



Town of East Montpelier, Vermont *170th Annual Report*

**Reports of Town Officers
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

TOWN OFFICES at 40 Kelton Road

Phone: 223-3313 • Fax: 223-4467

<https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

Mailing address: P.O. Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

Closed on official holidays.

Town Clerk: Rosie Laquerre – ext.201

email: clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

Town Treasurer; Tax Collector: Don Welch – ext.207

email: treasurer@eastmontpeliervt.org

Town and Zoning Administrator; Collector of Delinquent Taxes:

C. Bruce Johnson – ext.204

email: manager@eastmontpeliervt.org

Listers' Office: ext.206

Ross Hazel, Rob Chickering, Chris Racanelli

email: listers@eastmontpeliervt.org

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency: Medical, Fire, Police	911
East Montpelier Fire Dept. (Fire or Ambulance Call)	911
East Montpelier Fire Dept. (Non-emergency Calls)	225-6245, 225-6247
State Police (Non-emergency Calls).....	229-9191
Fire Chief & Fire Warden..... Ty Rolland	229-1153
Permits for Fireworks & Open Burning	225-6247
Town Garage	Guthrie Perry 223-5870
Town Constable	Jon Boucher..... 917-4855
Elementary School	223-7936
U-32 Middle & High School	229-0321
Washington Central Unified Union School District	229-0553
State Rep. Kimberly Jessup	jessupkimberly@gmail.com 249-9306
Animal Control Officer	Carl Etnier 552-4343
Town Health Officer	Ginny Burley 272-4045
Truant Officer	Alicia Lyford 223-7936
Town Service Officer	Rachael Grossman 223-3177

~ FRONT COVER ~

View from the Horn of the Moon, August 2019.

Photo © Deborah Fillion

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In Appreciation

We, the townspeople of East Montpelier, thank the following citizens for their years of public service to our town. Many of the people listed here have served, or continue to serve, in other town offices as well. We appreciate their contributions to our community.

- Kimberly A. Swasey..... Selectboard
- Sandy F. Conti First Constable, Animal Control Officer
- Elliott Morse Assistant Animal Control Officer
- Norman Hill Planning Commission
- Jay Stewart Planning Commission
- Ray Stout Planning Comm., Old LaPerle Farm Comm.
- Rich Curtis Development Review Board
- Carol Welch Development Review Board
- Alice Starr Dworkin Development Review Board
- Ben Lange Development Review Board
- Phillip Heinz..... Recreation Board
- Art Chickering Conservation Fund Advisory Committee
- Gabrielle Malina Solid Waste District Representative
- Ken Feld Resilient Roads Committee
- Bob Klein CVFiber Governing Board
- Ann Stanton..... Funding Request Advisory Committee
- Bill George (d.1/3/20) Emergency Management Co-Coordinator, EMFD

Martin “Marty” K. Miller
July 3, 1938 – Jan. 20, 2020



Town & School Moderator
1984–2006

*Revolving Loan Advisory Committee
(disbanded):*

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Gabrielle Malina | Bruce Bjornlund |
| Renée Carpenter | Ed Deegan |
| Ross Hazel | Becca Schrader |

*Elementary School Directors
(disbanded):*

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Rubin Bennett | Flor Diaz Smith |
| Stephen Looke | Lindy Johnson |
| Darci Coleman-Graves | |

*U-32 School Directors
(disbanded):*

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Kari Bradley | Karen Bradley |
|--------------|---------------|

*Cemetery Commission
(disbanded):*

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Gary E. Hudson | Elliott Morse |
| Tim Lamson | Emily Goyette |
| Jonathan Boucher | |

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM

SATURDAY, February 29, 2020

9:30 A.M. at the East Montpelier Elementary School

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting concerning Australian Ballot Articles and other Warned Articles for the **March 3, 2020, Town Meeting**. Candidates for Town Offices will be introduced.

NAMES TO BE PRINTED ON THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

East Montpelier Town Meeting — Tuesday, March 3, 2020
at the East Montpelier Elementary School, 665 Vincent Flats Road
Australian Ballot Voting
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

WCUUSD Australian Ballot voting will also occur at the above place and time.

OFFICE FILED FOR

CANDIDATE(S)

TOWN MODERATOR for 1 year	MICHAEL DUANE
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 3 years.....	CASEY NORTHRUP
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 2 years	JON V. JEWETT
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 1 of 2 years.....	AMY WILLIS
LISTER for 3 years.....	ROBERT CHICKERING
AUDITOR for 3 years	CARLA (NEARY) OCCASO
FIRST CONSTABLE for 1 year.....	JONATHAN BOUCHER
SECOND CONSTABLE for 1 year	NO CANDIDATE
PLANNING COMMISSIONER for 3 years	CLARICE CUTLER
(Vote for not more than THREE)	SCOTT HESS
.....	SIU TIP LAM

TOWN OFFICERS, ELECTED

Town Moderator: 1-year term; Expires 2020 Michael Duane

School District Moderator: 1-year term; Expires 2020 C. Bruce Johnson

Selectboard:

3-year term; Expires 2020 Amy Willis

2-year term; Expires 2020 Gene Troia

3-year term; Expires 2021 Seth B. Gardner

2-year term; Expires 2021 Kimberly A. Swasey, resigned

Casey Northrup, appointed through Town Meeting 2020

3-year term; Expires 2022 Carl Etnier

Listers: 3-year term

Expires 2020 Rob Chickering

Expires 2021 Ross Hazel

Expires 2022 Chris J. Racanelli

Auditors: 3-year term

Expires 2020 Carla Occaso

Expires 2021 Ed Deegan

Expires 2022 Deborah Fillion

First Constable: 1-year term; Expires 2020 Sandy F. Conti, resigned, 5/20/19
Jon Boucher, appointed, 7/1/19

Second Constable: 1-year term; Expires 2020 Vacant

Planning Commission: 3-year term

Expires 2020 Scott Hess

Expires 2020 Jay Stewart, resigned

Clarice Cutler, appointed

Expires 2020 Ray Stout, resigned

Siu Tip Lam, appointed

Expires 2021 Mark Lane

Expires 2021 John “Jack” Pauly

Expires 2021 Jean Vissering

Expires 2022 Julie Potter

Expires 2022 Zachary Sullivan

Expires 2022 Kim Watson

Justices of the Peace: 2-year term; 2/1/2019–1/31/2021 (*elected in Nov. 2018*)

Janice Aldrich (I)	Virginia Burley (D)	Robert Chickering (D)
Edward Deegan (D)	Michael Duane (I)	Edith “Edie” Miller (I)
Florence Morse (I)	Rebecca Reed (D)	Jennifer Zollner (D)
Lindy Johnson (D)	<i>appointed to fill vacancy</i>	

Board of Civil Authority:

Town Clerk, Selectboard, and Justices of the Peace

Town Board for the Abatement of Taxes:

Board of Civil Authority, Listers, and Town Treasurer

WCUUSD Directors from East Montpelier:

Expires 2022; 3-year term	Flor Diaz Smith
Expires 2021; 2-year term	Lindy Johnson

TOWN OFFICERS, APPOINTED

Town Administrator	Bruce Johnson
Municipal Assistant	Denise Sparrow
Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Rosie Laquerre
Assistant Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Denise Sparrow
Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Don Welch
Assistant Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Denise Sparrow
Collector of Current Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Don Welch
Collector of Delinquent Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Bruce Johnson
Zoning Administrator & E-911 Coord. (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Bruce Johnson
Acting Zoning Administrator (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Gene Troia
Sewage Officer	Bruce Johnson
Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Seth Gardner
Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2020)	Bruce Johnson
Road Foreman	Guthrie Perry
Town Attorney	Bruce Bjornlund
Town Health Officer (3 years; exp. Dec. 31, 2020)	Ginny Burley
Town Service Officer (1 year; exp. 2020)	Rachael Grossman
Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2020)	Carl Etnier
Assistant Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2020)	Amber Perry

Recreation Board: 3 years

Jack Zeilenga, <i>Chair</i> (2020)	Jan Aldrich (2020)	Alex Rob (2020)
Mike Blanchard (2020)	Bob Fitch (2020)	Paul Winters (2020)
Owen Myka-Smith, <i>Youth Member</i> (2020)		Kate Bean (2021)
Jason DeForge (2021)	Darci Coleman-Graves (2022)	

Capital Improvement Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2020

Gene Troia, <i>Chair</i>	Kim Watson	Casey Northrup
Don Welch	Ed Deegan	

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee: 3 years

Charles Johnson, <i>Chair</i> (2021)	Brian Lusignan (2020)	Natalie Chapell (2020)
Ginny Callan (2020)	Bruce Howlett (2022)	Nora Duane (2022)
Hannah Phillips (2022)		

Funding Request Study Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2020

Lindy Johnson, <i>Chair</i>	Sandal Cate	Jeanne Malachowski
Paul Erlbaum	Sue Racanelli	Kate Rader
		Darci Coleman-Graves

Emergency Management Committee: No term set

Selectboard Members	Emergency Management Coordinator(s)
Planning Commission Chair and Vice-chair (or chosen delegates)	
EMFD Chief	Town Administrator
	Town Road Foreman

Town Garage Facility Improvements Committee: No term set

Guthrie Perry	Seth Gardner	Gene Troia	Casey Northrup
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East Montpelier Village Committee: No term set

Michelle McFadden, <i>Chair</i>	Bob Morey	Casey Northrup
Frank Pratt	Alice Smith	Bob Smith
		Jean Vissering

Energy Committee: No term set

Lindy Biggs, <i>Chair</i>	Carl Etnier	Bob Morey
Cort Richardson	Steve Knowlton	Rob Chickering
		Tom Fisher

Town Charter Committee: No term set

Edie Miller, <i>Chair</i>	Richard Brock	Ed Deegan	Michael Duane
Carl Etnier	Karen Gramer	Norman Hill	Rick Mastelli
Jack Pauly	Julie Potter	Kim Watson	

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
ARTICLES OF WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
March 3, 2020

The legal voters of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont are hereby warned to meet at the East Montpelier Elementary School in said Town, on **Tuesday**, the **third (3rd)** day of **March, 2020** at **9:30 AM** to transact the following business and to vote by Australian Ballot from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on those Articles so noted:

ARTICLE 1: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

Town Moderator, 1-year term
Selectboard Member, 3-year term
Selectboard Member, 2-year term
Selectboard Member, 1 of 2-year term
Lister, 3-year term
Auditor, 3-year term
First Constable, 1-year term
Second Constable, 1-year term
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term

ARTICLE 2: To hear the reports of several Town Officers and to act thereon.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,871,223** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021). (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$42,022** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2021 to be paid to the Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Town Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Monday, November 16, 2020 and the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Monday, May 17, 2021.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,000** for the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2021.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$9,000** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2021.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,000** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2021.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$8,333** as its fiscal year 2021 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the Green Mountain Transit commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$5,000** for Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. for operating expenses during fiscal year 2021.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$7,500** for Cross Vermont Trail Association to be used as a part of the required local match of federal grants for the construction of a stretch of the Cross Vermont Trail, mostly in East Montpelier, including a bridge across the Winooski River.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town’s Funding Request Study Committee, or what other amounts, for the following organizations for fiscal year 2021.

- 1) American Red Cross \$ 250
- 2) Big Heavy World..... \$ 250
- 3) Capstone Community Action..... \$ 500
- 4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education \$ 750
- 5) Central Vermont Council on Aging \$ 1,875
- 6) Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team \$ 200
- 7) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity \$ 250
- 8) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center \$ 1,000
- 9) Circle \$ 675
- 10) Community Harvest of Central VT \$ 250
- 11) Downstreet Housing & Community Development \$ 150
- 12) East Montpelier Community Connections \$ 2,500

13) Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
14) Friends of the Winooski River.....	\$ 200
15) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring.....	\$ 300
16) Good Beginnings of Central VT.....	\$ 300
17) Good Samaritan Haven	\$ 750
18) Green Mountain Transit	\$ 1,366
19) Green Up Vermont	\$ 150
20) HomeShare Vermont	\$ 800
21) North Branch Nature Center	\$ 750
22) Onion River Food Shelf.....	\$ 1,000
23) OUR House of Central VT	\$ 250
24) People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$ 1,250
25) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	\$ 300
26) Project Independence	\$ 125
27) Rural Community Transportation	\$ 1,000
28) Sexual Assault Crisis Team.....	\$ 250
29) T. W. Wood Gallery.....	\$ 500
30) Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 150
31) Vermont CARES	\$ 150
32) Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 300
33) Vermont Family Network	\$ 200
34) Washington County Diversion Program.....	\$ 600
35) Washington County Mental Health Services	\$ 800
36) Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 400
37) Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District.....	\$ 500
Total: \$21,541	

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town, as authorized by 24 V.S.A. §4501, create a nine-member conservation commission in accordance with Title 24, Chapter 118 of the Vermont Statutes.

ARTICLE 14: Other non-binding business.

Shall the Town shift the timing for the annual Pre-Town Meeting Informational Forum from the Saturday preceding Town Meeting to a regular or special Selectboard meeting no more than ten days prior to Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 15: To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM
SATURDAY, February 29, 2020
9:30 AM at the East Montpelier Elementary School
665 Vincent Flats Road, East Montpelier

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting concerning Australian Ballot Articles and other Warned Articles for the **March 3, 2020 Town Meeting**. Candidates for Town Offices will be introduced.

Dated at East Montpelier, Vermont, this 20th day of January, 2020.

East Montpelier Selectboard:

SETH GARDNER

GENE TROIA

CARL ETNIER

AMY WILLIS

CASEY NORTHRUP

East Montpelier Town Clerk's Office, 21st day of January A.D.
2020 at 9:01 AM received the foregoing East Montpelier Annual
Town Meeting Warning for posting as required by law.

Attest: Rosie Laquerre, Town Clerk



2020 CENSUS

Every ten years, the U.S. Constitution requires an enumeration of all persons in the United States, commonly referred to as The Census. For the next ten years, the numbers produced in this effort will help determine how more than \$675 billion will be distributed to states and localities annually through more than 65 federal programs. These programs include special education funding, school lunch programs, meals on wheels, fuel assistance, Medicare, housing rehabilitation, community economic development and revitalization block grants, early childhood education, cooperative extension offices, and more. This year, you will have the option of responding online, on the telephone, or with a traditional, short-form written response. Look for your invitation to respond in the mail or at your door. It is critical that everyone participate and that all household members be included. The 2020 Decennial Census begins in March. Make sure that your community counts!

SELECTBOARD REPORT

2019 was one of those years where you look back and see no obvious major accomplishment but rather a series of small, necessary items either completed or pushed forward satisfactorily. A good case in point was the adoption of an updated hazard mitigation plan followed quickly by checking off four of the priority projects in the plan: adding a generator and upgrading the electric service at the town office; installing erosion control elements along a challenging stretch of Horn of the Moon Road; and, thanks to the Resilient Roads Committee, the development of both a roadside ash tree inventory and an action plan to deal with the devastating effects to ash trees by the invasive emerald ash borer (for more on this see the committee's report at page 52–53).

This past year there's been an unusually high rate of turnover in our high-profile positions, with 4 of 9 seats on the Development Review Board, 3 of 9 on the Planning Commission, and by 2020 Town Meeting, 2 of 5 on the Selectboard changing hands. Among others, we said goodbye to original DRB members Rich Curtis and Carol Welch along with longtime SB member Kim Swasey. Last May our First Constable and lead Animal Control Officer Sandy Conti resigned after over a decade of meritorious service to the town. Fortunately for us, he's continued in his other community service role as an officer and board member with EMFD. Despite the upheaval, town operations hardly skipped a beat as every tearful goodbye to a valued teammate was balanced by a joyful hello to a new recruit. We're so fortunate to live in a community where there's such a deep pool of capable volunteers ready to jump in when the need arises.

The town office has seen a number of upgrades over the past year, with more to come in 2020. After years of talking about installing a generator, mainly to avoid basement flooding during power outages which happen too frequently nowadays, we finally pulled the trigger in 2019, with the generator coming on-line in December in concert with an upgrade in the building's electric service to 200 amps. Earlier in the year the entire office network infrastructure, including the server and workstations, was replaced by rbTechnologies, our local IT provider, in a planned upgrade to a Windows 10 environment after a decade with Windows 7. For 2020 we'll be installing an air source heat pump system, which will enable us to eliminate the ineffective and inefficient window air conditioners as well as limit the use of our aged oil-fired furnace to the coldest of days. In a move that will excite attorneys, researchers, and anyone accessing the town's land records, later this year we'll be adding 12 years of records to the digital records system, taking its start date back from 2000 to 1988.

There is bright light at the end of the tunnel for the seemingly never-ending East Montpelier Village infrastructure projects. The park 'n ride facility is fully operational and now the site of multiple bus routes as Rural Community Transportation (RCT) has added a Morrisville, through Hardwick, to Barre route to go with the GMT/RCT US2 Commuter route. Transfers between routes are available at the park 'n ride. Don't forget the facility is also home to a Level II elec-



The old grader rides off into the sunset.

tric vehicle charging station. Further to the south, in 2019 VTrans completed the Village Bridge replacement and rehabilitation of the southern US Rte. 2/VT Rte. 14 intersection project, leaving the town without an active VTrans project for the first time in many years. The last of the three major projects we've been following for years, the addition of sidewalks to tie everything together, is on schedule for construction early in the 2020 construction season. Come 2021 we'll finally be able to appreciate the fruits of all the labors put forth in the village by the state and town over the past two decades.

Road Foreman Guthrie Perry and crew, Ken Lorden, Frank Campbell, and Craig Seadeek, along with part-timer Peter Hill, kept our roads in great shape throughout a difficult winter and spring in 2019. Once summer hit the team handled a variety of projects, including a large drainage upgrade project on Horn of the Moon Road, the installation of a dry hydrant for EMFD on Codling Road, and the rehabilitation of the recreation field's entrance area. Look for additional erosion control projects in 2020, with Codling Road first on the list. The southern-to-middle section of County Road will be the site of a combination repaving

and drainage upgrade project either late in the 2020 or early in the 2021 construction seasons. Two large, undersized, and deteriorating culverts, just south of Morse Farm and just north of Barnes Road, will be replaced. The County Road improvements are supported in part through a variety of VTrans grants.

The FY2021 budget is a stark reminder that sound fiscal management can't always prevent tax increases. The general fund budget is up 4.6%, and overall expenditures, including projected appropriations for all voted articles (down 17.2%, mainly due to the shift of the cemetery maintenance funding to the general fund), are up 3.5%. This overall expense increase of 3.5% coupled with the revenue drop of 4.8% and the use of \$100,000 of our available fund balance results in a projected municipal tax increase of 5.4%, about 3 cents on the tax rate. This disappointing outcome is driven by three main factors: a \$21,000 bump in health insurance costs; an overall increase in the EMFD budget lines of nearly \$45,817; and, a revenue decrease of \$18,610. One positive note is the ongoing success of the capital planning process led by the Capital Improvement Committee. This mud season you'll see the road crew wrangling the roads back into shape utilizing a new grader with a specialized compaction upgrade, purchased on schedule with cash in 2020.

The budget reflects a joint decision by your Selectboard and the Calais Selectboard to move toward fully funding 24/7, 2-person staffing for the EMFD ambulance service. It's been clear for the past couple of years that dependence on volunteer staffing was an unsustainable proposition. The expectations on volunteer personnel, both in terms of training and time, are enormous, leading to a downward spiral of fewer volunteers trying to meet constantly increasing demands. The current, FY2020, budget allows for 60–65% paid staffing. The intent is to add around 10% staffing capacity in each of the next two years and then fully fund in FY2023. In FY2021 the EMFD ambulance budget line is up \$40,458, of which 90% is for additional staffing.

While this report was in process we learned of the untimely passing of Bill George, our emergency management co-coordinator and longtime EMFD member. The classic memory of Bill is of him at the new fire station with communication equipment at hand, calmly overseeing the vast array of emergency services activities ongoing during and right after the devastating May 26-27, 2011 storm. Bill was one of many who have found a service niche and given of themselves to support our wonderful community. We are forever grateful to all our past, current, and future (there's always room for more) volunteers and employees.

SETH GARDNER, *Chair*
GENE TROIA, *Vice Chair*
CARL ETNIER
CASEY NORTHRUP
AMY WILLIS



PROPOSED CREATION OF AN EAST MONTPELIER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

[Article 13 of 2020 Town Meeting Warning]

Proposal & Rationale

The East Montpelier Selectboard proposes establishing an East Montpelier Conservation Commission (CC), as authorized by and in accordance with Vermont Statutes, Title 24, Chapter 118.

A CC will provide a single venue to consider the diverse aspects of conservation concerns and advise the town on possible actions. It will make it easier for the town and the town administrator to solicit and receive input on conservation concerns, and to mobilize an appropriate response. The CC can be a point of contact for State and private conservation agencies and organizations seeking to collaborate with the town to advance conservation initiatives. Currently in East Montpelier, diverse conservation issues are considered by a series of specialized ad hoc committees or by standing committees with a different focus. These issues substantially overlap, for example, applications to the Conservation Fund often include trail easements, and the Resilient Roads Committee has been considering the impact of emerald ash borer, a forestry concern. In creating a CC, these existing committees/entities, which deal with different aspects of conservation/recreation in the town, may be disbanded, and their conservation-related duties and responsibilities assumed by the CC (these committees may become committees of the CC to carry out assigned tasks, and the members may wish to stand for nomination to the CC to continue this work):

- Conservation Fund Advisory Committee (7 members)
- Resilient Roads Committee (8 members)
- Old LaPerle Farm Property Committee (5 members) [broader mandate than conservation]
- Forest Committee (3 members)
- East Montpelier Trails, Inc (8 members), but only if it shifts from a non-profit entity to a committee of the town. Otherwise, it shall remain as constituted, though the CC would work with this organization to promote the town's interests.

Purpose

To conduct, coordinate, and facilitate conservation of the town's rural working landscape, natural resources, and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Powers & Duties (adapted from 24 V.S.A. §4505)

The CC may:

1. Make an inventory and conduct continuing studies of the town's natural resources, including but not limited to:
 - (a) air, surface, and ground waters, and pollution thereof;
 - (b) soils and their capabilities;
 - (c) mineral and other earth resources;
 - (d) streams, lakes, ponds, wetland, and floodplains;
 - (e) unique or fragile biological sites;
 - (f) scenic or recreational resources;
 - (g) plant and animal life, especially rare and endangered species;
 - (h) prime agricultural and forest land, and other open lands.
2. Make and maintain an inventory of lands with East Montpelier which have historic, educational, cultural, scientific, architectural, or archaeological values in which the public has an interest.
3. Recommend to the Selectboard the purchase or receipt of gifts of land or rights thereto, or other property, for purposes herein.
4. Receive appropriations for operating expenses, including clerical help, through the budget of the Selectboard.
5. Receive money, grants, or private gifts from any source, for purposes herein. Grants and gifts received shall be carried in the Conservation Fund.
6. Receive gifts of land or other property for the purposes herein, by consent of the Selectboard or affirmative vote of the town.
7. Administer the lands, properties, and other rights which have been acquired by the town, for the purposes herein.
8. Assist the town's Planning Commission or Development Review Board, or the District Environmental Commission, by providing advisory environmental evaluations where pertinent to applications made to those bodies for permits for development.
9. Cooperate with the Selectboard, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, or other town or private organizations on matters affecting the local environment or the natural resources of the town.
10. Prepare, collect, publish, advertise, and distribute relevant books, maps, and other documents, and maintain communication with similar organizations; encourage through educational activities the public understanding of local natural resources and conservations needs.
11. Make a brief annual report to the town of its finances and transactions for the year just passed, and its plans and prospects for the ensuing year.

Organization

Consistent with State law, the CC shall have at least three and no more than nine members representing conservation interests/activities within the town, including but not limited to: forestry, agricultural, and other land conservation; protection of critical habitats or habitat connectivity for plants and wildlife; recreation trails; management of rural roadside vegetation; management of town-owned lands.

Members shall be appointed by the Selectboard for four-year terms (staggered).

At its organizational meeting(s), the CC shall adopt rules for carrying out its functions and elect a chair, treasurer, and clerk (subsequently to be elected annually).

The CC shall meet monthly or as needed and convened by the Chair.

The CC can create committees to conduct detailed work on its behalf (e.g., consider applications to the Conservation Fund, conduct negotiations for trail easements, carry out forestry activities on town-owned lands, provide input on proposals before the DRB, provide input to the Planning Commission, etc.).

The CC is strictly advisory to the Selectboard in all matters. It may consult with or advise other town committees (e.g., Planning Commission, Development Review Board, etc.), as requested.

Existing special funds (e.g., Conservation Fund, Trails Fund, Forest Fund, etc.) shall remain dedicated to their intended uses unless the Selectboard votes to reorganize them.

Duties of the Commission can include deliberation and/or activities on related topics not specifically listed above but of interest to townspeople and CC members, such as educational programs, habitat restoration or improvement projects, and beautification of town facilities.

Process

This proposal shall be discussed at a public informational meeting held prior to the 2020 Town Meeting. Edits/changes to the proposal can be made as a result of this meeting.

Town residents shall vote upon the proposal as an article at the 2020 Town Meeting.



OLD LAPERLE FARM PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The committee, formed in 2016 to explore and recommend the possibilities for the use of the town-owned 48-acre LaPerle Farm property at the northeast end of East Montpelier Village, may be nearing the end of its mission. The committee recommended that the town accept the offer from abutting neighbor Marc Fontaine to purchase the bulk of the property, all but the 3-acre farmhouse section next to the town's park 'n ride facility. At the time this report was written, the Selectboard was actively pursuing this transfer after receiving no public feedback or alternative offers during a formal notice period that ended in mid-December 2019.

The anticipated change to the farmhouse site forecasted for 2019 is taking a bit longer than anticipated, but we're getting there. The old farmhouse has been deconstructed and moved to another location in town, where it will be rebuilt as a residence. The actual cleanup and rehabilitation of the farmhouse area is well behind schedule. The intent continues to be for the site, now including the abutting 3-acre Hodgeman parcel, to remain under town ownership and to be landscaped with the expectation that the grounds will be the future location of community green space and/or development.

Last May the Friends of the Winooski River (FWR), in conjunction with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, conducted a revegetation project in sections of the riparian zone on the property to the east side of the brook, planting a mix of 400 trees and shrubs. These native plants will reduce pollution entering Sodom Pond Brook, they will eventually prevent erosion of the streambanks, and they will improve habitat for wildlife, birds, and fish. The project received financial and technical support from the US Fish & Wildlife Service's Partners for Wildlife program, and additional funding from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. FWR plants thousands of trees and shrubs every year, throughout the Winooski watershed, using volunteer labor, at no cost to the landowner. Any landowner who is interested in planting should contact FWR for more information on how to receive a free planting.

We wholeheartedly thank the Friends of the Winooski River, led by Michele Braun, and the host of volunteers, including our local Cub Scout Pack 742 as well as a large cadre of SunCommon employees, who participated in the planting project.

SETH GARDNER (*Chair*)

ZACH SULLIVAN

ANDY SHAPIRO

BOB MOREY

GINNY CALLAN



TOWN MEETING — MARCH 5, 2019



Photos: Alex Brown



TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER REVENUES

CASH & RECEIPTS

AVAILABLE CASH ON HAND:	FY19 Budget (7/1/18- 6/30/19)	FY19 Actual (7/1/18- 6/30/19)	Over (Under) FY19	FY20 Budget (7/1/19- 6/30/20)	FY21 Proposed Budget (7/20-6/21)	Change from FY20 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY20 Budget (+/-) %
\$ 100,000	0.00		100,000.00	100,000	100,000	0	0.0%
NON-TAX RECEIPTS:							
Dog licenses	2,300	2,039.00	(261.00)	2,300	2,300	0	0.0%
Excess Weight Fees	400	515.00	115.00	400	400	0	0.0%
Liquor licenses	100	255.00	155.00	100	100	0	0.0%
Recording/copy fees	20,000	16,538.40	(3,461.60)	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
School Share town expenses	9,000	9,000.00	0.00	9,000	0	(9,000)	-100.0%
Vault fees	4,000	4,313.40	313.40	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Zoning fees	4,000	7,044.00	3,044.00	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Total Licenses & Fees	39,800	39,704.80	(95.20)	39,800	30,800	(9,000)	-22.6%
Park & Ride Project	0	1,759.64	1,759.64	0	0	0	0.0%
Better Roads Grants	0	20,000.00	20,000.00	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Grants	0	21,759.64	21,759.64	0	0	0	0.0%
Current use hold harmless	95,000	101,642.00	6,642.00	99,000	99,000	0	0.0%
Green Up	225	0.00	(225.00)	225	0	(225)	-100.0%
ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais	51,491	51,490.59	(0.41)	53,461	52,076	(1,385)	-2.7%
State aid highways	144,000	144,034.21	34.21	144,000	144,000	0	0.0%
ANR Pilot Program	1,000	799.70	(200.30)	800	800	0	0.0%
General State Building Pilot Program ..	3,000	3,486.00	486.00	3,200	3,200	0	0.0%
Traffic fines	9,000	4,859.05	(4,140.95)	9,000	1,000	(8,000)	-88.9%
Total Reimbursements	303,716	306,311.55	2,595.55	309,686	300,076	(9,610)	-3.1%

Interest / Money Market	500	13,807.25	13,307.25	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous income	100	4,718.55	4,618.55	100	100	0	0.0%
Tax Sale Expense - Reimbursement	0	1,219.54	1,219.54	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Other	600	19,745.34	19,145.34	3,100	3,100	0	0.0%
.....							
Interest on delinquent taxes	9,000	8,252.69	(747.31)	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
Penalty on delinquent taxes	10,000	13,460.42	3,460.42	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Principal on delinquent taxes		(3,526.78)	(3,526.78)			0	
Interest on late taxes	6,000	10,072.16	4,072.16	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Education retention fees	9,000	10,405.19	1,405.19	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
Land Use Change Tax	0	2,010.00	2,010.00	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Tax Related Charges	34,000	40,673.68	6,673.68	34,000	34,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL NON-TAX RECEIPTS	378,116	428,195.01	50,079.01	386,586	367,976	(18,610)	-4.8%
TAXES:							
Select board Budget	1,726,496			1,749,764	1,871,223	121,459	6.9%
Other Money Articles	119,896			124,296	103,396	(20,900)	-16.8%
Total Current Taxes	1,846,392	1,822,232		1,874,060	1,974,619	100,559	5.4%
TOTAL TAXES	1,846,392	1,822,232	98.69%	1,874,060	1,974,619	100,559	5.4%
GRAND TOTAL CASH & RECEIPTS	\$2,324,508	2,250,427	96.81%	2,360,646	2,442,595	81,949	3.5%
Grand List (estimated for FY21)	\$3,034,000			\$3,045,000	\$3,060,000		
Local Tax Rate (estimated for FY21) ...	0.6086			0.6155	0.6453		

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
EXPENDITURES

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Town Officers:

	FY19 Budget (7/1/18- 6/30/19)	FY19 Actual (7/1/18- 6/30/19)	Under (Over) FY19	FY20 Budget (7/1/19- 6/30/20)	FY21 Proposed Budget (7/20-6/21)	Change from FY20 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY20 Budget (+/-) %
Municipal Employees	\$ 213,000	209,136.49	3,863.51	217,000	221,000	4,000	1.8%
Health Officer	1,000	1,000.00	0.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Selectboard	5,500	5,500.00	0.00	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
PC Stipend	4,750	4,750.00	0.00	4,750	4,750	0	0.0%
Internal Audit (Town Auditors)	7,000	5,771.50	1,228.50	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Listers Payroll	21,000	17,272.19	3,727.81	22,000	23,000	1,000	4.5%
Animal Control Officers Stipend	1,500	1,500.00	0.00	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Constables Stipend	1,500	1,500.00	0.00	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Total Town Officers	255,250	246,430.18	8,819.82	260,250	265,250	5,000	1.9%

Employee Benefits/Insurances

Social Security/Medicare	38,000	35,740.65	2,259.35	39,000	39,500	500	1.3%
Municipal Retirement	24,000	24,758.51	(758.51)	26,000	27,500	1,500	5.8%
Unemployment	1,600	2,102.00	(502.00)	3,200	2,200	(1,000)	-31.3%
Health Insurance	118,000	115,536.79	2,463.21	115,000	136,000	21,000	18.3%
Dental Insurance	3,100	3,021.60	78.40	3,200	3,300	100	3.1%
Life & Disability Insurances	3,800	3,831.73	(31.73)	3,900	3,600	(300)	-7.7%
Town Liability Insurance	8,000	6,383.00	1,617.00	6,000	5,500	(500)	-8.3%
Workers Compensation	19,000	17,785.50	1,214.50	18,000	18,000	0	0.0%
Total Employee Benefits/Insurances	215,500	209,159.78	6,340.22	214,300	235,600	21,300	9.9%

Law Enforcement Expenses:

Community Advisory Board	100	100.00	0.00	100	100	0	0.0%
Vermont State Police	33,000	23,838.08	9,161.92	33,000	15,000	(18,000)	-54.5%
Total Law Enforcement Expenses	33,100	23,938.08	9,161.92	33,100	15,100	(18,000)	-54.4%

Professional Fees						
Contracted Payroll Services	1,000	0.00	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	0.0%
External Audit	15,000	14,300.00	700.00	15,000	15,000	0.0%
Legal Fees	8,000	2,846.91	5,153.09	8,000	8,000	0.0%
Total Professional Fees	24,000	17,146.91	6,853.09	24,000	24,000	0.0%
Municipal Building						
Custodial	2,700	2,580.00	120.00	2,700	2,700	0.0%
Electricity	1,800	1,651.00	149.00	1,800	1,800	0.0%
General Expenses	1,000	671.78	328.22	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Heating Fuel	2,000	1,447.89	552.11	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Repairs/Maintenance	3,000	1,865.67	1,134.33	3,000	3,000	0.0%
Telephone	2,400	2,323.05	76.95	2,400	2,600	8.3%
Water (Crystal Springs)	900	965.72	(65.72)	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Total Municipal Building	13,800	11,505.11	2,294.89	13,900	14,100	1.4%
Municipal Operations						
Advertising	2,000	1,458.31	541.69	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Copier Lease	3,500	3,119.35	380.65	3,500	3,500	0.0%
Education/Seminars	2,000	625.00	1,375.00	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Equipment Purchases (over \$200)	1,000	0.00	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Gifts/Special Occasions	500	569.45	(69.45)	700	700	0.0%
Mileage/Travel Expense	1,500	1,362.06	137.94	1,800	1,800	0.0%
Fees	350	324.00	26.00	350	1,800	0.0%
Grounds Maintenance	11,500	9,179.58	2,320.42	11,500	11,500	0.0%
Off Premise Record Storage	1,100	90.00	1,010.00	0	0	414.3%
Office Supplies	5,000	3,176.68	1,823.32	5,000	5,000	0.0%
Postage	3,700	2,540.03	1,159.97	3,700	3,700	0.0%
Printing	1,200	2,808.09	(1,608.09)	1,300	1,300	0.0%
Town Report Printing and Mailing	6,300	4,772.25	1,527.75	6,300	6,300	0.0%

EXPENDITURES *(continued)*

	FY19 Budget	FY19 Actual	Under (Over)	FY20 Budget	Proposed FY21 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Property and Casualty Insurance	16,000	15,235.25	764.75	15,000	14,000	(1,000)	-6.7%
Public Records Management	10,000	8,756.82	1,243.18	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Street Lights	6,000	5,510.66	489.34	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Subscriptions/Memberships	450	291.48	158.52	450	450	0	0.0%
Town Document Updates	5,000	0.00	5,000.00	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Total Municipal Operations	77,100	59,819.01	17,280.99	75,600	76,050	450	0.6%
Loans and Interest							
Bond Interest for ESF (20-year)	49,472	49,471.77	0.23	55,383	51,230	(4,153)	-7.5%
Bond Principal for ESF	105,000	105,000.00	0.00	105,000	105,000	0	0.0%
Tax Anticipation Interest	1,000	0.00	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Loans and Interest	155,472	154,471.77	1,000.23	161,383	157,230	(4,153)	-2.6%
Computers							
Equipment/Hardware Purchases	3,500	20,384.00	(16,884.00)	3,500	2,500	(1,000)	-28.6%
General Services/Maintenance	8,000	6,643.02	1,356.98	8,000	12,000	4,000	50.0%
GIS Mapping Services	2,100	4,230.00	(2,130.00)	4,500	4,500	0	0.0%
Software	2,700	927.88	1,772.12	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Total Computers	16,300	32,184.90	(15,884.90)	17,500	20,500	3,000	17.1%
Town Clerk Budget							
Ballot Clerks/Election Workers	2,000	2,520.00	-520.00	1,000	3,000	2,000	200.0%
Dog Licensing - tags and licenses	300	235.19	64.81	300	350	50	16.7%
Election Equipment	3,000	2,913.14	86.86	2,000	3,000	1,000	50.0%
Record Restoration/Preservation	3,000	2,699.00	301.00	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Vault Expenses/Town Records	1,000	774.22	225.78	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Town Clerk Budget	9,300	9,141.55	158.45	7,300	10,350	3,050	41.8%

Dues and Fees							
CV Economic Development	900	900.00	0.00	900	900	0	0.0%
CV Regional Planning Commission	2,911	2,910.88	0.12	3,092	3,220	128	4.1%
CV Solid Waste Mgt. Dist.	2,650	2,626.00	24.00	2,650	2,571	(79)	-3.0%
VT Assoc of Conservation Districts	100	100.00	0.00	100	100	0	0.0%
VT. League Cities & Towns	4,001	4,001.00	0.00	4,111	4,280	169	4.1%
Washington County Court Expense	24,838	24,838.00	0.00	25,074	25,641	567	2.3%
Wrightsville Beach Dist.	3,188	3,985.50	-797.50	3,986	3,986	0	0.0%
Total Dues & Fees	38,588	39,361.38	-773.38	39,913	40,698	785	2.0%
Budget Requests							
Fire Department	113,570	113,570.00	0.00	124,437	129,796	5,359	4.3%
Ambulance Service	152,798	152,798.00	0.00	149,783	190,241	40,458	27.0%
Recreation Board	3,000	3,000.00	0.00	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Cemetery Committee					20,000	20,000	*
Total Budget Requests	269,368	269,368.00	0.00	277,720	343,537	65,817	23.7%
* As voted at 2019 Town Meeting, the Cemetery Commission is now the Cemetery Committee; its budget is part of the general fund rather than a separate voted article.							
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	1,107,778	1,072,526.67	35,251.33	1,124,966	1,202,415	77,449	6.9%
GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS							
Invasive Species Control	500	182.50	317.50	300	300	0	0.0%
Front Porch Forum	500	500.00	0.00	500	500	0	0.0%
2018 Betters Roads Grant Expense	0	3,373.71	(3,373.71)	0	0	0	0.0%
Capital Reserve Fund	431,484	431,484.00	0.00	435,234	446,634	11,400	2.6%
TOTAL GRANTS & SPECIAL PROJECTS	432,484	435,540.21	-3,056.21	436,034	447,434	11,400	2.6%

EXPENDITURES *(continued)***HIGHWAY EXPENSES:**

	FY19 Budget	FY19 Actual	Under (Over)	FY20 Budget	Proposed FY21 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Highway Operations							
Chloride	25,000	12,190.40	12,809.60	27,000	27,000	0	0.0%
Crack Sealant	12,000	3,600.00	8,400.00	12,000	12,000	0	0.0%
Culverts	7,600	7,635.40	(35.40)	7,600	7,600	0	0.0%
Diesel	58,000	46,630.46	11,369.54	58,000	58,000	0	0.0%
Edu./Seminars - Highway Personnel	600	0.00	600.00	600	600	0	0.0%
Equipment Rentals	7,000	5,936.20	1,063.80	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Erosion Stone	8,000	3,190.21	4,809.79	8,000	8,000	0	0.0%
General Supplies	14,500	10,009.71	4,490.29	14,500	14,500	0	0.0%
Gravel	110,000	106,394.62	3,605.38	110,000	110,000	0	0.0%
Green Up Expenses	600	0.00	600.00	600	600	0	0.0%
Guardrails	5,000	0.00	5,000.00	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Haz Mat disposal	750	0.00	750.00	750	750	0	0.0%
Hydroseeder Mulch		0.00		2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Pavement Management	3,000	652.20	2,347.80	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Pavement Markings	5,200	0.00	5,200.00	5,200	5,200	0	0.0%
Permit Fees	3,000	2,191.60	808.40	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Reciprocal Road Maintenance	1,300	1,312.50	(12.50)	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%
Road Fabric	3,500	0.00	3,500.00	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Salt	52,000	51,560.52	439.48	56,000	62,000	6,000	10.7%
Sand	42,000	38,353.00	3,647.00	42,000	42,000	0	0.0%
Signs	4,000	2,987.36	1,012.64	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Stabilization Fabric	3,000	4,342.92	(1,342.92)	0	0	0	
Uniforms	4,800	4,605.76	194.24	4,800	5,800	1,000	20.8%
Weather Reporting	1,000	2,400.00	(1,400.00)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Highway Operations	371,850	303,992.86	67,857.16	376,850	383,850	7,000	1.9%

Town Garage Expenses						
Electricity	1,400	1,219.24	180.76	1,400	1,400	0.0%
General Expenses	2,000	273.55	1,726.45	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Heating Fuel	7,000	6,177.17	822.83	7,000	7,000	0.0%
Bldg Repairs and Maintenance	2,000	551.64	1,448.36	3,000	3,000	0.0%
Facility Renovations	0	28.60	(28.60)	0	0	0.0%
Rubbish	2,000	2,004.74	(4.74)	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Security	400	574.75	(174.75)	400	400	0.0%
Telephone/Communications	2,700	3,185.59	(485.59)	2,700	2,700	0.0%
Total Town Garage Expenses	17,500	14,015.28	3,484.72	18,500	18,500	0.0%
Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs						
Vehicle-Gas/Oil/Grease		6,509.41				
Vehicle - Maint/Supplies/Equipment ...		7,662.61				
Vehicle - Plows/Blades		7,439.39				
Vehicle - Tires/Chains		20,328.26				
'13 GMC Sierra Pickup		3,045.59				
'06 John Deere Grader		3,758.30				
'08 Volvo Excavator		3,321.00				
'08 Volvo Loader		0.00				
'18 Komatsu Loader		115.05				
'18 John Deere Tractor & Mower		1,032.13				
'13 Mack Truck		16,396.74				
'17 Mack Truck		1,544.59				
'18 Mack Truck		978.22				
'15 International 7400		3,963.98				
'98 MorBark Brush Chipper		404.75				
York Rake		418.75				
Sander		0.00				
Total Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs	60,000	76,918.77	(16,918.77)	60,000	60,000	0.0%

EXPENDITURES *(continued)*

	FY19 Budget	FY19 Actual	Under (Over)	FY20 Budget	Proposed FY21 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Highway Labor							
Total Labor	215,000	210,918.06	4,081.94	220,000	227,000	7,000	3.2%
Total Highway Labor	215,000	210,918.06	4,081.94	220,000	227,000	7,000	3.2%
TOTAL HIGHWAY BUDGET	664,350	605,844.97	58,505.03	675,350	689,350	14,000	2.1%
TOTAL SELECTBOARD BUDGET ...	2,204,612	2,113,911.85	90,700.15	2,236,350	2,339,199	102,849	4.6%
Voted Articles							
Cemetery Commission	17,250	17,250.00	0.00	17,250	0*	(17,250)	-100.0%
Four Corners Schoolhouse	3,100	3,100.00	0.00	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	42,022	42,022.00	0.00	42,022	42,022	0	0.0%
Land Conservation Fund	3,000	3,000.00	0.00	5,000	0	(5,000)	-100.0%
East Montpelier Signpost	6,000	6,000.00	0.00	6,000	0	(6,000)	-100.0%
GMTA Rte 2 Commuter Bus Service ...	8,333	8,333.00	0.00	8,333	8,333	0	0.0%
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	8,000	8,000.00	0.00	8,000	9,000	1,000	12.5%
East Montpelier Trails	4,000	4,000.00	0.00	4,000	0	(4,000)	-100.0%
Central VT Home Health & Hospice ...	5,500	5,500.00	0.00	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Cross Vermont Trail Association					7,500	7,500	
Twin Valley Seniors, Inc.					5,000	5,000	
Total Voted Articles	97,205	97,205.00	0.00	100,605	81,855	(18,750)	-18.6%
* As voted at 2019 Town Meeting, the Cemetery Commission is now the Cemetery Committee; its budget is part of the general fund rather than a separate voted article.							
Funding Requests							
American Red Cross	250	250.00	0.00	250	250	0	0.0%
Big Heavy World				250	250	0	0.0%
Capstone Community Action (CVCAC)	500	500.00	0.00	500	500	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education .	750	750.00	0.00	750	750	0	0.0%

Central Vermont Council on Aging	1,875	1,875.00	0.00	1,875	1,875	0	0.0%
Central VT Disaster Animal Response Team				200	200	200	0.0%
Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	250	250.00	0.00	250	250	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	1,000	1,000.00	0.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Circle (Battered Women's Serv & Shelter)	675	675.00	0.00	675	675	0	0.0%
Community Harvest of Central VT				250	250	0	0.0%
Downstreet Housing & Comm Dev (CVCLT)	150	150.00	0.00	150	150	0	0.0%
East Mont. Community Connections	2,500	2,500.00	0.00	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Family Center of Washington County	500	500.00	0.00	500	500	0	0.0%
Friends of the Winooski River	200	200.00	0.00	200	200	0	0.0%
Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	300	300.00	0.00	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Beginnings of Central VT	300	300.00	0.00	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Samaritan Haven	750	750.00	0.00	750	750	0	0.0%
Green Mountain Transit	1,366	1,366.00	0.00	1,366	1,366	0	0.0%
Green Up Vermont	150	150.00	0.00	150	150	0	0.0%
HomeShare Vermont	800	800.00	0.00	800	800	0	0.0%
North Branch Nature Center	750	750.00	0.00	750	750	0	0.0%
Onion River Food Shelf Inc.	1,000	1,000.00	0.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
OUR House of Central VT	250	250.00	0.00	250	250	0	0.0%
People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc.	1,250	1,250.00	0.00	1,250	1,250	0	0.0%
Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont	300	300.00	0.00	300	300	0	0.0%
Project Independence	125	125.00	0.00	125	125	0	0.0%
Rural Community Transportation (RCT)				1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	250	250.00	0.00	250	250	0	0.0%
Twin Valley Seniors, Inc.	3,500	3,500.00	0.00	4,000	0	(4,000)	-100.0%
T W Wood Gallery	500	500.00	0.00	500	500	0	0.0%
Vt Assoc for Blind & Visually Impaired	150	150.00	0.00	150	150	0	0.0%
Vermont Cares	150	150.00	0.00	150	150	0	0.0%
Vermont Center for Independent Living	250	250.00	0.00	250	300	50	20.0%

EXPENDITURES (continued)

	FY19 Budget	FY19 Actual	Under (Over)	FY20 Budget	Proposed FY21 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Vermont Family Network	100	100.00	0.00	100	200	100	100.0%
Washington County Diversion Program .	600	600.00	0.00	600	600	0	0.0%
Washington County Mental Health Serv	800	800.00	0.00	800	800	0	0.0%
Washington County Youth Serv Bureau .	400	400.00	0.00	400	400	0	0.0%
Winooski Natural Resources Conserv Dist.					500	500	
Total Funding Requests	22,691	22,691.00	0.00	23,691	21,541	(2,150)	-9.1%
Total Voted Articles & Funding Requests	119,896	119,896.00	0.00	124,296	103,396	(20,900)	-16.8%
Miscellaneous Unbudgeted Expenses		8.82	(8.82)				
GRAND TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES ..	2,324,508	2,233,816.67	90,691.33	2,360,646	2,442,595	81,949	3.5%
Grand Total Revenues	2,324,508	2,250,427		2,360,646	2,442,595		
Net Income	0	16,610		0	0	0	

TOWN BUDGET SUMMARY						FY21:
	FY17: 7/16-6/17	FY18: 7/17-6/18	FY19: 7/18-6/19	FY20: 7/19-6/20		7/20-6/21
Selectboard w/o Voted Articles	\$ 2,117,578	2,133,069	2,204,612	2,236,350		2,339,199
Less: Cash on Hand	75,000	75,000	100,000	100,000		100,000
Subtotal	2,042,578	2,058,069	2,104,612	2,136,350		2,239,199
Less: Proposed Non-Tax Receipts	375,539	376,472	378,116	386,586		367,976
Municipal Proposed Taxes w/o Articles	1,667,039	1,681,597	1,726,496	1,749,764		1,871,223
Plus: Voted Articles	9110,258	117,383	119,896	124,296		103,396
Total Town Current Taxes	\$ 1,777,297	1,798,980	1,846,392	1,874,060		1,974,619

TOWN MEETING — MARCH 5, 2019



Photos: Alex Brown



DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Notes Payable:	Payments Due					
	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Emergency Services Facility*						
Loan Balance: \$1,365,000						
Interest Rate: 4.34%						
Principal payments:	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000
Interest payments:	49,472	55,382	51,230	46,919	42,467	37,853
2017 Mack Truck**						
Loan Balance: \$59,996						
Interest Rate: 2.49%						
Principal payments:	29,629	30,367	0			
Interest payments:	1,494	756				
2018 Mack Truck***						
Loan Balance: \$93,142						
Interest Rate: 2.84%						
Principal payments:	30,182	31,039	31,921	0		
Interest payments:	2,645	1,788	906			
Debt Payments:	\$ 18,422	224,332	189,057	151,919	147,467	142,853
Outstanding Principal at Fiscal Year End:	\$ 1,353,327	1,186,921	1,050,000	945,000	840,000	735,000

As noted above and below, on June 30, 2019, the Town of East Montpelier owed \$1,353,327: \$1,260,000 on Emergency Services Facility Bond, plus \$93,327 on two Mack Truck leases.

*** FY11 Emergency Services Facility Bond:**

Upon completion of construction in FY10, a twenty (20) year bond for the full construction costs including the interest on the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) was executed in the authorized amount of \$2.1 million (East Montpelier 2/3 share = \$1,400,000; Calais 1/3 share = \$700,000). Beginning in FY12, principal payments are constant (\$105,000 total: East Montpelier = \$70,000; Calais = \$35,000). The interest payment declines each year as the principal amount is reduced, resulting in a constantly declining annual payment in subsequent years. Payments are made twice a year. In FY16, East Montpelier's share was \$116,529.50 of the \$174,794 due. In 2016 a bond refinancing generated interest savings for FY17, FY18, and FY19; the original interest schedule resumes in FY20. Final payment of the bond is due in December 2030.

**** FY17 Lease with option to purchase for 2017 Mack 10-Wheel Dump/Plow Truck (Town took delivery in Sept. 2016):**

Purchase agreement payable to Kansas State Bank. An initial payment of \$31,122.76 was made on 7/11/16 from the Capital Reserve Fund, to be followed by annual principal and interest payments of \$31,122.76 due March 1st of each year. Annual interest averages 2.49% over the life of the lease. Final payment of the lease is due March 1, 2020.

***** FY17 Lease with option to purchase for 2018 Mack 10-Wheel Dump/Plow Truck (Town took delivery in Sept. 2017):**

Purchase agreement payable to Kansas State Bank. An initial payment of \$32,827.11 was made on 6/20/17 from the Capital Reserve Fund, to be followed by annual principal and interest payments of \$32,827.11 due March 1st of each year. Annual interest averages 2.84% over the life of the lease. Final payment of the lease is due March 1, 2021.

COMPARATIVE COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

	FY18	FY19
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,584,730	\$ 1,650,317
Investments	92,059	303,423
Deposits with Insurance Company	–	2,891
Receivables	217,296	220,425
Loan Receivable	258,343	250,151
Prepaid Expenses	47,710	35,300
Capital Assets:		
Land	583,902	608,702
Construction in Progress	181,193	157,607
Other Capital Assets, (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	4,385,072	4,240,808
Total Assets	7,350,305	7,469,624
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	80,703	77,872
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	80,703	77,872
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	198,724	59,972
Accrued Payroll and Benefits Payable	14,733	12,887
Due to Fiduciary Fund	19,684	17,472
Unearned Revenue	954	1,296
Accrued Interest Payable	11,593	10,384
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Due within One Year	176,865	176,865
Due in More than One Year	1,613,469	1,468,473
Total Liabilities	2,036,022	1,747,349
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Prepaid Property Taxes	2,042	1,459
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	6,937	7,232
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	8,979	8,691
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	3,650,927	3,670,505
Restricted For:		
Culture and Recreation	52,061	52,743
Community Development	208,478	216,913
Cemetery	93,450	97,200
Other	1,410	1,433
Unrestricted	1,379,681	1,752,662
Total Net Position	\$ 5,386,007	\$ 5,791,456

*Adapted from FY18 & FY19 audits performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier.
Final audits are available at the Town Office and town website at <https://eastmontpelier.vt.org>*

EAST MONTPELIER FY19 TAXES RAISED

Base Tax Rates:

School - Homestead	\$1.9218
School - Non-Residential	\$1.6488
Town	\$0.6086
Local Agreement	\$0.0025

Total Homestead Tax Rate	\$2.5329
Total Non-Residential Rate	\$2.2599

Values, include Local Agreements:

Municipal Grand List	\$3,026,910.44
Homestead Edu. Grand List	\$2,175,580.72
Non-Residential Edu. Grand List	\$850,399.80



Taxes to be raised (as billed):	
at Town Tax Rate	$0.6086 \times 3,026,910.44 = \$1,842,168.63$
at Local Agreement Rate	$0.0025 \times 3,026,910.44 = 7,568.79$
at Homestead Tax Rate	$1.9218 \times 2,175,580.72 = 4,181,031.18$
at Non-Res. Tax Rate	$1.6488 \times 850,399.80 = 1,402,139.32$
plus late homestead filing penalties	WAIVED
TOTAL	<u><u>\$7,432,907.92</u></u>

TY18/19 TAXES collected as of 5/16/2019

Current Taxes Collected	\$7,249,852.59
Abated Taxes	12.00
Uncollected TY18/19 taxes (see facing page)	183,043.33
TOTAL	<u><u>\$7,432,907.92</u></u>



2018/2019 EDUCATION TAX BREAKDOWN

Total Due Schools	<u>\$5,596,018.00</u>
Town payments to schools:	
EMES	\$2,221,270.73
U-32	2,392,918.58
State adjustment payments	971,423.50
0.225% Retained by Municipality	10,405.19
Total education tax paid	<u><u>\$5,596,018.00</u></u>
Balance due school district (within 120 days)	<u><u>\$ 0.00</u></u>

DELINQUENT TAXES

Tax Year	Taxes Due July 1, 2018	Paid In FY19	Abated FY19	Balance Due June 30, 2019
TY11/12	1,102.22	0.00	1,102.22	0.00
TY12/13	1,146.81	0.00	1,146.81	0.00
TY13/14	1,185.07	0.00	1,185.07	0.00
TY14/15	1,222.20	0.00	1,222.20	0.00
TY15/16	7,053.10	5,762.69	1,290.41	0.00
TY16/17	31,671.96	29,728.30	1,294.15	649.51
TY17/18	102,184.07	77,894.40	1,296.84	22,992.83
	<u>\$145,565.43</u>	<u>113,385.39</u>	<u>8,537.70</u>	<u>23,642.34</u>
TY18/19 Del. Taxes Submitted to Collector on 5/21/19	183,043.33	69,680.08	1.69	113,361.56
	<u>\$328,608.76</u>	<u>183,065.47</u>	<u>8,539.39</u>	<u>137,003.90</u>
Interest on Late & Delinquent Tax		22,569.60 *		
Penalties on Delinquent Tax		14,852.50 **		
Total Delinquent Taxes, Interest, and Penalties collected in FY19		<u>\$220,487.57</u>		

* Includes Del. Tax Interest, as well as Late Interest (as per Notice below).

** The Collector of Delinquent Taxes charges a commission of 8% penalty on the amount of taxes owed (32 V.S.A. §1674). Under the Town's amended charter, starting in FY18 the Collector of Delinquent Taxes is an appointed position and the functions of the position are handled collectively by the town office staff. The 8% penalty accrues to the Town's General Fund.

TAX COLLECTION NOTICE

In August 2019, one property tax bill was sent out, payable in two installments. The due date and time is voted on at Town Meeting each year. The first installment for tax year 2019/2020 was due in November, and the second is **due by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, May 15, 2020. A slot has been installed in the back door of the Municipal Office Building for after-hours drop off.** Property taxes **must** be received in the Town Treasurer's office by 5:00 P.M. on the due date. The Town offers two methods for electronic payment of taxes: direct debit and a payment portal for credit and debit cards along with eChecks. **Post-marked tax payments dated on or before the tax due date, but received after the tax due date are NOT accepted as timely payments.**

First installment taxes not received by the due date in November are charged Late Interest of 1% per month. Any taxes not received by the due date in May are turned over to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes and charged an 8% penalty, in addition to 1% per month delinquent interest.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2019

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 583,902	\$ 24,800	\$ 0	\$ 608,702
Construction in Progress	181,193	198,041	221,627	157,607
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	<u>765,095</u>	<u>222,841</u>	<u>221,627</u>	<u>766,309</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	2,374,936	0	0	2,374,936
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	1,402,850	17,216	0	1,420,066
Infrastructure	2,667,274	167,502	0	2,834,776
Totals	<u>6,445,060</u>	<u>184,718</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,629,778</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	494,909	47,634	0	542,543
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	380,389	89,311	0	469,700
Infrastructure	1,184,690	192,037	0	1,376,727
Totals	<u>2,059,988</u>	<u>328,982</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,388,970</u>
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	<u>4,385,072</u>	<u>(144,264)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,240,808</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u><u>\$5,150,167</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 78,577</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 221,627</u></u>	<u><u>\$5,007,117</u></u>

Depreciation was charged as follows:

Governmental Activities:

General Government	\$ 3,391
Public Safety	39,825
Highways and Streets	284,666
Cemetery	<u>1,100</u>

Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities \$ 328,982

This page is an excerpt of the audit performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier. The complete final report is available for public inspection at the Town Office as well as on the town website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

TOWN PROPERTY

Information as of December 31, 2019

LAND, BUILDINGS, AND CEMETERIES

Town Office	0.35 acre
Town Garage	24.70 acres
Town Salt Shed.....	1.50 acres
Templeton Fire Station	1.00 acre
Emergency Services Facility	1.52 acres
Town Forest	96.36 acres
North St. (Baird).....	45.73 acres
Rte. 2 (Benton)	10.42 acres
Coburn Rd. (Soule).....	5.00 acres
Recreation Field	12.00 acres
Rte. 2 (Old LaPerle Farm)	48.52 acres
Rte. 14N (Park 'n Ride).....	0.55 acres
Rte. 2 (Hudson parcel)	0.25 acres
Rte. 14N (Hodgeman parcel)	3.00 acres
Coburn Covered Bridge	
Cate Cemetery	0.67 acre
Cutler Cemetery	2.70 acres
Doty Cemetery	2.80 acres
Quaker Cemetery	0.42 acre
Tinkham Cemetery	0.20 acre
Village Cemetery	2.70 acres, <i>incl. former Town Hall lot</i>
Wheeler Cemetery	1.30 acres

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

	Mileage	Hours
2018 John Deere 6110 Tractor & Mower.....	N/A	444
2018 Komatsu WA270-8 Wheel Loader.....	1,734	904
2018 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck.....	33,183	2,269
2017 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck.....	31,442	2,870
2015 International 7400 6-wheel Dump Truck	32,485	2,616
2013 GMC Sierra 2500 HD Pickup.....	67,717	N/A
2013 Mack 10-wheel Dump Truck	89,228	6,292
2008 Volvo Excavator	N/A	4,250
2006 John Deere 772D Grader	N/A	9,234
1998 Morbark Brush Chipper	N/A	1,023
1982 GMC Chloride Truck	* Out of Service *	
2015 Kubota Lawn Tractor	N/A	447

TOWN PAYROLL SUMMARY

Employee	FY19 Salary	Salary & Benefits*	Employee	FY19 Salary	Salary & Benefits*
OFFICE			STIPEND		
Sparrow, Denise**	37,670	56,440	Burley, Ginny	1,000	1,076
Chickering, Rob	3,247	3,495	Conti, Sandy	2,500	2,691
Deegan, Ed	153	165	Etnier, Carl	1,000	1,076
Fillion, Deborah	5,228	5,627	Gardner, Seth	1,500	1,614
Flynn, Kristi	1,849	1,990	Hess, Scott	500	538
Hazel, Ross	10,489	11,291	Hill, Norman	500	538
Johnson, Bruce**	94,000	109,263	Lane, Mark	500	538
Laquerre, Rosie**	48,000	74,414	Morse, Elliott	500	538
Occaso, Carla	391	421	Pauly, Jack	500	538
Racanelli, Chris	3,370	3,628	Potter, Julie	750	807
Welch, Don	36,500	39,293	Stewart, Jay	500	538
			Stout, Ray	500	538
	\$ 240,897	\$ 306,027	Swasey, Kim	1,000	1,076
HIGHWAY			Troia, Gene	1,000	1,076
Campbell, Frank**	49,033	75,580	Vissering, Jean	500	538
Hill, Peter	1,300	1,399	Watson, Kim	500	538
Lorden, Ken**	49,345	56,808	Willis, Amy	1,000	1,076
Perry, Guthrie**	63,807	93,566			
Seadeek, Craig**	48,133	68,286		\$ 14,250	\$ 15,334
	\$ 211,618	\$ 295,639	CEMETERY		
			Lamson, Nicholas	3,360	3,617
			Lamson, Timothy	3,884	4,181
			Morse, Elliott	4,412	4,749
				\$ 11,656	\$ 12,547
			TOTAL	\$ 478,421	\$ 629,547
			PAYROLL		

* All benefits include Town's share of FICA (Social Security) and Medicare.

** These benefits also include employer-paid premiums for coverage of Health and Dental Insurance, Retirement, Short- and Long-Term Disability, and Life Insurance. Totals do not include Workers Compensation (**\$17,785.50**) and Unemployment Insurance (**\$2,102.00**) coverage for road crew and office staff in FY19.

FY19 payroll does not include **\$2,520.00** paid to Election Workers.

Note:

This payroll report shows 26 biweekly payrolls (FY19 pay periods ending on 7/5/18 through 6/20/19). Reports elsewhere in this book show accrued (partial) pay periods.

RESTRICTED FUNDS SUMMARY

Permanent Funds account for assets held by the Town pursuant to a trust agreement. The principal portion of this fund type must remain intact, but the earnings may be used to achieve the objectives of the fund: Carlton C. Smith Recreational Fund and Perpetual Care Fund portion of the Cemetery Commission's accounts.

Special Revenue Funds are proceeds of specific revenue sources that are either legally restricted to specified purposes or designated to finance particular functions or activities of the Town. These restricted funds include: Emergency Services, Grand List Reappraisal, Land Conservation, Rally Day, Recreation Fund, Town Forest, Veterans Memorial, Capital Reserve, Cemetery's expendable savings accounts, and the Sandy Pines Community Development Fund.

CARLTON C. SMITH RECREATIONAL FUND*

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 51,910.03
Interest Income	681.94
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 52,591.97</u>

**\$50,000 bequest held in a CD; interest used for recreation in town.*

EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 18,896.89
Interest Income	280.36
Expenses	(-2,462.00)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 16,715.25</u>

GRAND LIST REAPPRAISAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$100,637.78
Interest Income	1,639.28
Received from State of Vermont	10,395.50
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u>\$112,672.56</u>

LAND CONSERVATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 17,114.54
Interest Income	305.82
Voted 2018 Town Meeting Art. 6	3,000.00
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 20,420.36</u>

RALLY DAY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 651.10
Interest Income	10.49
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 661.59</u>

RECREATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 6,025.31
Interest Income	126.63
Town Appropriation, Voted 2018 Town Meeting.....	3,000.00
Revenue: Program Fees, Concessions, etc.	6,778.63
Expenses: Program Costs, Field Maintenance, etc.	(10,158.28)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 5,772.29</u></u>

TOWN FOREST FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 26,505.25
Interest Income	370.48
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 26,875.73</u></u>

VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 1,410.50
Interest Income	22.76
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 1,433.26</u></u>



EAST MONTPELIER SENIOR LIVING INITIATIVE (EMSLI)

EMSLI began in 2005 with a goal to provide housing for seniors and to assure that those who prefer to remain in town through their later years would have the support to do so. We reviewed many potential properties over the years, with hopes to provide space for a permanent home for the Twin Valley Senior Center in conjunction with housing for seniors, including the Old LaPerle Farm. While we seemed very close a few times, none of these projects came together.

EMSLI is now working with Twin Valley Senior Center (TVSC) to assist them in the purchase and future renovations of the Blueberry Hill Commons property at 4583 US Rte 2. TVSC currently rents their space at Blueberry Hill which also includes 4 residential units. TVSC is putting together an offer to purchase the property. The goal is to secure a home for the senior center and to provide affordable housing for seniors and others in the existing units. We will also explore the possibility of building additional senior housing units on the parcel in the future. Preliminary studies indicate that 5 to 6 additional accessible units could be constructed on the site. Towards these goals, the EM Selectboard authorized an extension of the five-year EMSLI grant, until February 15, 2020. In 2019, the EMSLI grant paid for a set of architectural drawings of the building to be drawn up for planning purposes. In 2020, EMSLI hopes to assist TVSC in the purchase of the property from Harper Properties LLC by helping to fund closing costs such as appraisal, inspection reports, attorney’s fees, financial feasibility studies, etc. EMSLI’s 2020 Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 11 at 7:00 PM at the Twin Valley Senior Center.

—SOREN PFEFFER, *Acting Chair*



One of the many activities that take place at the Four Corners Schoolhouse is a Community Singalong, held on the 3rd Sunday of each month from 6-8 pm. Everyone is welcome to join in. For more on the town's one-room schoolhouse, see pp. 62–63.



GRANTS REPORT FOR 2019

This report is a brief accounting of the open and recently closed grants benefiting the town. Most of these are state grants that come with a town match of 0–20%. We also receive small targeted grants from other organizations, including annual Green Up Day trash disposal funding from the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

Active Grants:

FY20 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace a large culvert on County Road just south of Morse Farm.

State funds	\$ 124,200
Town match	\$ 13,800
Total grant	\$ 138,000

FY20 VTrans Class 2 Town Highway Paving Program Grant to repave County Road from the Montpelier line to Powder Horn Glen Rd.

State funds	\$ 175,000
Town match	\$ 204,448
Total grant	\$ 379,448

2019 Recreational Facilities Grant from VT Department of Buildings & General Services for equipment in support of town recreation programs.

State funds	\$ 4,196
Town match	\$ 4,196
Total grant	\$ 8,392

FY19 Municipal Planning Grant for the adoption process of revisions to the East Montpelier Land Use & Development Regulations.

State funds	\$ 7,250
Town match	\$ 725
Total grant	\$ 7,975

FY20 VTrans Better Roads Grant for a Horn of the Moon Road stormwater & erosion control project.

State funds	\$ 20,000
Town match	\$ 5,000
Total grant	\$ 25,000

VTrans LTF Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Grant for sidewalk & shoulder enhancements along the US Rte. 2/VT Rte. 14 corridor in East Montpelier Village.

State funds	\$ 823,800
Town match	\$ 112,200
Total grant	\$ 936,000

FY18 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to conduct an engineering study for the replacement of the Mallory Brook culvert on Center Road.

State funds	\$ 36,000
Town match	\$ 4,000
Total grant	\$ 40,000

2019 EAB Action Plan Grant from VT Urban & Community Forestry Program for conducting an ash tree inventory and development of an Emerald Ash Borer management plan.

State funds	\$ 2,000
Town match	\$ 2,000
Total grant	\$ 4,000

VTrans High Risk Rural Roads Program Grant for signage improvements along County Road.

State funds	Total cost of project
Town match	\$ 0
Total grant	Total cost of project

FY20 ANR Municipal Roads Grants in Aid Project, funded through CVRPC, for road drainage upgrades on Codling Road.

State funds	\$ 10,400
Town match	\$ 2,600
Total grant	\$ 13,000



Recreational Facilities Grant awarded, left to right: Buildings and General Services Commissioner Chris Cole, East Montpelier Recreation Chair Jack Zeilenga, East Montpelier Recreation Vice Chair Paul Winters, Governor Phil Scott.

Grants Closed in 2019:

2018 FEMA grant for debris clean-up from the October 29-30, 2017 wind storm.

FEMA funds	\$ 10,747
State funds	\$ 2,344
Town match	\$ 1,005
Total grant	\$ 14,096

FY19 VTrans Better Roads Grant for Snow Hill Rd stormwater & erosion control project.

State funds	\$ 20,000
Town match	\$ 7,729
Total grant	\$ 27,729

FY18 VTrans Better Roads Grant for road surface and road erosion inventories.

State funds	\$ 7,524
Town match	\$ 1,881
Total grant	\$ 9,405

FY18 Municipal Planning Grant for revisions to E.M. Land Use & Development Regs.

State funds	\$ 19,916
Town match	\$ 5,957
Total grant	\$ 25,873

FY17 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace an undersized culvert mid-way along Quaker Road.

State funds	\$ 119,727
Town match	\$ 13,528
Total grant	\$ 133,255

VTrans Municipal Park 'n Ride Program Grant for a park 'n ride and bus stop facility on the town-owned WEC garage lot in EM Village. Funds listed are for the town-managed facility construction. All other project costs were handled in-house by VTrans.

State funds	\$ 329,616
Town match	\$ 0
Total grant	\$ 329,616

FY19 ANR Municipal Roads Grants in Aid Project, funded through CVRPC, for road drainage upgrades on Towne Hill Road.

State funds	\$ 11,100
Town match	\$ 21,550
Total grant	\$ 32,650

2019 VLCT PACIF Equipment Grant for highway department safety equipment.

VLCT funds	\$ 3,000
Town match	\$ 3,999
Total grant	\$ 6,999

2019 EAB Action Plan Grant from CVRPC for conducting an ash tree inventory and development of an Emerald Ash Borer management plan.

State funds	\$ 5,504
Town match	\$ 2,804
Total grant	\$ 8,308

EAST MONTPELIER CAPITAL PLANNING BUDGET EXECUTIVE SUMMARY *

Details of the Capital Planning Budget are posted on the Town Website:
<https://eastmontpelier.vt.org/boards-commission/capital-improvement-committee/>

Item	Actual FY2019	Approved Budget FY2020	Presented for FY2021 Budget	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Municipal Building										
Total Exp by Yr	0	9,100	19,400	0	0	2,400	500	2,500	0	0
Town Garage										
Total Exp by Yr	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	0	6,000	0	0
Emergency Services Facility										
Total Exp by Yr	0	6,000	18,000	7,000	0	0	3,000	0	36,000	6,000
Vehicles										
Total Exp by Yr	81,166	108,950	32,827	0	35,000	35,000	135,000	80,000	74,400	70,000
Heavy Equipment										
Total Exp by Yr	0	0	300,000	0	0	0	175,000	0	0	0
Paving										
Total Exp by Yr	0	757,125	448,125	318,750	281,250	131,250	0	84,375	375,000	530,625
Opportunity Fund										
Total Exp by Yr	65,097	60,000	60,000	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Totals										
Total Exp by Yr	146,262	941,175	881,352	332,750	316,250	168,650	313,500	172,875	485,400	606,625
Yearly Planning Budget	431,484	435,234	446,634	446,634	446,634	446,634	446,634	446,634	446,634	446,634
Interest Earned	8,168									
Transfer from Gen Fund	104,650									
Capital Plan Balance	930,366	424,425	(10,293)	103,591	233,974	511,958	645,092	918,851	880,085	720,093
Total Audited Capital Plan Balance end of FY2018	\$532,327									

* See facing page and Capital Improvement Committee report on page 56.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018		\$ 532,326.79
Revenues:		
Interest earned	8,167.56	
FY19 Appropriation (Budget Line Item)	431,484.00	
Transfer from General Fund Surplus	104,650.00	
		<u>544,301.56</u>
Expenses:		
FY19 Local Matching Funds for Grants	(57,077.78)	
Debt Service: Vehicle Loan Payments	(63,949.87)	
Purchase Hydroseeder and Trailer	(17,215.98)	
Recreation Field Project	(4,010.00)	
Old LaPerle Farm	(3,680.00)	
Hudson Property	(328.72)	
		<u>(146,262.35)</u>
Ending Bank Balance – June 30, 2019		<u><u>\$ 930,366.00</u></u>



Capital Reserve for the Emergency Services Facility (ESF)

In the agreements reached with the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) for the use of the ESF (a town-owned building), the EMFD agreed to use a portion of the ambulance service revenue to fund a capital reserve to cover long-term maintenance of the facility. Routine maintenance is covered by the EMFD's operating budget. The Town, in conjunction with EMFD, has developed a capital plan covering the life expectancies of most capital items connected with the facility. A portion of those costs will be covered by EMFD capital reserve, a portion by Calais, and the remainder by the Town. The Town's capital plan includes expected outlays for ESF capital items and the expectation is that the Town's portion will be covered by its capital reserve fund.

Also Note: The East Montpelier Fire Department holds recent years' capital contributions for future equipment and truck replacement in its accounts. On June 30, 2019, the EMFD had **\$93,143** designated in a capital account. In any calendar year, the Department may spend up to \$20,000 of capital account funds for emergency purchases at its own discretion. Any capital purchase exceeding \$20,000 requires approval by both Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards or, at the discretion of the Selectboards, may require approval by the voters of both towns with a warned article at Town Meeting. The Emergency Services Fund, which contains the ESF bond remainder money, is used for minor upgrades, like protective flooring in the fire truck bay areas.

EAST MONTPELIER CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Tim Lamson was elected chair and Emily Goyette was named clerk for 2019-2020. It is our intention that the graves of all veterans be marked with a flag. Please advise the commission if a grave has been missed.

Tasks for the 2020 season include:

- Mow and maintain landscape as usual
- Maintain all equipment
- Purchase a new zero-turn mowing tractor and trailer
- Replace and paint posts at White cemetery
- Remove fallen tree and install sign at Clark cemetery
- Replace flags before Memorial Day
- Burn Doty and Tinkham brush
- Deal with woodchucks in Tinkham and Quaker
- Paint as needed in the Village cemetery
- Continue creating boxes on posts at each cemetery (similar to those at the East Montpelier Trail access points) containing plastic-coated sheets in a ring binder with map and location of graves, and perhaps visitor sign-in sheet

2019 activities in addition to routine mowing and trimming:

- Steps to the Willard Cutler cemetery were built from Cummings Road to the cemetery to eliminate the need to go through a private backyard for access
- Pressure treated posts were installed at Cate and Quaker; posts at Gould and Willard-Cutler were stained and signs were installed
- Revolutionary, Civil, and WWI war markers for the veterans in the Willard Cutler and Gould cemeteries were installed
- Grave openings/closings are now performed by a subcontractor supervised by Elliott Morse
- The “Summary Information Sheet for Prospective Lot Owners” was amended

Future anticipated expenses:

- Land acquisition for additional burial space

A budget of \$22,000 was developed for this coming year:

- Payroll \$16,000
- Fence Painting & Repair \$2,000
- Flags & markers \$150
- Tree & Invasive Plant Control \$500
- Equipment maintenance \$2,000
- Fuel \$500
- Cemetery Association Fees \$100
- Miscellaneous \$750

Note: The purchase of a new mowing tractor and trailer, estimated at \$8,000, has been approved by the Selectboard utilizing the capital reserve fund.

Burial lots are available in the Doty cemetery. Costs are as follows:

- Four-grave plot \$1,400, includes \$750 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers
- Two-grave plot \$800, includes \$375 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers
- Cremation plot \$550, includes \$225 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers

The committee thanks Tim Lamson and Elliott Morse for their leadership and historical perspective.

MARK LANE

TIM LAMSON
JON BOUCHER

ELLIOTT MORSE
EMILY GOYETTE

CEMETERY FUNDS

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 93,048.65
Income:	
Voted 2018 Town Meeting Article	17,250.00
Sale of plots (perpetual care)	3,750.00
Sale of plots (expendable)	3,450.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	250.00
	<u>24,700.00</u>
Interest Income	2,116.67
Care of Cemeteries Expense (see below)	(17,180.01)
Ending Balance - June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 102,685.31</u></u>

BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2019

Expendable Funds:	
People's Bank Account	6,608.52
Interest on Northfield Savings Bank CD	1,644.52
	<u>8,253.04</u>
Non-Expendable Perpetual Care Funds:	
Northfield Savings Bank (NSB) CD	71,725.00
People's Bank - from sale of lots*	3,750.00
North Country Fed Credit Union CD	21,500.00
	<u>96,975.00</u>
<i>*to be added to CD when it matures 1/17/20</i>	
Cemetery Funds in accounts on June 30, 2019	\$ 105,228.04
Minus Liability: Accrued Payroll	(1,541.73)
Minus Liability: Accounts Payable	(1,001.00)
Total Cemetery Funds - June 30, 2019	<u><u>\$ 102,685.31</u></u>

CEMETERY EXPENSES

Payroll	\$ 12,909.76
Fencing	591.76
Stone Cleaning & Repair	29.00
Trees & Invasive Species	182.50
New Corner Markers	481.00
Equipment Maintenance	1,016.76
Fuel	226.67
Miscellaneous	1,742.56
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$ 17,180.01</u></u>

SANDY PINES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 40,821.50
Loan Repayments from Housing Foundation, Inc.	15,830.40
Interest earned in FY19.....	796.96
Annual Payment to State of VT (as per below)	(8,313.68)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	\$ <u>49,135.18</u>

Revolving loan/grant of Sandy Pines funds:

EMSLI (East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative)	
Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018	\$ 19,684.03
Interest earned in FY19	312.60
Expense - Thunder Mill Design	(2,525.00)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2019	\$ <u>17,471.63</u>

The Town of East Montpelier was awarded a grant of \$318,900.00 from the Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) to fund the replacement of the sewage systems of Sandy Pines Mobile Home Park. The Town loaned the money to the Housing Foundation, Inc. at three (3%) percent per annum amortized over thirty (30) years. The project was completed in 1999.

Repayment Terms: Principal and interest payments began Sept. 1, 2004. Monthly installments are in the amount of \$1,319.20, with the balance of any remaining indebtedness due and payable on June 1, 2022. Under VCDP rules, half of the principal and interest collected are to be turned over to the State annually.

Repayment Deferral: On August 15, 2005, the Selectboard approved a 5.5-year deferral of repayments and extension of the life of the loan as requested by the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA). The VSHA used the deferred payments (\$15,830 per year) for the repair and upgrade of the water and electrical systems at Sandy Pines. Repayment of the \$311,472.78 balance resumed on April 1, 2011. Final loan payment is due on December 1, 2027.

Revolving Loan Fund: The Revolving Loan Advisory Committee (RLAC) reviews appropriate uses for the town's portion of the repayment of VCDP funds. In 2019, at the RLAC's recommendation, the Selectboard disbanded the existing committee in favor of a state-approved alternative model whereby the Selectboard acts as the RLAC with the assistance of an advisor, currently Becca Schrader.

In 2013, the East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative (EMSLI) requested funds for engineering tests and permit applications for a proposed senior housing project in East Montpelier. The committee conducted a public meeting in November 2013 to discuss this potential obligation and voted to recommend \$20,000 as a grant with the stipulation that if EMSLI moves forward and can acquire funding to build, that this grant be transitioned into a deferred loan. The Selectboard voted to approve the grant/loan to EMSLI and in 2018 extended the term to February 15, 2020. *EMSLI's annual report appears on page 40.*

CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2019 brought the first opportunity for the committee to utilize the revised project guidelines for accessing the town's Conservation Fund. The second phase of the Fairmont Dairy/Vermont Land Trust effort to conserve the former Lylehaven properties, this time targeting the main farm property located on Lylehaven Road, is nearing completion. As part of that project the Cross Vermont Trail Association will purchase a permanent trails easement that will bring the trail from the town-owned Benton property on US Rte. 2 up to VT Rte. 14 on its way to Plainfield. The committee recommended, and the Selectboard authorized, a contribution of \$5,000 toward the easement purchase.

The committee continues to appreciate the town's long support of land conservation through the use of the Conservation Fund. Town funding has helped protect nearly 3,095 acres, 72% of the 4,285 total acres conserved town-wide. No appropriation is requested for the Conservation Fund this year as the fund will still have a healthy balance of over \$20,500 after paying out the \$5,000 for the trails easement.

CHARLES JOHNSON, *Chair* BRIAN LUSIGNAN
 BRUCE HOWLETT GINNY CALLAN NATALIE CHAPELL
 NORA DUANE HANNAH PHILLIPS

CONSERVATION FUND SUMMARY

Date	Project	Town Funds	Total Amount	Acres
12/7/90	Cleaves Farm	\$ 32,000	\$ 301,968	285
5/14/93	Bair/Chapell	4,000	264,030	479
10/13/94	Sparrow Farm	31,000	307,975	163
6/28/96	Frihauff/VLT	5,000	106,470	167
10/24/96	Sibley Farm	10,000	229,895	172
6/16/99	Christiansen Farm	14,795	150,000	237
10/12/04	Mallory Brook/Pratt	15,000	400,000	481
6/15/06	Clark Farm, phase 1	5,000	177,500	72
2/5/07	Fairmont Farm	10,000	316,092	159
6/19/08	Benton Project	12,000	120,000	11.5
3/5/12	Soule (Coburn Rd)	2,100	21,000	5
1/15/14	Clark Farm, phase 2	4,685	136,385	134.7
11/2/15	Ormsbee Farm	15,000	15,000	171.5
9/27/17	Fairmont Dairy	6,000	\$470,000	361
pending	Fairmont Dairy	5,000	\$630,000	196
Total Completed Projects		\$ 171,580	\$3,646,315	3,094.7

ABSTRACT OF THE GRAND LIST — 2019 EQUALIZATION STUDY*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - 2019 EQUALIZATION STUDY									
East Montpelier 12195									
School Dist. ID: 65									
Category	Property Count	ED Form 411 Listed Value	CUSE Value	Education Listed Value	Municipal Listed Value	Applied Ratio	Education Equalized Value	Municipal Equalized Value	Average List Value
				Excl. CUSE	Excl. CUSE				Incl. State Exemption
Residential 1	489	111,671,300	0	111,671,300	111,431,300	95.06	117,474,542	117,222,070	227,876
Residential 2	402	136,432,853	849,800	135,583,053	135,433,053	92.35	147,705,874	147,543,449	357,478
Mob.Home-Unlanded	57	1,312,300	0	1,312,300	1,312,300	102.44	1,281,043	1,281,043	23,023
MMobile Home-Landed	47	6,263,900	0	6,263,900	6,203,900	94.43	6,633,379	6,569,840	131,998
Seasonal 1	5	1,167,400	0	1,167,400	1,167,400	94.43	1,236,260	1,236,260	233,480
Seasonal 2	5	1,401,100	7,600	1,393,500	1,393,500	94.43	1,483,669	1,483,669	297,000
Commercial	48	17,512,000	17,700	17,494,300	17,540,800	94.73	18,486,108	18,535,195	368,254
Commercial Apts	3	3,434,600	0	3,434,600	3,434,600	94.73	3,625,673	3,625,673	1,144,867
Industrial-Manufac.	3	3,359,900	0	3,359,900	3,359,900	94.73	3,546,817	3,546,817	1,119,967
Utilities-Electric	10	7,119,600	0	7,119,600	8,255,200	94.94	7,499,052	8,695,176	825,520
Utilities-Other	1	290,800	0	290,800	290,800	94.73	306,978	306,978	290,800
Farm	25	7,651,840	873,700	6,778,140	6,778,140	94.73	8,071,817	8,071,817	541,128
Other & Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
Miscellaneous	95	7,232,551	296,900	6,935,651	6,933,251	94.73	7,632,971	7,630,437	105,176
Total Real Prop.	1,190	304,850,144	1,943,400	302,804,444	303,534,144		324,984,183	325,748,424	
Personal Property:									
			Cable	Inv. Exempt	0	100.00	559,731	0	
			Inventory	Inv. Exempt	0	100.00	Inv. Exempt	0	
			Machinery & Equipment	M&E Exempt	0	100.00	M&E Exempt	0	
			Total Personal Property		0		572,108	0	
GRAND TOTAL (Real and Personal Property)			\$303,364,175	\$303,364,175	\$303,534,144	93.82	\$325,543,914	\$325,748,424	Townwide COD
----- Listed Value of Contracts and Exemptions -----									
Total Approved VEPC:	0			Total Grandfathered Exemptions:		0			
Total Approved TIF District:	0			Total Municipal Contracts (Owner Pays Ed. Tax):		0			
Total Non-Approved Exemptions:	2,400			Total Special Exemptions Value:		1,182,100		Certified to County:	\$325,544,000
Total Partial-Statutory Exempt.:	0			Total Current Use Reduction Value:		16,262,656		Certified to State:	\$325,544,000
Total Veterans Exemptions EGL:	150,000			Total PVR-Applied - EGL:		0			
Total Veterans Exemptions MGL:	600,000			Total PVR-Applied - MGL:		0			
*from 12/18/19 Certified Final Computation Sheet									
VT Division of Property Valuation & Review									

**from 12/18/19 Certified Final Computation Sheet
VT Division of Property Valuation & Review*

BOARD OF LISTERS REPORT

In the Town of East Montpelier, between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019, there were 24 “arms-length sales.” An arms-length sale is a valid sale between two private parties. In the previous period, April through March (2017–2018), there were 32 valid sales and in 2016–2017 for the same period there were 33 such sales.

In 2019 the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) decreased from 95.32% to 93.82%. This change of the CLA factor, in the equation that determines the Town’s residential education tax rate, will tend to increase that tax rate.

The Town’s COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) increased from 10.14% last year to 10.58% in 2019. The COD is a measure of the disparity in the ratios of assessed values to arms-length sales price that in the aggregate make up the CLA as measured against the median values of these ratios. In essence, the COD measures the fairness of the assessed values relative to each other. The smaller the COD, the more equitable the assessments. When the COD rises to 20%, the State of Vermont mandates a town-wide reappraisal.

This year there has been a change to the CLA value that triggers a Town-wide reappraisal. Before, this value was 80%, but it has now been raised to 85%. Also, if the CLA rises above 115% a Town-wide reappraisal is mandated, where before there was no upper limit.

The Listers of East Montpelier would like to thank the people of East Montpelier for their cooperation as we fulfill the duties of our office.

ROSS HAZEL
ROB CHICKERING
CHRIS RACANELLI

CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for East Montpelier							
1998	100.93%	2004	77.38%	2009*	98.73%	2014	94.10%
1999	99.99%	2005	68.91%	2010	98.92%	2015	94.60%
2000	100.35%	2006	60.89%	2011	97.16%	2016	94.94%
2001	98.69%	2007	57.55%	2012	98.22%	2017	95.83%
2002	92.27%	2008	56.44%	2013	98.98%	2018	95.32%
2003	87.67%				* Reappraisal	2019	93.82%

See Final Computation Sheet of 2019 Equalization Study on the facing page



The Selectboard created the Rural Road Vegetation Assessments Project Advisory Committee in summer 2017 when the Town received a grant for a rural roadside vegetation assessment. Joanne Garton with the Urban & Community Forestry Program (UCFP) of the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (VTFPR) served as our project leader. We inventoried rural roadside vegetation and developed recommendations for long-term maintenance of roadside vegetation to manage stormwater runoff, maintain or improve wildlife habitat, and plan for the future of scenic and culturally important roadside hedgerows and forests. The completed plan, entitled Rural Road Resilient Right-of-Ways Vegetation Assessment, is available on the Town website.

Focus on Emerald Ash Borer in 2019: Our Committee, now renamed the Resilient Roads Committee to match our evolving mission, has taken the lead on the development of an action plan for dealing with the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a non-native, invasive insect that is expected to kill most ash trees across Vermont. Once trees are infested, they die quickly and the wood becomes very brittle, creating potential hazards along roadsides and near homes. The insect was first detected in Vermont in February 2018. Already detected in nearby towns and the City of Montpelier, it has not yet been detected in East Montpelier.

In early summer 2019, with continued assistance from Ms. Garton and UCFP, and funded by a VTFPR grant, citizen volunteers inventoried all the ash trees, 6-inch diameter and larger, within the town road rights-of-way. With grant-funded assistance from the Central VT Regional Planning Commission, we have been developing a Roadside Ash Tree Management Plan (posted on the Town website). Approaches will include public education, prioritizing removal of trees that are now in fair or poor condition or hanging over roadsides, treating distinctive “historic trees,” and initiating a pilot project at U-32. We are coordinating with Washington Electric Co-op, which is actively removing ash along the town’s roadways. We also have been in contact with Green Mountain Power.

Projects: The Committee has applied for a \$15,000 grant (with equal town match) to fund a pilot project at U-32 on Gallison Hill Road. The project will include removing approximately 17 large roadside ash trees and replacing several ash trees on the U-32 campus that were part of the landscaping during the school renovations. The project may extend to other nearby areas of Gallison Hill, Wheeler, and Schoolhouse Roads if the funding allows. On January 13, 2020 we held a public forum and hearing. The well-attended forum provided information about the threats associated with EAB, and how we propose to address them. There was significant feedback from the public on how they’d like us to proceed. The hearing was conducted by the tree warden, as required by law, and only addressed removal of specific trees associated with the pilot project. The decision was pending at the time of this writing. More information will be at Town Meeting.

Committee Members: Jeff Cueto (chair), Jean Vissering, Paul Cate, Steve Justis, Jen Boyer, Jack Pauly, Mark Lane, Guthrie Perry, Carl Etnier

Resilient Right-of-Ways Project Data East Montpelier, VT 3. Roadside Ash Impact



Vermont Department of
Forests, Parks & Recreation
10/000

Cartographer: Elizabeth Barre
Date: 12/13/2018

This map is for illustrative purposes only. The accuracy of the data shown on this map is limited by the accuracy of the source materials. No warranty is made by the state of Vermont as to the accuracy of the data represented or implied.



Legend

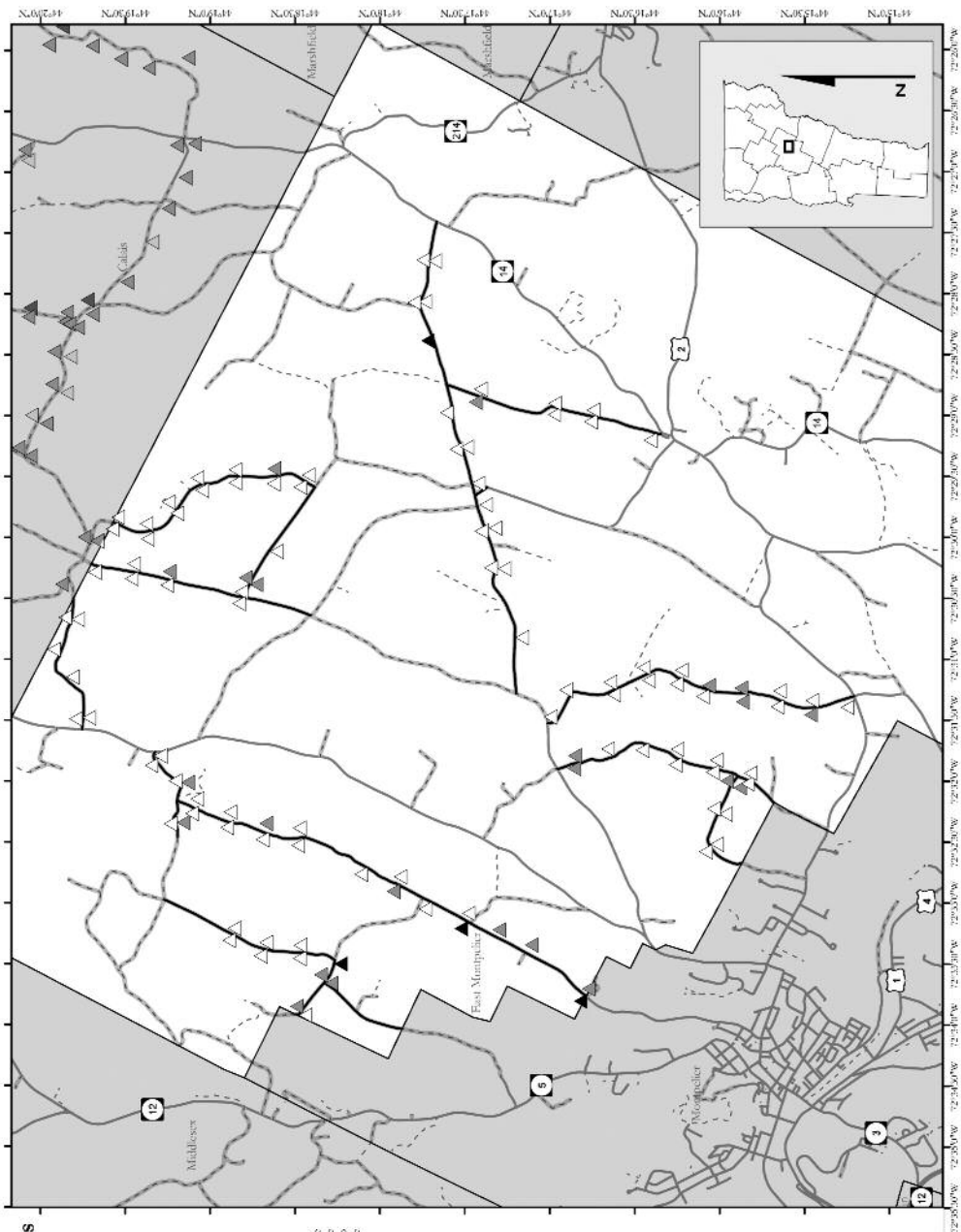
Inventory Roads

Percent canopy

- ▲ High (>90%)
- ▲ Medium (30-90%)
- △ Low (<10%)

Road Surface

- Paved
- - - Unpaved
- · · Other



One of many maps
in the Rural Road
Resilient Right-of-
Ways Vegetation
Assessment on the
town website at
eastmontpelier.vt.org

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission experienced some turnover in its membership in 2019. Norman Hill, Jay Stewart, and Ray Stout stepped off of the commission; their service is much appreciated. We welcomed new members: Zach Sullivan was elected in March, and Siu Tip Lam and Clarice Cutler were appointed by the Selectboard to serve until the 2020 Town Meeting.

The update to the Land Use and Development Regulations continued to be the PC's primary focus during the year. With funds from a state Municipal Planning Grant, the PC worked with our consultant, Brandy Saxton from PlaceSense, to draft a comprehensive update to the regulations. The draft update includes new village districts to implement the 2017 *East Montpelier Village Master Plan*, and other changes to modernize the regulations and implement the 2018 *Town Plan*. Four public events were held in May and June to present the proposed zoning districts and obtain feedback. Some elements of the draft proposal were well received; many other elements were not. The PC appreciates all of the interest and comments, both positive and negative. All of the feedback is being considered as the PC works to update the zoning regulations. This work will continue to be a primary commission focus in 2020. Meanwhile, the town's zoning remains unchanged. State law requires an extensive public process and multiple public hearings before zoning regulations can be amended. Notices of public meetings and hearings will be made on the town website, Front Porch Forum and, schedule permitting, the *Signpost*.

With assistance from the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, the PC successfully submitted an application to the state to have North Montpelier be a Designated Village Center. East Montpelier Village has been a Designated Village Center since 2008. Village Center designation enables businesses to be eligible for tax credits to renovate historic structures, and provides the town priority consideration for state grants.

Other PC actions have included: supporting the Fairmont Dairy/VT Land Trust application to conserve the former Lylehaven farm with an easement for the Cross Vermont Trail, and providing comments to the Selectboard on the proposal to establish a Conservation Commission.

Various PC members serve on other related committees, including: the Old LaPerle Farm Committee, the Capital Improvement Committee, the Energy Committee, the Resilient Roads Committee, the Development Review Board, and the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

The PC holds its regular meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 PM in the municipal building. The PC encourages interested citizens to attend any of its meetings; meetings begin with an opportunity for public comment. Persons may also contact any of the PC members below:

JULIE POTTER, <i>Chair</i>	JACK PAULY	JEAN VISSERING
KIM WATSON, <i>Vice Chair</i>	MARK LANE	ZACH SULLIVAN
SIU TIP LAM, <i>Corr. Secretary</i>	SCOTT HESS	CLARICE CUTLER

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

After an incredibly consistent recent run of, on average, 54 issued permits per year, we had a 20% jump in permit activity during 2019, much of it centered on parcel reconfigurations and the resultant need for new access points. Residential development continues to grow at a moderate pace, with 5 new single-family dwellings, including 1 with a detached accessory dwelling, 3 new or converted duplexes, and 10 new building lots. There's been little in the way of new commercial activity, but we're happy to welcome Classic Properties to town at its new location along US Rte. 2 in East Montpelier Village.

Zoning Applications Submitted Jan. 1, 2019 – Dec. 31, 2019

10	New & Replacement Dwellings
25	Residential alteration, addition, garage, or accessory structure
11	Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment
5	Commercial, Multi-Family, Public Facility, or Sign
14	Access or Right-of-Way Permits
65	Total Zoning Permit Applications

In addition to providing staff support to the Planning Commission and Development Review Boards, the Zoning Administrator's job includes guiding applicants through the zoning process, issuing zoning permits, enforcing the zoning regulations, and serving as the town's E-911 coordinator and sewage officer.

Remember that the town plan, zoning regulations, application forms, maps, and much more are available on the town website: <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>. One thing you should always do, even for minor projects, is contact the state permit specialist for our region, Peter Kopsco (802-505-5367). Please contact me if you have any questions about your project, the zoning regulations, or the permitting and approval process.

—C. BRUCE JOHNSON, *Zoning Administrator*



DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT (DRB)

The DRB is responsible for all local board review and management of land development in town. Permit applications that the Zoning Administrator is not empowered to approve or deny, under East Montpelier's Land Use and Development Regulations, are publicly reviewed by the DRB. The DRB also handles appeals of actions taken by the Zoning Administrator. The DRB convenes to review applications as needed on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal office building. In addition, special or continued meetings will be held when necessary. All meetings are open to the public.

In 2019, the DRB met 9 times and conducted the following reviews:

- 7 Site Plan, Conditional Use, and/or Permit Compliance
- 8 Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment

4	Appeal, Variance, and/or Waiver
7	Sketch Plan and/or Conceptual Site Plan
26	Total DRB hearings

The current members of the DRB are: Steve Kappel (Chair), Jeff Cueto (Vice-Chair), Clarice Cutler, Glenn Weyant, Mark Lane, Norman Hill, Steve Justis, Kim Watson, and Lauren Oates. Kristi Flynn, who is not a member of the DRB, serves as the Recording Secretary.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE *

The CIC has been meeting since 2013 to develop a capital improvement program and budget for the town. The CIC consists of five members, one selectboard member, one planning commissioner, the town treasurer and two members at large. Agendas and meeting minutes, the East Montpelier Capital Planning Process, our Future Needs Survey, details of the Capital Improvement plan, and Capital Reserve budgets adopted by the Selectboard are on the Town website.

Each year in the spring we solicit input from various town boards and committees, town officials, community organizations, and town residents, on projected future needs. We accept input and suggestions at any time. The group or individual proposing a project is responsible for defining the extent and costs of a project. The CIC's role in this process is to identify which projects are most important to the Town and how they might be financed. At this juncture there is no long line of projects looking for funding. We have heard some ideas from a few groups but have received little follow up information.

The CIC has reviewed and refined budgets for building maintenance, paving, truck and heavy equipment purchases. This year's recommendation for the Capital Reserve budget contribution has been included by the Selectboard in the Town FY2021 Budget.

We strongly feel that it is important to plan and save for the Town's future needs so that taxpayers in the town are not faced with large tax increases for projects that have not been carefully studied and adequately funded.

GENE TROIA, *Chair (Selectboard member)*

KIM WATSON (*Planning Commissioner*)

DON WELCH (*Town Treasurer*)

ED DEEGAN (*Member at Large*)

CASEY NORTHRUP (*Member at Large*)

*See *Capital Planning Budget Executive Summary and Capital Reserve Fund* on pp. 44–45.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

After a flurry of meetings and elections, the existing five school districts, U-32, and Washington Central Supervisory Union merged into the Washington Central Unified Union School District on July 1, 2019.

2020 is a Presidential Election year, so we'll be looking forward to seeing voters at Town Meeting, the August Primary and the General Election in November. 2020 also marks the 30th Anniversary of the *Signpost* newsletter as well as the Vermont centennial of women's right to vote. An excerpt from papers kept by the Vermont Historical Society speaks to its ratification in Vermont:

The 19th amendment was passed by Congress in 1919 and then sent to the states to be ratified. It was received in Vermont after the legislative session had ended, and in spite of the work of the state's suffragists, Governor Percival Clement refused to convene a special session to vote on the amendment. The national amendment was ratified in 1920, but Vermont did not amend its constitution until 1924.

Town Clerk Clark Sibley administered the Freeman's Oath on Tuesday, March 2, 1920 and added the following women to the Town's checklist:

<i>The following women took the Freeman's oath and their names were added to the check-</i>			
<i>Abbate, Nellie M.</i>	<i>Collins, Nellie B.</i>	<i>Lyford, Minnie M.</i>	<i>Let</i>
<i>Ambuckle, Jennie M.</i>	<i>Conant, Bessie B.</i>	<i>McKnight, Ella</i>	
<i>Bradger, Jennie B.</i>	<i>Dix, Maydean</i>	<i>Morse, K. Maude</i>	
<i>Bean, Edna</i>	<i>Dudley, Belle</i>	<i>Paine, Ruth G.</i>	
<i>Benjamin, Nellie M.</i>	<i>Dudley, Lina W.</i>	<i>Porter, Mae Wilson</i>	
<i>Burnham, Annie G.</i>	<i>Fitch, Francis H.</i>	<i>Pitkin, Bertha</i>	
<i>Buchanan, Gleora A.</i>	<i>Gladding, Jennie</i>	<i>Pray, Ina B.</i>	
<i>Cate, Azubah</i>	<i>Gould, Laura</i>	<i>Sanborn, Laura</i>	
<i>Chandler, Agnes Jean</i>	<i>Gray, Ethel</i>	<i>Silly, Inez G.</i>	
<i>Clark, Mary C.</i>	<i>Hammett, Alice S.</i>	<i>Silly, Jessie N.</i>	
<i>Clark, C. Ette</i>	<i>Killie, Clara C.</i>	<i>Sparrow, Ida T.</i>	
<i>Clark, Flora D.</i>	<i>Kelton, Mary</i>	<i>Thayer, Addie E.</i>	
<i>Clark, Julia</i>	<i>Kelton, Rachel</i>	<i>Townsend, Mabel C.</i>	
<i>Clark, Elsie</i>	<i>Kelton, Lucie M.</i>	<i>Whita, Bertha A.</i>	
<i>Coburn, Belle</i>	<i>Little, Alice S.</i>		

Registering to vote is one of many services available at the Town Clerk's office. Please stop by to get certified copies of vital records, license your dog, register to vote or get information from various agencies and services. We look forward to serving you in the upcoming year!

—ROSIE LAQUERRE, *Town Clerk*
DENISE SPARROW, *Assistant Town Clerk*

PASS-THROUGH ACCOUNTS

FY19:	<i>Paid to State</i>	<i>Balance Due</i>
Dog State Rabies Program	\$ 439	\$ 63
Dog State Spay / Neuter Program	1,756	252
Marriage Licenses	550	0
<i>(Pass-through funds are fees collected by the Town Clerk and paid to the State)</i>	\$ 2,745	\$ 315

ANIMAL LICENSES

All dogs and wolf-hybrids 6 (six) months of age or older shall annually on or before **April 1** be licensed. Any dog that is acquired after April 1 or becomes 6 (six) months old during the year shall be licensed within 30 days.

Fees for licensing a dog or wolf-hybrid are as follows:

- | | Late
registration |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Neutered/Spayed dogs or wolf-hybrids | \$9.00 \$11.00 |
| 2. Unneutered/Unspayed dogs or wolf-hybrids | \$13.00 \$17.00 |

Note: For each license sold, \$5.00 pass through to the State as follows:
\$1.00 to State Rabies Program; \$4.00 to VT Spay/Neuter Program (below).

Spaying or neutering certificates from veterinarian **must** be exhibited.

A current rabies vaccination certificate **must** be filed with the Town Clerk.

Current rabies vaccination means that:

- (1) dog/wolf hybrid over 3 months or less than 1 year of age has been vaccinated
- (2) dog/wolf hybrid within 9–12 months of initial vaccination must receive a booster shot
- (3) dog/wolf hybrid subsequent vaccination following initial vaccination shall be valid for 36 months

[V.S.A. Title 20, Section 3581]

VOTER REGISTRATION

Do you need to register to vote?

It's easier than ever and there are several ways to do it:

- When you renew or change the address on your license at DMV, they will send new voter information to the Town Clerk of your town of residence.
- Go to “My Voter Page” online to register at <https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us/>
- Register at the polls to get on the checklist and receive a ballot that day.
- Go to the Town Clerk’s office and complete the form.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town Clerk:

Call 223-3313 ext.201 or email: clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org



Keep them safe... Inoculate!

Rabies & Dog Licensing Clinic

Thursday, March 12, 2020

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

DOGS & CATS

**East Montpelier Fire Department
Station #2 – 54 Village Acres**

Vaccines: \$20.00 per animal

East Montpelier Dog Licenses: \$ 9.00 for spayed/neutered;
\$13.00 for unaltered

Please plan to pay for licensing and vaccinations separately.

RABIES & VT SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

Neutering and spaying your pet helps control the population and reduces the chance for mammary and testicular cancer in pets. **Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program** (VSNIP) offers affordable spaying and neutering through most veterinarians. Applications and guidelines for the income sensitive VSNIP spay/neuter program are available at the Town Clerk's office (223-3313) and at the annual Rabies Clinic in March.

Thank you to Dr. Tom Stuwe, DVM for his continued willingness to vaccinate pets. **Staff from the East Montpelier Town Clerk's office will be on hand to license dogs.**

VOTING RECORD AND POPULATION

East Montpelier Residents per 2010 Census: 2,576

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Registered</u>	<u>Australian Ballot (AB)</u>	<u>AB / FV Percentage</u>	<u>Floor Vote (FV)</u>
Town Meeting:				
2019	2,103	560	27% / 7%	147
2018	2,058	554	27% / 8%	165
2017	2,115	552	26% /	
2016	2,025	1,130	56% / 14%	290
2015	1,997	571	29% / 10%	190
2014	1,995	543	27% / 13%	255
2013	2,109	576	27% / 10%	216
2012	2,037	696	34% / 11%	218
2011	2,028	510	25% / 11%	214
2010	1,990	650	33% / 11%	213
2009	2,057	880	43% / 13%	262
2008	1,903	1,151	60% / 16%	301
2007	2,102	743	35% / 11%	222
2006	2,059	674	33% / 12%	249
2005	2,076	626	30% / 8%	160
2004	1,984	807	41% / 8%	164
2003	2,011	525	26% / 8%	167
2002	1,973	587	30% / 15%	294
2001	1,993	513	26% / 8%	156
2000	1,832	727	40% /	
Primary Election:				
2018	2,200	633	29%	
2016	2,024	889	44%	
2014	1,986	147	7%	
2012	2,052	326	16%	
2010	2,011	730	36%	
2008	1,942	160	8%	
2006	2,066	423	20%	
2004	2,053	224	11%	
2002	1,995	394	20%	
2000	1,892	724	38%	
General Election:				
2018	2,223	1,400	63%	
2016	2,107	1,631	77%	
2014	2,014	1,093	54%	
2012	2,116	1,600	76%	
2010	2,038	1,330	65%	
2008	2,046	1,675	82%	
2006	2,097	1,450	69%	
2004	2,116	1,569	74%	
2002	2,029	1,300	64%	
2000	2,020	1,530	76%	

CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

To change a name
or address on the
voter checklist,
real estate
Grand List,
or dog license,
please contact:
Town Clerk
P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier
VT 05651
(802) 223-3313

— VITAL STATISTICS —
January 1 to December 31, 2019

BIRTHS

Esja Lange	Maddox Miles
Ellie Grandfield	Ava-Lynn Dodge
Bridget Leon	Sebastian Feld
Braeden Byrnes-Hershey	Ryden Sheeler
Robert Calhoun	Noelle Campbell-Nelson
Hana Yahm-Laird	Simone Lindberg
Vera Sullivan	Aurora Eley
Kellen Martin	

MARRIAGES

Bethany Preus & Hunter Winters
Lisa Fredette & Angus Mudge
Lindsay Helwig & Erin O'Hara
Linda Squier & Steven Gilman
Brittany Jones & Michael Hughes
Monica Gallardo & Jonathan Marshall
Abigail Albright & Brennan Jewett
Lisa Drown & Richard Finnegan
Gabrielle Chaloux & Adam Jeffery
India Gilbert & John Haywood, II

DEATHS

Marilyn Wingersky (77) *2018 Death Certificate delayed until 2019*

Evelyn Hendrickson (92)	John Hamilton (77)
Todd Field (55)	Albert Jerome (94)
Jewel Love (84)	Robert Barney (91)
Ruth Watson (89)	Bruce Richardson (78)
Dennis Hawkins (67)	Donald DeForge (76)
Timothy Carver (75)	Richard Martin (68)
Laurie Labarthe (78)	Faye Taylor (63)
Adair Graves (82)	Darlene Grundy (86)
Leon Hopkins, Jr. (81)	Gloria Biron (84)

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

One of the pleasures of being involved with the Four Corners Schoolhouse (FCSH) is welcoming, every spring, classes from the elementary school as they tour around East Montpelier sites learning a bit of the history of their town. For those of us whose children have grown and flown to far off places, it's a wonderful way to connect, momentarily as it is, with the present generations making their way through EMES. After informing the children that the present schoolhouse is the third such building on the site, I like to ask them if they know what happened to the first two (fire!). Or how kids got to school everyday (walking!). Or how families helped pay for their children's education (by supplying a set amount of firewood!). In this age where many children are unfamiliar with heating by wood or simply walking to their destination, even in Vermont, it's a treat to see the wheels turn as many of these kids start to envision the past.

As usual, we saw many returning users to the schoolhouse, chief among them the Bone Builders exercise group and the Sunday Singers (see page 41 for January singalong photos and more information), both of which are open to the public. Also returning were the Retired Teachers Association, VAST, and the Historical Society. Benedict Koehler and Hilari Farrington continued bringing world class Irish musicians to our little stage.

Every resident of East Montpelier is automatically a part of the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association. As such, anyone who wants to use the schoolhouse for events open to the public can do so for free. For private events, birthdays, reunions, and the like, there is a small fee to reserve the space. For events that might themselves charge a fee for attendance, there is an increased, but still reasonable, fee for use of the building.

Our little building gets used by well over a thousand people every year.

Anyone wishing to use the Schoolhouse should contact Rachael Grossman, our scheduler, at 223-3177, during civilized hours.

HOBIE GUION, *President*
DIANA FIELDER, *Vice-president*
PAULIE COBURN, *Treasurer*
RHODA CARROLL, *Secretary*
RACHAEL GROSSMAN, *Scheduler*
CAROLYN SHAPIRO, *Town Representative*
PETER BURROUGHS
SHAWN DAVIDIAN
BENEDICT KOEHLER
CHRIS REED



People came from as far away as Montreal to hear this renowned group of young musicians from Ireland. The Irish music concerts which are occasionally presented at FCSH have featured some of the greatest players of Irish traditional music in the world.



FCSH FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2018 \$ 5,952.38

Income

FY19 Town Funds	3,100.00
Rentals	1,310.00
Exercise Class	969.00
Donations	175.00
Sunday Singers	114.00
Insurance Refund	133.00

5,801.00

Expenses

Electricity	400.00
Fuel oil	1,106.13
Janitorial	680.00
Insurance	942.00
Mowing/Plowing	1,720.00
Misc	371.73

(5,219.86)

Ending Balance – June 30, 2019 \$ 6,533.52

Ending Balance breaks into the following funds:

Painting Fund	\$3,033.00
Septic Fund	160.00
Floor Refinishing Fund	540.00
General Fund	2,800.52

\$ 6,533.52

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

The *Signpost* celebrated its 30th anniversary this year. Volunteers Ken Hertz and Jennifer Boyer completed the archives on our website, www.emsignpost.com. Every issue since the first, in Sept/Oct 1990, can now be accessed online and be searched by subject. Thank you to them and all the volunteers who continue the community-building spirit that founded the *Signpost*: Terry Allen, Lyn Blackwell, Alex Brown, Hilari Farrington, Darryl Garland, Rachael Grossman, Renee Kievit-Kylar, Rosie Laquerre, Edie Miller, Carolyn Pastore, Barbara Ploof, Kate Rader, Mary Redmond, Merry Schmidt, Michelle Singer, and Ann Stanton.

Signpost volunteers continue to be heartened by taxpayer support—the financial aid voted at Town Meeting (since 2014)—as well as the sponsorships, contributions, and encouragement throughout the year. Our financial statement shows that we have accumulated reserves in excess of our goal of approximately one year’s expenses. Therefore, we will not be asking for our typical stipend from the town this year, which will bring our finances into the balance we seek. Next year, we expect to reintroduce our request for funds for 2021 and beyond.

We were happy to be able to look back to the beginning of the *Signpost* this year, revisiting some of the first local people and businesses featured in the pages of this community newsletter. We also continue to bring news to townspeople on multiple fronts while maintaining the community vision of Jean Cate: To get to know our neighbors so we can better support and help one another.

We always welcome new volunteers, ideas about what we should cover, photos and anecdotes, and any way people would like to help make the *Signpost* something you want to read.

This report shows the *Signpost* revenues and expenses for calendar year 2019 and notes the balances at NorthCountry Federal Credit Union, the sole holder of *Signpost* funds.

NCFCU Checking Account

Beginning Balance – January 1, 2019	\$ 9,773.85
Income: FY19 Town Funds (TM18, Art. 9)	6,000.00
Income: Sponsorships	1,400.00
Income: Contributions	795.00
Expense: Printing & Postage	(9,255.01)
Expense: Misc Postage	(90.80)
Ending Balance – December 31, 2019	8,623.04

NCFCU Savings Account

Beginning Balance – January 1, 2019	7,895.06
Income: Interest	22.72
Ending Balance – December 31, 2019	7,917.78

TOTAL FUNDS, as of Dec. 31, 2019	<u><u>\$ 16,540.82</u></u>
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RECREATION BOARD

The East Montpelier Recreation Board has had a very busy and highly successful year. There has been a high level of participation across all our youth sports programs throughout the year; and we introduced a lacrosse program in the spring of 2019. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt featured over 2,000 hidden eggs and drew a large number of children. For the first time, we added a youth member to the Recreation Board for a one-year, non-voting term as a pilot program. This has added new perspectives and ideas to the board and will be seriously considered for continuation.

By far our biggest accomplishment over the past year has been the completion of our recreation field project. Thanks to the hard work and cooperation of recreation board and selectboard members, along with the efforts of the town road crew, the recreation field is safer, has better drainage, better facilities, more space, and will ultimately be more beautiful. Improved ditching, new culverts, and a raised and graded parking area has eliminated large areas of pooling water. The removal of the old fence, trees, shrubs, and poison ivy has opened up sight lines, making it easier to see children in the parking area and near the road as well as making sight lines better for vehicles exiting the field. New trees were planted between the field and roadway to provide a buffer into the future while still maintaining a more open area. As a culmination of the project, this fall the old and somewhat dilapidated shed was removed and a brand new shed installed. This new structure provides us with twice as much space, allowing storage of equipment for multiple sports and offering more space and opportunity for concessions. This fall we also received a \$4,196 recreation facility grant from the state. This money will be used to continue to upgrade the recreation field with additional bleachers, benches for soccer, and fencing upgrades.

—JACK ZEILENGA, *Chair*



The new Kimball Carson DeForge Memorial Score Board on opening day.

EAST MONTPELIER TRAILS, INC. (EMTI)

As we close out the year of 2019, we reflect on several challenges and successes on our trails. It can be hard to witness change on the trails, but change is the reality when we work with nature and with the mix of forest management, agricultural and recreational use. We are fortunate to have so many trail easements on conserved and private lands in East Montpelier.

Heavy rainfall in June brought high water and stream flow changes to the Mallory Brook, ripping out the staging for the Mallory Bridge replacement. In addition, the central pier, which had been in place for 15 years, was permanently destroyed. Even the massive stone foundation for the pier was nudged downstream. With the expectation of more intense storms in the future, we are planning a “wait and watch” approach to bridge design. For the next several years we advise crossing the stream only when the water level is low enough and warm enough to either wade or “rock hop.” We have marked a new route, which takes you to an easier place to cross.

We saw major logging operations on two trails; Mallory Brook Trail and Ormsbee Trail. Though we always hope for timely communication of any work planned in the area of the trail corridor, weather and unpredictable schedules of the various parties involved sometimes create a big surprise on the trail. We scurried last spring to flag a reroute on the Mallory trail at the Johnson Road entry. While additional logging will occur there in 2020, we hope not to encounter any

TD Bank checking account*

Beginning Balance – January 1, 2019	\$ 15,189.51
FY19 Town Funds (<i>TM18, Art. 10</i>)	4,000.00
Interest	12.66
Contributions	405.00
Expenses	(1,235.04)
Ending Balance – December 31, 2019	\$ 18,372.13

NorthCountry Federal Credit Union CD account**

Beginning Balance – January 1, 2019	\$14,007.54
Interest (<i>Certificate of Deposit</i>)	206.92
Ending Balance – December 31, 2019	\$ 14,214.46

TOTAL FUNDS, as of Dec. 31, 2019 **\$ 32,586.59**

* As in 2018, EM Trails holds a \$3,000 reserve for unforeseen problems (washouts, bridge collapses, etc.) in the TD Bank account, leaving \$15,372.13 available for upcoming projects. For non-financial reasons, EM Trails could not go forward with its anticipated Mallory Brook and Bobolink Trails projects during 2019.

** NCFCU funds were given solely for trail acquisition.



Clean up crew with their spanking clean Sparrow Farm Trail bridge.

big surprises. The Ormsbee Trail will look quite different following the Fairmont field expansion project. Once the ground thaws we will reposition the trail signage and replace the bench. Maybe we will even have a new view to admire.

During 2019, EMTI was fortunate to enlist expert volunteer labor to help maintain a portion of Sparrow Farm Trail found along the pasture fence line. With supervision provided by a herd of curious cows, volunteers from Montpelier Area Mountain Bike Association (MAMBA) and Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) installed four new boardwalk bridges allowing trail users to cross chronically wet areas and a small gully. These structures will also assist EMTI when the grassy portion of the trail needs periodic mowing.

We are pleased to report that every trailhead now has a sign with information on where to park and trail information, including which activities are permitted in each section of trail. Volunteers built these sturdy signs with funds from an Outdoor Gear Exchange Grant. Our board members spent many hours designing the maps, positioning the posts, and signing the paths with trail markers. It appears that the trails are getting more use and we hope that the new signage keeps you confidently on the trail.

Looking ahead to the 2020 field season, we hope to begin construction of the Bobolink Trail, which will connect the Mallory Brook South trail (from Cherry Tree Hill parking) to Towne Hill Road. From there, a stroll down Schoolhouse Road will bring you to the Clark Trail and then onto the U-32 trails. We would love to see major community involvement in this exciting project. Please send us your email address so that you can get in on the fun, and make your mark on the amazing East Montpelier Trail network.

We always welcome volunteers on our annual workday on National Trails Day, the first Saturday of June. This year that date is June 6, so mark your calendar and get your name on our volunteer list by contacting Dave at dhwebb67@gmail.com. Happy Trails!

—MARY STONE, *EMTI President*

emtrails.org

CROSS VERMONT TRAIL ASSOCIATION (CVTA)

Imagine a multi-use, four-season off-road trail across the width of Vermont following the Winooski River and Wells River, a 90 mile long greenway for cyclists, skiers, and walkers connecting communities, their schools, and the natural areas between. This vision has steadily moved toward reality through the work of the CVTA.

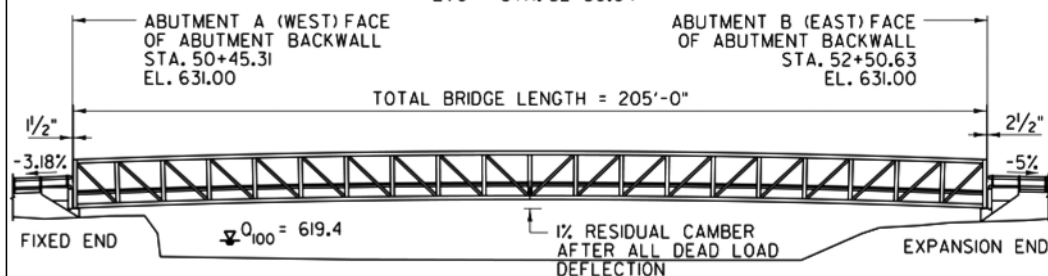
At the 2020 East Montpelier Town Meeting, we will request \$7,500 to help build 4.1 miles of trail and a 200-foot-long pedestrian and bicycle bridge across the Winooski River, located on and adjacent to U-32 School property. This will connect the school trails with the regional trail network. Progress in 2019:

- The project was cleared for construction, including all permits. Work will begin in 2020, to be done in phases over the course of two or three years.
- All landowner permissions are complete. CVTA thanks those East Montpelier landowners that donated easements (Winooski Hydroelectric Company, U-32 School, Central VT Habitat for Humanity, and the Town of East Montpelier). In addition, permissions were executed on State land (from VT Department of Fish and Wildlife and Vermont Agency of Transportation).
- This project will continue Montpelier's new "Siboinibi Path" (Stonecutters Way upstream to Central VT Memorial Civic Center) up to U-32 and then Route 14 where the trail already continues east on the former Montpelier–Wells River railbed. The new bridge and trail will provide a safe, off-road walking and biking route, as well as new trailhead parking with easy access to the Winooski River, a new universally-accessible fishing site at the water's edge, new walking paths through "hidden gems" of protected riparian forest land, and some "just for fun" loop trails for mountain biking on the bluffs overlooking the river. This project is our most challenging construction on the entire statewide trail.
- Fundraising is ongoing: The majority of costs will be paid by federal transportation grants secured by CVTA. Local donations from individuals, businesses, and towns are required to match the federal money. As of December 2019, CVTA had received nearly \$280,000 in local donations, a figure that includes \$7,500 previously committed by East Montpelier at its 2017 Town Meeting (and \$29,938 cumulatively from all U-32 member towns). Importantly, this \$280,000 exceeds the original goal for local donations. However, cost estimates have gone up due mostly to the jump in steel prices, so we are applying for additional federal and state grants which will require more local matching funds. If you'd like to make a donation, or have fundraising ideas to share, please contact CVTA any time.

Other CVTA and Cross Vermont Trail activities in East Montpelier in 2019:

- Signed a purchase and sale agreement with Fairmont Farm to purchase a trail easement on property west of Route 14. Once final, the trail built on this easement

VERTICAL CURVE DATA
 PVI STA. = 51+47.97
 PVI EL. 635.09'
 BVC = STA. 50+45.3
 EVC = STA. 52+50.64



WINOOSKI RIVER BRIDGE ELEVATION

SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"

will continue directly from the big Winooski Bridge trail project. Funding for purchase of the easement is primarily from the State Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, with local match provided by the Town of East Montpelier Conservation Fund, as previously approved by the Selectboard.

- Began repair of the major washout of the trail east of Route 14. This is damage from the storm of May 2011. An easement for a new trail location to bypass the washout has been secured from the landowner and the new trail around the washout will be completed in 2020.
- CVTA continued its annual partnership with East Montpelier Trails, carrying out routine maintenance on various trails throughout town.
- CVTA hosted the annual Central Vermont Cycling Tour in June, which starts and ends at Morse Farm on County Road. The tour offers three distance options for participants and runs on scenic roads in East Montpelier and neighboring towns. The Tour is also the annual meeting for the Cross Vermont Trail Association, and all are welcome to attend the free cook out and gathering, always the last Sunday in June. Mark your calendars now for 6/28/2020!

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. CVTA is funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. Residents of all towns through which the 90 mile long trail route passes are invited to get involved. Get better trails near where you live. Maps, guidebook, and more information on the trail routes are available at www.crossvermont.org, or call 802-498-0079.

—GREG WESTERN, *Executive Director*

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY REPORT

Since it was founded in 1894, Kellogg-Hubbard Library has encouraged lifelong learning and acted as a catalyst for the free exchange of ideas. Starting with a collection of 5,613 books when the building opened in 1896, the library now offers over 72,000 books, CDs, and DVDs, 84 magazine and newspaper subscriptions, 18,000 eBooks and eAudios, 52 online research databases, 14 public computers, internet access, outreach services, hundreds of programs for adults and children, and more. It represents a cornerstone of the community, connecting all kinds of people to learn new skills, find jobs, or simply find a book or movie.

Last year we counted 201,457 visits—that's an average of 676 people per day that we're open. Another 87,604 visited our website. Of the services we offer, lending physical materials is still the most popular: 276,026 books, audiobooks and DVDs last year. Our eBook and eAudio use saw 22,280 digital downloads, up from 16,253. Our online database use increased from 3,104 to 3,802 sessions, bringing total Library circulation to 302,108. We borrowed 2,878 items through Interlibrary Loan and loaned out 1,277 to libraries throughout Vermont. Community groups used our meeting rooms 386 times. We have 702 patrons from East Montpelier with active library cards. They checked out 14,632 items last year, in addition to digital downloads, which aren't tracked by town.

The Library offered 575 programs; 226 for children, 47 for young adults, and 302 for adults. Attendance totaled 10,012. Our Summer Reading program was a smashing success; we also saw many children for drop-in activities like fuse beads, board games, Legos, and crafts. We offer preschool story hour twice per week. In adult programming, PoemCity continues to thrive, as does our partnership with the Vermont Humanities Council for the First Wednesdays lecture series, and our speaker series partnership with the League of Women Voters.

Our Outreach program visited the Old Meeting House Community Lunch 13 times to deliver 290 books. Volunteers make regular daycare visits: 73 to East Montpelier daycares last year, delivering 1,016 books. Our Outreach Coordinator made story time and craft visits to E.M. Elementary School. We enjoyed partnering with the E.M. Fire Department for Fireman Story Time last summer.

This year Executive Director, Tom McKone retired, and we restructured our administration, going from 2.75 full-time positions to 2. We now operate with a Co-Directorship: Carolyn Brennan serving as Library Director and Jessie Lynn serving as Nonprofit Director. Some staff level positions were increased. We have a strong Board of Trustees; Lindy Biggs is East Montpelier's representative.

Our current budget is \$929,100. Taxpayers cover 52%, with the largest part coming from Montpelier. Fundraising, donations, grants, and earnings on the library's endowment provide the other 48% of revenue. This year we are not seeking any increases. We are asking East Montpelier voters to again approve **\$42,022** in support of the library. This is 4.5% of the cost of running the library, and residents get full access to one of Vermont's premier public libraries.

—CAROLYN BRENNAN, *Co-Director, Library Director*

FRIENDS OF COBURN POND

A gentle snow falls through a gray sky adding to the snow pack now covering the ice on our beloved swimming hole. While most popular during warmer months, enough people come to walk their dogs or themselves, with or without friends, that the path is fairly packed down underneath the light top layer of snow. Ice fishing holes are clearly evident.

Members of Friends of Coburn Pond walk down to the constructed wetlands throughout the year to observe the impacts to the pond of the outlet created by the unauthorized excavation of the southernmost shoreline. The new outlet allows for seasonal water flows from and into the constructed wetlands, compromising the water quality and the ecosystem. After high pond levels, we have observed fish swimming in the constructed wetlands, carried by water flowing from the pond. When the level of the pond drops, the fish are stranded in the constructed wetlands and die. We have requested that the Natural Resources Board (NRB), the body charged with Act 250 enforcement, enforce the permit. With Act 250 under review by the legislature, we are unclear as to how, or if, this situation might be resolved. Most important in our request is for VTrans to repair the breach of the shoreline in order to protect the water quality, ecosystem, and “existing use” of Coburn Pond.

Coburn Pond continues to be an increasingly popular recreation area, the only one of its kind in town, and perhaps in all of central Vermont. Friends of Coburn Pond (FoCP) continues to discuss a long-term ownership-management partnership and planning process that could be an important step towards conserving the property in perpetuity for swimming, fishing, and other public recreation.

Our 2019 Annual Meeting, hosted at the Town Office on March 31st, was a tremendous success. Our 2020 Annual Meeting will take place on March 8th: 5:30 potluck, 6:00 meeting. (Minutes and more information can be found online.)

Friends of Coburn Pond, neighbors, and many others have been enjoying the site across all seasons—swimming, fishing, observing wildlife, dog walking, horseback riding, skiing, ice-skating, ice fishing, snowmobiling, and more. If you love any of these (or other) outdoor activities, and want to help decide how the property will be managed, and what kinds of social and educational programming we will offer, please contact us.

You can find us online at:

www.friendsofcoburnpond.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/121684841230804/?ref=bookmarks>

<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/friends-of-coburn-pond/>

Thank you for the encouragement and support of so many of you throughout the year!

RENÉE CARPENTER ROSS HAZEL THOMAS WEISS
for the Friends of Coburn Pond

MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

The Montpelier Senior Activity Center is your home for healthy aging and lifelong learning. Everyone 50+ is welcome at MSAC, a place where vibrant, diverse programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, enhanced nutrition, and access to aging resources. To learn more, call 223-2518, stop by 58 Barre Street in Montpelier, or visit www.montpelier-vt.org/msac.

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being at a welcoming, flexible environment. Our core program is a diverse set of over 80 weekly classes, including movement classes, humanities classes, and arts classes that encourage mental and physical well-being. Our welcoming center offers a gathering space for games, computer use, a book and DVD library, and more. Classes are very affordable (a 12-week yoga class is just \$35), many activities are free, and financial aid is available to all.

Community meals, called FEAST Together, are served Tuesdays and Fridays for a low suggested donation. Meals are delivered daily to residents in Montpelier and Berlin (over 18,000 last year). Additionally, MSAC serves to connect older adults to vital community services that can help them stay healthy and independent. MSAC hosts a free tax clinic, inexpensive foot care clinics, and serves as a gateway to community agencies. Our Resource Room provides a library of information about senior services and options.

100% of our 2019 annual survey participants would recommend MSAC to a friend, 81% tell us they are learning new things because they began taking part in our activities, and 65% say they are getting more physical exercise. One member told us, *"MSAC has helped me create a new life for myself following the loss of my partner. It has helped me meet new friends and stay busy with fun and healthy activities and meals. It is an enormous asset to Montpelier and the surrounding towns."* Full survey results are available on our website.

In the past year, at least 113 and likely over 150 residents of East Montpelier participated in our programs—more than last year. We are increasing our funding request to \$9,000, or \$60 to \$80 per person served. As a supporting town, East Montpelier members have reduced dues and can register for classes as early as Montpelier residents and two weeks earlier than members from non-supporting towns. Additional uncounted residents from East Montpelier took advantage of the many MSAC and community events, meals, and services that are free and open to the public at the Center.

We recognize the great importance of Twin Valley Senior Center to your residents, including their senior nutrition program and increasingly diverse class and event offerings, and we believe in working collaboratively with many organizations to serve the vast and quickly growing number of senior citizens in our area.

We hope to serve even more East Montpelier residents in the coming year and greatly appreciate your town's support!

Who We Are:

Twin Valley Seniors is a local senior center that provides valuable services to older adults located in East Montpelier, Calais, Woodbury, Cabot, Marshfield, and Plainfield. Our mission is to facilitate the social, emotional, and physical well-being of independent senior citizens and others by providing access to community resources and activities that maintain independence and wellness. We serve approximately 69 persons in East Montpelier each year.

What We Do:

Twin Valley Seniors offers free busing to and from our facility located in East Montpelier. We provide many services, including exercise classes three times daily, three times a week. There are Tai Chi classes four days a week, lectures, meal services (including 7,714 Meals on Wheels to the homebound and 3,028 meals served at the center). Throughout the year there are clinics held monthly for feet, flu, and blood pressure. Very popular are art, yoga, and meditation classes. Presentations by speakers in their field of expertise such as Medicare, Fraud, Scams, Advance Directives, End of Life and more are held at the center. Our annual Tax Clinics with AARP have grown from year to year. This free tax service is for any low income person who needs assistance preparing and filing their tax returns. Our space provides a welcoming, homey atmosphere for older adults to learn, socialize, and engage in productive, enjoyable activities that help to curb isolation and loneliness. We are fortunate to have students come to the center to visit, entertain, and enjoy our seniors who truly look forward to and enjoy the younger generation visits.

How We Do It:

We do not charge annual dues to those who use our services, as we feel it would exclude and stigmatize those who could not afford to pay. Instead we seek voluntary support from our neighbors, including those in East Montpelier, who realize the benefits we provide. The Twin Valley Senior Center is staffed by two employees and a lot of dedicated volunteers who are your friends and neighbors that help by giving an hour or so of their time when they can. Our operating budget (\$167,195) is a modest operating budget for all that we bring to our communities. Twin Valley Senior Center and its staff, board, and volunteers, as well as our clients remain grateful for the community of East Montpelier's enduring support over the years. An appropriation of **\$5,000** would greatly assist our organization in continuing to serve those older adults who reside in East Montpelier and its neighboring communities.

Thank you for your support. Please visit us at 4583 US Route 2. Consider joining our team either on the Board of Directors, at the center or as a Meals on Wheels volunteer. Do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. Telephone: 802-223-3322; website: www.twinvalleyseniors.org

—RITA COPELAND, *Executive Director*

PEOPLE'S HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

In 2019, People's Health & Wellness Clinic celebrated its 25th anniversary of providing primary health care and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured people in central Vermont. Our services include high quality medical, mental health, oral health, and bodywork services which are provided at no cost to our patients. We also continue to provide extensive case management, referrals, and assistance enrolling in health insurance and financial assistance programs.

In Calendar Year 2019, People's Health & Wellness Clinic served 557 unduplicated individuals, who required 2,631 patient interactions. 227 of these patients were new to the clinic. We had 1,147 healthcare visits and 615 medical consults. 179 individuals came for 284 dental hygiene visits and 94 referrals to dentists for more advanced treatment. We provided 262 pharmaceutical samples, immunizations, and vouchers, and wrote hundreds more prescriptions. Our services include screening all patients for eligibility in a variety of health insurance and financial assistance programs, such as Vermont Health Connect, Medicaid, You First, and hospital patient financial assistance programs. 92 patients were assisted with enrollment in these programs.

Volunteer practitioners are the heart of our service model. In 2019, over 60 volunteers gave over \$96,000 worth of their time serving our patients. Over \$30,000 worth of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and other services were donated for our patients.

East Montpelier residents:

17 separate East Montpelier residents sought our services in 2019, 8 of whom were new to the clinic.

They required 57 separate patient interactions.

They came for 31 medical visits, 3 mental health visits, and 9 dental visits.

East Montpelier patients had 9 case management interactions, 4 medical consults, and 6 diagnostic tests (labs, x-rays, etc.).

Our navigation services helped 2 individuals enroll in health insurance and assistance programs.

As a federally-deemed free clinic, we cannot charge for services. We depend on grants and donations. We are grateful to the voters of East Montpelier for many years of support and we are pleased to be able to provide these services to the central Vermont community.

For additional information, please call 802-479-1229, or visit our website at www.phwcv.org

—REBECCA GOLDFINGER-FEIN, *Executive Director*



CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

**Article 8
on pg. 9**

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association serving 23 communities in central Vermont with skilled nursing care, physical, speech, and occupational therapy, medication management, social work support, and personal care to central Vermonters of all ages in the comfort and privacy of home. The organization is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, each of whom lives in CVHHH's service area. CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all central Vermonters regardless of a person's ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs.

CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonters' care needs are met. In addition to providing medically-necessary care, CVHHH promotes the general welfare of community members with public flu and foot-care clinics and grief and bereavement support groups. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of East Montpelier January 1 – December 31, 2019

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	1,730
Hospice Care	674
Long Term Care	365
Maternal Child Health	63
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	2,832
TOTAL PATIENTS	92
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	118

Town funding will help to ensure that CVHHH provides services in East Montpelier through 2020 and beyond. For more information call (802) 223-1878.

www.cvhhh.org



Ice fishing on Coburn Pond, January 2020. (Report on page 71.)

CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CVRPC, a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington and western Orange Counties, provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally-appointed member to the governing Board: Julie Potter serves as E.M. Regional Commissioner, Frank Pratt is on the Transportation Advisory Committee.

2019 East Montpelier Activities

- Created maps and assisted with draft Ash Tree Management Plan.
- Assisted with application for VTrans Bike and Pedestrian grant.
- Assisted with Village Center Designation for North Montpelier Village.
- Facilitated project development for stormwater sites at Morse Farm and U-32 (with Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District).
- Assisted with Local Emergency Management Plan and substantially assisted with Local Hazard Mitigation Plan updates. Supported town official training in Emergency Management Director course.
- Reviewed draft energy plan against State guidelines to facilitate stronger Town position in the Certificate of Public Good process for renewable energy projects.

CVRPC Projects & Programs

- *Municipal plan and bylaw updates*: Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education, bylaw modernization, and plan updates.
- *Brownfields*: Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the community.
- *Transportation Advisory Committee*: Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions and provide studies, plans, data collection, and counts.
- *Emergency planning*: Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and the state on emergency planning and training.
- *Energy conservation and development*: Foster projects that save energy and tax dollars, and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.
- *Natural resource planning/projects*: Protect water resources, enhance recreational opportunities, maintain forest products industry, enhance environmental health.
- *Regional plans*: Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level by development, adoption, implementation of a regional plan.
- *Geographic Information System services*: Provide municipalities, state agencies, and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.
- *Special projects*: Complete downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- *Grants*: Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, write applications, and manage projects.

The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; we rely on per capita assessment from our members to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. CVRPC is your resource — please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com.

centralvtplanning.org

US2 COMMUTER BUS

Article 9
on pg. 9

In April of 2010, GMT and Rural Community Transportation (RCT) began operating the US2 Commuter, providing transportation along the Route 2 Corridor during peak commuting hours between St. Johnsbury and Montpelier. Service includes intermediate stops in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Marshfield, West Danville and Danville.

In FY19, the US2 Commuter had 17,940 in total ridership. Ridership improved over FY18's performance, the route is very productive according to the standards it is held to by the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation.

This service was initially funded by a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant, which provided federal funding to cover 80% of the net cost of the service for a three-year period. The remaining net service costs are covered by passenger fares and a 20% local match from the towns served by the route.

FY13 marked the end of the CMAQ grant with FY14 transitioning the route to another state/federal funding source equaling 80% of the cost. As in previous years, GMT will continue to request the remaining 20% match from the towns served. **For FY21 local match funds, GMT will be requesting level funding of \$8,333 per town.**

Please call 802-748-8170 (toll free: 1-855-811-6360) for more information. For route maps, go to <http://www.riderct.org/route-info/>

—JENN WOOD, *Public Affairs & Community Relations Manager*

RCT and GMT's new US 2 Commuter now conveniently connects you to destinations in Montpelier, St. Johnsbury and more at an affordable rate. Buses run weekdays during normal morning and afternoon commuting times, with available connections to other regional routes.

US 2 Commuter Fare: Time highlighted above in yellow are RCT buses, and are fare-free. The non highlighted times are run by GMT and a \$2.00 fare is charged.

Days of Operation: Monday through Friday except the following major holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Tel: (802) 748-8170 • TTY: 711



VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

VLCT is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen local governments. It is directed by a 13-member elected Board of Directors comprising municipal officials from across the state. Audited financial statements are at: vlct.org/about/audit-reports.

Member Benefits: All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 139 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- **Legal, consulting, and education services**, including answering questions and publishing legal compliance guidance, templates and research reports.
- **Training programs on topics of specific concern to municipal officials.**
- **Representation before the state legislature and state agencies**, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice.
- **Access to two exceptional insurance programs** providing property, liability, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, life, disability, dental, vision.
- **Access to a host of educational and informative materials** including conferences, a news magazine, handbooks, reports, articles, and special events.

Members are welcome to visit the VLCT office anytime to review the operations of the organization, to ask questions, and to access resources that can help each individual official and employee carry out the important work of local government. Visit our website at: vlct.org



CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

CVEDC continues to be a catalyst for growth in the region. By assisting companies in finance, real estate development, and workforce training, we work to foster an environment where entrepreneurs can flourish, employees find meaningful employment, and the region as a whole can thrive.

We continue to focus on workforce development through a collaborative effort including business, educational institutions, and State government. This past year we have worked with the five sending schools in our region to create opportunities for students to learn about career opportunities with local employers.

CVEDC has financed over \$230,000 in loans for small businesses this past year, leveraging our loans to provide an additional \$1,000,000 in traditional lending and investor capital. Through our technical assistance program we have assisted companies in digital marketing, engineering services, accounting and bookkeeping.

For more information, visit www.cvedc.org

—JAMIE STEWART, *Executive Director*

Requests for public support from local non-profit organizations continue to increase to fulfill the need for social services in East Montpelier and the region. Our committee evaluates these requests by considering the nature of the services provided, the number of residents served, the availability of other funding sources, and each organization's ability to meet specific community needs, such as those of the disabled, vulnerable youths, or seniors. Most organizations rely on multiple sources of revenue; the local support from our town often provides the match necessary to secure funding from federal and state agencies or private donors.

Last year voters agreed to appropriate \$23,691 (1% of the town budget) to support 35 organizations. This year the committee considered requests totaling \$26,991 from 38 organizations. Central VT Disaster Animal Response Team (CVDART) and Rural Community Transportation (RCT) submitted first-time applications. In order to not exceed the \$25,000 limit on floor-voted articles, the committee recommended that Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. be given an individual warned article at town meeting, like the Montpelier Senior Activity Center, Kellogg-Hubbard Library and other organizations with large requests. **The committee's recommendations are listed below, totaling \$21,541, a 9.1% decrease from last year.** This decrease, although real, is somewhat misleading due to the removal of Twin Valley Seniors, and its \$5,000 request, from the article.

The FY2021 funding recommendations appear in **bold** in the list below along with the amounts approved in the previous two fiscal years. If available, we have included the number of residents directly served. Please feel free to contact these organizations when in need, to volunteer your own time and skills, or to make additional financial contributions.

American Red Cross, New Hampshire & Vermont Region (802-660-9130) provides immediate relief and shelter for victims of disasters, works to educate citizens on health and safety issues, organizes blood drives, and provides local personnel with trainings on disaster preparedness and shelter operations. They did not provide emergency assistance to any families in East Montpelier last year, but are ready to provide support when necessary. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Big Heavy World (802-865-1140) is a volunteer-run independent statewide music office and archive of Vermont-made music, working to inclusively promote and preserve all kinds of music made across Vermont. Its work is designed to serve all Vermont musicians, inclusive of East Montpelier artists. (\$0; \$250; **\$250**)

Capstone Community Action (formerly CVCAC) (479-1053) works with families to build better lives and to create thriving local communities through Head Start and Early Head Start, Community Economic Development programs, and other Family & Community Support services, including Emergency Food and Crisis Fuel, Home Weatherization assistance and more. It served 124 residents during the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education (476-4588) provides free basic education and literacy services for adults and teens over sixteen years. Approximately half of the students receive help preparing for GED certificates or alternative high school diplomas. CVABE provided service to 4 residents during the past year. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Central Vermont Council on Aging (479-0531) provides meal and transportation services, legal advice, case management, and advocacy for Central Vermont elders. CVCOA also operates the RSVP Volunteer Program, linking volunteers with nonprofit organizations. The organization served 86 residents in the past year. (\$1,875; \$1,875; **\$1,875**)

Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (802-745-7868) provides shelter for family pets when their owners are unable to care for them due to a natural disaster or extended emergency, often working in conjunction with the Red Cross. CVDART works closely with towns, including East Montpelier, to create and maintain emergency plans for pets during disasters. (\$0; \$0; **\$200**)

Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity (522-8611) provides homeownership opportunities to low income families. Many of you may have participated in the recent CVHH home-building project in East Montpelier and the organization hopes to do more projects here in the future. The organization served 3 residents in the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center (229-5900) operates the ice skating rink used by area schools and offers open skating times for residents in East Montpelier. The Civic Center also serves as a Red Cross emergency shelter. (\$1,000; \$1,000; **\$1,000**)

Circle (476-6010; Hotline: 877-543-9498) serves families in Washington County in cases involving domestic abuse. The shelter provides safe homes, emotional support, legal assistance, food and clothes, and a 24-hour hotline. The organization also develops and sponsors prevention programs in local schools. It served 15 residents directly in the past year. (\$675; \$675; **\$675**)

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (229-4281) brings our community together through gleaning to recover surplus food produced on area farms to feed those with limited access to healthy, fresh local food, and in the process helps the community to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction. It served 202 residents during the past year. (\$0; \$250; **\$250**)

Downstreet Housing and Community Development (476-4493) (formerly Central Vermont Community Land Trust) develops and manages affordable housing projects; it provides education, counseling, loans, and financial services for homeowners through its Homeownership Center and facilitates community development projects. Thirty residents took advantage of Downstreet services during the past year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

East Montpelier Community Connections (223-7936) provides after school, vacation, and summer programming for preschool and school-age children,

including mentoring and youth outreach, and creates opportunities for children to learn from community members. It served 135 students in the past year. (\$2,500; \$2,500; **\$2,500**)

Family Center of Washington County (262-3292) provides services for children and families, including preschool playgroups, parent education, home visits, and referral services for childcare. It served 114 residents in the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Friends of the Winooski River (279-3771) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Winooski River, including its tributaries and watershed, from Cabot to Colchester. Members monitor water quality, conduct river cleanup projects, and educate landowners and students in river stewardship. In 2019 the organization conducted a restoration effort along the southern reach of Sodom Pond Brook on the town-owned Old LaPerle Farm property. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring (224-6500) was originally part of Community Connections. It currently provides the link between at-risk youths, ages 8-18, and volunteer mentors, who encourage healthy activities and can make a positive difference in their lives. In the past year, 3 youths were paired with mentors in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont (595-7953) provides free home visitation services and workshops for new parents. Volunteers visit for one to three hours per week for up to three months to connect new parents to community support and provide supplies and information about good parenting. In the past year, it served 14 families in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Samaritan Haven (479-2294) provides short-term emergency shelter, meals, and basic services for homeless adults. Federal and state funds support its core program, which provides housing and employment assistance, case management, and referral services. The organization, which helped 8 East Montpelier residents last year, provides 75 winter beds and 30 year-round. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Green Mountain Transit (223-7287) is a community transportation service that matches requests for rides from local residents, who are either disabled or elderly, with available transport, including vans, volunteer drivers, and van/pools. It provided 2,218 service trips for townspeople in the past year. The company also operates the commuter bus service along U.S. Route 2 supported by a separate appropriation in the town budget. (\$1,366; \$1,366; **\$1,366**)

Green Up Vermont (229-4586) uses town funds to provide Green Up Day bags, posters, publicity, and information for town chairpersons to promote roadside cleanup and litter control on Green Up Day. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

HomeShare Vermont (802-863-5625), which has replaced Home Share Now in our area, provides affordable housing options through facilitation of shared housing. Formerly operated under the Central Vermont Council on Aging, the organization matches people needing housing with those who wish to remain in their homes. Services and in-kind contributions are exchanged for housing. HomeShare Vermont starting servicing East Montpelier along with the rest of

Washington County as well as Lamoille and Orange Counties on November 1, 2019. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

North Branch Nature Center (229-6206) offers environmental education through nature programs and summer camps and provides open trails on its 28-acre property. The Educating Children Outdoors program trains teachers to operate programs in our local schools. Approximately 150 residents participated in programs at the center. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Onion River Food Shelf, Inc. (223-6548) provides emergency food for three days for those in need in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Calais, Marshfield, and Cabot. It served 73 residents in the past year. (\$1000; \$1000; **\$1,000**)

OUR House of Central Vermont (476-8825) works closely with DCF and law enforcement to provide a safe space, supportive environment, and counseling for sexual assault victims, survivors, and non-offending family members during the investigative process. Three residents benefited from services in the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc. (479-1229) provides basic primary, preventive, and oral care to the uninsured and underinsured through a team of volunteer doctors, nurses, and a dental hygienist. It also assists patients with health-care financing and insurance applications. The clinic served 16 residents in the past year. (\$1,250; \$1,250; **\$1,250**)

Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont (229-5724) works to prevent child abuse and neglect through parent education, support, and public awareness programs. The Care for Kids program trains childcare professionals, parents, and others who interact with children to prevent child sexual abuse. Last year 54 residents participated in its programs. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Project Independence (476-3630) provides adult day services for the elderly and disabled to enable them to remain in their homes while also providing respite for regular caregivers. Services include mental and physical health therapies, nutritious meals, and recreation at the center. Last year the organization served 2 residents. (\$125; \$125; **\$125**)

Rural Community Transportation (802-748-8170) provides public transportation bus routes through East Montpelier, including the US2 Commuter from St. Johnsbury and the new VT 15/14 Commuter from Morrisville. Transfers between routes are available at the East Montpelier Park 'n Ride facility. The US2 Commuter provided 21,000 rides in FY2019. (\$0; \$0; **\$1,000**)

Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington Co. (476-1388; hotline: 479-5577) operates a hotline and provides emergency medical assistance, shelter, counseling, advocacy and legal advice for victims of sexual violence. At least 323 Washington County individuals, including 6 self-identified East Montpelier residents, received assistance last year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

T. W. Wood Gallery (262-6035) provides educational art services for children, families, seniors and other Central Vermont residents, including exhibits of con-

temporary local art, art camps for children, afterschool programs, and art classes for all ages. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (505-4006) provides training and support services to children and adults with vision problems, either blindness or impairment, to maintain independence. Last year it served 128 Washington County clients. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Vermont CARES (371-6222) supports and advocates for people infected with HIV/AIDS. The organization works to prevent infection through testing and awareness programs. It served 8 East Montpelier residents last year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Vermont Center for Independent Living (229-0501) provides services and advocacy for people with disabilities. The organization helps disabled people lead active and productive lives with as great a degree of independence as possible. It served 4 residents in the past year. (\$245; \$250; **\$300**)

Vermont Family Network (800-800-4005) is a statewide organization whose mission is to empower and support families of children with special needs. Programs and services include trainings, parent matches, school meeting support, and a help-line. VFN served 5 local families last year. (\$100; \$100; **\$200**)

Washington County Diversion Program (479-1900) offers first-time offenders a one-time opportunity to take responsibility for their offenses by compensating crime victims and providing community service hours to local organizations. The program saves tax dollars that would have been spent on court proceedings. It served 18 residents in the past year. (\$600; \$600; **\$600**)

Washington County Mental Health Services (229-1399; Hotline: 229-0591) operates emergency and community support services for people with mental illness and developmental disabilities. Programs include home-based support for children and families, counseling, residential treatment, and psychiatric and nursing services—serving 63 East Montpelier residents last year. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

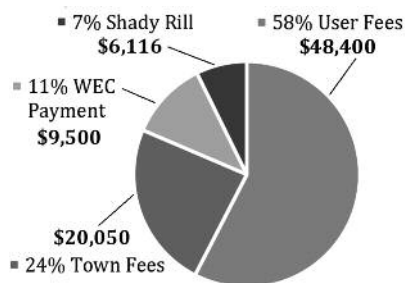
Washington County Youth Services Bureau – Boys and Girls Club (229-9151) helps youths and their families create healthy conditions in their lives. Emphasis is on problem resolution; crisis intervention; individual and family counseling; and substance abuse prevention, early intervention, and treatment. It served 16 East Montpelier youths in the past year. (\$400; \$400; **\$400**)

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (828-4493) promotes the conservation, development, and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife across its service area; offers technical assistance in invasive species management, native plant selections and stormwater erosion control; and provides access to grant funding for farm improvements as well as training and workshops on a range of water quality and habitat topics. (\$0; \$0; **\$500**)

LINDY JOHNSON	SUE RACANELLI	PAUL ERLBAUM
SANDAL CATE	KATE RADER	
JEANNE MALACHOWSKI	DARCI COLEMAN-GRAVES	

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH RECREATION DISTRICT

The Wrightsville Beach Recreation District was formed in 1985 and is made up of the four member “District” towns of East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester. A five-member Board with representatives from each town (Montpelier has two) provides oversight for the District. Administrative and bookkeeping assistance is contracted through the Central Vermont Regional



Planning Commission. Beach Manager Collin O’Neil has responsibility for all operations and staffing. In 2019 the Beach District had a total budget of \$83,727. 58% comes from User Fees, the rest comes from the following three sources: Town Fees (\$1.50 per capita) from each of the District Towns, Washington Electric Coop (WEC), and from the State of Vermont for our annual maintenance of the Shady Rill Recreation Area.

The 2019 season started two weeks late due to significant spring flooding, and the year ended with another significant flood. The spring flood was the second worst we’ve experienced in 35 years, and it resulted in varying amounts of damage to 5 of our 7 structures. In the interim it was a beautiful summer at the beach, and many locals and visitors enjoyed time within the park and reservoir. Attendance was steady all summer, but we lacked the really hot weekends that usually generate great revenue, so income was a little less than expected. Fortunately, we have a diversified revenue stream, and this year’s highlight was our 93 rentals of our two picnic shelters. We continue to be frugal with expenses, and our budget is very tight. We needed to replace our 4-wheel drive garden tractor in 2019 for about \$7,500 which we paid for with our limited savings.

For 2020 we look forward to another year of providing the services that a wide spectrum of people use regularly. We are currently working on permits, plans, and funding to construct a third (smaller) picnic shelter above the beach area. Our picnic shelters provide people and organizations the ability to plan events, regardless of precipitation, and the demand for these amenities continues to grow.

Thank you to the four member communities for your continued support of Wrightsville Beach. For 2020 we will continue to offer all residents of the member communities a 10% discount off season passes, and a 15% discount off boat rentals. This means any season pass holding District resident gets 25% off boat rentals. The Board welcomes suggestions and feedback about the operations and facilities at Wrightsville Beach.

CARL WITKE, *Worcester, Chair*
JON COPANS, *Montpelier*

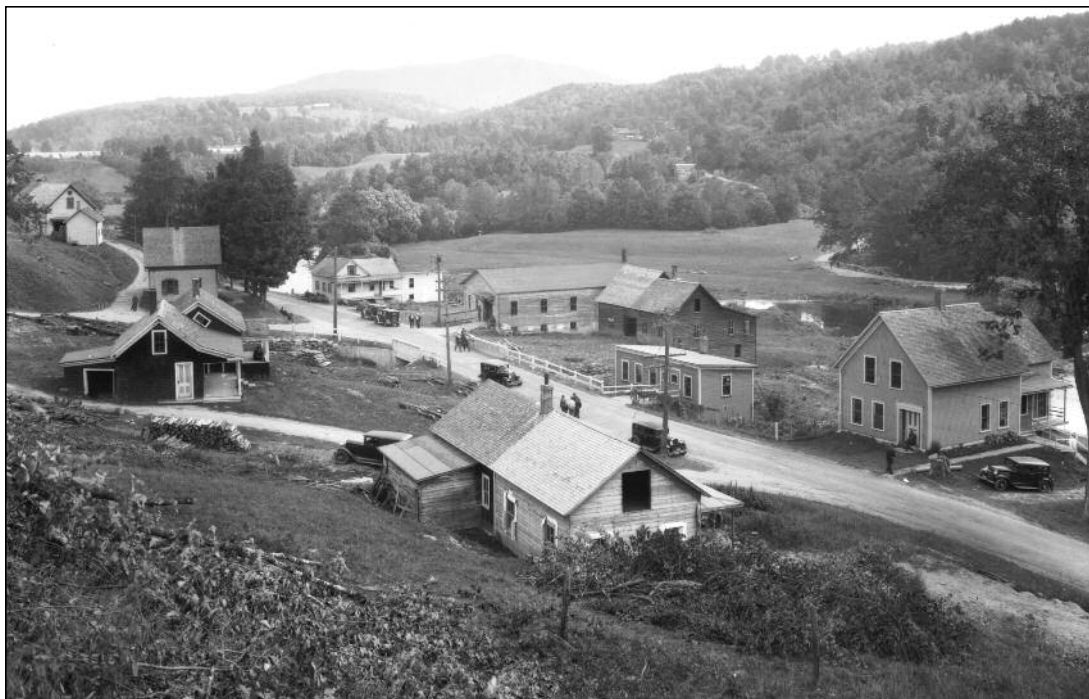
KIM KENDALL, *East Montpelier*
JANE DUDLEY, *Middlesex*

COLLIN O’NEIL, *Beach Manager*

EAST MONTPELIER & CALAIS HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Between February and November of 2019 our two groups met on the third Monday of each month to investigate the history of a wide variety of subjects both near and a bit farther from our towns. We “traveled” with Chris Reed along the Erie Canal. We learned from Andy Christiansen how the Adamant Music School came to exist in such a small hamlet. Paul Gallerani and Moe Brown shared their stories of the many farms that once existed in our towns. Dr. Jill Mudgett entranced us with the tale of a gruesome murder committed on Eagle Ledge between Worcester and Calais. In Celina Moore and Erik Esselstyn’s historic house we heard tales of North Montpelier from Nathan Phillips and other residents. Manny Garcia and Patty Wiley depicted a village with houses and local industries where Wrightsville Reservoir now lies. At each meeting 40 or more folks filled the venue to learn what transpired in our towns over the past 100 years or more. The stories were detailed and intriguing, taking our groups back in time to learn about specific events that now are woven into our social fabric. If you missed any of these riveting sessions, 2020 will provide you with a chance to hear more such stories. Watch for postings about our meetings scheduled for the 3rd Mondays of February through November with potluck suppers and captivating tales. We hope to see you this year! Program information is available at www.eastmontpelierhistoricalsociety.org or at the Town Office.

— SANDAL CATE, *President*



Village of Wrightsville in 1933; the dam that flooded this area was completed in 1935.

CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The CVSWMD serves 19 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Ann Stanton is the new East Montpelier representative on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates and providing information and resources to our member communities.

In FY19, CVSWMD provided \$11,809.33 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$6,921.94 in Green Up Day Grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual non-competitive Green Up Day Grant each spring. U-32 received \$2,376 to purchase reusable cafeteria-ware through the School Zero Waste Grant. East Montpelier Elementary School received \$1,085.28 to install food waste reduction infrastructure through the EPA Healthy Communities Grant. Also in FY19, CVSWMD provided \$12,661.00 in Municipal Services Program grants.

The District continues to provide award-winning programming, including:

- **Residential Composting:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins and kitchen compost buckets to district residents. CVSWMD also offers free workshops about backyard composting, recycling, safe non-toxic cleaning, and zero waste initiatives.
- **Events Assistance:** We offer a bin loan program providing recycling, compost, and trash bins with signs; an event kit for events under 300 people, providing reusable dishware, flatware, linens and more to help community events reduce waste; and staff assistance to larger event organizers, including downloadable templates for zero waste events on our website. cvswmd.org/zero-waste-events
- **School Programming:** Our School Zero Waste Program works with all 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. In FY19, we led 6 classrooms lessons, two trash audits, and 4 tray waste audits to measure food waste at East Montpelier Elementary School. EMES was included in an EPA Healthy Communities grant program aimed at reducing food waste.
- **Special Collections:** In FY19, 8 collection events were held in our area for hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs.
- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC, located at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, is open M, W, F 11:30am-5:30pm and the third Saturday of each month from 9am-1pm. Please note that ARCC hours may change in 2020. The ARCC is a recycling drop-off for hard-to-recycle materials. Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC. More info at cvswmd.org/arcc.

In FY19, 445 visitors from East Montpelier recycled at the ARCC.

- **Web Site:** Find information at cvswmd.org on what can be recycled, what can be composted, how to dispose of hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste, Act 148, details of our special collections, and an A to Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials. For specific questions, call **802-229-9383**.

CVFIBER (Central Vermont Internet)

Central Vermont Internet (rebranded this year as CVFiber) is a Communications Union District (CUD) created following successful votes in 14 communities at Town Meeting in 2018: Barre City, Barre Town, Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Elmore, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Northfield, Plainfield, Roxbury, Williamstown, and Worcester. Three more towns (Cabot, Orange, and Woodbury) successfully applied for inclusion in the district afterwards, bringing the total number of district member communities to 17. Many places in Central Vermont have limited access to truly high-speed broadband, and in many places non-wireless broadband service is monopolized by Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) or cable providers. Even where there is a choice, the incumbent providers have little incentive or ability to improve speeds or extend their networks to new customers. This lack of truly high-speed Internet access stifles economic development, hampers public safety, depresses property values, and restricts residents' abilities to access common online services.

With some initial organizational hurdles out of the way, we have hit the ground running, securing \$12,500 in grants from the State of Vermont's ThinkVermont Innovation Grant and \$25,000 from a USDA-RD Rural Business Development Grant. Members of the CVFiber Governing Board, in conjunction with representatives from ECFiber, Kingdom Fiber, Washington Electric Cooperative, and many others worked with the Legislature this spring to craft and pass H.513, which provides resources for new and existing Internet service providers to build broadband infrastructure in locations where there are few other options.

We are currently in the process of applying for a Broadband Innovation Grant (part of the package of funding from H.513) from the State of Vermont for an additional \$60,000. These three grants will help us complete a feasibility study and build a business plan that will help us understand clearly where we should build fiber first and how to remain financially secure through the next five to ten years. With the study and business plan completed, we hope to secure up to \$4 million through a State-backed Vermont Economic Development Authority (VEDA) loan—another component of the recently-passed H.513. This loan will provide the startup funds that will let us build out approximately 100 miles of fiber and start connecting subscribers as soon as the second quarter of 2021. Once we have three years of solid financial statements, we will pursue traditional municipal revenue bonds to continue expanding the network until all residents, businesses, and civic institutions in all 17 of our towns have the option to subscribe to CVFiber.

One of the most important things you can do is to complete our surveys (<https://arcg.is/1uaOm1>) that have been sent out over Front Porch Forum. If you need paper copies of these surveys, please contact your town's delegate to the Governing Board and we will make sure you receive one. We are seeking tax-deductible donations and investments to provide matching funds to the VEDA loan we are applying for, and community support is essential to our efforts.

—THE CVFIBER GOVERNING BOARD

East Montpelier reps: Tom Fisher; Tom McMurdo (alternate)

CENTRAL VT STATE POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

We are an independent, non-profit organization, created to provide an information conduit between VT State Police of the Middlesex Barracks and the 18 towns in its service area, including East Montpelier. The Board meets 6 times a year to hear reports of the status of the Barracks personnel and learn about specialized services of the VSP. It hosts an annual picnic for Middlesex Barracks personnel and their families in appreciation for their service. To discuss any non-emergency issues you may have, please contact your town's representatives:

CAROL & DON WELCH 223-6208

Of the 251 towns and cities in Vermont, approximately 200, like East Montpelier, do not have their own municipal police force. VT State Police (VSP) is the default law enforcement agency. Basic law enforcement services are paid for by the State through legislative appropriation; VSP does not bill the town for services unless the town chooses to contract with VSP for additional patrol time. For several years East Montpelier has contracted with VSP to provide about 40 hours per month over and above VSP's routine coverage, carried out by officers on an overtime basis. For more information on Local Law Enforcement and CVSPCAB, visit <https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/local-law-enforcement/>

State police officers (troopers) respond to a wide variety of calls, including the investigation of criminal acts and motor vehicle collisions, in addition to patrolling state highways and town roads to enforce traffic laws and deter criminal activity. Because the VSP has to cover such a wide area with a limited number of troopers, it is not uncommon under some circumstances for troopers to take reports over the phone rather than responding in person. The VSP also provides a variety of specialized services including a Bomb Squad, Crisis Negotiation Unit, Scuba Team, Search and Rescue Team, and a Tactical Services Unit, as well as seasonal marine and snowmobile patrols.

VT State Police – A Troop Middlesex Barracks: 2019 Crime & Police Service Report for East Montpelier

	Violent Crime				Property Crime				Other		Traffic Incidents				Misc.			
	Murder/Manslaughter	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Assault (aggravated/simple)	Burglary	Larceny/Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Other Property Crime	Illegal Drug Incident	Disorderly Conduct/Other	Fatal Crash	Accident Investig. (DMV)	MV Related Incident	DUI Incident	Runaway Juvenile	Death Investigation	Misc. Service Call	Total Law Incident
2019	0	0	0	9	7	7	2	14	4	31	0	32	48	12	0	0	256	422
2018	0	0	0	6	1	11	2	9	3	33	0	25	46	3	0	1	258	398
+/-	0	0	0	3	6	-4	0	5	1	-2	0	7	2	9	0	-1	-2	24

Vermont State Police, Middlesex Station
Emergency phone **911** — Non-emergency phone **229-9191**

State Game Warden Mike Scott
State Police dispatch **229-9191** — Home phone **685-2151**

Game Wardens enforce VT hunting, fishing and trapping laws, and help resolve human-wildlife conflicts. Call if you witness a violation, like shooting from the road, night-time poaching, hunting on posted property, or baiting/feeding deer; also, if you need help with nuisance beavers, deer, bears, or see a rabid raccoon.

Washington County Sheriff's Department
Phone **223-3001** 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Washington County Sheriff's Dept has an agreement with the VT State Police in Middlesex to respond to calls received by State Police, if the Sheriff's Department is nearby and is requested by State Police to respond. Citizens should call VT State Police for immediate assistance. Sheriffs also do Snowmobile Patrol.

East Montpelier First Constable Jon Boucher - phone 917-4855

Town Constables can serve a summons from a court to a party in a lawsuit, destroy animals, kill injured deer, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, serve as a district court officer, and/or remove disorderly people from town meeting. Selectboards may direct constables to enforce civil ordinances.

Animal Control Officer Carl Etnier – phone 552-4343
Assistant Animal Control Officer Amber Perry – phone 498-5140

Animal Control Officers are responsible for capturing and impounding dangerous or stray animals, investigating cases of animal cruelty, and enforcing licensing laws.



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Animal control officers are responsible for calls related to domestic animals (both house pets and livestock) in our town. In the months we've held our positions, we've received abundant calls both from East Montpelier and nearby towns for about everything from lost dogs and trapped cats to potentially rabid foxes. We've been part of happy reunions of lost dogs and humans and responded to cats killed or injured by cars. We join with our predecessors in urging all dog and wolf-hybrid owners to register their animals with the town and put the tags on the animals' collars; it makes it so much easier to get them back home if they are found wandering. And we thank the residents of town for their respect on various calls and many people's willingness to take care of lost and frightened animals.

—CARL ETNIER, Animal Control Officer
AMBER PERRY, Assistant *Animal Control Officer*

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT and AMBULANCE SERVICE

This report is written in dedication and memory of William H. George, our fellow firefighter, brother and friend who fell ill and passed away on 1/3/2020. Bill will be forever remembered for his passion, dedication and commitment to help make East Montpelier Fire Department what it is today. Bill committed 40 years, serving our communities and educating new firemen as a State Fire Instructor. He always strived to be the best. Cheers to you our friend.

Where does time go? It seems like 2019 has gone by very fast leaving us looking in the rear view mirror at our busiest year ever. As we continue to grow and see increased call volumes we are expanding our daily day and night coverage crews allowing us to provide the best community service possible. East Montpelier Fire and Ambulance personnel are continually challenged with a wide spectrum of calls from house fires to hazmat calls, from water rescue to simply the person that fell down, bicycle accidents to cars rolled over down the embankment, drug overdoses to cardiac arrest. Our men and women are working hard to train and prepare themselves to face tomorrow.

In October we were fortunate to have the opportunity to do a live controlled burn in Calais. The family did all of the required work to get the house ready and we were able to get 4 hours of valuable training teaching our members how fire acts and how to control the fire. We were joined by Woodbury Fire Department. In November we hosted a National Fire Academy class on Strategic Operation and Tactics. The two day class was attended by 30 Firefighters from around the State.

2019 brought us the upgrade of our two ambulances. EMFD purchased a used ambulance from Williston Fire and a new demo ambulance from FESCO Emergency Equipment. With the upgrades both trucks are 4 X 4 allowing us better access to you in the winter. The vendor took both of our used trucks in trade allowing us to finance a reasonable loan on the demo truck and outright purchase the used truck. Both trucks are paid for from revenue brought in by the ambulance service. Stop in and check them out—we are open 24/7.

The local Boy Scout troop has been adopted by East Montpelier Fire Department as their Charter Sponsor. We are proud to see the development of our young men growing into men and our Cub Scouts growing into young men. We are honored to be able to support these two groups and their growth to make our communities a better place.

ANNUAL RABIES SHOT CLINIC – March 12, 2020 at East Montpelier Fire Station (in the village)

Veterinarian Dr. Thomas Stuwe provides this service for \$20.

The Town Clerk will be on premises to register canines.

Contact the Town Clerk at 223-3313 for date and time.

**EMFD 2019
CALL STATISTICS**

Location	Number of Calls	Total
Barre City		10
Fire	10	
Berlin		5
Fire	1	
Medical	4	
Calais		152
Fire	20	
Fire/Assist Medical	3	
Fire/MVA	10	
Medical	67	
Medical/Assist Fire	3	
Medical/MVA	48	
Medical	1	
East Montpelier		384
Fire	42	
Fire/Assist Medical	1	
Fire/Burn Permit	84	
Fire/MVA	31	
Medical	164	
Medical/Assist Fire	6	
Medical/MVA	56	

Marshfield		73
Fire	2	
Fire/Assist Medical	2	
Medical	58	
Medical/Assist Fire	1	
Medical/MVA	10	
Montpelier		5
Fire	5	
Plainfield		97
Fire	2	
Medical	89	
Medical/Assist Fire	1	
Medical/MVA	5	
Woodbury		3
Fire	2	
Medical	1	
Middlesex		2
Fire	2	
Worcester		2
Fire	2	
Cabot		1
Medical	1	
Other		1
Medical	1	
Grand Total		735

Thank you for support as we move into the future. The times we are in are challenging and the work of being a firefighter and EMT is not easy. It takes a lot of commitment and time from our men and women. They always appreciate your kind words and notes that are sent in thanks. We read all of them and take them to heart. Stop in for a visit even if just to say hello.

Have a safe 2020, remember to check your smoke and CO detectors, clean your chimneys, and check in on your neighbors!

TY ROLLAND, *Chief*
TOBY TALBOT, *President*



EMFD Membership by Seniority with Rank, January 2020

1	Morse, Elliott	Safety Officer, Founding Member
2	Brazier, Tom	Firefighter
3	Winston, Jon	Firefighter
4	George, Bill	Firefighter - DECEASED
5	Parker, Todd	Firefighter
6	Pelchuck, Greg	Firefighter
7	Huoppi, Karl	Firefighter
8	Rolland, Ty	Fire Chief, Firefighter, EMT
9	Copping, Jay	Firefighter, AEMT
10	Copping, Robin	Asst. Chaplain, Firefighter, AEMT
11	Barstow, Rick	Firefighter
12	Talbot, Toby	Deputy Chief EMS, President, Firefighter-1
13	Tuller, Chris	Firefighter
14	Wong, Jason	Captain, Firefighter, Board Member
15	Quesnel, Sara	Firefighter, AEMT
16	Guare, Paul	Asst. Chief, Firefighter, Board Member
17	Conti, Sandy	Lieutenant, Firefighter, Board Member
18	Brown, Larry	Deputy Chief Fire, Firefighter-1, AEMT
19	Nutbrown, Brad	Firefighter
20	Fleury, Brad	Firefighter, ECA, Board Member
21	Boguzewski, Alex	Firefighter
22	Petrella, Albert	Lieutenant, Firefighter, Board Member
23	Lowe, Veronica	EMT
24	Taylor, Ray	EMT
25	Parker, Thomas	Firefighter, EMT
26	Lamson, Justin	Firefighter
27	Placey-Noyes, Tyler	Firefighter
28	Knudsen, Alex	Firefighter
29	Adams, Fiona	Firefighter

ACTIVE SUPPORTING

Gray, Jason	Firefighter-2, AEMT
Larrabee, Jake	Firefighter-1, AEMT
Bagg, Scott	Firefighter, Paramedic
Wood, Jay	Paramedic
DeCoursey, Ryan	Paramedic
Gero, Jeannine	AEMT
Truedson, Marc	Paramedic
LeBlanc, Jacob	Firefighter, Paramedic
Carlson, Amanda	AEMT
Rhoades, Gage	Paramedic
Romei, Matt	Paramedic
Renzello, Kim	EMT

Judy Woodbeck	Treasurer/Administrative Assistant
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EAST MONTPELIER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	<u>Unrestricted</u>
CASH RECEIPTS:	
East Montpelier appropriation	\$ 266,368
Calais appropriation	133,184
Plainfield appropriation	49,074
Marshfield appropriation	40,000
Donations	4,289
Interest	615
Ambulance fees	<u>138,764</u>
Total cash receipts	<u>632,294</u>
 CASH DISBURSEMENTS:	
Fire services	233,460
Ambulance services	369,607
General and administrative	<u>40,577</u>
Total cash disbursements	<u>643,644</u>
 INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(11,350)
 CASH, beginning of year	<u>184,598</u>
 CASH, end of year	\$ <u>173,248</u>

Notes:

- For more information about the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) Capital Reserve Program, see pages 44–45.
- For more information about the Emergency Services Facility bond repayment, see page 32.
- The East Montpelier Town Auditors do not inspect the EMFD accounts. A copy of EMFD's independent audit is available for review at the Town Offices.

FIRE DEPT. BUDGET

ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE

Income

4100 E. Montpelier Contribution	\$ 113,570.00	113,570	124,437	129,796
4120 Calais Contribution.....	56,785.00	56,785	62,219	64,898
Transfer from contingency to op	9,979.30			

Total Income	\$ 180,334.33*	170,355	186,656	194,694
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Expense

5010 Audit	5,500.00	5,500	6,000	6,000
5020 Building 1	73.74	1,000	1,000	1,000
5030 Building 2	16,219.12	8,000	8,000	8,000
5050 Bookkeeping	18,918.25	9,400	10,000	10,000
5060 Cellular Phone	1,627.73	2,000	2,000	2,000
5070 Diesel	999.88	1,500	2,000	2,000
5080 Dispatch	37,150.65	25,666	30,806	32,344
5085 Dry Hydrants	0.00	1,000	3,000	3,000
5090 Dues	257.71	1,100	1,100	1,100
5100 Electric-Station 1	727.82	650	700	800
5110 Electric-Station 2	9,640.45	9,500	10,000	10,000
5112 Snow Plowing	187.50	5,500	5,500	5,500
5130 Equipment Repair	1,650.00	5,000	5,000	5,000
5140 Firefighting Supplies	5,776.10	2,500	2,500	3,000
5150 Gasoline	938.84	1,000	1,500	1,500
5160 Heating Oil-Station 1	4,397.02	4,000	5,000	5,000
5165 Wood Pellets-Station 2	4,151.94	4,000	4,000	4,000
5170 Heating LP-Station 2	0.00	500	500	1,000
5200 Insurance	37,867.15	37,489	38,500	40,000
5230 Legal	1,560.00	1,000	1,000	1,000
5240 Bank Charges.....	140.50	100	100	100
5245 Chaplain's Fund	0.00	250	250	250
5250 Admin/Office Supp (Amb)	466.40			
5260 Office Supplies (Fire)	777.85	2,000	2,000	2,000
5265 Office Computer/Software.....	503.25			
5280 Personal Gear	7,500.00	7,500	7,500	7,500
5285 Physicals	233.00	3,000	3,000	3,000
5300 Postage	367.95	600	600	800
5320 Radio Repairs	1,178.75	1,000	1,000	1,000
5325 Radio Replacement.....	163.00	2,500	2,500	2,500
5340 Refreshments	628.28	1,500	2,000	2,000
5360 Stipend, Matching Funds.....	9,427.76	9,400	9,400	9,400
5380 Telephone	4,875.93	4,500	4,500	5,000
5400 Vehicle Repairs	5,951.54	10,000	14,000	14,000
5420 Training	395.17	1,500	1,500	1,500
5440 Turnout Maintenance	0.00	200	200	0
5450 Hose Testing				3,400

Total Expense	\$ 180,253.28	170,355	186,656	194,694
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OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE

4500 Donations	4,280.00
4510 Donations interest	10.12
6050 Don - Comm holiday drive.....	(894.73)
6055 Don - Awards Ceremony	(6,667.37)

Total Donations Income/Expense	(3,271.98)
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4910 Contingency interest	117.83
Transfer from cont to operating	(9,979.30)

Total 7000 Contingency	(9,861.47)
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4700 Capital Interest.....	442.53
6004-Capital Exp-Equipment	(8,971.67)
6005-Capital Expense-Trucks.....	(53,896.08)
6010 Unbudgeted Holiday Baskets	(10,561.91)

Total 9000 Capital activity	(72,987.13)
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Net Other Income	(86,120.58)
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* FY19 Actual Income
includes \$0.03
unknown income

AMBULANCE BUDGET

	Actual 7/1/18-6/30/19	Budget FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed FY21
ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE				
Income				
4959 Plainfield Budget Pmt (Amb).....	\$ 49,074.06	49,074.00	50,546.00	52,062
4960 E. Mont. Budget Pmt (Amb).....	152,798.00	152,798.00	149,783.00	190,241
4961 Calais Budget Pmt (Amb)	76,399.00	76,399.00	74,891.00	95,120
4963 Marshfield Budget Pmt (Amb).....	40,000.00	40,000.00	41,200	42,436
Transfer from contingency to op	8,125.19			
Insurance Revenue (Amb).....			18,000	15,000
Total Income	\$326,396.25	318,271.00	334,420	394,859
Expense				
5050 Bookkeeping	1,238.65	2,000.00	4,000	4,000
5070 Diesel	5,537.94	5,500.00	5,500	6,000
5080 Dispatch	9,853.61	9,000.00	10,268	10,781
5090 Dues	288.99	300.00	300	0
5130 Equipment Repair	380.00	1,000.00	1,000	1,000
5140 Firefighting Supplies	11.18			
5200 Insurance	20,150.04	22,569.00	23,000	30,750
5240 Bank Charges	28.20			
5250 Admin/Office Supp (Amb)	2,068.32	3,000.00	3,000	3,000
5265 Office Computer/Software	8,600.28	5,000.00	5,000	6,000
5280 Personal Gear	109.20			
5300 Postage.....	62.00			
5320 Radio Repairs	119.97	250.00	0	
5325 Radio Replacement.....	0.00	500.00	0	
5400 Vehicle Repairs.....	7,239.91	4,000.00	5,000	5,000
5420 Training.....	2,955.12	500.00	500	1,000
5430 Defibrillator Maintenance	1,402.08	1,402.00	1,402	1,402
5500 Salary				
5501 Salary - Marshfield.....	40,000.00	40,000.00	41,200	42,436
5502 Salary - from reserves	10,830.56	10,830.56		
5500 Salary - Other	182,524.31	180,000.00	190,000	231,350
Total 5500 Salary	233,354.87	230,830.56	231,200	273,786
5510 Payroll Tax	25,384.39	25,000.00	26,000	29,400
5515 Payroll Fee	775.25	1,000.00	1,000	1,200
5520 Medical Supplies	16,881.43	16,000.00	16,000	16,000
5530 Infection Control	0.00	250.00	250	250
Ambulance Tax (3.3% of revenue)				4,290
5550 Oxygen	866.43	1,000.00	1,000	1,000
Total Expense	\$337,307.86	329,101.56	334,420.00	394,859
Net Ordinary Income	\$ (10,911.61)			
OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE				
Transfer from amb to contingency	17,225.67			
Transfer from cont to operating	6,198.95			
Transfer from contingency to amb	(14,324.14)			
Total 7000 Contingency	9,100.48			
Amb Insurance Revenue	140,943.02			
Ambulance interest	53.63			
Ambulance insurance expenses	(24,969.43) *			
Transfer amb to capital	(98,801.55)			
Transfer amb to contingency	(17,225.67)			
Total 8000 Amb insurance rev & exp .	0.00			
6004-Capital Expense-Equipment.....	(3,750.00)			
6005-Capital Expense-Trucks	(14,509.13)			
Transfer from amb to capital	98,801.55			
Total 9000 Capital activity	80,542.42			
Net Other Income	\$ 89,642.90			

* Unbudgeted Amb. Ins. Exp:
Defib Loan(6,171.36)
Amb Billing(12,671.93)
Paramedic.....(4,941.98)
Patient Overpay....(1,184.16)
(24,969.43)

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (VDH)

www.healthvermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the VT Department of Health. Your district office is at 5 Perry St., Suite 250, Barre VT 05641 (802-479-4200; toll-free: 888-253-8786). We provide a wide range of resources and services to the community and local partners with the goal of promoting health and wellness for all Vermonters. For example, in 2019 we:

- **Provided training and support for Town Health Officers:** In 2019, East Montpelier **Town Health Officer Ginny Burley** investigated cases involving animal bites, animal misbehavior, tenant housing code violation complaints, and hoarding. Currently, a number of rental buildings are under investigation for lead paint problems.
- **Supported community health:** Central VT New Directions Coalition was awarded \$198,500 to combat tobacco use, underage drinking, youth marijuana use, and prescription drug misuse. As a result, residents gained more access to health policy assistance, tobacco/vaping education, tobacco cessation resources, alcohol and marijuana education, and prescription drug take back opportunities.
- **Provided food and nutrition education to families:** 1,030 women and children in Washington County were served by the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplementation Nutrition Program. The WIC program includes nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy food, and health care referrals. In Washington County we have 9 grocery stores that accept the WIC card.
- **Ensured emergency preparedness:** Worked with local partners, including schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel to be prepared to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. Central VT's Medical Reserve Corps contributed 300 volunteer hours supporting safety at public events.
- **Prevented and controlled the spread of disease:** Responded to 417 infectious disease cases in our region. We also helped partners understand the risk of vaping/ e-cigarette use and set-up 17 safe syringe disposal sites (in Barre) to improve public safety and reduce risk of disease.
- **Supported student wellbeing:** In the Montpelier school district, 70% of students agree/strongly agree they believe they matter in their community. We collaborated with schools to help improve student health and youth empowerment by funding and assisting with community coalitions working within schools, holding youth-led community and policy conversations, and supporting dialogue nights. We worked with School Nurses to promote health supervision visits for children and access to dental screenings through the Tooth Tutor Program. A School Nurse-Primary Care Provider Partnership was formed for better coordination of care for students.
- **Prevented substance misuse:** Worked with community groups, schools, hospitals, and law enforcement to provide community organizing assistance, program planning and consultation, presentations/trainings, community grants technical assistance, and information and referral.

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

77 Barre Street
P.O. Box 947
Montpelier, VT 05601
802/223-2352
www.sullivanpowers.com

Fred Duplessis, CPA
Richard J. Brigham, CPA
Chad A. Hewitt, CPA
Wendy C. Gilwee, CPA
VT Lic. #92-000180

November 26, 2019

Selectboard
Town of East Montpelier, Vermont
P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019 and have issued our report thereon dated November 26, 2019. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards", issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. However, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

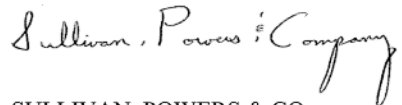
A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Deficiencies in Internal Control and Other Recommendations as Item 2019-1 to be a significant deficiency.

We have also noted other matters during our audit as indicated in the accompanying Schedule of Deficiencies in Internal Control and Other Recommendations that are opportunities for strengthening internal control and operating efficiency. We have discussed the recommendations with the staff during the course of fieldwork and some of the recommendations may have already been implemented.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Selectboard, and others within the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties. If you would like to discuss any of the recommendations further, please feel free to contact us.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont for their assistance and cooperativeness throughout our audit. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Respectfully submitted,



SULLIVAN, POWERS & CO.
Certified Public Accountants

These findings are part of a full audit done by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier; copies are available for review at the Town Offices and on the town's website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org/documents/external-audits/>

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL
AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
JUNE 30, 2019

Deficiencies in Internal Control:

Material Weaknesses:

None noted.

Significant Deficiencies:

2019-1 Accounts Payable

Criteria:

Internal controls should be in place to ensure that expenditures are recorded in the proper fiscal year. Expenditures should be recorded based on the timing of services provided or when goods are received.

Condition:

The Town did not have controls in place to ensure all accounts payable were recorded in the proper fiscal year. The Town purchased gravel for a future road construction project and recorded the balance owed in accounts payable when the materials were delivered in fiscal year 2020.

Cause:

This was due to a misunderstanding of when the material was delivered.

Effect:

The Town's accounts payable balance was incorrect.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Town review their end of the year invoices more thoroughly in order to properly classify expenditures to the correct fiscal year.

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL
AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
JUNE 30, 2019

Other Recommendations:

Fraud Risk Assessment

The Town has not performed a fraud risk assessment. A fraud risk assessment is important because it identifies the Town's vulnerabilities to fraudulent activities and whether those vulnerabilities could result in material misstatement of the financial statements. The fraud risk assessment would also identify processes, controls, and other procedures used to mitigate the identified fraud risks.

We recommend the Town perform a fraud risk assessment to reduce the possibility of fraudulent activities.

Documentation of Internal Control System

A solid understanding of internal control is essential. An organization must continually assess their internal control systems to ensure accurate financial reporting and compliance with laws and regulations. As part of this process, management should formally document its control systems.

The Town has an accounting policy and procedures manual which does outline some control activities but does not include documentation of the internal control systems. This should provide management with an understanding of the systems related to financial reporting, and the controls over relevant assertions related to all significant accounts, disclosures in the financial statements, antifraud programs and controls over selection and application of accounting policies.

We recommend that the Town document its internal control process. This should break out the internal control process into the following five areas.

1. Control Environment – Sets the tone of an organization and is the foundation for all other components.
2. Risk Assessment – The identification and analysis of relevant risks to achieve its objectives forming a basis for how risks should be managed.
3. Control Activities – The policies and procedures that help ensure management directives are carried out.
4. Information and Communication – The identification, capture and exchange of information in a form and timeframe that enables people to carry out their responsibilities.
5. Monitoring – The process that assesses the quality of internal control performance over time.



TOWN AUDITORS' REPORT

for the fiscal period July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

As elected Town Auditors, we review the accounts of local officials, prepare this annual Town Report, and distribute it at least 10 days prior to Town Meeting in order to report our findings directly to the voters of East Montpelier. Under the authority of Vermont law (24 V.S.A. § 1681–1689) we have examined the town's records, including the General Ledger, Cash Receipts, Accounts Payable, Current and Delinquent Tax Collections, Payroll, Grand List, and supporting documents. To the best of our knowledge, we find the records represent fairly the financial condition of the Town of East Montpelier as reported herein.

The Selectboard also engaged Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Town. Their final report is available for public inspection at the Town Office as well as on the Town website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>. They again recommended the Town perform a Fraud Risk Assessment and document its Internal Control System. (See pages 97–100.) The elected Town Auditors encourage the Town to formally assess fraud risk and document its internal control procedures, as recommended. In 2019, the Town did adopt a Fraud Prevention Policy.

The external audit included a finding of significant deficiency in internal controls based on a mistaken placement of a single invoice in FY19 expenses instead of FY20. Your elected auditors have reviewed the situation, agree that the error occurred, and appreciate the fact that Sullivan Powers caught and corrected the issue. We do not, however, find that it reflects a significant procedural failure, but rather a miscommunication that resulted in human error.

Town auditors reviewed monthly reconciliations of bank accounts, confirming that deposits and withdrawals on bank statements match entries in the treasurer's bookkeeping records. We also reviewed unusual transactions for their appropriateness. Town auditors did a comparison of FY18 and FY19 real estate values on the Grand List as billed, and we found that the assessed values of 70 parcels had changed. We examined the changes with the listers and determined that they were appropriately documented.

As we compiled the contents of this book, we learned that the new unified school district intended to print a separate annual report for all school materials. Faced with having no school information in our book, we chose to run a few pages with reports specifically addressing East Montpelier, as well as our customary abstract minutes of the school's annual meeting and results of school votes.

We'd like to thank Bruce Johnson for his help gathering information, his careful proofreading, and his spirit of collaboration.

DEBORAH FILLION, *Chair*
ED DEEGAN
CARLA OCCASO
January 31, 2020

SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE TO

Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester Voters

The Annual Report for the Washington Central Unified Union School District including the 2020-21 Budget will be available at the following locations:

Washington Central UUSD Central Office
Berlin Elementary School
Calais Elementary School
Doty Memorial School
East Montpelier Elementary School
Rumney Memorial School
U-32 Middle and High School
Town Offices of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier,
Middlesex, and Worcester

and online at <https://www.wcsu32.org/domain/537>

**You may request a copy be mailed to you by contacting
the Superintendent's Office at 802-229-0553.**

REPORT OF EAST MONTPELIER'S REPRESENTATIVES ON THE WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD

It is an honor to serve our community as representatives on the recently merged Washington Central Unified Union School Board. On town meeting day you will have the opportunity to add one more E.M. representative to the board which will grow from ten members to fifteen! Each town will have three representatives serving their school community. We welcome hearing from you about school topics.

This is the second year of presenting a merged budget which will be voted on in the five towns. We have held several budget forums to inform the public and receive input as the budget was being put together. Details of the numbers and expenditures are explained in the Washington Central Unified Union School District annual report along with highlights from all of our schools. Residents can request a copy in the mail and download it at the district's website: **www.wcsu32.org**.

We believe the recommended budget is both fiscally responsible and reflects our commitment to best outcomes for all of our students. Thank you for continuing to invest in your teachers and the next generation.

The board meets each month on the first and third Wednesday. The first Wednesday is at one of the elementary schools and the third is at U-32. The schedule can be accessed at the WCUUSD website. We welcome public participation at our meetings. Thank you for your support of our school and please reach out if you have a matter related to the school that you would like to discuss.

FLOR DIAZ-SMITH & LINDY JOHNSON

EMES ENROLLMENT

as of October 1st

Year	PreK	EEE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	K-6 Total	Grand Total
1989–90			31	34	40	36	31	44	38	254	
1990–91			26	34	37	40	35	34	43	249	
1991–92			21	28	33	36	40	35	32	225	
1992–93			36	23	29	38	37	43	40	246	
1993–94			32	32	24	28	37	38	42	233	
1994–95			22	33	30	24	30	38	39	216	
1995–96			39	26	32	33	23	33	41	227	
1996–97			37	41	31	33	37	24	33	236	
1997–98			20	41	41	35	34	34	24	229	
1998–99			32	24	41	40	35	32	37	241	
1999–00			23	34	26	38	40	34	32	227	
2000–01	16	3	21	25	37	29	43	40	35	230	249
2001–02	18	1	21	26	27	37	31	45	43	231	250
2002–03	5	13	26	25	26	30	35	33	47	222	240
2003–04	20	3	27	29	24	26	28	32	36	202	225
2004–05	22	1	33	29	32	25	29	29	35	212	235
2005–06	23	3	30	28	27	31	26	27	29	198	224
2006–07	28	3	26	32	29	29	34	26	28	204	235
2007–08	21	3	31	36	25	34	34	34	27	223	247
2008–09	31	4	31	32	35	25	35	38	39	235	270
2009–10	27	3	32	33	31	32	29	31	37	225	255
2010–11	32	3	26	31	30	32	32	31	31	213	248
2011–12	32	3	27	29	31	30	34	35	33	219	254
2012–13	29	—	21	28	25	34	26	38	36	208	237
2013–14	21	—	26	18	27	26	34	30	36	197	218
2014–15	38	—	15	25	16	27	27	41	30	181	219
2015–16	22	5	28	16	26	18	27	23	38	176	203
2016–17	32	4	25	31	17	28	22	25	26	174	210
2017–18	37	4	34	26	31	19	31	22	25	188	229
2018–19	37	4	27	29	29	31	19	28	23	186	227
2019–20	40	5	15	29	31	30	33	19	31	188	233

EAST MONTPELIER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community Connections, in 2020, moves into its eighteenth year serving the children and families of East Montpelier, Berlin, Calais, Middlesex, and Worcester.

Our morning program opens the doors to families at 7:30 a.m. until we transition children to the school day. During the day, we provide childcare for preschoolers in a wrap-around service to the school's Preschool program and full day programs on days the students do not have the school programming. After school, Community Connections provides various options for students until parents arrive from work or school, closing at 5:30 p.m.

We served over 135 children at East Montpelier Elementary and employ East Montpelier residents in each of our programs. Community Connections works closely with the school staff to support the needs of each student and family. The demand for these services continue to be strong and participation grows yearly.

Finally, we offer camps during school vacations for students in Kindergarten to 6th grade. Over the summer, Community Connections has provided a summer food program and camps for Preschool age students. Our programs are a critical part of the social safety net in East Montpelier. We are there for those who need us. Thank you for continuing to support these great youth programs!

—KIMBERLY BOLDUC, *Program Director*

FY19 FINANCIAL REPORT

Income Sources	Percent of Income	Total Income
State (Childcare subsidies)	20.76%	\$23,858.19
Town Funds [TM18, Art. 14]	2.18%	\$2,500.00
Other (User Fees)	77.06%	\$97,967.36
Total Income	100.0%	\$124,325.55

Expenditures	Budgeted Percent	Budgeted Dollars	Actual Expense Percent	Actual Expense Dollars
Personnel	97.1%	\$124,000	97.4%	\$121,500
Insurance/Rent/Utilities	0.5%	\$600	0.5%	\$650
Other (Travel)	0.4%	\$500	0.2%	\$250
Other (Snacks & Supplies)	2.0%	\$2,500	1.9%	\$2,350
Total Expenses	100.0%	\$127,600	100%	\$124,750



EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal's Report

As I close in on a decade of service to the EMES community, I am grateful to be part of a system where education is highly valued by all stakeholders, and family and community involvement is strong. EMES truly is an incredible place to spend each day learning and growing. In addition to the learning that happens inside the classroom each day, we also have numerous opportunities for students to participate in learning outside the classroom.

ECO

For the past 8 years students in our primary grades have been fortunate to take their learning beyond the four walls of their classroom and expand it to the constantly changing forests, wetlands, streams, and fields of East Montpelier through our Educating Children Outdoors (ECO) program. In collaboration with North Branch Nature Center, teachers work collaboratively to provide a standards-based nature immersion program. Learning outdoors gives our students opportunities to support their social and emotional learning as well as integrating curriculum across all disciplines through guided discovery and inquiry. Most importantly, we are fostering a lasting relationship with the natural world and our future stewards of the earth.

Makerspace

Our Makerspace provides time and resources for students to work together to design and build projects, test their ideas, and refine their thinking. The projects students work on are driven by their own interests and not towards specific instructional content. In addition to classroom teachers using the Makerspace with their students, the Unified Arts teachers are hosting makerspace sessions during lunch and recess on Wednesdays for students in grades 2-4 this year. A session runs for 5 weeks and the multi-meeting structure encourages students to plan and problem solve work over a longer term.

Sessions this year focus on cardboard construction, woodworking and print making, 3D design, 2D design, needle felting, and sewing.

Tech Club

Tech Club is a time for interested 5th & 6th grade students to explore technology uses and learn additional tech skills. This group meets once a week during the lunch/recess block and gives students an opportunity to go deeper with or try using coding applications, explore 3d printing, create movies, try new technologies that become available to us, and pursue their own interests. In addition to learning to use various apps and tools, students in Tech Club also develop technology trouble-shooting skills and are willing to share this expertise in the classroom. Tech Club students plan and run our annual Tech Night event in June.

Book Club

EMES hosts a book club for 4th-6th graders after school that is run by three EMES teachers. In order to attend book club, students must have read the selected VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Middle Grade book. Students discuss the book, do activities connected to it, and share a special snack. Several authors have attended our book clubs, and our numbers have grown from about 8 students a few years ago to 40 regularly-attending students this year.

Student Leadership Team

Twenty-two EMES sixth-graders participate on our SLT this year. They meet before school one day a week with our three SLT teachers, and are involved in many tasks to help keep EMES a great place to work and learn. In addition to helping classroom teachers with various tasks throughout the year, they do the heavy lifting for our school-wide recycling, provide daily announcements for our school community, and run the EMES School Store. They are also our leaders around demonstrating safe, respectful, and responsible behaviors for our younger students, and help out at all of our special events.

Adult Learning

EMES teachers also have the opportunity to learn together for three hours each week during our high-quality professional development. All EMES staff are engaged in unpacking our new math curriculum and creating tailored math menus for students with support from our WCUUSD math coach. All of our PD teams are looking closely at student assessments and triangulating data amid powerful conversations to best meet the needs of all our students. They regularly review and analyze student data through our Kid Talk and data wall discussions, and set goals for our students based on the data. All EMES teachers have learned and calibrated the new BAS 3rd edition reading assessment, as well as our ongoing writing assessments.

Our K-2 Team is participating in a group book study, *The Curious Classroom* by Harvey “Smokey” Daniels, which focuses on teaching students through their own inquiry and curiosity. They are also integrating our Reading, Writing, and Phonics units of study into classroom workshops. These units bring joy and excitement as well as comprehensive literacy skills to all our students.

Our 3-4 Team has focused on learning more about the newest edition of the Fountas and Pinnell Literacy Continuum, which includes work within all facets of literacy instruction: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and word work.

Our 5-6 Team has created a unique team concept this year in order to meet the needs of all our students. Students are grouped by multi-grade 5/6 for literacy instruction, and then grade specific for math, science, and global citizenship. This team is also working on data analysis, transferable skills, and implementing our new math program.

—ALICIA LYFORD, *Principal*

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District, a municipal corporation consisting of the Towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in their respective towns at the polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 9 as outlined below. The polls will open beginning at 10:00 AM in Berlin; 7:00 AM in Calais; 7:00 AM in East Montpelier; 7:00 AM in Middlesex; and 10:00 AM in Worcester. The polls will close in all towns at 7:00 PM.

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

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

ARTICLE 3. To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 4. To elect the following School Directors:

Berlin	One (1) School Director	Two (2) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Calais	One (1) School Director	One (1) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
East Montpelier	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Middlesex	One (1) School Director	Two (2) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Worcester	One (1) School Director	One (1) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term

ARTICLE 5. To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.

Clerk	\$500.00
Treasurer	\$6,600.00
Directors	\$1000.00 each

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$35,430,502 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 \$19,518 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.61% higher than spending for the current year.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2020 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

ARTICLE 8. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2020-2021 school year?

ARTICLE 9. Shall the School District authorize a capital improvement/replacement reserve fund, pursuant to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. §2804 for the purpose of the funding necessary for capital improvements and replacement projects?

Polling Places and Times:

- Berlin Elementary School in Berlin Corners – 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
- Calais Elementary School in Calais – 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
- East Montpelier Elementary School in East Montpelier – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Rumney Memorial School in Middlesex – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Doty Memorial School in Worcester – 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

A public hearing will take place at U-32, Room 128/131 at 6:30 PM on March 2, 2020 to provide information on the articles to be voted by Australian Ballot at the municipalities’ respective Town Meetings on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

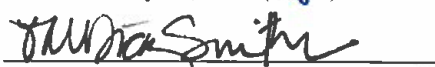
Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be transported and delivered to the Berlin Elementary School in the Town of Berlin and comingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of several towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Washington Central Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Sections 553 and 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

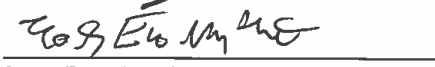
SCHOOL DIRECTORS



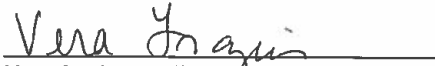
C. Scott Thompson, Chair (Calais)



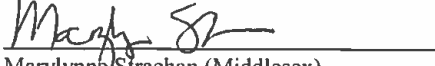
Flor Diaz Smith, Vice-Chair (East Montpelier)



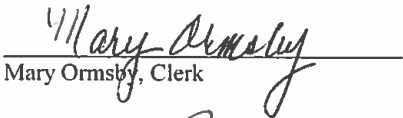
Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Clerk (Worcester)



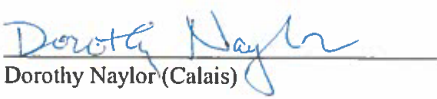
Vera Frazier (Berlin)



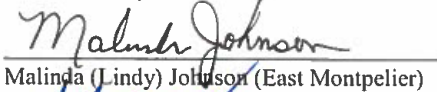
Marylynne Strachan (Middlesex)


Mary Ormsby, Clerk


George Gross (Berlin)


Dorothy Naylor (Calais)


Jaiel Pulskamp (Worcester)


Malinda (Lindy) Johnson (East Montpelier)


Chris McVeigh (Middlesex)

ABSTRACT OF MINUTES & ELECTION RESULTS MARCH 5, 2019 — TOWN MEETING

Moderator Michael Duane called to order the meetings of the Town and School District. The Town Meeting was recessed until after the School Meeting, 10:46 a.m.

Art. 1: Voted and elected the following Officers by Australian Ballot:

Town Moderator, 1-year term: Michael Duane [350 votes]
Selectboard Member, 3-year term: Carl Etnier [313 votes]
Selectboard Member, 2-year term: Kimberly A. Swasey [342 votes]
Lister, 3-year term: Chris Racanelli [329 votes]
Town Auditor, 3-year term: Deborah Fillion [327 votes]
First Constable, 1-year term: Sandy F. Conti [356 votes]
Second Constable, 1-year term: No Candidate
Cemetery Commissioner, 5-yr term: No Candidate
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term: Julie Potter [316 votes]
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term: Zachary Sullivan [309 votes]
Planning Commissioner, 3-year term: Kim Watson [328 votes]

Art. 2: Heard the reports of Town Officers: Selectboard Chair Seth Gardner reviewed highlights of the board's report, including road work to conform stormwater drainage with state clean water guidelines, the purchase of a new mower to manage roadside invasive species, the proposed budget increase of 1.3%. He invited townspeople to attend upcoming hearings for proposed changes to zoning regulations, and thanked all employees and volunteers.

Art. 3: Voted to raise the sum of **\$1,749,764** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020). Voted by Australian Ballot: Passed [340 yes; 46 no].

Art. 4: Voted to raise the sum of **\$42,022** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of K-H Library. Voted by Australian Ballot: Passed [286 yes; 97 no].

Art. 5: Voted to authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2020 to be paid to the Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Town Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Friday, November 15, 2019 and the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Friday, May 15, 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 6: Voted for the Town, as authorized by 18 V.S.A. §5381, to place the care and management of public burial grounds back under the charge of the Selectboard and eliminate the East Montpelier Cemetery Commission. Members of the Cemetery Commission spoke. Motion to postpone the article for one year, seconded. Selectboard explained their intent. Motion to call the question carried. Question was called to delay vote for one year; motion failed. Article 6 was called and passed by voice vote.

Art. 7: Voted to raise the sum of **\$17,250** for the East Montpelier Cemetery Commission for the support and maintenance of Town cemeteries during fiscal year 2020. The Town having approved Article 6 to eliminate the

Cemetery Commission, this appropriation, if approved, will be shifted to the Town's general fund for the same purpose, but now under the control of the Selectboard. Floor request that budget line items for this budget appear in next year's annual Town Report. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 8: Voted for the Town to raise the sum of **\$5,000** for the Land Conservation Fund. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 9: Voted to raise the sum of **\$4,000** for Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 10: Voted to raise the sum of **\$6,000** for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the East Montpelier *Signpost* for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 11: Voted to raise the sum of **\$4,000** for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 12: Voted to raise the sum of **\$8,000** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 13: Voted to raise the sum of **\$6,000** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 14: Voted to raise the sum of **\$8,333** as the Town's fiscal year 2020 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the Green Mountain Transit Agency commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares. Passed by voice vote.

Art. 15: Voted to raise amounts listed below as recommended by Town's Funding Request Study Committee for the following organizations for fiscal year 2020:

1) American Red Cross	\$ 250
2) Big Heavy World.....	\$ 250
3) Capstone Community Action	\$ 500
4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 750
5) Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$ 1,875
6) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	\$ 250
7) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 1,000
8) Circle	\$ 675
9) Community Harvest of Central VT	\$ 250
10) Downstreet Housing & Community Development	\$ 150
11) East Montpelier Community Connections	\$ 2,500
12) Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
13) Friends of the Winooski River.....	\$ 200
14) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring.....	\$ 300
15) Good Beginnings of Central VT.....	\$ 300
16) Good Samaritan Haven	\$ 750

17) Green Mountain Transit	\$ 1,366
18) Green Up Vermont	\$ 150
19) Home Share Now	\$ 800
20) North Branch Nature Center	\$ 750
21) Onion River Food Shelf	\$ 1,000
22) OUR House of Central VT	\$ 250
23) People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$ 1,250
24) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	\$ 300
25) Project Independence	\$ 125
26) Sexual Assault Crisis Team.....	\$ 250
27) Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 4,000
28) T. W. Wood Gallery	\$ 500
29) Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 150
30) Vermont CARES	\$ 150
31) Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 250
32) Vermont Family Network	\$ 100
33) Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 600
34) Washington County Mental Health Services.....	\$ 800
35) Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 400

Result: Passed by voice vote.

Total: \$23,691

Art. 16: Voted to transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting. Other business came from:

- Charles Johnson asked about the wisdom of continuing Town Forum in light of low attendance.
- Renée Carpenter asked if Rally Day restricted funds could be unrestricted and used by Friends of Coburn Pond. Because funding-related matters must be warned, the question could not be put before the town at this time. The Selectboard will take the matter under consideration.
- Renée Carpenter also solicited volunteers for the East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative (EMSLI) board.

There being no further business, Town Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.



U-32 AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR THE VOTE ON MARCH 5, 2019

Art. 1: To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.
No Candidate. Mary Ormsby elected by write-in votes.

Art. 2: To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.
No Candidate. Mary Ormsby elected by write-in votes.

Art. 3: To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.
Clerk: \$500; Directors: \$850 each; Chair: \$875; Treasurer: \$1,500.
Passed. [1,231 yes; 231 no]

ABSTRACT OF MINUTES & ELECTION RESULTS MARCH 5, 2019 — E.M. SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Moderator Michael Duane convened the School Meeting at 9:32 a.m.

- Art. 1:** To hear and act upon the report of the Town School Directors. EMES board chair Rubin Bennett explained that recent legal advice led the board to warn a vote in April on the proposed budget of \$4,056,455, an increase 1.65% over the previous year. A number of questions were asked relative to a new governance structure, and finances under the consolidated system. U-32 Board member Kari Bradley spoke about the proposed U-32 budget, an increase of 2.98% over the previous year, to be warned for April as well.
- Art. 2:** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. There being no other business, meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.
- Art. 3:** To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. (To be voted by Australian Ballot.) No Candidate.
- Art. 4:** Voted by Australian Ballot to elect:
EMES Director, 2-Year term: Darci Coleman-Graves [335 votes]
EMES Director, 3-Year term: Stephen Looke [322 votes]
U-32 Director, 3-Year term: Kari Bradley [337 votes]



WCUUSD SPECIAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING RESULTS FOR FLOOR VOTE ON APRIL 8, 2019

Called to order by temporary moderator Susan Clark (Middlesex) at 6:06 p.m.

1. To elect the following officers of the District from among the qualified voters of the district, which officers shall assume office upon election and serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified:
Moderator: Gus Seelig elected by voice vote
Clerk: Mary Ormsby elected by voice vote
Treasurer: Mary Ormsby elected by voice vote
- 1a. Non-binding resolution added by motion: Nothing that happens tonight shall be interpreted as consenting in any way to a forced merger. Passed by voice vote.
- 1b. Motion to alter order of articles so that Articles 3 & 4 come before Article 2. Passed by voice vote.
2. Motion to hold the first annual meeting Tuesday, May 21, 2019, U-32 High School at 6:00 p.m., and all subsequent annual meetings be held on Town Meeting Day. Passed by voice vote.
3. Motion to vote on the District's budget and all other public questions by Australian ballot. Article 3 was split by the moderator into 2 parts.
To vote on the District's budget by Australian ballot. Passed by voice vote.
To vote on all other public questions by Australian ballot. Passed by voice vote.
4. Motion to elect members of the District Board by Australian ballot. Passed by voice vote.

5. Motion to approve compensation to be paid to officers of the District in the amount of \$250 for moderator, \$500 for clerk, and \$6,600 for treasurer. Passed by voice vote.
6. Motion to approve \$1,000 each to be paid to members of the District Board. Passed by voice vote.
7. Motion to authorize the board of WCUUSD to authorize the payment of any expense incurred by the District before it becomes fully operational on July 1, 2019 under a voter-approved budget for the fiscal year beginning on that date. Passed by voice vote.
8. Motion to authorize the District to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date: provided, however, that the District is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations. Passed by voice vote.
9. Motion to authorize the Board of School Directors, pursuant to the provisions of 16 V.S.A. §563(10) & (11)(C), to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget in lieu of distributing the Annual Report and proposed budget. Passed by voice vote.



ABSTRACT OF MINUTES & ELECTION RESULTS APRIL 9, 2019 — E.M. SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chair Flor Diaz-Smith at 5:38 p.m.

- Art. 1:** To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Bruce Johnson was nominated and seconded. Elected by voice vote.
- Art. 2:** To hear and act upon the report of the Town School Directors. Motion to approve the report as presented; was seconded. Passed by voice vote.
- Art. 3:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2019 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school? Passed by voice vote.
- Art. 4:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2019-2020 school year? Passed by voice vote.
- Art. 5:** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.
- Art. 6:** Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend **\$4,056,455**, 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 \$19,747 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 0.52% higher than spending for the current year. (To be voted by Australian Ballot.) Passed [128 yes; 20 no]

U-32 AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
RESULTS FOR THE VOTE ON APRIL 9, 2019

- Art. 1:** Shall the voters of the Union High School District No. 32 approve the school board to expend **\$15,159,196**, 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 **\$18,809** per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.17% higher than spending for the current year. Passed. [325 yes; 176 no]
- Art. 2:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Union District No. 32 to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2019 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school? Passed. [390 yes; 107 no]
- Art. 3:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2019-2020 school year? Passed. [320 yes; 176 no]



WCUUSD AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
RESULTS FOR VOTE ON MAY 21, 2019

- Art. 1:** To elect two school directors who reside in the Town of Berlin: one director for a term of one year and one director for a term of two years.
One (1) year: Vera Frasier elected [329 votes].
Two (2) years: George Gross elected [315 votes].
- Art. 2:** To elect two school directors who reside in the Town of Calais: one director for a term of one year and one director for a term of three years.
One (1) year: Dorothy Naylor elected [260 votes].
Three (3) years: C. Scott Thompson elected [339 votes].
- Art. 3:** To elect two school directors who reside in the Town of East Montpelier: one director for a term of two years and one director for a term of three years.
Two (2) years: Lindy Johnson elected [306 votes].
Three (3) years: Flor Diaz-Smith elected [322 votes].
- Art. 4:** To elect two school directors who reside in the Town of Middlesex: one director for a term of one year and one director for a term of two years.
One (1) year: Marylynne Strachan elected [304 votes].
Two (2) years: Chris McVeigh elected [313 votes].

Art. 5: To elect two school directors who reside in the Town of Worcester: one director for a term of one year and one director for a term of three years.

One (1) year: Jaiel Pulskamp elected [310 votes].

Three (3) years: Jonas Eno-Van Fleet elected [323 votes].



WCUUSD AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON JUNE 25, 2019

WCUUSD Proposed Budget Vote Results

Art. 1: Shall the voters of the WCUUSD approve the proposed budget of **\$33,854,759**? Vote passed. [497 yes; 307 no]

WCUUSD Vote for Proposed Changes to the Articles of Agreement

Art. 1: Voted to approve proposed changes to Article 4. [652 yes; 142 no]

Art. 2: Voted to approve proposed changes to Article 11. [641 yes; 147 no]

Art. 3: Voted to approve proposed changes to Article 15. [683 yes; 92 no]

Art. 4: Voted to approve proposed changes to Article 16. [648 yes; 118 no]

Art. 5: Voted to approve proposed changes to Article 17. [632 yes; 138 no]



WCUUSD AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON NOVEMBER 5, 2019

WCUUSD Proposed Amendments to Articles of Agreement

Art. 1: Voted to shift date of annual meeting to Monday before Town Meeting Day for business not involving Australian Ballot; once such business is concluded, the meeting will be adjourned and reconvened at respective polling places on Town Meeting Day for all business to be voted by Australian Ballot. [343 yes; 43 no]

Art. 2: Voted to elect Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by Australian Ballot. [352 yes; 36 no]

Art. 3: Voted to comingle ballots for all Australian Ballot elections. [286 yes; 103 no]



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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Meeting place: East Montpelier Municipal Office Building

Selectboard — 1st & 3rd Mon., 6:30 pm

Planning Commission — 1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:00 pm

Development Review Board — 1st Tues. and as needed, 7:00 pm

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee — as needed

Capital Improvement Committee — 1st Wed., 6:00 pm

Meeting place: East Montpelier Elementary School

EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO) — 2nd Wed., 6:30 pm

Recreation Board — 2nd Mon., 7:15 pm

Meeting place: Alternates between U-32 and a district elementary school

WCUUSD School Board — 1st & 3rd Wed., 6:30 pm

Meeting place: Four Corners Schoolhouse

Four Corners Schoolhouse Association — 2nd Wed., 7:00 pm

E.M. Historical Society — 3rd Mon., 7:00 pm (alternately at 6:00 pm in East Calais)

Meeting place: Emergency Services Facility Community Room

East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) — Every Tues., 7:00 pm

For information on these and other local organizations, call the Town Offices at **223-3313** or visit the town's website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

NO PARKING NOTICE — SNOW REMOVAL

Residents of the Town of East Montpelier are reminded that in accordance with Vermont State Statute (23 VSA Sections 1101–1102), vehicles left standing or parked in the public right-of-way that interfere with the flow of traffic or with snowplowing operations may be towed without warning. Private snow plow operators are also reminded that in accordance with Vermont State Statute (19 VSA Section 1111b), it is illegal to plow snow from private property on or across public highways. — *East Montpelier Selectboard*

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS

May be obtained at the Town Office. Fee: \$2.00.

Requirement: 62 years of age or older. Provides free entry to VT State Parks.

CASELLA TRANSFER STATIONS ON ROUTE 2

- 1) **Former C.V. Landfill:** Open Mon-Fri 7:30-3:45 & Sat 8-noon; 479-2450
- 2) **Behind Jiffy Mart Mobil Station:** Open Mon-Fri 8-4 & Sat 8-noon; 224-0123

CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Sponsors Household Hazardous Waste Drops from May to November.

For more information, call 229-9383 or visit www.cvswwmd.org

Town of East Montpelier
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