,000
Total Spending	\$25,495,000

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 (the "District"), comprising the legal voters, respectively, of the Towns of Groton, Ryegate, and Wells River, are hereby NOTIFIED AND WARNED to meet at their respective polling places, Groton Community Building, Ryegate Corner Town Hall and Wells River Village Garage, on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 from 10:00 AM (when the polls will open) to 7:00 PM (when the polls will close) to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

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

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 3: To elect a Treasurer for the year ensuing.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 approve the school board to expend \$8,766,848 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 \$18,755.63 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 10.6% more than spending for the current year. As of the date of this warning, this will result in an tax rate decrease of 7.98%.

A public informational hearing will be held on the above Australian ballot articles on February 28, 2022 beginning at 6:00 PM by Zoom.

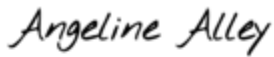

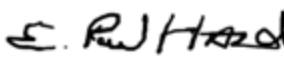


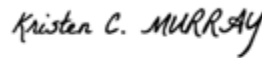

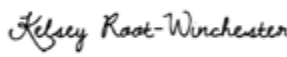

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81397038671?pwd=SEpGcUtaVORPQlFCRGRQeVZnZFpwdz09>


Meeting ID: 813 9703 8671 Passcode: 865288 Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said Annual Meeting shall be as provided in Section 706u of Title 16 and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated at Wells River in the County of Orange and State of Vermont this 14th day of January, 2022

 Angeline Alley	 Sara Dennis	 E. Paul Hazel
 Allison Ingerson	 Judy Murray	 Kristen Murray
 Allana Page	 Kelsey Root-Winchester	 Sandra Woodworth

Recorded on this date prior to posting, January 14, 2022.


Janet Page
Clerk

Synopsis of March 2, 2021 Town Meeting

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE DUE TO COVID RESTRICTION
POLLS WERE OPEN FROM 10:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M.

The following people were elected or re-elected to office:

ARTICLE 1: Moderator for 1 Year: Regina Hazel

ARTICLE 2:

Town Clerk for 1 Year: Elizabeth Page
Select Board for 3 Years: Andrew Smith
Auditor for 3 Years: Richard Fraser
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for 1 Year: Dale Wright
Library Trustee for 5 Years: Deanna Arnosky
Treasurer for 1 Year: Cheryl Slayton
Lister for 1 Year: Elizabeth Beauvais
No First Constable was nominated or elected
Cemetery Commissioner for 5 years: Bruce Nelson
School Director for 3 years: Angeline Alley

ARTICLE 3: Passed a budget for operating expenses of \$1,053,319 of which \$905,719.00 shall be raised by taxes and \$146,600.00 by non-tax revenues.

ARTICLE 4: Town voted to authorize payment of real property taxes in one installment, due October 10th and to become delinquent October 11th

ARTICLE 5: Town voted that overdue taxes will bear interest of one percent per month for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month from the due date of such tax.

ARTICLE 6: Town voted to establish 8 percent penalty charged by the Collector of Delinquent Taxes for tax payments made after the due date.

ARTICLE 7: Town voted to expend a sum, not to exceed \$50,000.00 to install a renewable energy heating system in the Town Garage and Corner Fire Station and directed the Select Board to assess a tax sufficient to raise that amount.



Vital Statistics

Births			
Date		Name	Parents
24-Feb		Lincoln Joseph Novak-Moore	Tracie L. Novak and Ryan J. Moore
14-Sep		Jameson Colby Miller	Rhianne G. Poirier and Joseph R. Miller
27-Oct		Blake Allan Boyce	Heidi M. Terrio and Justin D. Boyce
Deaths			
Date		Name	Age
12-Jan		Raymond W. Spooner	72
13-Feb		Florence V. Frost	78
11-Apr		Donnalee Patkul	71
18-Apr		Gordon W. Peterson	75
21-Apr		Daniel A. Florentine	71
11-May		Patsy J. Murray	68
7-Jun		John Zampieri	80
2-Jul		Robert R. Tracy	77
2-Jul		Garrett O. Dinsmore	67
24-Jul		Julia H. Crocker	95
29-Jul		Thomas E. Dow	75
27-Aug		Joy McHose	98
29-Aug		John L. Primmer	80
25-Sep		Barbara J. Ordway	73
8-Oct		Bradley M. Potter	90
10-Oct		Robert S. Zambon	85
13-Oct		Lois J. Zambon	74
6-Oct		Jean S. White	92
16-Nov		Claudette Sortino	79
2-Dec		Richard S. Fraser	81

Vital Records Law

The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You. The changes went into effect on July 1, 2019.

The most notable changes are:

Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.

An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.

An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.

Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.

Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.

Access to noncertified copies (previously called “informational” copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.

Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

VERMONT HEALTH DEPT, HEALTH RECORDS- Phone: 800-439-5008 VitalRecords@Vermont.gov

Vermont Recording Fees will increase on July 1, 2019.

Document Recording Fees \$15 per page

PTTR (property transfer tax return) \$15 per document

Survey plat recording fees \$25 per sheet

Certified copy of records (no change) \$10 per page

Examination of records (vault time) \$4 per hour

Warning Annual Town Meeting- Tuesday, March 1, 2022

RYEGATE, VERMONT
WARNING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022
RYEGATE TOWN HOUSE
MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

The citizens of the Town of Ryegate who are legal voters in the annual town meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town House in Ryegate on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 1:00 P.M. to transact the following business:

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

ARTICLE 2: To elect all Town Officers required by law:

Town Clerk for a term of one year

Town Treasurer for a term of one year

Select Board Member for a term of three years

Two Listers, one for a term of three years and one for a term of two years

Two Auditors, one for a term of three years and one for a term of two years

First Constable for a term of one year

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years

Library Trustee for a term of five years

Two School Directors, each for a term of three years

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,087,109.70 of which \$939,509.70 shall be raised by taxes and \$147,600.00 by non-tax revenues?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters authorize payment of real property taxes in one installment, due October 10th and becoming delinquent on October 11th with interest assessed on delinquent taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.S 4873?

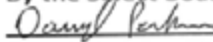
ARTICLE 5: Shall the town vote that overdue taxes will bear interest at a rate of one percent per month for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. 5136?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the town vote to establish the amount of the penalty charged by the Collector of Delinquent Taxes for payments made after the due date for payment to eight percent of the tax collected pursuant to 32 V.S.A. 1674?

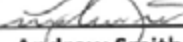
ARTICLE 7: To transact any non-binding business that may come before the meeting.

Dated this 26th day of January, 2022

By the Select Board members of the Town of Ryegate:


Darryl Perkins, Chair


Steven Crandall


Andrew Smith

Recorded Before Posting

Attest: 
Elizabeth Page, Town Clerk

Important Telephone Numbers and Information

Emergency or Fire 911

RYEGATE TOWN WEBSITE- WWW.RYEGATEVT.ORG

Building Permits	584-3612 Bill Elder
	802-584-3880 Town Office
Cottage Hospital	603-747-9000
E Ryegate Fire District #2	802-757-3983 Hoyt Darby
Fire Permits	802-584-3611 Gene Perkins
	802-584-3667 Fremont Nelson
Historian	Fremont Nelson, Ryegate Corner
	George Murphy, South Ryegate

Ryegate Selectboard

Steve Crandall	802-274-9471
Darryl Perkins	802- 584-4710
Andy Smith, Chair	802-633-2260
Town Clerk, Elizabeth Page	802-584-3880 Phone and Fax
Clerk to Select Board, Marsha Nelson	802-584-3667
Town Garage/Road Crew	802-584-3002
Dog Officer- Rachel Clough	802-588-2020
United Ways Agencies for VT 211	
VT Center for Independent Living	802-639-1522
NEK Waste Management	800-734-4602
NEK Youth Services	802-748-8732

State Legislators

Sen. Joseph Benning- R	802-626-3600 office
Sen. Jane Kitchel- D	802-684-3482 home
Rep. Marcia Martel- R	802-748-9134 home

US Legislators

Sen. Patrick Leahy- D	800-642-3193 Action Line
Sen. Bernie Sanders- I	800-339-9834 VT office 202-224-5141 DC office
Rep. Peter Welch- D	888-605-7270 VT office 202-225-4115 DC office

Selectboard Meetings 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7pm Town Office Building

Town Clerk- Mon 1-5, Tues 1-5, Weds 1-5, Fri 9-1

Recycling Center Friday 3-6 pm Saturday 8- noon

Photo Driver's License

Every Thursday (except holidays)

8:45am- 3:30pm Green Mountain Mall, St. Johnsbury, VT

Dedication

Richard Fraser was born in Norwich, Vermont, graduated from Hanover High School, Lyndon State College and then enlisted in the U.S. Army. He received his Master's degree from the University of Vermont. He taught in various Elementary schools in Vermont until coming to Blue Mountain Union and teaching there from 1971 until 1999. He was a former president of the Vermont Retired Teachers Association. He served as the South Ryegate Librarian starting in 1997 and cared deeply about the kids who came to the Library. He served for many years as a South Ryegate Village Trustee and he was considered a guardian of the beautiful lights that grace the bridge near his home and the playground on which he kept a watchful eye. He was a Town Auditor from 2002 until his death this past year. People respected both his experience as an Auditor and his cupcakes that he almost always brought along.



Gordon Peterson was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He graduated from Groton High School. He farmed the Dawn til Dusk Farm and served as a Select Board Member for the Town from 1983 until 1986. He worked as a member of the Road Crew in the early 2000's and especially enjoyed the challenging task of mowing the roadsides. The current road foreman tells me Gordon liked being alone in the tractor, making the town look nice. He also said Gordon took pride in running the grader when he was on the crew. His experience in both aspects of Ryegate service will be missed.



Claudette Sortino moved to Ryegate after serving in various capacities around the World. She was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. She was in the Peace Corps in India for three years in the 60's. She had a 30 year career in Women's Health with Johnson & Johnson's Ortho Pharmaceutical division. She jumped right into Ryegate community service when she arrived, serving on the School Board at Blue Mountain Union and she became only the second woman Select Board member the Town had seen, serving from 2016 until 2018.

