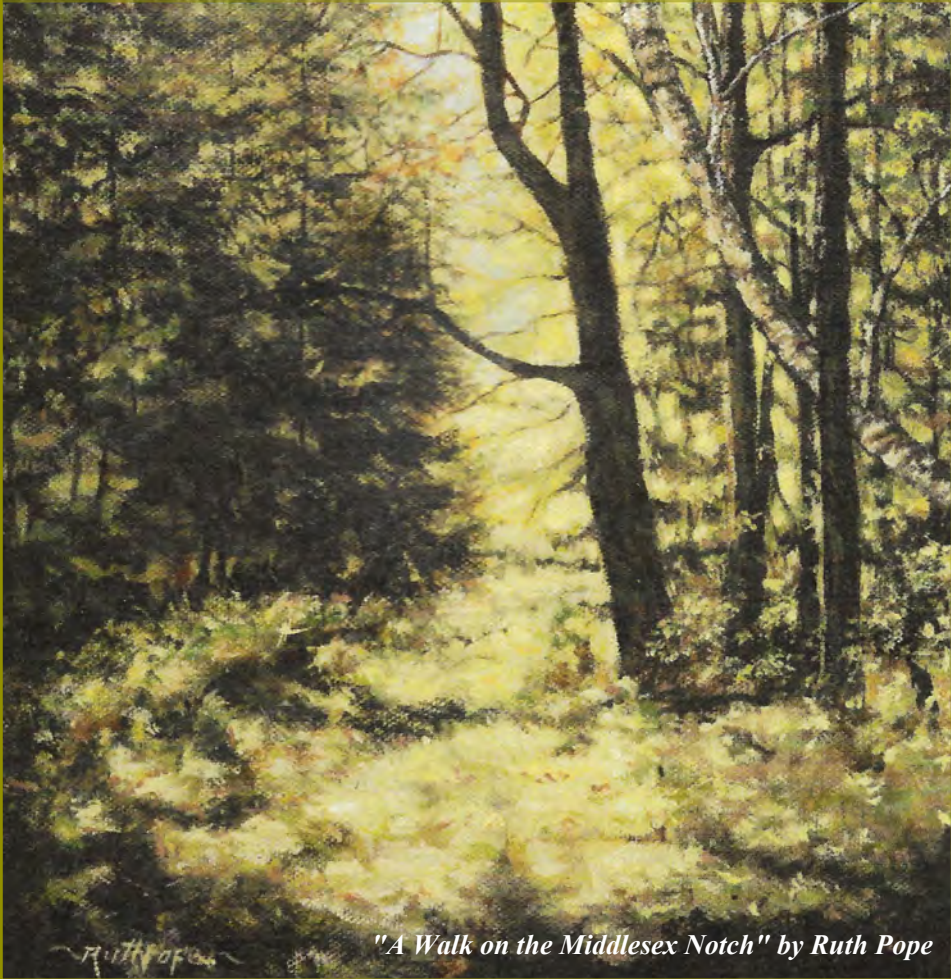


TOWN OF MIDDLESEX VERMONT

Annual Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2019

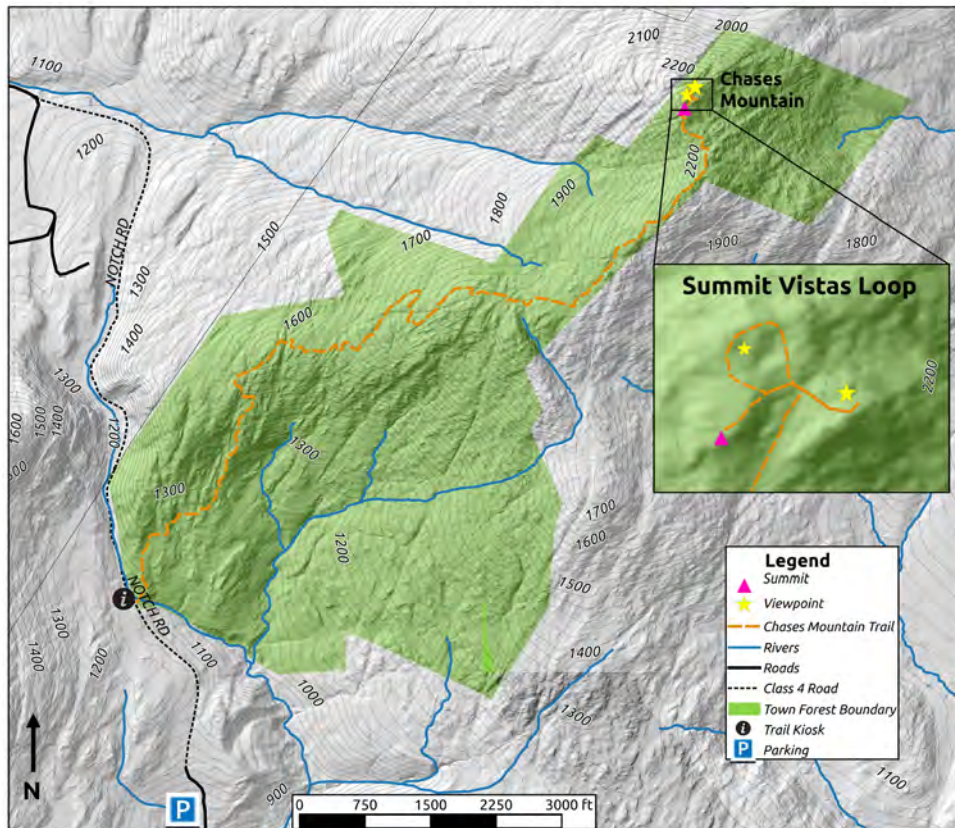


"A Walk on the Middlesex Notch" by Ruth Pope

**Town Meeting is at the Rumney School on Shady Rill Road
and starts at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2020.**

Please bring this report with you!

Chases Mountain Trail



Thanks to Ross Lieblappen for this cool trail map!

Middlesex Town Forest – Many residents have already started to enjoy recreating on the new Chases Mountain trail. The 2.2-mile long hiking trail to the summit of Chases Mountain in the Town Forest has been cut and blazed with two vistas created at the summit. We installed a kiosk at the trailhead using funds received from a \$550 tiny grant from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC). We have also submitted a larger recreation trails program (RTP) grant through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation. If funded, this will allow for erosion prevention trail work completed by a trained trail crew in the summer of 2020. Upon completion of the trail work, we will have an official ribbon cutting ceremony later in the summer. In the meantime, the trail is open for recreating, and there have already been several organized snowshoes, hikes, and workdays organized by the MCC and Green Mountain Club.

TOWN MEETING DINNER

Enjoy a delicious dinner with your neighbors after Town Meeting
and help support a good cause at the same time!

When: Tuesday, March 3 (Meal begins right after Town Meeting)

Where: Rumney School

Suggested Donation: \$8 for adults, \$4 for kids under age 12

Proceeds benefit the Middlesex Food Shelf.

Menu:

- Spaghetti with your choice of topping:
(meat sauce made with local grass-fed
beef marinara sauce or pesto).
- Homemade whole wheat rolls with butter
- Fresh green salad
- Dessert smorgasbord!



Donations of canned goods and other non-perishable items for the Middlesex Food Shelf will be collected on Town Meeting Day. Please bring an item if you would like to make a donation.

Do you have a fabulous cake or cookie recipe? Or perhaps a fruit salad or cheese plate that can't be beat? Please contribute your favorite after-dinner treat to the dessert smorgasbord! If you can help, please contact Liz Scharf at 223-9189 or liz.scharf@gmail.com.

COVER ART: Entitled "A Walk on the Middlesex Notch." by Ruth Pope. A resident of Middlesex, Ruth gets a lot of her art inspiration from her local surroundings right here in our beautiful town.

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TOWN OF MIDDLESEX FEES

ZONING AND ACCESS PERMIT FEES

Zoning permits are required for erecting, constructing, enlarging or moving any buildings or structures, excavation or landfill, any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or extension of use of land.

Applications for Zoning Permits and Access Permits are at the Town Clerk's Office or online at: www.middlesexvermont.org.

ZONING FEES:

Residential project or alteration/addition/accessory structure under \$25K	\$ 80.00
Single-family dwelling, garage or other construction over \$25K	\$ 205.00
Commercial project (new construction or alteration/addition) over \$25K	\$ 330.00
Change of Use	\$ 80.00
Home Industry	\$ 130.00
Sub-Division Fees (per lot = the altered original lot plus each new lot)	\$ 155.00
Boundary Line Adjustment (seperate application required)	\$ 80.00
Appeal to Zoning Board of Adjustment or Planning Commission	\$ 105.00

(Above fees include a \$15.00 recording fee. There will be an additional \$10.00 recording fee if a Certificate of Occupancy is required.)

FEES DOUBLE FOR PROJECTS WHICH HAVE INITIATED CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT.

ACCESS PERMITS:

Access permits are required for the installation of driveways.

Access Permit Fees: \$ 35.00

DOG LICENSES AND FEES:

All dogs 6 months of age or older must be licensed on or before April 1, 2020.

Neutered/Spayed	\$ 9.00
Non Neutered/Non Spayed	\$ 13.00

If registered after April 1, 2020:

Neutered/Spayed	\$ 11.00
Non Neutered/Non Spayed	\$ 17.00

MARRIAGE LICENSE:

\$ 60.00

If requesting a certified copy add \$10.00 for a total of \$70.00

RECORDING FEES:

Certified copies of Birth, Death, and Marriage Certificates (each)	\$ 10.00
Land Records (per page)	\$ 15.00
Survey Maps (Mylar)	\$ 25.00

IMPORTANT NUMBERS - KEEP THEM HANDY!

Fire Warden (Burn Permits): Contact Jason Merrill.....	793-6069
Middlesex Fire Department..... Emergency	Dial 911
Middlesex Fire Department..... Non-Emergency	223-5525
Middlesex Fast Squad.....	Dial 911
Montpelier Ambulance..... Emergency	Dial 911
Vermont State Police..... Emergency	Dial 911
Vermont State Police..... Non-Emergency	229-9191
Zoning Administrator (Mitch Osiecki)	760-9674

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:

Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Closed on Friday

Office..... 223-5915
 Fax..... 223-1298
 Clerk Email: mdxclerk@comcast.net
 Asst. Clerk Email: mdxassistantclerk@comcast.net
 Treasurer/Tax Collector Email: middlesxtreas@comcast.net
 Website: www.middlesexvermont.org

LISTERS:

Office Hours: Wednesday (Hours vary or by appointment.)
 Telephone: 223-5915 E-mail: middlesxlisters@comcast.net

TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Town Garage, Shady Rill Road.....229-0838
 Road Foreman: Paul Cerminara (802) 399-7216
 Email: middlesexhgw@comcast.net

STATE REPRESENTATIVE:

Kimberly Jessup
 Cell: (802) 249-9306
 Email: jessupkimberly@gmail.com

MEETING SCHEDULES

Middlesex Select Board..... 1st & 3rd Tuesday
 Fire Department..... 1st & 3rd Tuesday
 Conservation Commission..... 1st Thursday
 Planning Commission..... 3rd Wednesday

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS

All numbers are 802 area code unless otherwise noted.

Animal Control Officer:

Erika Holm, 249-2127 (c) 223-3556 (h)
If Erika is unavailable, please contact
Health Officer Liz Fortman, 249-1058.

Bandstand: "Martha Pellerin & Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand"

Elliot Burg, 272-4920

Delinquent Tax Collector:

Dorinda Crowell, 223-7781

Cemetery Contacts:

Middlesex Cemetery Commission
(Carr Cemetery, North Branch Cemetery,
and Middlesex Village Cemetery)
Evelyn Gant, 223-6488
Gary Lamell, 223-2710
Janet McKinstry, 223-5997

Middlesex Center Cemetery

(Lot Sales): Steve Martin, 371-8697

Central VT Regional Planning

Comm. Rep.: Ron Krauth, 229-5496

Central VT Solid Waste Management

Dist. Rep.: Anita Krauth, 229-5496

Central VT Solid Waste Management

Dist. Office: 229-9383,
www.cvswmd.com

Churches:

Middlesex United Methodist Church
223-5118, www.middlesexUMC.org

Shady Rill Baptist Church:

For more information call Tonya Brett,
229-5458 or Charles Brett, 223-6706.

E-911 Coordinator: Maryke Gillis,
223-5915

Emergency Phone Numbers:

Middlesex Fire Department: 911
Montpelier Ambulance/Middlesex Fast
Squad: 911
VT State Police (K-Troop): 911

Use these numbers for non-emergencies:

Fire Chief: Doug Hanson, 229-6361
Fire Warden: Jason Merrill, 793-6069
Emergency Management Coordinator:
Paul Otenti, 505-5272
VT State Police (K-Troop): 229-9191

Food Shelf:

(Middlesex United Methodist Church)
Ethan Scharf: escharf20@gmail.com
Eva Jessup: ejessup20@wcsu32.org

Girls/Boyz First!! Community-Based

Mentoring Program: Wendy
Freundlich, 224-6500

Green Up Day:

Lee Rosberg, 309-1629
Green Up Vermont, 229-4586

Health Officer: Liz Fortman, 249-1058

Historical Society:

Patty Wiley, 272-8074
Sarah Seidman, 223-4828
Richard Alderman, 223-3953

Justices of the Peace:

Peter Hood, 223-6518
Doug Lombard, 595-0019
Theo Kennedy, 223-4748
Chris McVeigh, 223-6558
Charlie Merriman, 249-8096
Jan Thouron, jan@thouron.com

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX CONTACTS (continued)

Listers:

Richard Alderman, 223-3953
Amy Whitehorne, 229-2082
Eric Young, 229-9908

Moderator: Susan Clark, 223-5824

Recreation Director: Mitch Osiecki,
760-9674

Road Commissioner: Steve Martin,
371-8697

Road Foreman:

Paul Cerminara, 229-0838 (w),
399-7216 (c)

Town Service Officer: Liz Scharf,
223-9189

Treasurer/Trustee of Public Funds:
Dorinda Crowell, 223-7781

Wrightsville Beach Picnic Shelters**Reservations:**

Collin O'Neal, Beach Manager, 223-7774
Laurie Emery, Central VT Regional
Planning Commission, 229-0389

Zoning Administrator: Mitch Osiecki,
760-9674

Middlesex Boards and Committees**Budget Committee**

Bill Dorigan, 223-1030
Elias Gardner, 778-0899
George Longenecker, 229-9787

Conservation Commission:

Sorsha Anderson, 595-0069
Larry Becker, 229-0296
Heather Katz, Treasurer, 613-3174

Ross Lieblappen, 781-424-7268
George Longenecker, Vice Chair,
229-9787
Adele McDonough, 229-9874
Lee Rosberg, Chair, 309-1629
Dave Shepard, Secretary, 229-1744

Planning Commission:

Richard Alderman, 223, 3953
Elias Gardner, 778-0899
Theo Kennedy, 223-4748
Sandy Levine, Chair, 223-1192
Mitch Osiecki, 760-9674

Select Board:

Peter Hood, Chair 223-6518 (h),
371-8042 (c)
Phil Hyjek, 223-0521
Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair,
223-7123
Steve Martin, 371-8697
Liz Scharf, 223-9189
Sarah Merriman, Assistant, 223-5915

Town Clerk: Sarah Merriman, 223-5915
Maryke Gillis (Asst. Clerk), 223-5915

Town Meeting Solutions Committee /**What's Next Middlesex?:**

Susan Clark, 223-5824

Wrightsville Beach Recreation District

Board: Jane Dudley, 229-0177

Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Charlene Bohl, 229-9908
Jess Clark
Roger Hirt, 223-0531
Phil Hyjek, 223-0521

ELECTED OFFICIALS

OFFICE	NAME	EXPIRES	TERM
Moderator	Susan Clark	2020	1 yr
Selectboard	Peter O. Hood, Chair	2021	3 yr
	Mary Just Skinner, Vice Chair	2022	3 yr
	Phil Hyjek	2020	3 yr
	Steven K. Martin	2021	2 yr
	Elizabeth Scharf	2020	2 yr
Budget Committee	William Dorigan	2021	3 yr
	Elias Gardner	2022	3 yr
	George Longenecker	2021	3 yr
	Vacant		
	Vacant		
Listers	Richard Alderman	2021	3 yr
	Amy Whitehorne	2020	3 yr
	Eric Young	2022	3 yr
Town Clerk	Sarah Merriman	2020	3 yr
Treasurer	Dorinda Crowell	2020	1 yr
Delinquent Tax Collector	Dorinda Crowell	2020	1 yr
Town Agent/Grand Juror	Todd Daloz	2020	1 yr
Cemetery Commission	Evelyn Gant	2022	3 yr
	Gary Lamell	2020	3 yr
	Janet McKinstry	2021	3 yr
Planning Commission	Sandy Levine, Chair	2021	3 yr
	Richard Alderman	2022	3 yr
	Theo Kennedy	2020	3 yr
	Elias K. Gardner	2022	3 yr
	Mitch Osiecki	2021	3 yr

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Animal Control Officer	Erika Holm
Assistant Town Clerk	Maryke Gillis
Board of Adjustment	Charlene Bohl Jess Clark Roger Hirt Phil Hyjek
Central VT Regional Planning Commissioner	Ron Krauth
Central VT Solid WasteManagement District Representative	Anita Krauth
Conservation Commission	(Chair) Lee Rosberg (Vice Chair)George Longenecker Sorsha Anderson Larry Becker (Treasurer) Heather Katz Ross Lieblappen Adele McDonough (Secretary) Dave Shepard
E-911 Coordinator	Maryke Gillis
Emergency Management Committee	(Coord.) Paul Otenti Paul Cerminara Elizabeth Fortman Erika Holm Jeff Koonz Chris McVeigh Liz Scharf
Fire Warden	Jason Merrill
Health Officers	Elizabeth Fortman (Asst.) Erika Holm
Recreation Director	Mitch Osiecki
Road Commissioner	Steve Martin
Town Service Officer	Liz Scharf
Wrightsville Beach Board Member	Jane Dudley
Zoning Administrator.....	Mitch Osiecki

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 3, 2020

The legal voters of the Town of Middlesex are hereby notified and warned to meet at the RUMNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in said Town of Middlesex on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. to act on the following business: (Voting by Australian ballot will be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Rumney School gym.)

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Grand Juror and Town Agent for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 3: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. (To be voted by Australian ballot)

Town Clerk	3-year term
Treasurer	1-year term
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1-year term
Select Board	3-year term
Select Board	2-year term
Budget Committee	2 years of a 3-year term
Budget Committee	2 years of a 3-year term
Cemetery Commissioner	3-year term
Lister	3-year term
Planning Commissioner	3-year term

ARTICLE 4: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town voters authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, August 20, 2020; the second installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, November 20, 2020; the third installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, February 20, 2021, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, May 20, 2021, except if post marked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 VSA Sec. 4773)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will charge interest at the rate of .5% per month or fraction thereof on overdue tax installments from the applicable due dates. (32 VSA Sec. 5136)

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (continued)

- ARTICLE 7: To vote a fiscal year 2020-2021 budget of \$1,323,867 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same. (THIS ARTICLE WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AT 5:15 PM)
- ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board)
- ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of up to \$8,000 to purchase two Radar Speed Feedback Signs to be installed on the north and south lanes of VT Route 12 in Putnamville? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$600 for the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters authorize expenditures of \$4,050 to support Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$3,000 to support Community Connections? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$1,500 to support Girls/Boyz First Mentoring? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$29,801 to support the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$7,000 for the support of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center to provide services to residents of the Town? (By Petition.)
- ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$10,000 to support the Waterbury Senior Center's Meals on Wheels program? (By Petition.)
-

WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (continued)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town of Middlesex will appropriate a sum not to exceed \$4,368 to support the following organizations:

American Red Cross	\$250.00
Big Heavy World	\$250.00
Central Vermont Adult Basic Ed	\$250.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$250.00
Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team	\$100.00
Circle	\$199.00
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Green Mt. Transit Agency	\$249.00
Green Up Vermont	\$100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	\$250.00
Our House of Central Vermont	\$250.00
People's Health & Wellness	\$250.00
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$250.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$195.00
VT Family Network	\$250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100.00
Washington County Diversion	\$250.00
Winooski Natural Resources District	\$250.00
Youth Service Bureau of Washington County	\$175.00

ARTICLE 18: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD:


Peter O. Hood, Chair


Mary Jo Skinner, Vice Chair



Philip Hyjek


Steven Martin


Elizabeth Scharf

Signed at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Middlesex Select Board on January 21, 2020.

I attest that this Warning for the 2020 Town Meeting was signed by the above Select Board members and recorded in the Middlesex town records on January 22, 2020.


Sarah Merriman, Middlesex Town Clerk

TOWN MEETING BALLOT: MARCH 3, 2020

Town of Middlesex, VT

MIDDLESEX TOWN MEETING BALLOT
MARCH 3, 2020

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use a BLACK PEN to fill in the oval.
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or apply sticker of his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.

For **TOWN CLERK** for a 3-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

SARAH MERRIMAN.....

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **BUDGET COMMITTEE** for 2 years of a 3-year term. Vote for not more than **TWO**.

Write-in: _____

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **TREASURER** for a 1-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

DORINDA CROWELL.....

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **CEMETERY COMMISSION** for a 3-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

GARY LAMELL

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES** for a 1-year term. Vote for not more than **ONE**.

DAVID SMITH.....

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **LISTER** for a 3-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

AMY WHITEHORNE

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **SELECT BOARD** for a 3-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

PHILIP HYJEK.....

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **PLANNING COMMISSION** for 3-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

THEO KENNEDY

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

For **SELECT BOARD** for a 2-year term.

Vote for not more than **ONE**.

ELIZABETH SCHARF

☐

Write-in: _____

☐

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019

Announcements. Susan Clark asks for a moment of silence in honor of Middlesex residents who have died in the past year. Vermont State Rep. Kim Jessup provides update about legislative action. Susan Clark reads reminders about Roberts Rules of Order. Lucy Wood, a senior at U32 High School, delivers the civil convocation. Susan Clark calls the meeting to order at 4:50 PM.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Jeff Koonz nominates Susan Clark; Anita Krauth seconds. The article passes.

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Grand Juror and Town Agent for the ensuing year. Kyle Landis-Marinello nominates Todd Daloz; Mary Just Skinner seconds. The article passes.

ARTICLE 3: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. (Voted by Australian ballot.)

Treasurer	1-year term	Dorinda Crowell
Trustee of Public Funds	1-year term	Vacant
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1-year term	Dorinda Crowell
Select Board	3-year term	Mary Just Skinner
Select Board	2-year term	Steven K. Martin
Budget Committee	3-year term	Elias K. Gardner
Budget Committee	3-year term	Vacant
Budget Committee	3-year term	Vacant
Cemetery Commissioner	3-year term	Evelyn Gant
Lister	3-year term	Eric A. Young
Planning Commissioner	1 year of a 3-year term	Theo Kennedy
Planning Commissioner	2 years of a 3-year term	Sandra Levine
Planning Commissioner	3-year term	Richard Alderman
Planning Commissioner	3-year term	Elias K. Gardner

ARTICLE 4: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers. Jeff Koonz moves to accept; Anita Krauth seconds. Lee Rosberg, Chair of Conservation commission, reports that upon the MCC's request, the Select Board last year designated \$10,000 to support the Trust for Public Land's purchase of 800 acres in Middlesex and another 1,000 in Worcester near and around Mount Hunger. Upcoming projects include work at Shady Rill Park, rectifying the gully across from Rumney School that is threatening the school's septic system, and working on a trail in the town forest. Select Board Member Liz Scharf, of the What's Next Middlesex? Spaces and Activities Committee, says a hike is scheduled for the beaver pond in the town forest. Mark Bushnell, of the What's Next Middlesex? Communications Team, discusses a possible online calendar. Theo Kennedy of the What's Next Middlesex? Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee and who is also on the Planning Commission updates

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

about progress on the Town Plan and says there is a tight timeline. Mitch Osiecki of the What's Next Middlesex? Trails Committee offers an update on this committee's work. Janet McKinstry of the Middlesex Cemetery Commission explains the commission emailed its 2018 report to the Town but the Town didn't receive it. Therefore, there are handouts of the MCC's report on the chairs. Liz says the Middlesex Food Shelf is open from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. every Saturday morning. Select Board Member and CVI Rep. Phil Hyjek discusses the Central Vermont Internet Board, thanking State Rep. Kim Jessup for her support, and noting that the biggest obstacle is funding for the planning phase. CVI will need to raise \$12,500 to meet the Vermont Innovation Grants' match requirements. CVI is in discussions with the Washington Electric Coop to use their poles on which to wire broadband. Bill Hahn asks for an estimate on how much of town has broadband. Is there a map? Phil says there is and there's a link on CVI's website. The article passes by voice vote.

Because it is 5:19 p.m., Susan says the meeting will now move as warned to Article 7, the Town Budget.

ARTICLE 7: To vote a budget of \$1,187,891 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same. (THIS ARTICLE WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS AT 5:15 PM) Jeff Koonz moves, Steve Melamed seconds. Select Board Chair Peter Hood refers voters to page 16 in the 2018 Town Report, the Select Board's proposed budget explanation. Sarah Seidman asks why the Board appropriated \$40,000 from the Town's fund balance to reduce the budget and then appropriated \$10,000 to the building fund. What are the building issues? Peter says the Town's auditor has been pushing the Board to lower its fund balance. In the old days, we needed a fund balance because the fiscal year started January 1st and no tax money came in until the summer. Now, the budget is approved in March and taxes are collected almost immediately. That has nothing to do with putting \$10,000 in Town buildings, he says. Almost all the Town buildings need renovations and repair. This year we have an opportunity to contribute to the building fund due to short-term reduction of debt service. There is a vault problem in the Town Clerk's Office. Sarah Seidman asks if we're ever going to take a comprehensive look at the Town's needs for buildings. Peter says What's Next Middlesex? Economic Development and Infrastructure committee has been considering issues such as does it make more sense to renovate the Town Hall or build a new office. Amy Whitehorne says What's Next Middlesex? is not an official Town committee. Back to the Select Board - what are you doing in your positions? Peter says the Board looks at the building issues every year. It's an ongoing process. We are still paying for the new fire department now. Amy says, look at Town Hall and its American with Disabilities Act's accessibility, or lack thereof. The elevator was out of service on Election Day. Things like that are of big importance. She agrees with Sarah Seidman, why don't we

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

look at taking the money in the fund balance and using it proactively? Peter says the Board can do that if that is the will of the town. As for the elevator, it's not really an elevator, but a lift and it'll cost at least \$25,000 to repair. The Town vault is at maximum capacity. That's what we're trying to work on and figure out. If we create a new town office, where would it be? Near Rumney School? Mark Bushnell asks about using Rumney as a shelter. Liz Scharf says after discussions with the Red Cross and based on their guidelines, the school would be a place where people can come in emergencies because there are a generator, kitchen, bathrooms and showers. However, it is a place where you'd bring your own sleeping bags and people would come here only if school was not in session and they couldn't make it to the current shelter in Barre. School Board Chair Chris McVeigh says the Rumney School Board is working out an agreement to use the school as an emergency shelter and if there were an emergency, school wouldn't be in session anyway. Jeff Koonz talks about Middlesex shelters. Jesse Barth asks about improvements to West Hill which was slated for repair and, yet, was not repaired. Select Board Member Steve Martin, the Road Commissioner, explains that West Hill was on the maintenance schedule, but the schedule was thrown out of whack with other projects. The Highway Department is trying to get back on those road projects. A voice vote is taken and the article passes.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town voters authorize payment of all property taxes to the Town Treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in four installments as follows: the first installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, August 20, 2019; the second installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, November 20, 2019; the third installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, February 20, 2020, and the fourth installment will be due on or before 4:30 PM, May 20, 2020, except if post marked by the US Postal Service on or before the aforementioned dates accordingly? (32 VSA Sec. 4773) Chris McVeigh moves, Eric Benedict seconds. Peter Hood explains that from discussions with taxpayers, the Board has heard from people who wish the Town offered quarterly installments so the Board put it out there see how people feel about quarterlies. Bennett Shapiro say it's a great idea. If you want to pay in two installments, you still can. Michael Levine asks if this will result in extra costs for the Town. Treasurer Dorinda Crowell says there is no additional cost. David Lawrence has questions about the payment schedule. Dorinda explains about the four bills. You will be charged .5% interest per month on the unpaid portions. Sarah Merriman wonders if the article should be amended to specify that any unpaid balance by May 21 will be delinquent. Several agree that is unnecessary since it's in the state statutes. Susan Sussman asks for clarification on payment periods. Dorinda explains. A voice vote is taken and the articles passes.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will charge interest at the rate of .5% per month or fraction thereof on overdue tax installments from the applicable due dates. (32 VSA Sec.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

5136) Eric Benedict moves; Julie Moore seconds. Select Board Vice Chair Mary Just Skinner asks what is the previous interest rate we're lowering it from. Dorinda Crowell says none since it is the same as last year. Greg Whitchurch asks if the half percent would be added to the 8%. Chris McVeigh asks for clarification. Peter and Dorinda clarify that the half percent is compounded monthly on the unpaid base amount. Jane Dudley asks if the 8% is a one-time charge or annual fee. Peter says one time. A voice vote is taken and the article passes.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town eliminate the position of Trustee of Public Funds, effective March 3, 2020? (17 VSA 2646(11)) Jeff Koonz moves; Dave Smith seconds. Evelyn Gant of the Middlesex Cemetery Commission delivers a speech outlining the Cemetery Commission's role as a body of elected officials who oversees the Town's three cemeteries: Village and Carr, which are closed, and North Branch, which is active. Evelyn says the Commission was created to take place of the Select Board in overseeing the cemeteries. She states that while the Commission was tasked with overseeing maintenance of North Branch, last year the cemetery commissioners' names were "stripped" from administering the Edward Jones fund that had been attached to the North Branch cemetery back when a private group deeded it to the Town in 2004. Instead, the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Helen Weed's were added. The matter's over, but that was wrong, she says. Evelyn says the fund was not an endowment, but a donation and, therefore, the Cemetery Commission should be administering the fund because they are the overseers, not the Treasurer. Peter Hood says the Town sought legal advice on this matter and the legal opinion was that administering this fund was the responsibility of the Treasurer because that account is town money held in a trust. As for the Trustee of Public Funds, the law says we should have three Trustees of Public Funds. We've had only one. This motion does not change anything with the Cemetery Commission, but just eliminates this one position. Marcia Sibley asks how much is in the fund. Peter says about \$118,000. Chris McVeigh asks what happened that the Select Board had to seek a legal opinion. Peter says \$6,900 approved by the voters was allotted to cemetery maintenance, but it was just for Carr and Village. North Branch was to pay for itself. Janet McKinstry of the MCC says it's true there is money for Carr and Village for maintenance only. North Branch is not in the town budget. The problem arose in 2018 when former Treasurer Cindy Carlson's name was taken off the Edward Jones account as signer for no reason and Dorinda Crowell's was put on – without the MCC members' names added, Janet says. Town Clerk Sarah Merriman says that in the course of researching this issue, she was tasked with finding out when the Town went from three Trustees of Public Funds to one and found Middlesex had had only one when the position was created in 1933. That's all this article is about. Chris McVeigh says then maybe the Town should be adding two more Trustees instead of eliminating the one. Also, his question about why the Select Board sought a legal opinion wasn't addressed. Peter said the Town sought a legal opinion because there was a disagreement of how the

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

funds should be dispersed. Also, it's a redundant system. There are now a lot of checks and balances including a professional CPA who audits the books. The Trustee of Public Funds is an unnecessary position. Since the Town had been in noncompliance all these years with one Trustee of Public Funds, the Select Board's recommendation was to do away with the position, as a lot of towns have done. David Magida calls the question. Michael Legendre seconds. Debate is ended. The article passes by voice vote and the Trustee of Public Funds is eliminated.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board) Susan Sussman moves and John Puleio seconds. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$600 for the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation? (By Petition) Alison Cornwall moves; Jeff Koonz seconds. Peter speaks in favor notes the request is the same amount as last year. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters authorize expenditures of \$4,050 to support Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice? (By Petition) Chris McVeigh moves; Mark Bushnell seconds. Mary Hood speaks in favor, citing the CVHH entry in the 2018 Town Report. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$3,000 to support Community Connections? (By Petition) Lauriana Capone moves; Bill Rossmassler seconds. Mary Jo Lamell speaks in favor and asks if Chris Malone can speak since he is not a Middlesex voter. The voters allow. Chris introduces himself as a site coordinator for Community Connections. The \$3,000 request is level funded and Community Connections serves more than half the student body at Rumney. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$1,500 to support Girls/Boys First Mentoring? (By Petition) Liz Scharf moves; Laura Lyle seconds. Wendy Freundlich speaks in favor, noting she has run the program for nineteen years and since that time many mentees have gone on to do great things. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$29,801 to help support the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (By Select Board) Jennifer Murray moves; Kim Hagen seconds. John Puleio speaks on behalf of KHL, noting there are 521 library card holders in Middlesex. Circulation in this town is 14,000 plus. But he says a library is more than about books. It is a place to gather, with high value including discounts on Echo and

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

other venues for members. Amy Whitehorne says she appreciates the library, but it is not free; town taxpayers pay \$29,000 a year to use it. She says she was a dedicated KHL patron, but notes it is difficult to access because it is closed on Sundays and parking is impossible. If kids need a place to gather, they should do it here in the community. For those from non-contributing towns, it costs \$40 to be a patron; seniors pay \$35. Some of the programs have charges, while for \$10 you can use the Waterbury Public Library for the same library materials and it has great hours, easy parking and public meeting spaces that are open and free. Last year, KHL asked for an increase and now we're talking about our Town's aging buildings. We really need to think seriously about our money and where we're spending it. She totally supports a smaller amount, the equivalent of paying \$40 per person for a library card, because \$30,000 is a lot of money. Lucy Wood speaks in favor of passing the article because it's not that much to pay over the course of a year. Mary Hood says she feels bad that someone has to pay \$40 for a library card. Wendy Freundlich says she uses the KHL public meeting spaces. Mary Jo Lamell speaks in favor of the article. Kathy Shapiro says that for some families, paying \$40 for a library card is not an option. That's what this article is for – so families don't have to pay that. Fred McCullough agrees with Amy; the article should be more in line with what it costs for people to get a library card. He moves to amend KHL's request to \$20,000. Jessica Clark seconds. Chris McVeigh urges people to vote down this amendment because without this funding, KHL is a public asset that potentially could go away and it's not KHL's fault that there's no parking. Jessica Clark explains that she loves KHL. She was a page there and that's where she had her first job. She's been going there since she learned to read at age three and agrees it's wonderful. However, she feels it's more fair for the Town to pay the equivalent of what an out-of-stater would pay and KHL has a large fundraising arm. Ben Carlson supports the original article. He says U32 students use the library, which is also used by people who don't have internet at home. Adrienne Magida calls the question on the amendment to reduce the request to \$20,000; Michael Legendre seconds. Alison Cornwall wants a straw poll. The motion to call the question on the amendment passes. The amendment fails by voice vote. Steve Melamed calls the question on the original article; Emily Smith seconds. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$5,500 for the support of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center to provide services to residents of the Town? (By Petition) Anita Krauth moves; Lisa Carlson seconds. Hugo Liepmann speaks in favor. The article passes by voice vote.

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town voters authorize expenditures of \$10,000 to support the Waterbury Senior Center's Meals on Wheels program? (By Petition) Bill Rossmassler moves; Lisa Carlson seconds. Sarah Seidman asks for clarification on the cost of feeding four Middlesex residents per year. Liz Scharf says the \$10,000 cover the costs of more than one meal per day per four residents all year long. Mary Hood speaks in favor. The article passes by voice vote.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town of Middlesex will appropriate a sum not to exceed \$4,771 to support the following organizations (see list below): Hugo Liepmann moves; Susan Sussman seconds. Fred McCullough asks that MotherUp! be scratched from the list because as part of 350VT it is a political action committee and taxpayers should not be funding political activity. Resident but non-voter and MotherUp! organizer Geraldine Vatan receives permission to speak. While 350VT is a political action committee, Mother Up! is not, she says. It is a group of mothers who gather once a month to discuss climate change and the climate crisis. Mother Up! does not back political candidates. The original article passes by voice vote.

Central VT Adult Basic Ed	\$250.00
Central VT Council on Aging	\$250.00
The Children's Room	\$250.00
Circle	\$199.00
Community Harvest of Central VT	\$250.00
Family Center of Washington Cty	\$250.00
Good Beginnings of Central VT	\$250.00
Green Mt. Transit	\$249.00
Green-Up Vermont	\$100.00
Home Share Now	\$250.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	\$250.00
Mother Up!	\$250.00
Our House of Central VT	\$250.00
People's Health & Wellness	\$250.00
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$250.00
T.W. Wood Gallery	\$250.00
VT Assoc. for the Visually Impaired	\$249.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$199.00
VT Rural Protection Task Force	\$100.00
Washington County Diversion	\$250.00
Youth Service Bureau of Washington County	\$175.00

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town of Middlesex approve the following resolution?
(By Petition)

WHEREAS: Extreme and erratic temperatures, increasingly severe storms, a rise in tick-borne diseases, and threats to farmers and maple sugar makers clearly demonstrate that climate change is one of the most urgent problems facing our state, nation, and the world, and

WHEREAS the State of Vermont has a goal in the Comprehensive Energy Plan to achieve 90% of its energy from renewable sources by 2050, yet is making insufficient

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

progress towards achieving that goal;

Now, therefore, be it resolved:

1. Shall the Town of MIDDLESEX, VT 05602 urge the State of Vermont to:

a. Halt any new or expanded fossil fuel infrastructure, i.e. transmission pipelines, electrical generation plants and/or industrial storage facilities.

b. Commit to as close to as possible 100% renewable energy by 2030 for all people in Vermont, with firm interim deadlines; and,

c. Ensure that the transition to renewable energy is fair and equitable for all residents, with no harm to marginalized groups or rural communities.

2. Shall the Town of MIDDLESEX, VT 05602 request the town to do its part to meet these demands by committing to efforts such as:

a. Protecting townlands from fossil fuel infrastructure, denying easements or agreements for any pipelines crossing townlands;

b. Weatherizing town buildings and schools;

c. Enlisting state support to install rooftop solar on town and school buildings;

d. Other initiatives to improve residents' quality of life while helping to reduce overall energy use.

e. Encourage landowners, municipalities, and farmers to implement practices that build the soil carbon sponge to cool the planet and mitigating flooding and drought.

f. Form a Town Energy Committee to work towards reducing town emissions and meeting the goals of the Comprehensive Energy Plan.

3. Should this article pass, a letter shall be sent from the Town of MIDDLESEX, VT 05602 to our State Representatives and Senators, the Speaker of the Vermont House, the President Pro Tempore of the Vermont Senate, and the Governor, including the count of votes that support and oppose to the article.

Enrique Bueno moves and Greg Witchurch seconds. Jeff Koonz speaks in opposition, as does Fred McCullough who calls it “freedom squashing.” He suggests people take proactive steps, such as planting trees. Ron Krauth moves to add the word “worldwide” on 1C so it reads, “with no harm to marginalized groups or rural communities worldwide.” Ben Carlson seconds and the motion passes. John Puleio suggests that the article be amended to “soften the blow” by substituting the word “reduce” for “halt” in 1a and by substituting “encouraging” for “committing” in 2 so that the voters signal it’s their intent to move in this direction without being restrained by “committing.” Chris McVeigh argues against. This is a non-binding resolution and therefore the blow is already softened. Kathy Shapiro agrees with Chris; this is just a statement urging the Legislature to take action. There is no need to amend. Enrique Bueno says this article is the most relevant article of the day and speaks in favor. Peter Hood and Dorinda Crowell call the question. Since the Resolution asks for a vote count, a vote is taken by raised hands. The article passes by a vote of 66-27 out of approximately 165-170 voters in attendance.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MARCH 5, 2019 (continued)

Susan adjourns the meeting at 7:23 PM.

Approved and signed by the following:



Peter O. Hood, Select Board Chair, April 2, 2019



Susan Clark, 2019 Moderator, April 3, 2019

I attest that the above Minutes of the March 5, 2019 Middlesex Town Meeting were recorded in the Town records on April 4, 2019.

Sarah Merriman

Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

SELECT BOARD PROPOSED FY 2020-2021 BUDGET REPORT

The Select Board struggled with preparing the 2020-21 Town budget. In the past, we have tried to keep budget increases in the 3% range; however, this year we needed to address some issues that have either been deferred or are a result of environmental effects outside our control. Rain, flooding, erosion, snow and ice have severely damaged our roads and forced our Highway Department to postpone regular maintenance in order to conduct emergency repairs. Since the public works budget represents over half our Town budget, this additional spending on road and equipment maintenance is largely responsible for increasing the overall budget.

We would like to point out areas where increases are substantial and discuss the reasons behind them. Some areas appear to show a large increase when expressed as a percentage, but the increase is actually small when expressed in real dollars. In general, we'll ignore those line items unless there is something that bears discussion.

General Government increased by 2.38% driven by increases in health insurance, property maintenance and election costs.

Administration increased by 22.65% primarily due to a significant increase in the hours worked by the Listers and Collector of Delinquent Taxes. These functions have been woefully underfunded in the past, and after discussion with the Listers, the Select Board agreed these functions are crucial to the effective and efficient management of the Town. Mileage and expenses for the Listers also increased in order to support their field work. And, finally, computer maintenance was significantly increased. Over the past couple of years, we have upgraded and secured our technology infrastructure. We now have services in place that automatically upgrade software, anti-virus programs, program patches and continually monitor the health of our computer systems. And, we have a system of redundant backups at the local level and in the cloud.

Town Hall essentially remains unchanged.

Public Safety shows a slight decrease due to a reduction in the cost of emergency management.

The **Fire Department** budget shows a small increase for general operations, but taken with the debt service attributed to this department, this area decreased by -1.38%.

Public Works shows an increase of 11.71%. Summer maintenance has increased by 50.98% (\$24,265) and taken along with a new category of "specialized services," which has been budgeted at \$40,000, we are devoting an additional \$64,000 for seeding, ditching and stone lining, gravel and mowing. Within this budget, we plan to hire some part-time help, and rent an additional truck and excavator. We need to get caught up on maintenance that was deferred when we had to respond to storm damage and we believe this plan will accomplish this goal.

SELECT BOARD PROPOSED BUDGET REPORT (continued)

Garage maintenance shows a large percentage increase, but the increase in actual dollars is small and mostly attributed to incremental increases in shop supplies, waste disposal and fuel-tank maintenance. Utilities remain unchanged; and gas and diesel have been increased due to a volatile market. Debt service for the Public Works department shows a slight decrease due to interest reductions as we pay down loans on two of our vehicles. At this point, we need to point out that our road grader must be replaced. It will be a significant purchase; however, because of the increase in the budget, the Select Board has decided to make a small investment in maintenance that hopefully will allow us to defer this purchase for a year.

Zoning: The budget for Zoning and the Zoning Board of Adjustment increased by 23.08%, primarily due to anticipated enforcement/legal costs.

Planning Commission: This budget is impacted by the cost of hiring a consultant to assist the Commission in revising Town zoning regulations so they comply with the 2019-2027 Town Plan voters adopted last year. The increase is 125%, or \$5,000 all of which is attributed to an increase in the consultation fee.

In **summary**, the Town's budget for 2020-21 increased by \$135,976, or 11.45%. As stated above, we, the Select Board, struggled with presenting a budget increase of this size to the voters. That said, we also felt that we needed to address major deficiencies, and, unfortunately, there will be substantial costs to do so. We hope we have provided an explanation regarding the increases and that you will support the budget at Town Meeting

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX ANNUAL AUDIT

On October 19, 2019, Batchelder Associates, PC of Barre, Vermont, issued its audit report of the Town's finances for the fiscal year running from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. At its November 19, 2019 meeting, the Select Board reviewed and approved the audit report which showed the Town's books are in balance and there were no findings.

In an effort to save resources along with printing and postage costs, we no longer print the full Audit Report in the Town Report. However, a copy is available for anyone's review at the Town Clerk's Office, 5 Church Street, Middlesex. In addition, a copy is available online at middlesexvermont.org.

- Sarah Merriman, Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

SELECT BOARD REPORT

Many of the actions the Select Board undertook this year reflect how our Town teeters on the precipice of change, for better or worse.

For better, the Village section along US Route 2 is beginning to take off as an area for innovative businesses such as Camp Meade's plans to infuse their Red Hen baking complex with more art and community festivals. The Roots Farm Market opened up at the corner of US Route 2 and State Route 100 in the spring, selling locally grown fresh vegetables and plants along with assorted grocery items such as dairy, bread, desserts, beer and wine. To facilitate public access between these areas, the Select Board in September approved applying for a state-funded municipal planning grant, which was later approved, to study how this corridor might be improved to safely accommodate bikes and pedestrians.

Simultaneously, the Select Board oversaw the final stages of the Planning Commission's hard work to pass an updated Town Plan which addresses the above changes. After holding a public hearing in August, the Board in September placed the 2019-2027 Middlesex Town Plan before the voters who approved it by a margin of 53 to 8. (To be fair, there'd been a lot of special votes in 2019 and folks were a little burnt out.)

For worse, back-to-back spring storms took a toll on the Highway Department's time, equipment and budget. This meant that when it came time for the Board to set the 2019 municipal tax rate in July, the Town was already in the hole to the tune of \$78,500 due to the storms' repairs. To cover that, the Board agreed on a 1.96% increase in the municipal tax rate to raise an additional \$50,000 and still be under the 2.36% budget increase approved by the voters in March. This translated into an increase of 6 cents on the municipal rate, from 41 cents per \$100 of property valuation to 47 cents. As Treasurer Dorinda Crowell noted, the 41-cent rate from 2018 had been artificially low because the Board had contributed \$40,000 from the fund balance to lower the 2018 municipal tax rate.

This weather crisis further delayed projects scheduled for the summer season, prompting the Board to mail a postcard from the Road Foreman to each resident explaining the setback and promising a revised five-year road plan. It also affected other requests, such as one from the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District for an in-kind contribution of up to 272 hours of Middlesex Road Crew time and equipment to relocate an access road in Shady Rill Park and perform other improvements on the state-owned land, an equivalent of \$17,000. Ultimately, the Board could not commit Town time and equipment to that effort, especially since it would have improved State – not Town – property.

One of the Board's goals in 2019 involved addressing wear and tear on Town

SELECT BOARD REPORT (continued)

buildings, including the Highway Department's garage off of Shady Rill Road. The Board decided to hire DeWolfe Engineering to conduct a basic structural analysis of the Highway Garage for no more than \$2,800. In sum, DeWolfe determined that while the building was structurally sound for now, should the Town decide to insulate the roof further, the building risked damage with a heavy snow load. Therefore, the building could exist as is only if it remains energy inefficient.

Meanwhile, residents of Putnamville and Culver Hill Road requested the Board help them with another unwelcome effect of change – speeding commuters on VT Route 12. After the Board asked the Vermont Department of Transportation for assistance with this issue, the State conducted analyses of the areas, ultimately extending the 35-m.p.h. section in Putnamville and temporarily installing a speed monitor in the area. They also trimmed some trees at the Culver Hill Road intersection, but would not approve a mirror on VT Route 12.

The Board took steps to extricate the Town from the Welch Park Association's water supply after a well at the Consolidated Communication lot failed. The Town never has and never will have access to that well, therefore, why was the Town involved in its management? Benderson, an Albany, New York company which owns the lot, agreed to pay for all the repairs since its tenant is the sole user. The Welch Park Articles of Agreement are being revised to reflect these modifications.

On a positive note, thanks to the Board's decision two years ago to acquire two parcels connecting the Town Forest to the top of Notch Road, the public has been able to access the forest easily. It's now a very popular hiking spot. So popular, in fact, that the Board was asked to address parking issues near the trailhead. The Board will explore possible solutions in the upcoming year.

Spring rains, summer storms and icy winters are taking a heavy, unpredictable toll on Vermont towns like ours. As Select Board Member Liz Scharf has repeatedly noted at Board meetings, this is the new normal. The challenge will be to adjust to this "new normal" without breaking an otherwise modest budget.

You can watch Select Board meetings wherever you are on Orca at this web address: <https://www.orcamedia.net/series/middlesex-selectboard>

See you on March 3, 2020 at Town Meeting!

Respectfully,

THE MIDDLESEX SELECT BOARD

Chair, Peter O. Hood, Vice Chair Mary Just Skinner, Members Phil Hyjek, Steve Martin and Liz Scharf with Select Board Assistant Sarah Merriman.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Ironically, 2019 was supposed to be an “off-election” year, meaning that the only voting would happen at the March Town Meeting and the rest of the year would be devoted to organizing and archiving down here in the Town Clerk’s Office. Hah! Due to the Washington Central Unified Union School District merger – and not a little confusion surrounding the mechanics of putting that in place – we held special elections in April, May, June and November to sort out a Rumney School Budget, a WCUUSD school budget, WCUUSD school officers, Articles of Agreement and, finally, Revised Articles of Agreement.

By the time voters were asked to weigh in on revising the Articles of Agreement at a Special School Meeting (Australian ballot) on November 5th, only 61 Middlesex residents voted out of more than 1400 people on the checklist. In addition, in September, voters approved the 2019-2027 Town Plan by a similar count: 53-8. Thank you, voting troopers.

We did make a dent in scanning and indexing seven years of land records into our local computer database. Lee Youngman came in every Monday and worked backward through the records, a particularly welcomed task since our aging card catalog is awkwardly placed in our small vault. Now, it is possible to conduct computer searches of records going back to 2004. Ideally, we will digitally archive and index another 20 more years so the 40-year land search, required by most title companies, will be a breeze.

Meanwhile, Crack Assistant Clerk Maryke Gillis has indexed almost all our survey maps so they can be neatly printed from the computer instead of awkwardly photocopied and pieced together. Speaking of Maryke, she’s retiring in April – great for her, lousy for us. As a longtime Middlesex resident and avid outdoorswoman, Maryke could rattle off who owned what parcel and whether the hunting there was any good. We will miss her dearly.

No Town Clerk report would be complete without a gripe about the condition of Town Hall. I’ve already mentioned our packed-to-capacity tiny vault (Maplewood beer caves have more space). On top of that, our lift is ten years past its expiration date and access to the Town Clerk’s Office is barely ADA compliant. The upstairs windows are cracked and leaking heat. Some are patched with duct tape which, to me, is a shame and a disgrace.

We are at a crossroads: do we sink money into repairing a dated building that may no longer be able to accommodate the requirements of a public facility? Or do we build a new, energy-efficient structure, possibly nearer Rumney School and the

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT (continued)

Town Garage to be more centrally located? Middlesex has gone back and forth on these questions forever but sooner or later we will have to face this daunting project. Someday, we may not have the luxury of debate.

See you Tuesday, March 3rd at Rumney School where voting on the Presidential Primary as well as Town and School ballots will take place from 7 AM to 7 PM with Town Meeting in the gym at 4:30 PM. Thank you again for allowing me to serve such a wonderful community - for 7 years!

Sarah Merriman
Town Clerk/Select Board Assistant

ROAD FOREMAN HIGHWAY REPORT

2019 has certainly brought its fair share of road blocks for the Highway Department (sorry for the lame analogy).

We started off in spring of 2019 with a fairly intense and drawn out mud season. With the harsh cold we received over last winter, it seemed like mud season was vastly delayed. The unfortunate part was how deep the frost had actually travelled and the amount of time it took for the roads to finally dry up. That was the start of what would become a very challenging spring for Middlesex.

On the night of May 18th into the 19th, an already saturated ground was hit with over 2" of rain. This resulted in substantial damage to only localized portions of Washington County, Middlesex in particular. That night not only did we lose dozens of driveways and road crossing culverts, but we also lost over half a mile of travel lane on Macey Road. The scene was very reminiscent of Tropical Storm Irene and brought back some not so fond memories.

As always, we began a triage to find out what areas were hit the hardest and started putting together a plan for repairs. Residential access and emergency vehicle accessibility is always top priority. Once we determined where the damage was, we began tackling what would be almost a summer's worth of damage. We called in help to repair the bulk of the Macey Road damage so that portion of repairs was out of our hands.

Knowing what we do in devastating storm damage, proper documentation and photos were taken at each damage site so it could be submitted for FEMA reimbursement. To our dismay, on May 31st we received a letter from our District 5 Regional Planner explaining that Washington County did not meet the FEMA threshold for damage

qualification. Knowing we were looking at a minimum cost to the town of \$80,000, we were left in a very tough financial position. Not only would we be at a deficit in regards to finances, but our regularly scheduled summer work had completely changed from progress to repair.

On June 17th, a letter from the Highway Department to the State of Vermont was sent in hopes of using State Aid to help cover some of the financial burden we were facing. On October 30th, we received a letter from the State indicating we would be the recipient of \$72,000 in assistance for damage repairs. We were ecstatic! One night later, on Halloween, we received more damage from a rain event though not as severe as the May 19th event.

We have decided to make some changes in this year's budget to allow us to "catch up" to our scheduled work that has been riddled the last few seasons by weather and repairs that were out of our control. Our intent is to try and get back on what our 5-Year Road Plan had been, and to hopefully uphold that schedule. This year you will see work on several roads (refer to 5-Year Plan) so that we can better deal with progressive failure in our infrastructure. For a more detailed explanation, please feel free as always to contact either the Highway Department directly or through the Clerk's Office if you'd prefer.

Thank you to all for your continued support as we work towards safer and better managed roads.

*Sincerely, Paul Cerminara, Road Foreman,
and the entire Middlesex Highway
Department (Bruce Fitch, Jay Files and
Charles Pelchar).*

FIVE-YEAR HIGHWAY PLAN

Summer 2020**May & June – Full Service**

McCullough Hill & Barnet Hill Road

July - Full Service

Bolduc & Tangletown Road

August – Mud Season Mitigation

East Hill Road

September & October – Service Work

Center Road, S. Bear Swamp, N. Bear Swamp Road

Summer 2021**May, June & July – Full Service**

South Bear Swamp & North Bear Swamp Road

August – Mud Season Mitigation

Center Road

September – Full Service

Macey Road

October – Service Work

Culver Hill Road

Summer 2022**May – Full Service**

Culver Hill Road

June & July – Service Work

East Hill & Center Road

July – Service Work

Center & East Hill Road

August – Mud Season Mitigation

Portal Road

September & October – Service Work

West Hill & Nellie Chase Road

Capital Plan For Equipment Replacement Schedule

Equipment Name	Replacement Schedule	Year of Replacement
1968 GMC 6500 Chloride Truck	As Needed	No Date
1989 Morbark Chipper	As Needed	No Date
2007 Caterpillar 420E Backhoe	As Needed	No Date
1997 Caterpillar 140H Grader	10 Years	2021
2008 Kobelco 140SR Excavator	10 Years	2022
2014 Komatsu WA-270 Loader	12 Years	2026
2014 Western Star Dump Truck	7 Years	2021 (this may change)
2018 International Dump Truck	7 Years	2024
2019 Freightliner Dump Truck	8 Years	2025
2014 GMC Sierra 2500 Pick-Up	8 Years	2022

FIVE-YEAR HIGHWAY PLAN (continued)

Summer 2023**May – Service Work**

Lower Sunny Brook Road, Lower Barnett Hill Road

June – Pavement Preparation

Center Road

July – Paving & Finish Work

Center Road

August – Mud Season Mitigation

Center Road

September – Mud Season Mitigation

Portal Road

October – Service Work

Center Road

Summer 2024**May – Service Work**

East Hill Road

June – Service Work

Daniel's Farm Road

July – Service Work

Norton Road

August – Service Work

3 Mile Bridge Road, Cross Road, Rich Road

September – Service Work

Upper Sunny Brook Road & Davy Road

October – Mud Season Mitigation

To Be Determined

Note: All structures/paving projects are pending grant funding and/or permitting approval.

Full Service = Minor gravel, brush cutting, culvert replacement, ditching

Mud Season Mitigation = Excavation, drainage, fabric, gravel

Service Work = Shoulder cutting, ditching, culvert replacement

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the year ending June 30, 2019 a budget was approved for the General Fund of \$1,160,515 exclusive of special articles. Unfortunately, two major storms in the spring required significant emergency road repairs, which severely impacted the overall budget. Total expenditures of \$1,241,473 resulted in an \$80,958 increase over the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 budget. In addition, the Special Articles in the amount \$66,297 approved by the voters were also expensed accordingly.

The accounting firm of Batchelder Associates completed a full review of the financial records for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019. There were no material weaknesses or deficiencies found. A full copy of the audit report is available on the Town's website: <http://middlesexvermont.org>.

Based on budgets presented by town departments and committees, along with general expenses for the town, the Select Board is presenting a budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$1,323,867 (before Special Articles) for consideration of the voters. The proposed budget is an 11.45% increase over 2019-2020. In addition, "Special Article" requests totaling \$73,319 is being presented to the voters for consideration. This is a 14.16% increase over requests received last year. An overview of the budget presented can be found in the Select Board report.

At the end of December, Patti Lewis, our bookkeeper for several years retired. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for loyalty and the great work she did for the Town of Middlesex, and for being an integral part of the team. I would also like to welcome Amy Whitehorne as our new bookkeeper. I'm sure many of you recognize Amy's name as one of the town's listers. Amy was a perfect fit, being familiar with our computer system in addition to having accounting experience. Amy will remain a lister (as long as she is re-elected) in addition to the bookkeeper position. Welcome Amy, I am happy to have you as part of the accounting team.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorinda Crowell
Treasurer

COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES REPORT

For the year ending, June 30, 2019, delinquent taxes were \$49,667.63 plus an additional \$ 5,963.55 in penalty and interest. As of December 31, 2019 the delinquent amount was reduced to \$37,877.07 including penalty and interest.

At last year's Town Meeting voters were asked for the authorization of property taxes to be paid in four installments, rather than two. The purpose of the change was to provide smaller amounts due over a longer period of time, with the intention of making the payments more manageable. I am happy to report we received all positive comments and taxpayers are appreciative of the change. Again this year, under proposed Article 5 taxpayers will have until May 20th to have their taxes paid in full. Please note: Interest will accrue (as passed) according to Article 6. Taxpayers always have the option to pay their taxes in full or make partial payments at any time provided the amount received meets the amount due by the authorized due date.

Property is assessed as of April 1st each year. By State Statue, the property owner as of April 1st will receive the tax bill. Please contact the Town Office, for a copy of the bill if you are a new owner of a property in Middlesex after April 1st. It is the responsibility of all property owners to make sure your mortgage company has a copy of the tax bill.

The Collector of Delinquent Taxes plays a vital role in ensuring that property taxes owed to the town are paid by all taxpayers. It is the job of the Collector of Delinquent Taxes to notify taxpayers when their taxes are overdue, to make arrangements for late payments, or to take formal collection actions, including conducting tax sales of the property, when necessary. The delinquent tax payer shall be responsible for payment of all taxes, penalties, and interest plus any legal fees and court costs (up to an additional 15% of the delinquent tax owed) incurred in the process of collecting the delinquent tax.(32 V.S.A Section 3258).

I encourage all Taxpayers to file their Vermont Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Claim Form HS-122 Homestead Declaration by April 15th, even if you do not file a tax return or are filing for an extension. The Homestead Declaration must be filed each year by Vermont residents for purposes of the state education tax rate. The Declaration identifies the property as the homestead of the Vermont resident. Homestead Declarations filed after April 15, 2019, may be assessed the following penalty by the town: • Up to 3% if the nonresidential rate is higher than the homestead education property tax rate. • Up to 8% if the nonresidential rate is lower than the homestead education property tax rate. As a point reference, the nonresidential rate for the Town of Middlesex has been lower for the last several years.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorinda Crowell, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

2020-2021 General Government				
Expenses				
Budget	554375.00			
Special Articles	73319.00			
	0.00			
Total	627694.00			
Anticipated Receipts				
Interest	1000.00			
School Reimbursement	0.00			
Licenses and Fees	20250.00			
Delinquent Tax Interest	4000.00			
RR Tax	2500.00			
PILOT/Hold Harmless Payment	57000.00			
PILOT/ Agy of Natural Resources	40000.00			
Delinquent Tax Penalty	4000.00			
Fund Balance Reduction	0.00			
Total	128,750.00	Total General Government	\$	498,944.00
2019-2020 Highway				
Expenses				
Budget	769492.00			
Receipts				
State Aid to Highways	115000.00			
Other		Total Highway	\$	654,492.00
Sub-total			\$	1,153,436.00
Total Municipal Tax Effort			\$	1,153,436.00
2019 Grand List*	\$ 2,261,264.40			
2019 Homestead Tax Rate*	1.8008	(State of Vermont)		
2019 Non-Residential Tax Rate*	1.6382	(State of Vermont)		
2019 Municipal Tax Rate*	0.4700			
Local Agreement Rate*	0.0024			
Total Town Tax Rate*	0.4724			
Total Non- Residential Rate*	2.1106			
Total Residential Rate*	2.2732			
<p>*NOTE: This is only an estimate based on the 2019 Grandlist and anticipated financial receipts 2020 Grand List (property values as of April 1, 2020) and 2020 State Education Rates 2020 Municipal rate will be used in determining 2020 Total Residential & Non-Residential Rates</p>				

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Town Proposed Budget for FY 2020 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

The Select Board's proposed budget for FY 2020 is \$ 1,323,867. This equates to an 11.45% increase over the FY 2019 budget of \$ 1,160,515. The Select Board devoted a substantial amount of time considering the proposed budget for FY 2020 and feels that the 11.45% increase is appropriate.

By far, the most notable factor contributing to this increase is the request by the Road Commissioner, supported by the Road Foreman, for special funding of \$40,000 beyond its normal budget request for money to fund tasks such as winter maintenance, summer maintenance, and equipment and garage maintenance. This additional funding of \$40,000, identified as "Specialized Services" in the budget, will be used to pay for the rental of trucks, excavators, and, as necessary, operators, to perform an increased level of work on Town roads this year, including ditching and mud season remediation, necessitated by severe weather events and increased usage of the roads.

This increase was the subject of much discussion by the Select Board. The Budget Committee, charged by statute to make recommendations to the Select Board after evaluation of the proposed budget, strongly supported the inclusions of these additional funds for this purpose and recommended their inclusion in the budget despite the significance of the increase in budget from the 2019 fiscal year.

An additional factor in the budget increase was the Select Board's decision to raise the wage rates for certain town employees, including the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer, Bookkeeper, and road crew, by 3% as part of an ongoing effort to better reflect an appropriate wage for the critical services performed by these employees.

This budget does not include special articles, which are subject to voters' approval at town meeting. The Budget Committee would like to thank the Select Board for all its hard work and recommends approval of this budget.

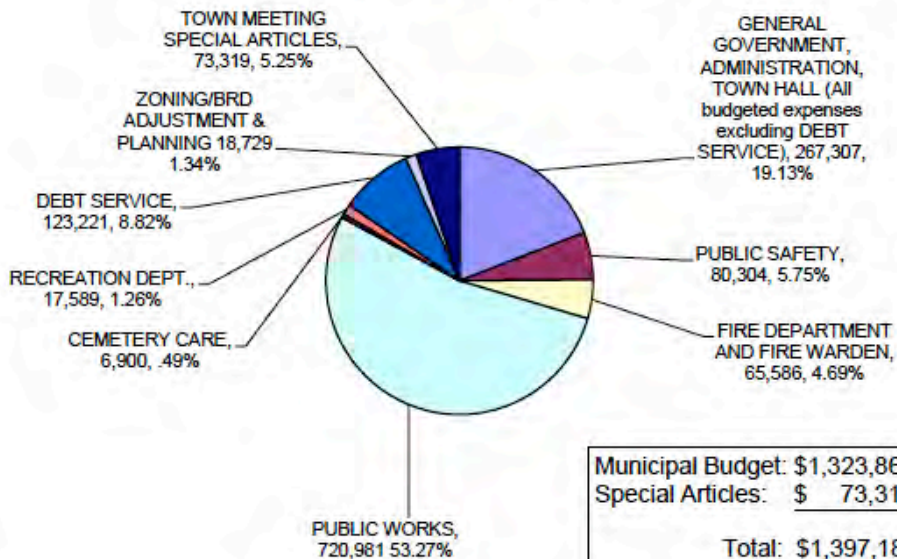
Budget Committee

Bill Dorigan (Chair), George Longenecker, and Elias Gardner

WHERE THE \$ GOES

Town of Middlesex - Municipal Budget FY JULY 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

See line by line detail on Town Budget Pages



THE LAST FIVE YEARS						
Fiscal Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
						Proposed
Grandlist	1,991,845	2,001,778	2,217,564	2,234,154	2,262,264	?
Town Budget\$	1,052,974.00	1,076,808	1,099,071	1,160,515	1,187,891	1,323,867
Special Articles	61,570.00	59,821	63,071	66,297	64,222	73,319
Town Tax Rate	0.4393	\$ 0.4528	\$ 0.4196	\$ 0.4198	\$ 0.4724	\$ 0.5125
School-Homestead Tax Rate	1.7572	\$ 1.8113	\$ 1.6613	\$ 1.8097	\$ 1.8008	?
School-Non -Residential Tax Rate	1.5761	\$ 1.6250	\$ 1.4794	\$ 1.5606	\$ 1.6382	?

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX 2020-2021 PROJECTED SALARIES

Select Board			Position currently held by:
	Chairman	\$ 827.82	Peter Hood
	Vice Chair	\$ 662.26	Mary Just Skinner
	Road Commissioner	\$ 827.82	Steven Martin
	Member	\$ 662.26	Elizabeth Scharf
	Member	\$ 662.26	Philip Hyjek
	SB Assisitant	\$ 22,019.42	Sarah Merriman
Administration			
	Clerk	\$ 21,188.50	Sarah Merriman
	Assistant Clerk	\$ 15,677.60	Maryke Gillis
	Treasurer	\$ 8,165.33	Dorinda Crowell
	Bookkeeper	\$ 13,261.25	Amy Whitehorne
Listers			
	Lister	\$ 1,909.62	Richard Alderman
	Lister	\$ 13,897.79	Eric Young
	Lister	\$ 13,897.79	Amy Whitehorne
Highway			
	Foreman	\$ 63,140.39	Paul Cerminara
	Crew	\$ 52,090.19	Bruce Fitch
	Crew	\$ 52,090.19	Jay Files
	Crew	\$ 48,828.23	Charles Pelchar
Delinquent Tax Collector		\$ 3,266.13	Dorinda Crowell
Zoning Administrator		\$ 6,895.85	Mitch Osiecki
Recreation Director		\$ 5,304.50	Mitch Osiecki
Animal Control Officer		\$ 1,040.00	Erika Holm
Health Officer		\$ 1,040.00	Elizabeth Fortman
TOTAL		\$ 347,355.20	

DEBT SERVICE / NOTES PAYABLE

As of June 30, 2019			
Item	Outstanding Principal	Interest	Matures
	Amount	Rate (%)	F/Y
Highway:			
2018 International Hwy Truck	\$ 101,774.00	3.15	2024
2019 Highway Dump Truck	\$ 149,860.00	3.25	2025
Sub Total	\$ 251,634.00		
Fire Department:			
Repairs for 1995 Fire Truck	\$ 2,000.00	2.85	2020
Freightliner Fire Truck	\$ 102,154.00	3.00	2026
Fire Station	\$ 440,000.00	4.19	2029
Grand Total	\$ 542,154.00		

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT

2020/2021 Budget Report	Budget FY - 2018/2019	Actual FY-2018/2019	Budget FY - 2019/2020	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Change
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Wages: Selectboard	\$3,434.00	\$3,432.00	\$3,536.00	\$3,642.00	3.01%
Wages: Selectboard Clerk	\$20,547.00	\$20,894.87	\$21,382.00	\$22,019.00	2.98%
Wages: Payroll Tax(SS&MED)	\$1,834.00	\$1,331.00	\$2,177.00	\$2,242.00	2.99%
Wages: Retirement	\$1,130.00	\$1,137.00	\$1,229.00	\$1,321.00	7.49%
Insurance: Health	\$5,876.00	\$6,595.00	\$6,768.00	\$7,646.00	12.97%
Insurance: Property & Casualty	\$9,825.00	\$9,692.00	\$10,296.00	\$11,188.00	8.66%
Insurance: Workers Compensation	\$386.00	\$577.00	\$1,000.00	\$750.00	-25.00%
Insurance: Unemployment Comp	\$154.00	\$45.00	\$154.00	\$154.00	0.00%
Advertising/Printing	\$1,500.00	\$470.30	\$1,250.00	\$600.00	-52.00%
Selectboard Courses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	0.00%
Town Property Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,600.00	30.00%
Welch Park	\$1,000.00	\$2,057.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
Discretionary Fund	\$5,000.00	\$2,411.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	0.00%
Legal Fees	\$4,000.00	\$1,149.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	-33.33%
Town Report	\$2,950.00	\$2,628.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	-33.33%
VLCT Dues	\$3,017.00	\$3,017.00	\$3,097.00	\$3,224.00	4.10%
County Tax	\$17,401.00	\$17,401.00	\$18,149.00	\$19,000.00	4.69%
CV Solid Waste	\$1,757.00	\$1,756.00	\$1,757.00	\$1,738.00	-1.08%
CV Reg Planning Comm	\$1,956.00	\$1,956.00	\$2,077.00	\$2,184.00	5.15%
Conservation Commission	\$500.00	\$226.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
Elections	\$2,500.00	\$3,970.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00	66.67%
Misc Expense	\$0.00	\$149.36	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
Town Hall Building Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	0.00%
What's Next Middlesex	\$0.00	-\$638.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Tax Abatements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$84,767.00	\$80,255.73	\$102,572.00	\$105,009.00	2.38%
ADMINISTRATION					
Office: Wages (Clerk, Ass't Clerk, Treas, Bookkeeper)	\$51,709	\$48,183	\$54,464	\$58,293	7.03%
Listers: Wages	\$12,219	\$13,590	\$14,420	\$29,705	106.00%
Delinquent Tax Collector: Wages	\$2,510	\$440	\$2,060	\$3,266	58.55%
ADMIN: Payroll Tax (SS&MED)	\$5,102	\$5,066	\$5,428	\$6,982	28.63%
ADMIN: Unemployment	\$211	\$25	\$211	\$217	2.86%
ADMIN: Retirement	\$1,087	\$1,183	\$1,183	\$1,271	7.46%
ADMIN: Insurance: Life/LTD/AD&D	\$371	\$205	\$371	\$381	2.70%
ADMIN: Insurance: Health	\$5,645	\$6,865	\$6,548	\$7,346	12.19%
ADMIN: Insurance: Workers Comp	\$386	-\$275	\$406	\$387	-4.68%
Office Supplies	\$3,500	\$1,729	\$3,500	\$3,500	0.00%
Telephone	\$4,800	\$4,541	\$4,800	\$4,800	0.00%
Postage	\$3,000	\$2,386	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
Auditing	\$7,200	\$7,400	\$7,400	\$7,400	0.00%
Listing Mileage/Expenses	\$2,500	\$2,972	\$2,500	\$3,000	20.00%
Clerical Mileage	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Clerk's Office Seminars	\$300	\$75	\$300	\$100	-66.67%
Listing Mapping	\$750	\$335	\$750	\$750	0.00%
Copier Lease	\$2,100	\$1,929	\$2,100	\$2,100	0.00%
Computer Maintenance	\$5,000	\$13,016	\$10,000	\$14,000	40.00%
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$108,390	\$109,665	\$119,441	\$146,498	22.65%
TOWN HALL					
Electricity	\$2,250	\$2,717	\$2,700	\$2,800	3.70%
Heat	\$2,000	\$1,623	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.00%
Grounds	\$2,500	\$846	\$2,500	\$2,500	0.00%
Building Repairs	\$3,500	\$2,506	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Building Fund (*Moved to Gen Gov)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Street Lights	\$2,200	\$1,765	\$2,200	\$2,000	-9.09%
Janitorial	\$1,500	\$1,251	\$1,500	\$1,500	0.00%
TOTAL TOWN HALL	\$13,950	\$10,708	\$15,900	\$15,800	-0.63%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (continued)

2020/2021 Budget Report	Budget FY - 2018/2019	Actual FY-2018/2019	Budget FY - 2019/2020	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Change
PUBLIC SAFETY					
Wages: Health Officer	\$1,040	\$0	\$1,040	\$1,040	0.00%
Wages: Animal Control Officer	\$1,040	\$0	\$1,040	\$1,040	0.00%
P/S : Payroll Tax (SS & MED)	\$159	\$0	\$159	\$159	0.00%
P/S: Workers Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$94	\$94	0.00%
Courses/Seminars	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100	0.00%
Ambulance	\$65,894	\$65,894	\$67,871	\$67,871	0.00%
Speed Enforcement	\$7,500	\$3,717	\$7,500	\$7,500	0.00%
Dog Pound	\$600	\$180	\$600	\$600	0.00%
Emergency Management	\$250	\$0	\$3,705	\$1,900	-48.72%
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$76,583	\$69,791	\$82,109	\$80,304	-2.20%
FIRE DEPARTMENT					
FD-Insurance: Property & Casualty	\$7,370	\$7,084	\$7,810	\$8,395	7.49%
FD-Insurance: Workers Compensation	\$1,280	\$1,211	\$1,145	\$1,217	6.29%
FD-Supplies	\$200	\$159	\$200	\$200	0.00%
FD-Equipment Repair	\$7,000	\$15,374	\$7,000	\$7,000	0.00%
FD-Equipment Purchase	\$6,000	\$3,016	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
FD-Telephone	\$1,100	\$1,079	\$1,100	\$1,100	0.00%
FD-Fast Squad	\$1,000	\$730	\$1,000	\$1,000	0.00%
FD-Electricity	\$1,600	\$2,090	\$1,600	\$2,000	25.00%
FD-Fuel - Heat	\$3,000	\$3,717	\$4,000	\$4,000	0.00%
FD-Building Maintenance	\$1,500	\$2,697	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
FD-Radio Dispatch	\$22,387	\$22,178	\$24,405	\$26,224	7.45%
FD-VSFA/Dues/Accounting/Training	\$1,750	\$1,560	\$1,000	\$1,000	0.00%
Courses & Seminars	\$0	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,000	0.00%
FD-Forest Fire Warden	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	0.00%
FD-GAS & Diesel	\$2,000	\$432	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.00%
FD-Stipends	\$3,000	\$2,460	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
FD-Communication/Radio	\$1,200	\$712	\$1,200	\$1,200	0.00%
E911 Signs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
FD Sub-Total	\$60,637	\$65,097	\$62,710	\$65,586	4.59%
FIRE DEPARTMENT DEBT SERVICE					
Fire Station Bond	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	0.00%
Fire Station Interest	\$20,583	\$20,043	\$19,844	\$17,487	-11.88%
VTECH Freightliner Tanker - PRIN	\$10,400	\$10,400	\$14,594	\$14,594	0.00%
VTECH Freightliner Tanker - INT	\$2,100	\$2,075	\$3,056	\$2,629	-13.98%
Equipment Note FD	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	-100.00%
Equipment Note FD Interest	\$75	\$112	\$57	\$0	-100.00%
F/D DEBT SERVICE Sub Total	\$75,158	\$74,630	\$79,551	\$74,710	-6.09%
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$135,795	\$139,727	\$142,261	\$140,296	-1.38%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (continued)

2020/2021 Budget Report	Budget FY - 2018/2019	Actual FY-2018/2019	Budget FY - 2019/2020	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Change
PUBLIC WORKS					
Winter Maintenance					
Road Salt	\$10,564	\$14,560	\$12,800	\$13,745	7.38%
Winter Sand	\$37,500	\$59,182	\$37,500	\$37,500	0.00%
Trucking	\$32,000	\$41,540	\$32,000	\$32,000	0.00%
WINTER MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	\$80,064	\$115,281	\$82,300	\$83,245	1.15%
Summer Maintenance					
Chloride	\$14,400	\$16,108	\$14,250	\$16,000	12.28%
Seed	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,342	11.40%
Hot Mix/Cold Patch	\$500	\$251	\$1,000	\$1,000	0.00%
Stone Ditch Lining	\$3,000	\$1,068	\$3,000	\$7,000	133.33%
Hay, Mulch, Netting	\$5,000	\$1,375	\$5,000	\$7,200	44.00%
Road Gravel	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$14,046	180.92%
Roadside Mowing	\$9,800	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$18,927	89.27%
Rental Equipment	\$2,500	\$11,685	\$2,500	\$1,500	-40.00%
Tree Service	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$2,000	\$1,000	-50.00%
Storm Water Discharge Fee	\$0	\$0	\$1,350	\$1,350	0.00%
Miscellaneous Summer Maintenance	\$0	\$3,934	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green-Up	\$0	-\$244	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Emergency Road Repairs	\$0	\$44,678	\$0	\$0	0.00%
SUMMER MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	\$44,200	\$90,154	\$47,600	\$71,865	50.98%
Specialized Services					
Trucks	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$24,000	
Excavator Rental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	
1 Month Wages	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000	
SPECIALIZED SERVICES SUBTOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	NEW
Equipment Maintenance					
Equipment Repairs & Vendors	\$15,000	\$49,374	\$21,500	\$24,000	11.63%
Equipment Parts & Supplies	\$15,000	\$16,107	\$15,000	\$8,500	-43.33%
Plow & Sander Equipment	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	0.00%
Bulk Oil & DEF	\$4,050	\$533	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Inspections	\$300	\$0	\$400	\$400	0.00%
Tires	\$12,000	\$9,735	\$9,000	\$8,000	-11.11%
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	\$54,350	\$75,749	\$58,900	\$53,900	-8.49%
Garage Maintenance					
Shop Supplies (Towels, Rags, etc)	\$1,030	\$1,395	\$1,382	\$1,800	30.25%
Waste Disposal	\$1,000	\$1,594	\$1,000	\$1,650	65.00%
Air Gas Services	\$775	\$857	\$775	\$775	0.00%
Vermont State UST Fee	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0	-100.00%
Fuel Tank Maintenance	\$300	\$717	\$300	\$1,000	233.33%
Garage Door Maintenance	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$500	-50.00%
Office Supplies & Misc	\$500	\$170	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Small Tool Purchase (moved to this sub group from below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	0.00%
Building Maintenance	\$0	\$6,285	\$0	\$0	0.00%
GARAGE MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL	\$4,655	\$11,068	\$5,007	\$9,725	94.23%
Utilities					
Electricity	\$2,500	\$3,042	\$2,500	\$4,000	60.00%
Heat	\$5,655	\$4,140	\$6,000	\$5,000	-16.67%
Phone	\$1,500	\$916	\$1,500	\$1,000	-33.33%
UTILITIES SUBTOTAL	\$9,655	\$8,099	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.00%
Gas, Diesel	\$41,500	\$51,370	\$43,675	\$55,000	25.93%
Wages & Benefits					
Wages	\$198,789	\$196,928	\$209,853	\$216,149	3.00%
P/W - Payroll Tax (SS & MED)	\$15,208	\$15,091	\$16,054	\$16,535	3.00%
Unemployment Taxes	\$650	\$105	\$650	\$519	-20.15%
Retirement	\$10,934	\$11,210	\$12,067	\$12,969	7.47%
Life & ADD& Long Term Disability	\$1,825	\$1,138	\$1,825	\$1,547	-15.23%
Health Insurance	\$27,923	\$24,491	\$22,022	\$24,927	13.19%
Uniforms, Safety Equip, DOT Compliance	\$5,910	\$8,512	\$7,400	\$7,548	2.00%
Property & Casualty Insurance	\$10,898	\$10,382	\$11,330	\$12,200	7.68%
Workers Comp Insurance	\$24,957	\$19,538	\$22,000	\$19,453	-11.58%
Courses & Seminars	\$300	\$60	\$300	\$300	0.00%
Wages & Benefits Sub-Total	\$297,394	\$287,454	\$303,500	\$312,148	2.85%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (continued)

2020/2021 Budget Report	Budget FY - 2018/2019	Actual FY-2018/2019	Budget FY - 2019/2020	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Change
Culverts	\$20,000	\$1,950	\$20,000	\$15,848	-20.76%
Signs	\$3,500	\$131	\$3,500	\$3,500	0.00%
Bridge Fund	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	0.00%
Paving Fund	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	0.00%
Construction	\$20,000	\$17,669	\$20,000	\$0	
Gravel				\$6,000	
Ditch Stone				\$1,600	
Hydro Seeding				\$1,550	
Ledge Removal				\$6,000	
Erosion Matting				\$600	
Mud Season Mitigation				\$7,500	
CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,250	16.25%
Small Equipment Purchase (Moved to Garage Maintenance)	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500	\$0	-100.00%
Equipment Purchase	\$0	\$11,491	\$0	\$1,500	100.00%
Grants: Town Match	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Town Garage Building Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Public Works Sub Total	\$619,818	\$711,416	\$638,982	\$720,981	12.83%
PUBLIC WORKS DEBT SERVICE					
2019 Freightliner Dump	\$0		\$21,409	\$21,409	0.00%
2019 Freightliner Dump-INT	\$0	\$921	\$4,857	\$4,179	-13.96%
2018 International Dump-PRIN	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$20,355	\$20,355	0.00%
2018 International Dump-INT	\$2,400	\$2,345	\$3,197	\$2,568	-19.68%
2014 Western Star 4700 -PRIN	\$29,008	\$29,007	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2014 West. Star Trk-INTER	\$810	\$814	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2015 GMC TRK-PRIN	\$5,870	\$5,870	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2015 GMC TRK - INT	\$174	\$173	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2014 Komatsu Loader -PRIN	\$23,658	\$23,658	\$0	\$0	0.00%
2014 Komatsu Loader-INT	\$700	\$698	\$0	\$0	0.00%
P/ W DEBT SERVICE -Sub Total	\$87,620	\$88,486	\$49,818	\$48,511	-2.62%
TOTAL HIGHWAY	\$707,438	\$799,902	\$688,800	\$769,492	11.71%
CEMETERY					
Labor	\$6,900	\$3,180	\$6,900	\$6,900	0.00%
Materials	\$0	\$25	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Repair to Cemetery	\$0		\$0	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL CEMETERY	\$6,900	\$3,205	\$6,900	\$6,900	0.00%
RECREATION					
Wages: Recreation	\$5,291	\$4,700	\$6,180	\$5,305	-14.17%
REC: Payroll Tax	\$445	\$369	\$473	\$406	-14.21%
REC: Workers Comp Insurance	\$0	\$159	\$345	\$318	-7.75%
Dues, Conferences, Travel	\$275	\$0	\$275	\$250	-9.09%
Wrightsville Beach Dues	\$1,989	\$2,712	\$2,710	\$2,750	1.48%
Town BOR- mowing, brush hog, aerating	\$3,520	\$4,185	\$3,520	\$3,520	0.00%
Recreation Supplies (seed, soil, fertilizer)	\$480	\$0	\$480	\$500	4.17%
Portalet Rental Recreation field	\$1,200	\$0	\$600	\$600	0.00%
Learn to Swim Program	\$500	\$303	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Recreation Equipment (nets/hardware)	\$350	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Bandstand Mowing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Walter Kelly Park-Mowing & Portalet	\$2,920	\$2,519	\$2,920	\$2,940	0.68%
Facility Maintenance Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	100.00%
TOTAL RECREATION	\$16,970	\$14,946	\$18,003	\$17,589	-2.30%

COMPARATIVE BUDGET REPORT (continued)

2020/2021 Budget Report	Budget FY - 2018/2019	Actual FY-2018/2019	Budget FY - 2019/2020	Budget FY - 2020/2021	Change
ZONING/BRD OF ADJUSTMENT					
Wages: Zoning	\$6,916	\$5,840	\$6,180	\$6,896	11.58%
Zoning: Payroll Tax	\$581	\$438	\$473	\$528	11.53%
Zoning: Workers Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$27	\$31	14.93%
Mileage/expenses	\$25	\$89	\$25	\$25	0.00%
Advertising	\$0	\$192	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Zoning: Legal/enforcement	\$0	\$315	\$1,000	\$2,000	100.00%
Courses/Seminars	\$200	\$130	\$200	\$250	25.00%
Total Zoning/BRD of Adjustment	\$7,722	\$7,003	\$7,905	\$9,729	23.08%
PLANNING COMMISSION					
Advertising	\$500	\$218	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Mapping	\$0	\$1,219	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Mail Drop/Postage	\$500	\$400	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Printing & Copying	\$500	\$175	\$500	\$500	0.00%
Consultation	\$500	\$4,257	\$2,500	\$7,500	200.00%
Total Planning Commission	\$2,000	\$6,269	\$4,000	\$9,000	125.00%
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	\$1,160,515	\$1,241,473	\$1,187,891	\$1,323,867	11.45%
SPECIAL ARTICLES					
CV Economic Development	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	0.00%
CV Home Health & Hospice	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$4,050	\$4,050	0.00%
Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	0.00%
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	\$29,801	\$29,801	\$29,801	\$29,801	0.00%
Middlesex Community Conn.	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	0.00%
Middlesex Conservation Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Montpelier Senior Center	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$7,000	27.27%
Putnamville Speed Signs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	NEW
Waterbury Area Senior Center	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.00%
By Request: Under \$251					
American Red Cross	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$250	100.00%
Big Heavy World	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	NEW
Capstone Community Action	\$249	\$249	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Circle	\$199	\$199	\$199	\$199	0.00%
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Cross Trail Vermont	\$1,731	\$1,731	\$0	\$0	0.00%
CV Adult Basic Education	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
CV Council on Aging	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
CV Dart Animal Response Team	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100	NEW
Family Center of Vermont	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$0	-100.00%
Good Beginnings	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Good Samaitian Haven	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Green Mtn Transit	\$199	\$199	\$249	\$249	0.00%
Green Up Vermont	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	0.00%
Home Share Now	\$500	\$500	\$250	\$0	-100.00%
Montpelier Veteran's Council	\$200	\$200	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Mother Up	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$0	-100.00%
Our House of Central Vermont	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Peoples Health & Wellness	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$245	\$245	\$250	\$250	0.00%
T W Wood Gallery	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$0	-100.00%
The Childrens Room	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$0	-100.00%
Vermont Cares	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$0	0.00%
VT Assoc for the Blind	\$249	\$249	\$249	\$0	-100.00%
VT Center for Independent Living	\$199	\$199	\$199	\$195	-2.01%
Vermont Family Network	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	NEW
VT Rural Fire Prot Task Force	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	0.00%
Washington County Diversion	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	0.00%
Washington County Youth Service	\$175	\$175	\$175	\$175	0.00%
Winooski Natural Resources	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	NEW
Sub-Total Special Articles	\$66,297	\$66,297	\$64,222	\$73,319	14.16%
TOTAL BUDGET Plus Special Articles	\$1,226,812	\$1,307,770	\$1,252,113	\$1,397,186	11.59%

BANDSTAND CONCERT SERIES

Last year the Martha Pellerin-Andy Shapiro Memorial Bandstand celebrated its 14th annual summer concert season. The lineup was one of our best, and the concerts that weren't rained out were terrific: Vermont phenom Myra Flynn backed by a stellar band; Blackwater Trio, a Mississippi roots-rock group featuring stunning fiddle work by Vermont native Alice Hasen; and the Paul Asbell Jazz Quintet, with some of the best jazz musicians in the state.

It seems, though, that we may be seeing an increase in rain in the Northeast, perhaps due to climate change, which has in turn led to more cancellations of our Wednesday night concerts. We booked, but did not hear due to weather, three bands: High Summer, with vocalist Miriam Bernardo; the Green Mountain Playboys; and local funk-rock band Renegade Groove.

On the positive side, a number of people in the community have been working diligently on a plan to improve the acoustics in the Rumney School gymnasium, which would allow us to quickly move bands and audiences indoors in the event of rain. The Rumney School Board initially approved such a proposal in June 2019, and, as of this writing, we are awaiting a final vote by the Washington Central Unified Union School District Board. By the first performance of the 2020 season, on July 8, we hope to have a wonderful concert venue to use in case of bad weather.

Generous support for the 2018 Bandstand concert series was provided by Gold Sponsors Align to Health Chiropractic & Functional Neurology, Bear Swamp Veterinary Service, Bliss Healing Acupuncture and Natural Health, Chill Vermont Gelato, Creative Carpentry and Construction, Freelance Automotive, Green Light Real Estate, Middlesex Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Montpelier Construction, and Noyle W. Johnson Insurance Co.; by In-Kind Gold Sponsors Brian P. Graphic Arts, Capitol Copy, Madtech Sound and Lovetown Recording, and Weathering Heights; and by Concert Sponsors Bear Creek Environmental, Bolduc Metal Recycling, Flywheel Communications, Northfield Savings Bank, Pease Farm Stable, Red Hen Bakery and Café, and Splash Naturals.

Mark your calendars for more incredible music this coming summer on six successive Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. starting on July 8. Also, watch for updates on Front Porch Forum, Facebook, and middlesexbandstand.com.

Middlesex Bandstand Committee

*Dick Alderman, Paul Boffa, Elliot Burg, Jerry Gormley, Mary Nealon,
Margot Prendergast and Ron Sweet*

Contacts: Elliot at 272-4920 and Paul at 522-4810

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Town of Middlesex has owned the Carr and Village Cemeteries for many years. They are very old, historic cemeteries, being the final resting places of early settlers, early town officials, and many veterans of our country's early wars. Carr and Village are 'maintenance only,' no burial cemeteries, funded by the town budget, line item for cemeteries. Thank you to town voters and taxpayers for our yearly support. The cemetery budget has remained level funded at \$6,500, and then at \$6,900, for the last 13 years. Our mowing budget has averaged about \$5,000.00 each year. Occasionally, special maintenance projects, i.e., brush removal, stone cleaning, and fence repair or replacement, have been funded, well within this budget. The Cemetery Commission anticipates using funds for special maintenance projects at the Carr Cemetery this summer. Similar projects at the Village Cemetery have been completed within the last few years.

The North Branch Cemetery (NBC), deeded with its invested assets for repair and maintenance, receives no town taxpayer funding. Burials are done spring, summer, and fall, with a fee designed to cover the cost of this service. We average 4 to 6 burials per year, but can have as many as a dozen or so, in a busy summer. Our mowing budget for North Branch averages about \$5,000.00 per year. The major stone repair of 2018, averaged another \$3,000; a project well worth the expenditure, brought NBC more in line with our expectations. Each summer, we receive many positive compliments on the appearance of NBC. Summer, 2019, brought filling and leveling of sunken sites, with

seeding and mulching of these areas, setting, straightening and resetting of ground markers and smaller upright monuments. This work was done by all volunteer labor. This effort should aid mowers, enhance the appearance of the cemetery and ensure the safety of our visitors and workers.

The 2005 Cemetery Commissioners' appointed 'sextant' effected three burials at North Branch Cemetery, but neglected to file the necessary paperwork for vital records at the town clerk's office as required by VT State Statutes. Most recently, our Cemetery Commission was given the opportunity to secure paperwork for one of the 2005 burials not filed at the town clerk's office. This family has requested a burial for 2020, and was gracious in securing the missing paperwork for us. It was filed in a timely manner, upon receipt, at the town clerk's office.

Each year, during our spring walk-through of cemeteries, the Cemetery Commission reviews and lists areas of need for each cemetery. Included are areas to be filled or leveled, stones to be repaired, monuments to be straightened and reset, and brush to be removed. Fences are 'viewed,' with an eye to repair, even though our fences remain in good condition.

We wish to thank our volunteers and hired personnel for their expert services.

Report respectfully submitted,
Town of Middlesex – Cemetery Commission
Evelyn Gant, Chair; Gary Lamell, Field Expert; Janet McKinstry, Clerk/Treasurer

CENTRAL VERMONT INTERNET NOW CVFIBER

Central Vermont Internet has a new name: CVFiber. Its mission is to get fast, dependable, affordable Internet to every person in its 17-member towns. Many places in central Vermont currently have little or no access to high speed Internet. Where there is high speed Internet, it is mostly cable companies that can provide access. Even where there are multiple Internet providers, there is no reason for these companies to provide high speed Internet. This is bad for the economy, public safety, and can even hurt property values.

This past year, CVFiber has obtained \$37,500 in funds from the state and federal government. CVFiber staff have worked with the state legislature to pass a bill (H.513) which provides support for new and existing Internet service providers like CVFiber to build infrastructure where there is none. CVFiber has also applied for another \$60,000 in grant funds. All together, these funds will allow the group to complete a study and develop a business plan to help understand where the high speed Internet infrastructure should be built first. After the study is done, CVFiber plans to obtain \$4 million in state-backed loans, which will allow the group to begin bringing high speed Internet to its member towns by 2021. Hopefully soon, all residents, businesses, and other groups in the member towns will have the option to subscribe to CVFiber. Please visit www.cvfiber.net for more information.

CVFiber member towns are the following: Barre City, Barre Town, Berlin, Cabot, Calais, East Montpelier, Elmore, Middlesex, Marshfield, Montpelier, Northfield, Orange, Plainfield, Roxbury, Williamstown, Woodbury and Worcester.

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners.

2019 Middlesex Activities

- ☐ Assisted Planning Commission with development of draft enhanced energy plan to facilitate stronger Town role in the Certificate of Public Good process for renewable energy generation projects.
- ☐ Consulted on the Town Plan process, including providing maps.
- ☐ Supported emergency preparedness by assisting with a Local Emergency Management Plan update.
- ☐ Provided Town with updated water classification standards and initiated the process for reclassification of eligible waters.
- ☐ Assisted the Town with a successful Village Center Designation application for Middlesex Village.

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, stimulate the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.
 - ☐ *Transportation planning:* Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions through the Transportation Advisory Committee 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, exercises, and training.
 - ☐ *Energy conservation and development:* Foster projects that support energy conservation to save energy and tax dollars and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.
 - ☐ *Natural resource planning and projects:* Implement activities to protect water resources/supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, maintain the forest products industry, and enhance environmental health.
-

CENTRAL VT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (continued)

- ☞ *Regional plans:* Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption, and 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 special projects, such as 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; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding.

Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource -- please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Anita Krauth represents Middlesex 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. We invite all member municipalities to apply for an annual non-competitive Green Up Day Grant each spring. CVSWMD also provided \$12,661.00 in Municipal Services Program grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual Municipal Services Program Grant.

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:** CVSWMD offers 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. School Program Coordinators work with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentor student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.

- **Special Collections:** In FY19, 8 collection events were held. We collected hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs.

~A household hazardous waste collection event in Montpelier served 166 households.

- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC, at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, is open M, W, F 11:30am-5:30pm and the 3rd 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, 201 visitors from Middlesex recycled at the ARCC.

- **Website:** CVSWMD posts useful information on what can be recycled, what can be composted, how to dispose of hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, 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.

CVSWMD

137 Barre Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 |
cvswmd.org | 229-9383

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Middlesex Conservation Commission's (MCC) mission is to conserve the town's natural and cultural resources. The MCC works with the Town's other governmental entities, public, and other conservation groups to identify and assess natural resources, offer the town and landowners guidance on planning for the conservation of these resources, and educate the residents of Middlesex the importance of conserving these resources. The Town has a modest conservation fund to help conserve the Town's natural, scenic, recreational and historic and cultural resources. The MCC's volunteer members are appointed by the Middlesex Selectboard for staggered terms of three years. The MCC meets at the Town Hall on the first Thursday of every month (except July) at 7:00 p.m.

Summary of 2019 Activities:

Middlesex Town Forest – Many residents have already started to enjoy recreating on the new Chases Mountain trail. The 2.2-mile long hiking trail to the summit of Chases Mountain in the Town Forest has been cut and blazed with two vistas created at the summit. We installed a kiosk at the trailhead using funds received from a \$550 tiny grant from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC). We have also submitted a larger recreation trails program (RTP) grant through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation. If funded, this will allow for erosion prevention trail work completed by a trained trail crew in the summer of 2020. Upon completion of the trail work, we will have an official ribbon cutting ceremony later in the summer. In the meantime, the trail is open for recreating, and there have already been several organized snowshoes, hikes, and workdays organized by the MCC and Green Mountain Club.

Green Up – MCC members staffed the Town Garage to accept roadside trash collected by town residents and to segregate landfill and metal recycling waste streams. Thank you to all who participated and a shout out to the Middlesex road crew for providing trucks and hauling the collected trash to the transfer station and to Bolduc's Salvage for providing a metal recycling container.

Emerald Ash Borer – The MCC will be seeking volunteers in 2020 to map ash trees along our roadsides to support ash tree management planning.

Three Mile Bridge Road Parcel – In 2019, the Cross Vermont Trail Association (CVTA) mowed and removed invasive species on this Town-owned parcel next to the bridge on Three Mile Bridge Road. CVTA intends to install historical and informative signs and maintain the property as a wayside along the Cross-Vermont Trail.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (continued)

Water Quality Projects – Members of the Conservation Commission are participating in statewide water quality initiatives to learn how Middlesex residents can help improve water quality. Look for a homeowners’ workshop in 2020 to learn what steps you can take as a homeowner to improve the quality of water around your home.

Significant bank restoration and protection is in the planning stage for Martin’s Brook at the Shady Rill Picnic area. Commission members participated in the design development led by Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) and has provided letters of support for grant applications that would fund implementation of the restoration project. WNRCD anticipates securing funding in 2020.

Additions and Departures -

The MCC welcomed new member Dell McDonough in 2018 and saw the departure of Dick Alderman in 2019. We thank Dick for his many years of service!

Agendas and minutes for MCC meetings and member contact information are posted on the Town of Middlesex website at <http://middlesexvermont.org>. If you would like to find out more about the MCC, please feel free to get in touch with any one of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Middlesex Conservation Commission

Larry Becker, George Longenecker, Lee Rosberg, Dave Shepard, Heather Katz, Sorsha Anderson, Ross Lieblappen and Adelle McDonough

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In 1986 Congress passed the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), (42 USC Chapter 116). The Middlesex Emergency Management Committee is a product of this federal legislation and defined as a local emergency planning committee (LEPC).

The Select Board established the Middlesex Emergency Management Committee, appointed members, and tasked those members to fulfill the requirements of the legislation. Under this legislation, the Town is responsible for the integration of hazardous materials planning and response within its jurisdiction. This includes conducting a hazard analysis, planning for hazardous materials incidents, assessing local capabilities and developing incident response capabilities using local resources, mutual aid and private contractors. In support of these functions, the town bears a responsibility to train responders and to exercise the plan.

The Middlesex Emergency Management Committee serves as a contact point in the community for information about hazardous substances, the associated health and environmental risks, and response planning. The current 2019 plan is on file and available to view at the Town Clerk's office. This committee is made up of town officials and citizen volunteers and meets on a regular basis to make adjustments to the Local Emergency Plan and to review the plan annually. Anyone who is interested in joining the Middlesex Emergency Management Committee can submit their contact information to the Town Clerk.

The Committee's goals for the calendar year 2020 are; 1) to establish a neighbor-to-neighbor support network to utilize during disrupting (weather related, power outage, etc.) events; 2) to establish an emergency shelter management team; 3) to develop standard operating guidelines for shelter management; 4) to conduct a tabletop exercise utilizing the standard operating guidelines for shelter management in collaboration with Vermont Emergency Management; 5) to update our emergency plan for 2020 in compliance with Vermont Emergency Management's *Local Emergency Management Plan* format; and 6) to encourage more community involvement in expanding the plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Emergency Management Coordinator Paul Otenti and the Middlesex Emergency Management Committee

FAST SQUAD

Middlesex FAST Squad provides local, early response to EMS emergency calls in Middlesex. The FAST squad consists of 4 members.- Jeff Koonz, EMT and Eric Metevier EMT of Middlesex, Bob Bower AEMT & Marge Bower EMT of Moretown. We value our partnership with Montpelier Ambulance, who provide EMS coverage and ambulance transport to all calls in Middlesex.

There were 111 EMS calls to Middlesex in 2019, down from 140 in 2018. Of the 81 patients encountered, (sometime we are cancelled, false calls, etc.) 62 patients were transported to the emergency department. Middlesex FAST Squad had a first responder available from Middlesex 76% of the time. A transporting ambulance, responds 100% of the time, usually with a paramedic able to provide more advanced care on route to the hospital.

Thanks to the JD Picard/ R.Krauth Community EMS Fund, we continue to offer CPR to the community. Our upgraded equipment was utilized for Basic Life support classes to Local EMS & Fire and Family CPR classes. In 2019 we trained many fire fighters and EMS providers. Central Vermont has all been trained to do high performance CPR, which has been shown to increase survival rates. We are hoping to offer community CPR later this winter or early spring, watch for announcements on Front Porch Forum.

We would welcome new members interested in providing emergency medical care, especially those available in Middlesex during the day.

Stay safe. Call 911 when you need emergency help, Be prepared for questions - they have punched the button to get us going. Have your driveway marked so we don't waste time "guessing", turn on all the house lights also says "I'm here!" Secure pets for their safety and comfort if you can.

For more information about joining the fast squad, or general EMS, E-911 signs or CPR: email or call Marge Bower, Director of the Fast Squad.
margebower@comcast.net Home - 299-1935.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department had a total of 71 calls. The break-down is as follows:

Vehicle Accidents I-89:	19 canceled or nothing found on 12 of these calls
Vehicle Accidents Non I-89:	13 canceled on 2 of these calls
Vehicle Fire I-89:	6
Vehicle Fire Non I-89:	1
Hazards:	7
Structure Fire Middlesex:	5
Structure Fire Mutual Aid:	5
Gas Odor:	1
CO Detector	5
False Alarm	6
Brush Fire	1
Cow Rescue	1
Basement Flood	1

In addition to the calls members of the Fire Department responded to, members also volunteered over 125 service hours to the Department and Middlesex. This is unofficial tracking, members provide many more hours to the Department.

We are always in need of new members and not just fire fighters and EMTs. We have many jobs around the station which residents could join the department to help do. Some of the things we could use help with are: vehicle and equipment maintenance, input call reports, keeping our computer updated, cleaning trucks and cleaning the station. If you believe you can help the Department in any way we would like to talk with you.

Our annual schedule is as follows: All events start at 7:00 PM, 1st Tuesday of the month fire training, 3rd Tuesday business meeting, 4th Tuesday work session. In December the Annual Meeting and business meeting take place on the 1st Tuesday and training takes place on the 3rd Tuesday.

As for the future, we will be looking at replacing our 34-year old rescue truck with a new rescue truck next year. We are looking into the requirements we need. We will keep you updated as we get closer. With the purchase of a new rescue our vehicle replacement requirements will be complete and we should not have to replace any of our vehicles for many years.

Doug Hanson, Chief, Jeff Koonz, President

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Middlesex Historical Society was incorporated in November, 1993, to help townspeople understand and preserve the history of the people who have lived and worked in Middlesex, and the buildings, roads, cemeteries, institutions and culture of this community. Our current membership stands at over 200. Members meet three times per year in January, May, and September to share photographs, memorabilia and stories; dates and times are posted on the Middlesex town website, as well as the Front Porch Forum community email service and in The World newspaper. We welcome donations of old photos and documents; they are stored safely and are available to anyone who wishes to study them.

In 2019, the Society helped to update the history section of the town plan and celebrated the trio of entrepreneurs who are helping revitalize the Village through their Camp Meade events. We made our biannual trip to Rumney School to help teach the third and fourth graders about the history of their community. Following 7+ years of research, MHS President Patty Wiley and member Manny Garcia have created a talk, with slideshow and displays, on “The Missing Village of Wrightsville.” The pair debuted the program in November for the East Montpelier/Calais historical societies. They will present it in Middlesex in the spring of 2020. The Society has also been invited to give a community talk at Red Hen Bakery on the history of Camp Meade and the CCC camps in Middlesex.

We have fewer than 10 copies left of the first complete history of our community, *Middlesex in the Making*, co-authored by Patty Wiley and Sarah Seidman. Designed by Kate Alberghini and published in 2006, the book includes over 200 photographs as well as over 70 interviews with the town's oldest residents. It traces the history of the town from its earliest Abenaki roots to the changes of the 1950s and 60s. The group continues to discuss whether and how to do an expanded third edition with additions and corrections to the original text.

We continue to seek a space for the Society's collection of valuable documents, artifacts, and memorabilia. These items document our community's history and belong to all of us; they deserve and will reward public viewing. We would be honored to have a designated area in the Town Hall or at Camp Meade to display our town's history.

We offer a 25-mile self-guided bike/auto tour of the town's historic places on the Middlesex website, and a small traveling exhibit about Middlesex past and present is available for educational uses by any resident.

Membership is open to anyone interested in Middlesex history and costs one dollar (\$1) per person per year, \$15 for businesses. New active members are needed! We hope our efforts will help citizens increase their sense of pride in our town's traditions and their sense of responsibility in planning for the future. Please help us preserve our town's history by renewing your membership at the Middlesex Historical Society table **on Town Meeting Day**, by sending dues or donations to Patty Wiley, President, 262 Westwood Dr., Montpelier, VT 05602, or by bringing them to the town clerk's office.

Patty Wiley, President, Sarah Seidman, V.P./Secretary, Dick Alderman, Treasurer

LISTERS REPORT

In 2019, the Town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was calculated by the State to be 98.93%. This compares with 97.3% the previous year. The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) was adjusted to 10.08%; in 2018 it was 6.76%. Both of these indicators are well within specified state limits. Taxable properties in Middlesex numbered 910 in 2019, with our town-wide assessment totaling \$241,414,100. This is up from \$238,583,700 in 2018.

The number of properties enrolled in the Current Use program increased by one to 100 in 2019. The value of Current Use exemptions now totals \$14,887,960.

In 2019, there were 10 Veteran Property Exemptions in Middlesex. The Veteran Property Exemption equates to a \$40,000 reduction in the assessed value of a particular property for which the owner (an eligible disabled veteran, widow, or widower) is eligible. There is a limit of one Veteran Property Exemption per eligible veteran.

Thirteen grievance hearings were held in May 2019. Ten of those hearings resulted in changes to fair market value. One grievance decision was appealed to the Board of Civil Authority, who upheld the Listers' decision (no change in value).

Twenty-five residential sales and four commercial property sales were recorded in Middlesex between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019. Sales of residential properties ranged from \$31,900 (foreclosure sale of house and .5 acres on Three Mile Bridge Rd) to \$360,000 (house and 1.8 acres on East Hill Road). Land sales ranged from \$337,000 (152.5 acres off Center Road) to \$30,000 (9 acres on East Bear Swamp Road).

Dick Alderman, Amy Whitehorne, and Eric Young
Middlesex Listers

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

The Middlesex Planning Commission completed work on the updated Town Plan which was approved by voters on September 10, 2019. The Town Plan update drew both from the surveys many town residents completed and input from the *What's Next Middlesex* events. The Planning Commission also started work with the help of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission on an Enhanced Energy Plan that can be added in the future to our Town Plan to guide energy development in Town.

With assistance from the Regional Planning Commission, the Middlesex Planning Commission completed work on and received approval for Village Center Designation from the State of Vermont, Agency of Commerce & Community Development for the Village area of Middlesex. This designation helps with future permitting, technical assistance, grants and makes available tax credits for development in the Village area.

Middlesex completed the application for and was awarded a Municipal Planning Grant from the State of Vermont for a transportation feasibility study to explore options to enhance the Route 2 corridor through the Village to support village center style growth in the Village area.

The Middlesex Planning Commission reviewed a zoning application for KCOS Holdings, LLC for additional development at 58 Center Road.

In 2020 the Planning Commission plans to begin work to update the zoning regulations for town.

Middlesex Planning Commission
*Sandy Levine, Chair; Elias Gardner, Vice-Chair; Mitch Osiecki, Secretary;
Theo Kennedy; Dick Alderman.*

RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Middlesex Recreation Department continued work on some ongoing infrastructure projects. In particular:

- Incremental improvements to the baseball/soccer field turf.
- Some modest improvements have been made to Walter Kelley Park.

Thanks as always to the Select Board for its continued support for the Learn to Swim Program. We offer discounted swim lessons in partnership with the Montpelier and Waterbury Recreation Departments.

Plans for 2020 include:

- We are continuing to explore opportunities to develop the facilities at the Walter Kelley Park, located off of US Route 2 in Welch Park.
- We're also searching for grant funding to assist with the long-overdue resurfacing of the town basketball and tennis courts.
- The return of a popular recreation program from days gone by is in the works. Stay tuned for news on that.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Osiecki , Recreation Director

Email: MiddlesexRec@gmail.com Phone: 760-9674

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Middlesex Town Meeting Solutions Committee has been working since 2001 as an ad hoc group of volunteers, with the goal of improving participation in Middlesex's town meeting and, by extension, Middlesex civic affairs in general. We welcome your participation! This year the group met on an as-needed basis, focusing on enhancing Middlesex's town meeting and on "What's Next Middlesex?" follow-up, as described below.

Town Meeting: Participating from Home or Afar

Do you have a neighbor or family member who'd like to attend town meeting but doesn't—whether due to health or mobility issues, or because they are away in the military or public service? The Solutions Committee can help. Via phone and internet, participants are able to see and be seen, vote in show-of-hands and voice votes, and hear and speak to the assembly. No experience necessary. Our goal in offering this service since 2008 is to allow off-site participation while maintaining a vibrant town meeting for all present. To learn more about this free service, please contact Lauri Scharf, rtmpmiddlesexvt@gmail.com or 802-223-9189 (by Friday, 2/21).

Community Communication and Engagement

- **Front Porch Forum:** Happy anniversary—Middlesex has now been using Front Porch Forum (FPF) for ten years! Since we launched our FPF in 2010 with a grant coordinated by the Solutions Committee, folks in Middlesex have posted about 24,243 messages, and use of this free online "bulletin board," has continued to grow every year. As of January 2020, Middlesex's FPF had 1,319 members out of an estimated 690 households (we added about 70 members just this year). This year we posted approximately 3,063 messages with great stuff to give, loan, or sell, school board updates and road discussions, local events, suggestions about firewood, plowing, window washing, bears, dogs, cats, and more. If you have email, you can join Front Porch Forum. Go to www.FrontPorchForum.com.

Front Porch Forum staff note that while FPF is a great place to air ideas and begin conversations, it is not designed for controversial discourse or debate – that is better accomplished at face-to-face facilitated meetings. The Solutions Committee is committed to creating additional venues for discussion of key issues and we welcome your ideas for improving communication in Middlesex.

- Other Solutions Committee projects have included: promoting child care for community meetings with Rumney Community Connections; helping coordinate town meeting dinner hosted at Rumney School to benefit the Middlesex Food Shelf (thanks to Liz Scharf and other volunteers!); offering transportation for town

TOWN MEETING SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (continued)

meeting; coordinating with the Town Clerk and Selectboard on our annual “Welcome New Voter” letter with info on town meeting and how to get involved in Middlesex; distributing Front Porch Forum information on how to participate in town meeting; and more.

Many thanks to committee members Tim Murphy, Janette Shaffer, Dave Shepard, and Barb and Greg Whitchurch. Thanks also for the interest and collaboration of the Middlesex Select Board, school board members, and others.

Have a suggestion the Solutions Committee could help with? Please contact Susan Clark, 223-5824, sclarkmountains@gmail.com.

“WHAT’S NEXT MIDDLESEX?” FOLLOW-UP

“**What’s Next Middlesex**” was a free, community-wide celebration and “vision-to-action” forum on Oct. 26-27, 2018. It featured great food, neighborly conversation, and a chance for people who live, work or own in Middlesex to share their ideas for Middlesex’s future. With participation from 200 Middlesex residents, the event resulted in findings that were useful in the 2019 creation of the new Middlesex Town Plan.

All four of the volunteer action groups that emerged from the event were active in 2019: Middlesex Communication Team (improving communication and engagement); Trails; Economic Development and Infrastructure (including Village and town planning); and Community Spaces and Events. The four action groups and other interested residents reconvened in fall, 2019 to revisit their goals, share stories and plan next steps. For contact information to get involved in these groups, please call Susan Clark, 223-5824, or visit www.whatsnextmiddlesex.org.

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Clark, Chair*

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Town of Middlesex has contracted with the Washington County Sheriff's Department for many years. The Sheriff's Department is glad to be able to assist with public safety within your community. With the increase in drug use and quality of life issues we are happy to be able to be a part of your community. Although the Department's main functions in statute are to transport prisoners, mental health patients and juveniles who are in custody of the State of Vermont and serve civil process, we take great pride in being able to be a part of keeping the citizens and visitors within the County safe.

The Sheriff's Department is continuing to work to enhance public safety within the County from searching out wanted persons, to patrols and motor vehicle check points, snowmobile patrols, offering hunter safety classes, and assisting with snowmobile safety classes. The Sheriff's Department also is an Identification Center, taking finger prints for people applying for employment. The Department has a Car Seat Technician, who regular inspects and installs car seats.

County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2019 generated 2670 total incidents reports, to include 786 Vermont Traffic Citations and 1625 Traffic Warnings. The Department also arrested 122 persons on arrest warrants, 2 for DUI.

In the course of our patrol efforts in Middlesex the following Vermont Traffic Complaints, Warning and Incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol in your town.

Total Traffic Citation Report, by Violation

1	BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit
2	CEL1 - Using Portable Electronic Device - 1st Violation
1	FYY - Stop Sign
2	INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance
3	IS - 21-30 MPH Over Speed Limit
2	OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal
1	SL1 - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit
9	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit
9	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected within 15 Days of VT Registration
30	Total

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT (continued)

Warning Tickets Issued

3	BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit
9	DEF - Condition of Vehicle
1	DLT - Driving on Roadways Laned for Traffic
3	DP - Failed to Display Front Registration Plate
5	FYY - Stop Sign
1	IRV - Interstate Highway Regulations
2	ISL - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit
1	ISL - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit
3	LK - Lights
1	LOP - Limitations on Passing
4	SIG - Signals Required
2	SL1 - 1-10 MPH Over Speed Limit
13	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit
1	SL3 - 21-30 MPH Over Speed Limit
18	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected within 15 Days of VT Registration
1	VO - Regulations in Municipalities
68	Total

We are proud of the work we do and take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work.

Professionally,

W. Samuel Hill
Sheriff

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. The 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% came from User Fees, the rest comes from the following three sources, the Town Fees (\$1.50 per capita) charge from each of the District Towns, Washington Electric Coop (WEC), and from the State of Vermont for annual maintenance of the Shady Rill Recreation Area.

The season started two weeks late due to significant spring flooding, and the year ended with a second significant flood. The spring flood was the 2nd worst we’ve experienced in 35 years, and resulted in varying amounts of damage to 5 of 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 revenue was a little less than expected. Fortunately, we have a diversified revenue stream, and this year’s highlight was the 93 rentals of the 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 \$7,500.00 which was paid for with our limited savings.

For 2020 we look forward to 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 their events, regardless of precipitation, and the demand for these amenities continues to grow.

Thanks to the 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*

ZONING REPORT

Permitting activity was fairly typical in 2019, with 38 applications submitted, covering roughly 48 projects. The number of applications for zoning permits fluctuates from year to year.

Two new building lots were created via subdivisions and 8 new homes were approved. The remaining projects were mostly minor residential permits (garages, sheds, additions, etc.).

Three applications were referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for conditional use approval. Two projects were referred to the Planning Commission for site plan review.

Zoning Applications Submitted in 2019

8	Single-Family Dwellings
30	Residential alteration, addition, garage, accessory structure, etc.
3	Subdivision or Boundary Line Adjustment
2	Home Occupation/Home Industry
5	Hearings (Zoning Board of Adjustment/Planning Commission
48	Total Projects Submitted (some permits included multiple projects)

In closing, a reminder about Vermont's Residential Building Energy Standards (VT-RBES). Any new construction of a residential dwelling or garage, and also additions or alterations of a conditioned (heated or cooled) space require that the builder complete an RBES Certification. In order to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy, which is required upon completion of your building project, you must first file a copy of your RBES Certification in the Middlesex Land Records, in accordance with 30 V.S.A. §51.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Osiecki, Zoning Administrator

E-mail: mdxzoning@gmail.com Phone: 760-9674

Special Articles and Funding Requests \$250 or Less

ARTICLE 8: MIDDLESEX CONSERVATION FUND

Shall the Town voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Middlesex Conservation Fund? (By Select Board).

See Page 50 for the Conservation Commission report.

ARTICLE 9: PUTNAMVILLE RADAR SPEED FEEDBACK SIGNS

Middlesex residents living in the village of Putnamville on Route 12 have been dealing with both an increase in traffic volume, and dangerous speed of the many drivers that travel through the village. This corridor is one of the most traveled roads in Middlesex coming in to and out of Montpelier. Putnamville's geographic features make for a very dangerous village because of its lack of curb cuts, dips in the road, blind corners, and blind driveways that give no clear and "safe" sight of oncoming traffic.

Putnamville's north side has blind corners and a ledge cut that leads to multiple, blind school-bus stops. The State Agency of Transportation (AOT) recently extended the 35-mph zone going north toward the Worcester line. The south-side entrance is completely blind where traffic is also coming off a 50-mph zone on a very sharp corner.

In August 2019, the AOT Board Secretary, Joe Flynn, along with the Commander of the VT State Police met at AOT headquarters and assessed this situation. Considering the above dangerous and unique geographic features, they were also concerned with the amount of recent and past accident data revealing too many near misses, which included an incident where a Casella Waste Management Truck was almost hit. Using this data, along with the AOT Traffic Engineer tests and studies, the Board decided to extend the 35-mph zone in Putnamville. The Select Board was also notified of the AOT Board's recommendation to install solar radar feedback signs on both sides of Putnamville, stressing again the dangerous school bus stops and Putnamville's geographic features.

Permanent radar feedback signs will increase the safety along Route 12 as they will serve as a proactive reminder to drivers to obey the speed limit. Radar feedback signs have proven to ensure better safety in many other communities around the State. Putnamville is a very small village and we have reached our limit with "near misses," feeling that the danger to our residents and the general public is imminent. We are hopeful that our fellow neighbors and community will help us in this matter as these signs will serve as a traffic safety tool, help prevent accidents and save lives.

Thank you for your consideration to our important funding request.

Contact:

Albert Borne, Middlesex, VT 05602

Email: bornea27@msn.com

Funding request: Not to exceed \$8,000 (one-time cost, installed on current or new sign post by Town)

ARTICLE 10: CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Central Vermont 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. Additionally, we have supported the creation of programs that give today's students the skills they will need to succeed in the future.

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. Our goal is to provide the services needed for small and emerging companies to grow.

CVEDC is the "one-stop-shop" to support the needs of business in Central Vermont. Through the support of our regional municipalities, the State of Vermont, and the business community, CVEDC will continue to provide this vital role.

Your continued support is appreciated.

Contact:

Jamie Stewart, Executive Director

CVEDC

PO Box 1439

Montpelier, Vermont 05601

(802) 223-4654

Email: jstewart@cvedc.org

Website: www.cvedc.org

Funding request: \$600

ARTICLE 11: CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice has provided a range of services to people of all ages for over 100 years in a setting where people want to be – in the comfort of their own homes.

Visits provided by CVHHH are coordinated based on a person's condition and goals and often include case management and coordination, medication management, specialized wound care and regular visits from our team of registered nurses, therapists, aides, and social workers. CVHHH's Telehealth Program provides oversight by a nurse seven days a week for individuals with chronic conditions, and who are at high risk for hospitalization. CVHHH also renders personal care attendant and homemaking support through its long-term care program to central Vermonters who, without this support, would very likely have needed to leave their homes and move to a facility or nursing home.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of Middlesex: Jan 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	825
Hospice Care	30
Long Term Care	432
Maternal Child Health	7
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	1,294
TOTAL PATIENTS	44
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	53

These totals do not include all the Middlesex residents who benefit from health promotion services such as flu shots, foot care, cholesterol and blood pressure screenings.

For more information about CVHHH, please visit www.cvhhh.org.

Contact:

Kim Farnum, Director of Community Relations & Development
600 Granger Road, Barre
(802) 224-2234
kfarnum@cvhhh.org

Funding Request: \$4,050

ARTICLE 12: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (RUMNEY)

Community Connections (CC), a non-profit organization that has been running before and after school care and programs for 18 years within the WCSU and Montpelier school districts, including Rumney Memorial Elementary School, is seeking funding for the **2020/2021** school year, and is asking Middlesex residents to approve funding of \$3,000 at this year's town meeting. This has been the amount asked for and approved in previous years.

1. *How Many Middlesex residents were served by your organization last year and in what ways?* Over 100 elementary students in the CC Preschool, before and after school care programs representing over 60% of the Rumney Memorial School student population.
2. *On what basis is your request for funds made (e.g. population, # of people served, matching/local funding, or some other clear formula)?* CC has been an important part of the Rumney community for many years, and this funding helps us to support families and is important to the continuation of this program.
3. *From what sources does your organization receive its funding?* Mostly, CC relies on fee-based funding, but smaller amounts of funding such as this are vital. Grant funding is something that is hoped for and grants are sought after and applied for when applicable ones arise.
4. *Please describe concrete ways that your program benefits from Middlesex support:* Funds such as these from Middlesex go directly to helping to support families who are struggling, to pay for program employees (5 part-time staff and one part-time coordinator) and to provide healthy snacks and supplies for activities.
5. *In what ways are Middlesex residents actively involved in your organization (e.g. as volunteers or employees).* Currently, we have three Middlesex Residents who work as part-time employees. Local volunteers are often a part of the CC activity schedule and programs.

Thank you!

Contact:

Chris Malone
Site Coordinator, Rumney Memorial School
Community Connections
433 Shady Rill Road, Middlesex, VT 05602
(802)223-5429 x 1108
Email: cmalone@u32.org

Funding request: \$3,000

ARTICLE 13: GIRLS/BOYZ FIRST MENTORING

Girls/Boyz First (GBF) Mentoring serves youth in Washington Central Unified Union School District and Montpelier. Mentees benefit from an extra healthy adult relationship in their lives and meet weekly with their mentors to build strong decision making skills and healthy life choices as they move through adolescence. Youth who have mentors are more likely to graduate high school, get along better with their siblings and parents and avoid risky behaviors like alcohol and drugs.

Since 2003, 38 Middlesex youth have been mentored and 22 Middlesex residents have volunteered as mentors. The average length of time youth stay in our program is 4 years. GBF Mentees have a 90-100% high school graduation rate. Currently, we have 9 Middlesex youth active in our program and 6 Middlesex adult mentors.

According to our 2019 surveys, 95% of GBF mentees report that having a mentor has made a difference in their life and 100% of mentors would recommend mentoring to a friend, family member or colleague

GBF parents report that having a mentor for their child...

Has strengthened their confidence.

Connected them more deeply to the community.

Has taught them to speak up about things they care about and not to be shy.

Has provided them with a positive role model.

Has given them someone who they really love to spend time with.

Girls/Boyz First's annual budget is \$60,000.

Middlesex's \$1,500 contribution will go towards general operating expenses.

Contact:

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring

Contact: Wendy Freundlich,

802-224-6500,

73 Main St, #33 Montpelier, VT 05602

wendy.freedom51@gmail.com

Funding request: \$1,500

ARTICLE 14: KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY

One of the busiest libraries in Vermont, the Kellogg-Hubbard is an independent nonprofit that serves six communities, including Middlesex. Our collection includes over 72,000 books, audiobooks, DVDs and magazines, plus online resources. We offer dozens of services including computers, Wi-Fi, printing, online classes, e-book and audiobook downloads. Our Outreach program delivers books to Middlesex daycares and book exchanges, including at Red Hen Bakery. Our Middlesex book group is going strong in its second year.

Last year 591 Middlesex patrons borrowed 12,781 items and downloaded hundreds of eBooks and audiobooks. Middlesex residents also enjoyed full access to our 575 programs, including story times, the Summer Reading Program and the *First Wednesdays* lecture series. Library program attendance exceeded 10,000 in fiscal year 2019.

We have a strong Board of Trustees; Sarah Seidman is the new Middlesex representative.

We receive 50% of our income from our member communities, 25% from endowment earnings, 20% from fundraising and donations and 5% from miscellaneous income.

The library budget is \$929,100 and we are asking Middlesex for \$29,801, the same amount that voters approved for the past two years. Our request for library support is \$17 per capita, much less than the statewide average of over \$30 per capita.

We are asking Middlesex residents to pay 3.2% of the cost of running the library, and for that every Middlesex resident receives full access to one of Vermont's premier libraries.

Contact:

Carolyn Brennan, Co-Director

Kellogg-Hubbard Library

135 Main St.

Montpelier, VT 05602

(802) 223-3338

Email: cbrennan@kellogghubbard.org

Website: www.kellogghubbard.org

Funding request: \$29,801

ARTICLE 15: MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

The Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC) is your home for healthy aging and lifelong learning. Everyone 50+ is welcome at the MSAC, a place where vibrant, diverse programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, enhanced nutrition, and access to aging resources.

The mission of the MSAC 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 our 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 offered on Tuesdays and Fridays for a low suggested donation. Meals are delivered daily to residents in Montpelier and Berlin. Over 18,000 meals in total were served 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.

In the past year, at least 85 and likely more residents of Middlesex participated in our programs – at least 15 more than last year. We are increasing our funding request to \$7,000, or about \$82 per person served. As a supporting town, Middlesex MSAC 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 Middlesex 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 Waterbury Area Senior Center to your residents, including their senior nutrition program and other offerings, and we believe in working collaboratively with many organizations to serve the vast and quickly growing number of senior citizens in our region! We hope to serve even more Middlesex residents in the coming year and greatly appreciate your town's support!

Contact:

Janna Clar, Director

Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602
(802) 223-2518

Email: jclar@montpelier-vt.org

Website: www.montpelier-vt.org/msac

Funding request: \$7,000

ARTICLE 16: WATERBURY AREA SENIOR CENTER

In 2019, the Waterbury Area Senior Center served 9 different clients Meals on Wheels in Middlesex. The Center delivered almost 1,800 meals to recipients in Middlesex. This year we are again asking for \$10,000 from Middlesex for support of our Meals on Wheels program. This money will cover the cost of delivering Meals to 9 residents of Middlesex for a year. We currently deliver 5 days a week driving more than 45 miles each day. Our drivers are volunteers and get reimbursed at \$.58 per mile or \$6,786 for Middlesex a year.

Meals on Wheels not only provides a nutritious meal, but also a friendly visit, and a safety check that helps keep seniors living independently in their homes. This helps save billions of tax dollars in avoided hospital, health care and nursing home costs. The Waterbury Area Senior Center is free and open to all. We do not charge a membership fee. We do ask for a \$4.50 donation for meals if you are 60 and older, but we cannot charge due to the receiving Title III of the Older Americans Act. Currently, the average cost to cover all our costs for each meal delivered is \$10.80.

Annual Budget \$265,599 FY20

\$65,700.00 in Title III Federal Reimbursement for 17,769 meals for FY 2019

Contact:

Jodi LaVanway
Waterbury Area Senior Center
14 Stowe Street
Waterbury, Vermont 05676
(802) 244-1234
Email: director@wasca.org
Website: www.wasca.org

Funding request: \$10,000

ARTICLE 17: FUNDING REQUESTS \$250 AND UNDER

To see if the Town of Middlesex will appropriate a sum not to exceed \$4,771 to support the following organizations:

American Red Cross	\$250.00
Big Heavy World	\$250.00
Central Vermont Adult Basic Ed	\$250.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$250.00
Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team	\$100.00
Circle	\$199.00
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$250.00
Green Mt. Transit Agency	\$249.00
Green Up Vermont	\$100.00
Montpelier Veterans Council	\$250.00
Our House of Central Vermont	\$250.00
People's Health & Wellness	\$250.00
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$250.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$195.00
VT Family Network	\$250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100.00
Washington County Diversion	\$250.00
Winooski Natural Resources District	\$250.00
Youth Service Bureau of Washington County	\$175.00
Total	\$ 4,368.00

Descriptions of these organizations and their services can be found starting on page 75.

AMERICAN RED CROSS OF NH & VT

Supported primarily by volunteers, the American Red Cross of New Hampshire & Vermont provides emergency support for victims of fire, flood and other disasters, as well as instruction in health, safety and aquatics.

In the July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 fiscal year, the American Red Cross responded to 4 disaster incidents, assisting 16 residents of Washington County. Most commonly, these were home fires. The organization hosted 135 blood drives and collected 4,478 pints of blood. It supported 19 members of the Armed Forces through the Red Cross's Service to the Armed Forces program in Washington County and even installed 369 free smoke alarms.

Since the Red Cross is not a government agency, it relies on the financial support of individuals, businesses and local communities because it receives no federal or state funding. Its request this year is based on town population.

All money from town appropriations goes directly to disaster relief. The Red Cross is often the only organization to arrive on site during disasters to help families cope during the first hours and days and to provide first responders with water, hot beverages and food. The support from Middlesex and other contributing towns is vital to support the Red Cross's services.

Contact:

Rachel Zellem, Regional Development Specialist
American Red Cross of New Hampshire and Vermont
32 N. Prospect Street
Burlington, VT 05401
(800) 464-6692
Website: www.redcross.org/nhvt

Funding request: \$250

BIG HEAVY WORLD

Big Heavy World is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization that archives and promotes original music from Vermont. It creates resources for musicians from all towns to have exposure and become part of Vermont's historic record. Big Heavy World has an annual budget of \$30,000 which pays for overhead costs that allow us to operate a Vermont music archive, a radio station with Vermont music radio shows and podcasts; directories of the state's music industry, a tiny museum, and special projects including music sector analysis; state inclusion in the Make Music Day international music festival; professional development workshops for artists; and in 2020 a statewide book discussion about preventing and addressing harassment in cultural spaces.

Every artist in Middlesex making original music is welcome in our band directory, in rotation on our radio station which broadcasts and streams, and to be our guest on a weekly live Vermont music interview and performance radio show.

Big Heavy World is a very inclusive organization, respecting and supporting music of every kind and skill level. The organization has been creating an ever-growing representation of Vermont's musical talent and scope since 1996 and invites Middlesex artists into our work.

Contact:

James Lockridge, Executive Director
Big Heavy World
PO Box 428
Burlington, VT 05402-0428
(802) 865-1140
info@bigheavyworld.com.

Funding request: \$250

CENTRAL VT ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc. (CVABE), a community-based nonprofit organization has served the adult education and literacy needs of Middlesex residents for fifty-four years.

CVABE serves as Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties' resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for adults (ages 16- 90+) in:

- Basic skills programs: reading, writing, math, computer and financial literacy
- English Language Learning and preparation for U.S. citizenship
- High school diploma and GED credential programs
- Academic skill readiness for work, career training and/or college

Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72% chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves, and 70% of adult welfare recipients have low literacy levels. By helping to end the cycle of poverty, your support changes the lives of Middlesex residents for generations to come.

Last year, 5 residents of Middlesex enrolled in CVABE's free programs, engaging in almost 200 hours of service. Additionally, 3 Middlesex residents volunteered with CVABE. Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups.

CVABE's total program budget for Fiscal Year 2020 is \$1,493,842. One hundred percent (100%) of support from Middlesex will be used for direct student services (instruction and educational materials).

For more information regarding CVABE's adult education and literacy instruction or volunteer opportunities, contact:

Contact:

Brian Kravitz
CVABE Development and Outreach Coordinator
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education, Inc.
46 Washington St., Suite 100
Barre, Vermont 05641
(802) 476-4588
Website: www.cvabe.org
Email: bkravitz@cvabe.org

Funding request: \$250

CENTRAL VT COUNCIL ON AGING

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is the primary agency serving older Vermonters aged 60 and over as well as their families and caregivers throughout Central Vermont. We are a private nonprofit that assists these elders to remain independent for as long as possible. All services are made available to our clients at no charge, without regard to health, income or other resources.

Some of the options we make available include:

- CVCOA Help Line - (800) 642-5119 - has the answers to hundreds of common questions from elders, families and caregivers.
- Information & Assistance staff counsel elders and families on the many available benefit programs and services, such as 3SquaresVT, seasonal fuel assistance, and more.
- Case Managers work with clients in their homes to assess needs and develop, implement and coordinate individualized long-term care plans.
- Nutrition Services oversees the menu development and technical assistance for home-delivered and Community meals and provides the largest source of funding for the 14 meal sites that prepare and deliver these meals.
- State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) provides personalized Medicare counseling, Medicare & You workshops, and enrollment assistance for Medicare Part D plans.
- Family Caregiver Support promotes the well-being of the family members serving as caregivers to loved ones, including administration of the Dementia Respite Grant.

During the last year, CVCOA provided one or more of the above services to **25 Middlesex residents. Case Manager, Lisa Mercurio is designated to work directly with the seniors in Middlesex.**

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of Middlesex for their ongoing commitment.

Contact:

Mary H. Hayden
Director, Development and Communications
Central Vermont Council on Aging
59 N. Main Street, Suite 200
Barre, Vermont 05641
(802) 476-2739

Funding request: \$250

CENTRAL VT DISASTER ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM

If an ice storm knocked out power for a week you could likely go to a shelter. Your beloved pet likely could not. That's where Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (CVDART) comes in. CVDART provides emergency shelters for family pets during widespread disasters.

As well as setting up shelters during an emergency, we also work to help towns comply with the PETS Act. This Act, passed after Hurricane Katrina, states that towns need emergency plans for pets as well as people in order to qualify for FEMA reimbursement. CVDART is part of that planning.

CVDART is a 501-C3 (non-profit) organization, run entirely by volunteers. This year volunteers gave over 350 hours of their time. Among other things CVDART held a workshop on first aid for pets, training on caring for animals in shelters, met with officials in towns in our area and provided educational materials at events such as the Do Good Fest.

CVDART serves 23 towns in Central Vermont including Middlesex. We respectfully request \$100 for FY21 to be placed before the Town of Middlesex voters for consideration.

Money from Middlesex would be used to buy supplies during an emergency as well as for ongoing training and outreach. The requested funding directly supports CVDART and our mission of planning for emergencies, educating the public and providing shelter for family pets when needed. It's better to have a plan in place before it is needed. CVDART can help.

Contact:

Lisa Lemieux
President, CVDART
802-363-0919
llemieux25@gmail.com

Or

Kate Taylor
Board Member, CVDART
802 223-1190
ktay17@gmail.com

Funding request: \$100

CIRCLE

Circle is a small, community-based organization dedicated to ending all forms of domestic violence by providing services to all victims regardless of their gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or ethnicity. This year, Circle is requesting \$199 in funding from the Town of Middlesex.

During the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019) Circle provided the following services to Middlesex residents. (Due to confidential reasons, details are non-specific.):

- Advocates responded to 47 hotline calls and in-person meetings with people who identified themselves as Middlesex residents.
- 4 Middlesex residents received support with housing issues.
- 14 residents received help with civil legal issues.
- Advocates helped 4 Middlesex residents file for temporary protection orders.
- 2 individuals residing in Middlesex received support during their hearings for final protection orders.

In general, Circle staff and volunteers responded to 5,9441 hotline calls. Shelter services were provided to 25 women and 18 children for a total of 2,219 bed nights.

Also:

- Advocates provided support to 123 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 116 individuals filing for temporary orders.
- Over 1,500 people received direct services from Circle which is maintained by trained staff and volunteers.

Contact:

Karol Diamond

Circle

P.O. Box 652

Barre, VT 05641

Administrative office: (802) 476-6010

Email: staff@circlevt.org

24-hour toll-free HOTLINE: 1-877-543-9498

Funding request: \$199

COMMUNITY HARVEST OF CENTRAL VERMONT

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (CHCV) brings community together through gleaning to recover surplus food grown on area farms which is then delivered to sites that serve those with limited access to healthy, fresh local food. In the process, the community has the opportunity to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction.

In 2019, CHCV partnered with 40 area farms and growers to help reduce surplus food from going to waste. More than 400 community volunteers helped glean farmers' unused produce, and donate it to 20 area programs serving people with limited access to healthy, fresh local food. Ultimately, we helped serve 10,065 individuals last year, of which we estimate 200 were Middlesex residents. In addition to recovering food, CHCV connects community and helps it engage with local farms by bringing people to the fields to work together and see how local food is grown.

For the past six years, CHCV has recovered and donated more than 240,000 pounds of nutritious food, helping to increase food security for thousands of Central Vermonters. CHCV is the only local program helping farms donate their surplus food to community members in need.

Our 2020 budget is approximately \$67,000. Funds received from the Town of Middlesex will be used to support the harvesting, processing, and delivery of gleaned produce.

Contact:

Allison Levin
Community Harvest of Central Vermont
146 Lord Road
Berlin, VT 05602
(802) 229-4281
CommunityHarvestVT@gmail.com
www.communityharvestVT.org

Funding request: \$250

GOOD BEGINNINGS OF CENTRAL VERMONT

We are a small local nonprofit with an annual budget of \$105,756. Our mission is to bring community to families and their babies. We do this through in-home and community-based services available at no charge to any local family with a new baby. Our largest program, the Postpartum Angel Family Support Program, matches families with a trained volunteer for up to 12 weeks of in-home postpartum support and respite. Our volunteers also provide in-arms cuddling to newborns boarding at CVMC for health reasons. Our Journey Into Parenthood workshop series covers a range of early parenting topics, and our Nest parent drop-in space hosts formal and informal gatherings for parents with infants and toddlers, in a welcoming and developmentally-appropriate space. Families are also eligible for assistance through our Emergency Fund and Free Carrier Programs.

Seven Middlesex families accessed our services during the last fiscal year (9 adults and 12 children). Two families were matched with volunteers and received a combined 57 hours of in-home support. Five families visited the Nest and/or participated in our free community events.

Funding from the Town of Middlesex supports our Postpartum Angel program by helping cover expenses related to recruiting and training volunteers, conducting outreach to referral sources, and matching families with volunteers. Town funding also covers expenses associated with the Nest and free early parenting workshops.

Contact Us:

174 River Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
info@goodbeginningscentralvt.org
www.goodbeginningscentralvt.org
802.595.7953

Funding request: \$250

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AGENCY (GMTA)

Each year, GMT provides thousands of rides to members within our community through traditional public transit services and coordinated special services. Each ride provided is a personal story of a need being met. Whether it's offering affordable commute options, access to essential medical services, adult day care and senior meals or convenient trips for daily services, we are proud to be a viable solution for so many.

In FY19, GMT provided ongoing individual special transportation services to Middlesex residents who qualified for Medicaid and/or Elderly and Disabled transportation totaling 55 trips.

Our ability to maintain our role as a trusted public transportation provider within the region would not be possible without our partnerships. Since 2003, GMT has relied on relationships with area organizations, state and federal agencies, local municipalities and the private citizens to keep us strong. Without these partnerships, we would not be able to provide the critical services that we offer.

It is with recognition and appreciation for all levels of support that Green Mountain Transit (GMT) would like to submit a request of *level funding* for FY21 from the Town of Middlesex. **We respectfully request \$249 for FY21 to be placed before the Town of Middlesex voters for consideration.** The requested funding directly supports GMT's ongoing operations and the amount is based on a fair share calculation applied to the municipalities GMT serves.

Please accept our genuine thanks and appreciation in continuing this mutually beneficial partnership. If you have additional questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact:

Jenn Wood
Public Affairs & Community Relations Manager
GMTA
Green Mountain Transit
802-540-2451
jwood@ridegmt.com

Funding request: \$249

GREEN UP VERMONT

Green Up Vermont is a private, not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization responsible for Green Up Day, always the first Saturday in May, and to raise public awareness for a litter-free environment. Green Up Day will celebrate 50 years in 2020.

Quick litter stats from 2019: 43 tons of litter and over 2,100 tires were collected. This data is from only about half of our participating towns that filed post-Green Up reports.

We will be striving to obtain better statistics for 2020.

For towns with populations between 1,000 and 2,000, such as Middlesex, Green Up respectfully requests funding of \$100.

Please mark your calendars for the next Green Up Day, May 2, 2020, the first Saturday in May.

Contact:

Green Up Vermont

PO Box 1191

Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191

(802) 229-4586

Website: www.greenupvermont.org

Email: greenup@greenupvermont.org

Funding request: \$100

MONTPELIER VETERANS COUNCIL

The Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council has been placing flags and markers at local cemeteries for the past 36 years. Each year, the organization places over 2,500 flags in 26 local cemeteries including two in Middlesex.

The cost of these flags and markers has been covered by personal contributions and funds from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 792, American Legion Post #3 in Montpelier, the Montpelier Elks #924 as well as tax-payer contributions from Montpelier, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester. Due to the escalating costs of flags and markers, the Montpelier Veterans Council needs to ask towns to assist in these costs.

Because of rising costs, we ask for assistance with this annual memorial honoring our families and friends who served their country. Unpaid volunteers place these flags and markers and consider it their privilege.

Will you please support our effort with a donation today? Any donation will help and be greatly appreciated.

Contact:

Carole Baker, Secretary/Treasurer
Montpelier Vermont Veterans Council
1 Pioneer Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
(802) 229-9028

Funding request: \$250

OUR HOUSE OF CENTRAL VERMONT

OUR House of Central Vermont is a non-profit children's advocacy center and special investigations unit serving all of Washington County. Its mission is to provide a safe and supportive setting for child victims of sexual abuse, their non-offending family members, and adult survivors of sexual assault. The OUR in OUR House stands for One Unified Response and to that end the organization works closely with the Vermont Department for Children and Family Services, as well as local and state law enforcement, the State's Attorney's Office, Washington County Mental health and other organizations.

In 2018, OUR House handled 145 cases of physical or sexual abuse in Washington County. Of those, 105 cases involved children under age 18. Out of those cases, 75 were sexual abuse, 8 were severe physical abuse resulting in long-term injuries and 40 were at risk of harm or neglect or witnesses to violence.

While it is difficult to monetarily quantify a child-abuse investigation, national statistics show that on a per-case basis, traditional investigations were 36% more expensive than investigations conducted by agencies like OUR House.

Contact:

Rebecca Duranleau, Executive Director
OUR House of Central Vermont, Inc.
38 Summer Street
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 476-8825
Email: ourhousebarredirector@gmail.com

Funding request: \$250

PEOPLE'S HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

People's Health & Wellness Clinic has been providing primary health care and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured central Vermont residents since 1994. High quality medical, mental health, oral health, and bodywork services 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 program.

All services at the clinic are completely free to eligible patients. Although patients must have a household income at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), 78% of our patients over the last year had an income below 185% FPL. This equates to an annual income of \$23,088 for an individual.

Each year, PHWC serves around 550 unduplicated patients, seeing many of these patients for multiple visits across different services. Community members who seek care at PHWC often have no other healthcare options available and would delay or avoid care because of costs and accessibility.

We couldn't provide essential healthcare services without the generosity of the communities we serve. We are grateful to the residents of Middlesex who continue to support the efforts of People's Health & Wellness Clinic.

Contact:

Rebecca Goldfinger-Fein, MPH
Executive Director
People's Health & Wellness Clinic
553 North Main Street
Barre, VT 05641
Phone: 802-479-1229
phwcvt.org

Funding request: \$250

SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS TEAM

The Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington County (SACT) is requesting to be placed on the Town of Middlesex ballot for the 2020 Town Meeting with a funding request of \$250.00.

The purpose of SACT is to provide advocacy and support for people of all genders who have experienced sexual harm, and to educate for a community free of sexual violence. With an annual budget of approximately \$330,000.00 in 2018-2019, SACT 323 people who had been impacted by sexual harm to take steps toward healing.

SACT provides services such as our 24-hour hotline, safety planning, advocacy at Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations, assistants applying for victims' compensation, support in court hearings or at crime-related appointments/interviews and other support. SACT is currently unable to provide a community specific breakdown of requests for services; identification of residency is not a requirement to receive services and service users receive a high level of confidentiality and anonymity. Municipal funding supports general operations.

Contact:

Anne Ward, MEd Executive director
The Sexual Assault Crisis Team
4 Cottage Street
Barre, Vermont 05641
anne@sactvt.org
(802) 476-1388.
24-Hour Hotline: (802) 479-5577

Funding request: \$250

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

For the past 40 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'19 (10/2018-9/2019) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for people living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors provided one-on-one peer counseling to **250** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **6** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program assisted **163** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **122** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund provided **86** individuals with information on assistive technology; **46** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **499** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the VT Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program which served **40** people and provided **31** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Montpelier office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (previously under the VT Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and provides statewide interpreter referral services for sign language, spoken English and CART services for assignments in medical, legal, mental health, employment, educational, civil and recreational settings.

During FY'19, **1** resident of **Middlesex** received services from the following program:

- Information Referral and Assistance

Contacts:

Sarah Launderville, Executive Director
VT Center for Independent Living
11 E. State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
(800) 639-1522
Email: info@vcil.org, website: www.vcil.org

Funding request: \$195

VERMONT FAMILY NETWORK

The **Vermont Family Network** is a state-wide organization whose mission is to empower and support all Vermont families of children with special needs. Town funding would support our Family Support Program, through which we offer families a variety of services such as trainings, parent matches, school meeting support, and a helpline. Our Family Support Consultants are all experienced parents of children with special needs, allowing them to relate to and understand the unique needs of families before, during and after their child's diagnosis.

As the state's Family Voices and Parent Training and Information Center, we have continued to be involved in advocacy efforts around early intervention programs, special education, and budget decisions that impact families of children with special needs.

Last fiscal year we supported 90 families in Washington County, 4 families of which specifically live in Middlesex. Thank you for your consideration of funding, together we can continue to support families all over the state who have children with special needs.

Contact information:

Vermont Family Network

600 Blair Park Road

Suite 240

Williston, VT 05495

Claire Giroux-Williams, Development and Communications Coordinator

Claire.giroux-williams@vtn.org

802-876-5315, ext. 201

www.vermontfamilynetwork.org

Funding request: \$250

VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION TASK FORCE

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources.

Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations, and find financial support to support the costs of construction. During the **22+ years** of the program, nearly **1100 grants** totaling **\$2.6 million** have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

We have made a number of adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program in recent years, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New Rural Fire Protection systems along with repair, replacement, relocation, and upgrades of existing RFP systems are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2019 was \$154,325, of which \$63,450 was paid in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covers site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature.

Contacts:

Tom Maclay, Chair Rural Fire Protection Task Force
(802) 426-3265

Website: www.vacd.org

Email: dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Funding request: \$100

WASHINGTON COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM, INC.

This is a request on behalf of the Washington County Diversion Program, for Middlesex to support our work with a stipend of \$250.00. These funds will help us provide our programs and services to the all the citizens of Washington County, including Middlesex residents.

The Washington County Diversion Program (WCDP) is a voluntary, confidential restorative justice program that provides an opportunity for participants (individuals charged with a crime or delinquency) to make amends and avoid a criminal record. Cases are referred by the State's Attorney to Diversion on an individual basis. Diversion follows a balanced and restorative justice model by putting right the wrongs that have been done and addressing the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and the offender. Participation is voluntary; but requires individuals to accept responsibility for their unlawful action(s).

Our philosophy is that ordinary citizens who volunteer their time and energy are more effective in addressing those who have committed crimes than our court system can be, especially for low-level offenders charged with an illegal act.

WCDP runs six separate programs: Court Diversion, the Tamarack Program, Pretrial Services, the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program, and the Driving with License Suspended Program.

Due to a heavy caseload, the financial and volunteer support of our local communities is critical to our success. Thank you for providing the support of our work that you have in the past, and for taking the time to consider this request.

Contact:

Catherine Kalkstein
Washington County Diversion Program, Inc.
322 North Main Street, Suite 5
Barre, VT 05641
(802) 479-1900
Website: www.wcdp-vt.org
Email: Catherine@wcdp-vt.org

Funding request: \$250

WINOOSKI NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District promotes the conservation, development, and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife across our service area. We serve forty-three communities in Chittenden, Washington and Orange counties.

Our mission is to improve water quality, soil health, and wildlife habitat in our District. We categorize our work across agricultural assistance, forestland enhancement, urban conservation, and watershed stewardship and provide the following services to all District residents, municipalities, and schools: on-site technical assistance and homeowner consultations on resource concerns, workshops and conferences, low-cost native trees and shrubs, and planning/financial/facilitation assistance and technical oversight of clean water projects like riparian buffer plantings, stormwater remediation, or culvert upgrades for fish passage.

This year we planted 1,400 saplings along three streams to improve water quality. We provided outreach and education to over 100 farms and directly assisted 15. We engaged over 100 volunteers who helped remove trash from streams, maintain rain gardens, plant trees and more. We believe our District-wide work positively impacts residents of all the towns we serve. Town appropriations are a critical component of our budget which allows us to demonstrate local support to other funders in order to funnel state and federal dollars towards our communities. Our annual operating budget is \$171,000 and we are requesting \$250 of support.

Contact:

Kristen Balschunat, Conservation Specialist
Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
300 Interstate Corporate Center Suite 200
Williston, VT 05495
802) 288-8155 x104
kristen@winooskinrcd.org
www.winooskinrcd.org

Funding request: \$250

YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Bureau's mission is "To provide a wide range of innovative and effective programs that empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County, and to provide leadership and support to other youth programs throughout Vermont." We accomplish this through a variety of services including: youth & family counseling; emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth; a transitional living program for homeless youth; support for pregnant/parenting teens; adolescent substance abuse treatment; a transitional living program for young men returning from jail; a teen center; support for youth involved in foster care; and a 24 hour on-call service. Last year, **17 Middlesex** residents were served by the Bureau through one or more of the services identified above.

The Bureau has been providing services to Middlesex residents for 46 years. This year's funding request represents a cost of approximately \$10/person served. This is only a small fraction of the cost of the services provided by the Bureau. Most services provided to Middlesex residents have involved multiple sessions, counseling services were provided by certified or licensed counselors, and emergency temporary shelter included 24-hour supervision, meals, and transportation. For example, one night of emergency shelter if needed is \$30; and round-trip transportation for services provided from our main office directly in Middlesex are approximately \$16/trip. The Bureau's annual operating budget is \$2,155,000. The \$175 requested will be applied to services delivered to Middlesex residents.

Contact:

Kreig Pinkham
Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club
PO Box 627
38 Elm Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05601
(802) 229-9151 (Crisis Hotline)
Website: www.wcysb.org
Email: wcysb@wcysb.org

Funding request: \$175

2019 DOG REPORT

Total Number of Dogs Registered 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2019: 152

Total Fees Collected: \$1,511

Total Fees to State: \$742

More and more people are failing to license their dogs, a violation of 20 V.S.A. § 3581, the state law requiring that all dogs be licensed by April 1st. In 2019, 32 fewer dogs were licensed than the year before. This means there are many, many dogs in Middlesex who might not be up to date on their rabies vaccinations. It also means if dogs are lost - or found - our Animal Control Officer cannot locate their owners.

Licensing your dog is easy, affordable and, also, the law. One tag is good for a year and costs less than a week's worth of puppy chow - \$9 per spayed/neutered animal; \$13 for all others. For your peace of mind and the safety of our community, please license your dog today. No one wants to start confiscating beloved pets for lack of tags.

Here are just some of the advantages of licensing:



- 1) Helps the town maintain a record of each dog, including its owner and phone number, in case the dog is lost.
- 2) Insures that all dogs are current on their vitally important rabies vaccines at a time when rabies cases are increasing in Vermont.
- 3) Offsets the cost of maintaining a town Animal Control Officer, while \$5 from each license funds the state's spay and neutering program.

By Vermont law, all dogs must be licensed by April 1st. Please call 223-5915 for more information.

- Middlesex ACO, Erika Holm: Cell: 249-2127. If Erika is unavailable, please contact Health Officer Liz Fortman (802)249-1058.
-

2019 BIRTHS

Parents	Name	Month
Leah Marie Jones Dustin Christopher Colon Jones	Harper Elaine Jones	January 21
Michele Rene Leeman Thomas Jason Leeman	Eleanora Ryan Leeman	January 29
Marlaina Marie Montgomery Brian James Montgomery	Emerson Joelle Montgomery	February 26
Desiree Simona Mears Dillon Boyd Mears	Roman Jaye Mears	April 23
Brittany Moira Powell Eric Joseph Zuaro	Waylon Powell Zuaro	May 16
Sabrina M. Borne Albert M. Borne	Lauchlin Michael Borne	June 26
Stephanie Ann Lieblappen Ross Mark Lieblappen	Everett Percy Lieblappen	July 4
Elissa Catherine Johnk Sarah Katz	Carolyn Luella Katz	August 17
Claudia Melisa Oliva Guzman Patrick Emmanuel Sullivan	Katrina Munay Sullivan Oliva	October 26
Shauna Bisson Redmond Justin Paul Redmond	Sadie Marie Redmond	November 19

2019 MARRIAGES

Spouse	Spouse	Date
Jessica Rae Longe	Aaron William Rosenlund	January 18
Nathan Chisolm Franzeim	Angelica Marie Aseltine	April 19
Janet G. Andrews	David William Clemons	June 22
Christine Marie Lefavour	Jose Alfredo Burgos Marte	August 29
Taylor Ann Krahn	Justin Andrew Spencer	September 22
Reney Jo Woodard	Kyle Franklin Weaver	September 27
Corey Thomas Michaud	Lauren Marie Toms	September 28
Heather Marie Faillace	Aaron Joseph Fourier	October 3
Meghan Poperowitz	John Patrick Belding	October 6
Danielle Florina Riley	Asif Mohmad Kalim	December 12
Jane Anne Coffey	Gary Eugene Davis	December 13

2019 DEATHS

Name	Date	Age
Eugene Harold Joslin	February 22	94
Leroy W. Brett	March 14	87
Richard Craig Hoermann	May 14	64
Armand C. LaCount	June 6	84
Beth Ann Corliss	July 23	62
David Walter Orrick	October 19	73
Evelyn Edith Whitchurch	November 21	98

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Worcester Voters

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

District Website 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.

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

TAKE NOTES HERE!

TAKE NOTES HERE!



TOWN MEETING CHILD CARE

Child care for pre-K through 6th grade children will be available at the Rumney School so that parents can attend Town Meeting. Pre-registration is required. Please be sure to reserve a spot before the mid-winter school break (by Friday 2/21).

For more information, please contact Chris Malone, Community Connections, 223-5429 x 1108 or email cmalone@u32.org. Details will also be available on the Community Connections section of the Rumney website, www.rumney.org.

PARTICIPATING FROM AFAR

Do you have a neighbor or family member who'd like to attend town meeting but doesn't—whether due to health or mobility issues, or because they are away in the military or public service? The Solutions Committee can help.

No technological expertise is necessary (and we can set you up with a computer if you need it). Via phone and internet, participants are able to see and be seen, vote in show-of-hands and voice votes, and hear and speak to the assembly. Our goal is to allow this remote participation while maintaining a vibrant town meeting for those in the meeting room. We've been offering this service since 2008, and have heard from attendees and remote participants that the experience has been very positive. To learn more about this free service, please contact Lauri Scharf, rtpmmiddlesexvt@gmail.com or 802-223-9189 (by Friday, 2/21).

IF YOU NEED A RIDE...

The Solutions Committee will be glad to coordinate transportation to and from Town Meeting for any Middlesex voters needing a ride. Please contact Dave Shepard, 229-1744.

DID SOMEONE SAY PIE?

Saturday March 28th from 9:00 -1:00 a.m., Rumney Memorial School,
\$7/person, under the age of 3 is free.

Bring an item for the food shelf to receive \$1 off admission.
We still encourage bringing your own plate/cup/utensils!

Volunteers and Pie Makers wanted!
Contact Marylynne Strachan at: marylynnestrachan@gmail.com
for more information.

TOWN OF MIDDLESEX
5 Church Street
Middlesex, VT 05602

PRESORTED STANDARD
U S POSTAGE
PAID
THE MAILING CENTER
05641

FPO