



Town of East Montpelier, Vermont *172nd Annual Report*



**Reports of Town Officers
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**



TOWN OFFICES at 40 Kelton Road
Phone: 223-3313 • Fax: 223-4467
<https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

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

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

Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

Closed on official holidays.

Town Clerk: Rosie Laquerre – ext.201

email: clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

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

email: treasurer@eastmontpeliervt.org

Town and Zoning Administrator; Collector of Delinquent Taxes:

C. Bruce Johnson – ext.204

email: manager@eastmontpeliervt.org

Listers' Office: ext.206

Ross Hazel, Chris Racanelli

email: listers@eastmontpeliervt.org

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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

~ FRONT COVER ~

Neighbors and members of the Resilient Roads Committee plant trees on Center Road.

For the whole story, see pp. 50–53. Photo © Susan Bull Riley

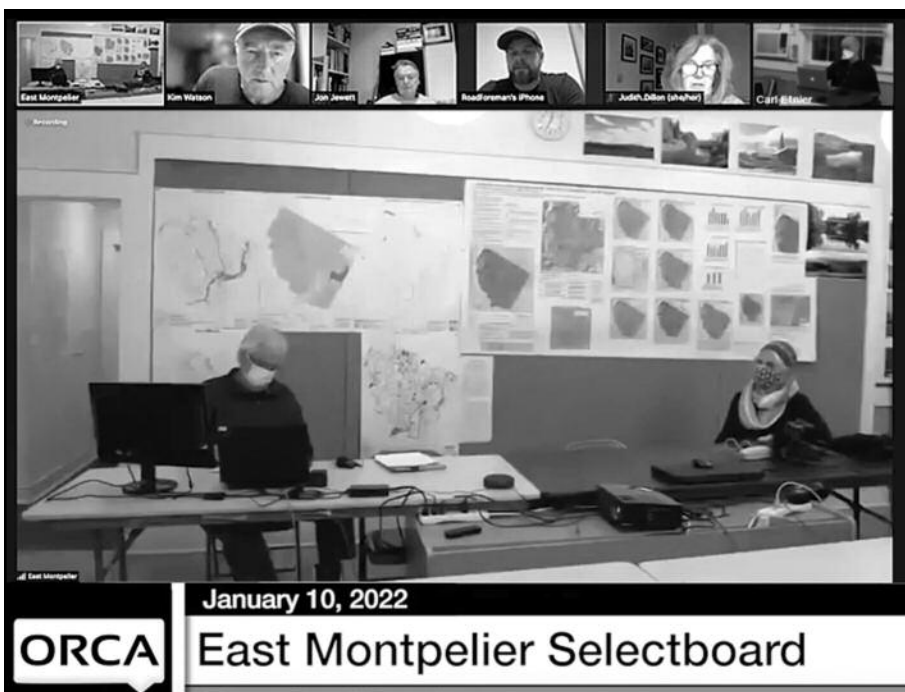
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In Appreciation

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

Rob Chickering Lister, Justice of the Peace, Energy Committee
 Jack Pauly Planning Commission, Resilient Roads Committee
 Paul Eley Planning Commission
 Siu Tip Lam Planning Commission
 Charles Johnson Conservation Fund Advisory Committee
 Jean Vissering Resilient Roads Committee
 Jennifer Boyer Resilient Roads Committee
 Carl Etnier Resilient Roads Committee
 Paul Winters Recreation Board
 Claire Obeldobel Recreation Board Youth Member
 Gene Troia Capital Improvement Committee
 Jeanne Malachowski Funding Request Study Committee





EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM
MONDAY, February 28, 2022, at 7:30 P.M.

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting hosted by the East Montpelier Selectboard, conducted utilizing Zoom remote conferencing services (see page 12 for participation options), to discuss the Australian Ballot Articles on the 2022 Town Meeting Warning.

NAMES TO BE PRINTED ON THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

East Montpelier Town Meeting — Tuesday, March 1, 2022
at the East Montpelier Elementary School, 665 Vincent Flats Road
Australian Ballot Voting
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

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

OFFICE FILED FOR

CANDIDATE(S)

TOWN MODERATOR for 1 year	MICHAEL DUANE
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 3 years	CARLTON “CARL” ETNIER
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 2 years	JON JEWETT
LISTER for 3 years	CHRIS J. RACANELLI
LISTER for 1 of 3 years	DEBORAH FILLION
AUDITOR for 3 years	DEBORAH FILLION
FIRST CONSTABLE for 1 year	JONATHAN BOUCHER
PLANNING COMMISSIONER for 3 years	ZACHARY SULLIVAN
(Vote for not more than THREE)	KIM WATSON
 NO CANDIDATE
PLANNING COMMISSIONER for 1 of 3 years	SPENCER HARDY





TOWN OFFICERS, ELECTED

Town Moderator: 1-year term; Expires 2022 Michael Duane

Selectboard:

3-year term; Expires 2022 Carl Etnier

2-year term; Expires 2022 Jon V. Jewett

3-year term; Expires 2023 Judith Dillon

3-year term; Expires 2024 Seth B. Gardner

2-year term; Expires 2023 Amy Willis

Listers: 3-year term

Expires 2022 Chris J. Racanelli

Expires 2023	Vacant
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(Rob Chickering resigned Oct. 5, 2021)

Expires 2024 Ross Hazel

Auditors: 3-year term

Expires 2022 Deborah Fillion

Expires 2023 Carla (Neary) Occaso

Expires 2024 Ed Deegan

First Constable: 1-year term; Expires 2022 Jonathan A. Boucher

Planning Commission: 3-year term

Expires 2022 Julie Potter

Expires 2022Zachary Sullivan

Expires 2022 Kim Watson

Expires 2023 Clarice Cutler

Expires 2023 Scott Hess

Expires 2023 Spencer Hardy, *appointed through Town Meeting 2022*

(Siu Tip Lam resigned Oct. 21, 2021)

Expires 2024 Mark Lane

Expires 2024 Richard H. Hall

Expires 2024 Gianna Petito

Justices of the Peace: 2-year term; 2/1/2021–1/31/2023 (*elected in Nov. 2020*)

Janice (Jan) Aldrich (I) Richard (Jez) Harrington (I) Becky Reed (D)

Virginia (Ginny) Burley (I) Lindy Johnson (I) Elise Thorsen (D)

Edward M. Deegan (D) Edith (Edie) Miller (I) Jennifer Zollner (D)

Kate Phillips (D), *governor appointed on Oct. 26, 2021*

Rob Chickering (D), *resigned Oct. 5, 2021*



Board of Civil Authority:

Town Clerk, Selectboard, and Justices of the Peace

Town Board for the Abatement of Taxes:

Board of Civil Authority, Listers, and Town Treasurer

WCUUSD Directors from East Montpelier:

Expires 2024; 3-year term Lindy Johnson
 Expires 2023; 3-year term Stephen Looke
 Expires 2022; 3-year term Flor Diaz Smith

TOWN OFFICERS, APPOINTED

Town Administrator (5-years; exp. June 2023)..... Bruce Johnson
 Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2022) Rosie Laquerre
 Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2022) Don Welch
 Collector of Current Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2022)..... Don Welch
 Collector of Delinquent Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2022) Bruce Johnson
 Zoning Administrator & E-911 Coord. (1 year; exp. June 2022) Bruce Johnson
 Sewage Officer Bruce Johnson
 Municipal Assistant Denise Sparrow
 Assistant Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2022) Denise Sparrow
 Assistant Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2022) Denise Sparrow
 Road Foreman Guthrie Perry
 Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2022) Seth Gardner
 Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2022) Bruce Johnson
 Acting Zoning Administrator (1 year; exp. June 2022)..... Gene Troia
 Town Attorney vacant
 Town Health Officer (3 years; exp. Dec. 31, 2023) Ginny Burley
 Second Town Health Officer (1 year; exp. 2022) Rachael Grossman
 Town Service Officer (1 year; exp. 2022) Rachael Grossman
 Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2022) Carl Etnier
 Assistant Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2022) Amber Perry
 Town Fire Warden (5 years; exp. 2023)..... Ty Rolland
 Emergency Management Director (Selectboard Chair) Seth Gardner
 Emergency Management Director (Selectboard Vice-Chair) Carl Etnier
 Emergency Management Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2022) Toby Talbot
 Second Emergency Management Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2022) Jon Boucher

Town Tree Warden (1 year; exp. 2022) Paul Cate
 Cemetery Sexton (1 year; exp. 2022) Elliott Morse
 Solid Waste District Representative (1 year; exp. 2022) Ann Stanton
 Regional Planning, Town Representative (1 year; exp. 2022) Clarice Cutler
 Alternate (1 year; exp. 2022) Vacant
 Transportation Advisory Committee Rep. (1 year; exp. 2022) Frank Pratt
 Regional Emergency Management Committee,
 Town Representatives (1 year; exp. 2022) Seth Gardner, Jon Boucher
 Wrightsville Beach Recreation District Rep. (3 years; exp. 2022) Kim Kendall
 Four Corners Schoolhouse Assoc. Rep. (1 year; exp. 2022) Carolyn Shapiro
 State Police Community Advisory Board (1 year; exp. 2022) Carol Welch
 State Police Community Advisory Board (1 year; exp. 2022) Don Welch
 Green Up Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2022) Chris Racanelli
 CVFiber Governing Board, Town Rep. (1 year; exp. 2022) Tom Fisher
 Alternate (1 year; exp. 2022) Tom McMurdo
 Revolving Loan Fund Advisor (1 year; exp. 2022) Rebecca Schrader

Development Review Board: 3 years

Steve Kappel, <i>Chair</i> (2023)	Kim Watson (2023)	Lauren Oates (2023)
Jeff Cueto (2022)	Norman Hill (2022)	Steve Justis (2022)
Mark Lane (2024)	Clarice Cutler (2024)	Glenn Weyant (2024)

Cemetery Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2022

Tim Lamson, <i>Chair</i>	Elliott Morse, <i>Sexton</i>	Mark Lane
Jon Boucher	Emily Goyette	

Resilient Roads Committee: No term set

Jeff Cueto, <i>Chair</i>	Paul Cate	Mark Lane
Steve Justis	Guthrie Perry	

Forest Committee: 3 years

Paul Cate, <i>Chair</i> (2022)	Mark Lane (2023)	Colin Blackwell (2022)
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Conservation Fund Advisory Committee: 3 years

Brian Lusignan (2023)	Ginny Callan (2023)	
Bruce Howlett (2022)	Nora Duane (2022)	Hannah Phillips (2022)

Capital Improvement Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2022

Ed Deegan, <i>Chair</i>	Scott Hess	Jon Jewett
Kim Watson	Don Welch	

Recreation Board: 3 years

Jack Zeilenga, <i>Chair</i> (2022)	Darci Coleman-Graves, <i>Vice Chair</i> (2022)	
Kate Bean (2024)	Jan Aldrich (2022)	Alex Rob (2023)
Jason DeForge (2024)	Mike Blanchard (2023)	Bob Fitch (2023)
Riley Richards, <i>Youth Member</i> (2022)		Anne Lamere (2024)

Funding Request Study Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2022

Lindy Johnson, <i>Chair</i>	Sue Racanelli	Paul Erlbaum
Kate Rader	Ginny Callan	Sarah Kinter

Emergency Management Committee: No term set

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

Town Garage Facility Improvements Committee: No term set

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

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

Old LaPerle Farm Property Committee: No term set

Seth Gardner, <i>Chair</i>	Ginny Callan	Bob Morey
Andy Shapiro	Zach Sullivan	

Energy Committee: No term set

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

Town Charter Committee: No term set

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

Town Treasurer Selection Committee: No term set

Seth Gardner, <i>Chair</i>	Amy Willis	Rosie Laquerre
Kim Watson	Norman Hill	Rachael Grossman
Ryan Black-Deegan		

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
ARTICLES OF WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
March 1, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the East Montpelier Elementary School in said Town, on **Tuesday, the first (1st) day of March, 2022**, to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 1 through 15 as outlined below. The polls will be open from **7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.**

ARTICLE 1: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year.

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

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$2,000,127** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023).

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2023 to be paid to the Town Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due and postmarked on or before Tuesday, November 15, 2022 and the second installment will be due and postmarked on or before Monday, May 15, 2023.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town, in accordance with 17 V.S.A. §2651a, authorize the Selectboard to appoint a first constable and, if needed, a second constable.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town authorize the use of up to **\$133,333** from the East Montpelier Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of a new fire engine by the East Montpelier Fire Department.

- ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$46,764** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.
- ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,400** for the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023.
- ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$12,000** for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the East Montpelier Signpost for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2023.
- ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,000** for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, administration and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2023.
- ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$9,000** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023.
- ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,500** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023.
- ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$7,834** for the support of Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) to provide services to residents of the Town of East Montpelier, including \$6,834 as its RCT portion of the fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier and \$1,000 as its fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Routes 14 & 15 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.
- ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,499** as its Green Mountain Transit portion of the fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.
- ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$5,000** for Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023.

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town's Funding Request Study Committee for the following organizations for fiscal year 2023.

1) American Red Cross	\$ 250
2) Big Heavy World.....	\$ 250
3) Capstone Community Action.....	\$ 500
4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 750
5) Central Vermont Council on Aging.....	\$ 1,875
6) Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team	\$ 200
7) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	\$ 350
8) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 1,000
9) Circle	\$ 675
10) Community Harvest of Central VT	\$ 250
11) Downstreet Housing & Community Development	\$ 150
12) East Montpelier Community Connections	\$ 2,500
13) Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
14) Friends of the Winooski River.....	\$ 200
15) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring.....	\$ 300
16) Good Beginnings of Central VT.....	\$ 300
17) Good Samaritan Haven.....	\$ 2,000
18) Green Mountain Transit.....	\$ 1,366
19) Green Up Vermont	\$ 150
20) HomeShare Vermont	\$ 800
21) Mosaic Vermont	\$ 250
22) North Branch Nature Center.....	\$ 750
23) Onion River Food Shelf.....	\$ 1,000
24) OUR House of Central VT	\$ 250
25) People's Health and Wellness Clinic.....	\$ 1,250
26) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	\$ 300
27) T. W. Wood Gallery.....	\$ 500
28) Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 150
29) Vermont Bar Foundation.....	\$ 1,500
30) Vermont CARES	\$ 150
31) Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 400
32) Vermont Family Network	\$ 200
33) Washington County Diversion Program.....	\$ 600
34) Washington County Mental Health Services	\$ 800
35) Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 400
36) Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 800
TOTAL	\$ 23,666

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM
Monday, February 28, 2022
7:30 P.M.

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting hosted by the East Montpelier Selectboard, conducted utilizing Zoom remote conferencing services (see page 12 for participation options), to discuss the Australian Ballot Articles on the 2022 Town Meeting Warning.

A. 7:30 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
PUBLIC COMMENT

B. 7:40 P.M. REVIEW OF & DISCUSSION ON 2022 TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

[Public Comment Will Be Allowed On All Articles]

Article 2: FY2023 Budget

Article 3: Property Tax Protocol

Article 4: Change Constable to Appointed Position

Article 5: Use of Capital Reserve Fund for EMFD Engine Purchase

Article 6: Kellogg-Hubbard Library Appropriation

Article 7: Four Corners Schoolhouse Association Appropriation

Article 8: East Montpelier Signpost Appropriation

Article 9: East Montpelier Trails, Inc. Appropriation

Article 10: Montpelier Senior Activity Center Appropriation

Article 11: Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice Appropriation

Article 12: Rural Community Transportation, Inc. Appropriation

Article 13: Green Mountain Transit Appropriation

Article 14: Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. Appropriation

Article 15: Funding Request Study Committee
Recommendation for Appropriations to Worthy Organizations

C. 9:15 P.M. OTHER BUSINESS

D. 9:30 P.M. ADJOURN

**** TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING, SEE FOLLOWING PAGE ****

TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

To join by web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87500290495>
By phone: 1 + (646) 558-8656 [this is not a toll-free number]
Meeting ID: 875 0029 0495

Meeting documents and complete participation options can be seen here:
<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/february-28-2022-town-forum/>

If you have difficulty accessing the forum, please call or email Town
Administrator Bruce Johnson:

(802) 223-3313 x 204
manager@eastmontpeliervt.org

You may also email comments to Mr. Johnson in advance of or during the
forum.

Dated at East Montpelier, Vermont, this 24th day of January, 2022.

East Montpelier Selectboard:

SETH GARDNER

CARL ETNIER

AMY WILLIS

JON JEWETT

JUDITH DILLON

East Montpelier Town Clerk's Office, 25th day of January A.D. 2022
at 2:06 P.M. received the foregoing East Montpelier Annual Town
Meeting Warning for posting as required by law.

Attest: Rosie Laquerre, Town Clerk





Justice of the Peace Becky Reed checked in ballots on March 2, 2021. This year again, no in-person Town Meeting will be held due to the COVID pandemic.

Town and school ballots will be mailed to ALL registered active voters.

**** Please request a ballot for the
Central Vermont Career Center from the Town Clerk. ****

Voted ballots can be mailed back to the Clerk's office,
dropped in the secure drop box outside, or brought to the polls for
in-person voting on Town Meeting Day at the East Montpelier
Elementary School from 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

In order for your ballot to count, please carefully follow the
instructions that come with it. Mail-in ballots are rejected when
voters forget to complete and sign the envelope or mail it too late.

Please do not mail ballots later than February 22.

For more information about “Pandemic-Style” Voting, see pg 61.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Hmmm ... seems like last year we were rambling on about rearview mirrors and how things had to get better in 2021. So, we may have missed that particular mark as we continue to struggle to make progress on a variety of pressing social challenges and we're still dealing with a pandemic that has more lives than Garfield. Regardless, 2021 brought positive news on a number of fronts while also giving constant reminders to be thankful for our wonderful central Vermont network of non-profit service providers, ranging across the spectrum from Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice to Twin Valley Senior Center, who are always ready to supply helpful assistance.

East Montpelier received the first half of its share of the American Rescue Plan Act's federal funding, \$381,280, last August with an equivalent amount coming in August 2022. Although the use of the funds is restricted to a set of US Treasury-approved categories, this is essentially a once-in-a-generation opportunity to accomplish a wish list of public good projects with little cost to taxpayers. The rules around use are still being clarified, but time is on our side as we have until 2024 to finalize choices and 2026 to fully expend the funds. Possible projects include completing the digitization of the town's land records, a project near and dear to Town Clerk Rosie Laquerre, and supporting the incredible progress of CVFiber, the communications union district the town is a founding member of, as it works to bring highspeed internet to underserved areas of town within the next year or two. The board is committed to extensive engagement with the public to ensure the town takes full advantage of this opportunity.

After two years of successfully navigating the myriad school district votes and then the pandemic-challenged presidential election cycle, Clerk Laquerre and the Board of Civil Authority got to try out something new in 2021, presiding over the town's first all-Australian ballot town meeting event. Although many missed the traditional town meeting activities, it was exciting to see a record-breaking number of voters participate in a non-presidential year election. The evening prior to town meeting we held a lively virtual town forum with over 40 participants. 2022 will bring more of the same, as the enduring pandemic has forced a second year of an all-Australian ballot town meeting preceded by a virtual informational forum. All active registered voters will receive the town and school district ballots by mail.

The pandemic didn't slow down the Resilient Roads Committee as it continues to pile on the accomplishments under the leadership of Jeff Cueto, the committee chair, and Paul Cate, the town tree warden. In 2021 the committee landed two more grants. One enabled the town to plant a number of trees in EM Center. The other grant helped fund the third leg, along County Road this time, of the town's concerted effort to proactively protect the community from the devastation of our ash trees by the Emerald Ash Borer. East Montpelier arborist Nate Ebert and his company, Foxfire Tree Care, served as the contractor this latest segment. In 2022 the focus shifts to the North Street/Sparrow Farm Road

Photo: Terry J. Allen



There was plenty of space on Town “Meeting” Day for Justices of the Peace to socially distance, count votes, and even shoot some hoops.

neighborhood. By the end of 2021 the committee was nearing completion of a draft shade tree preservation plan, a new state requirement that will determine what town trees the tree warden will have authority over. You’ll be hearing more about this plan in the near future as it comes to the Selectboard for a public hearing process and possible adoption.

Road Foreman Guthrie Perry and our veteran road crew, Ken Lorden, Frank Campbell, and Craig Seadeek, along with part-timer Peter Hill, remain the gold standard for rural highway departments. The crew continues to be a vital cog in the ash tree management program, actively supporting the Resilient Roads Committee projects. This past year Cherry Tree Hill Road was the site of grant-funded stormwater erosion prevention and remediation work, with more small projects coming to that road and Lyle Young in 2022. The big infrastructure project for 2021 is now the big project for 2022, as pandemic-related delivery delays postponed for a year the planned repaving of the southern-to-middle section of County Road, along with the replacement of two large culverts just south of Morse Farm and just north of Barnes Road.

On a sad note, in early 2022 Doug Newton passed away. He was a retired Agency of Transportation engineer who served as the design engineering consultant for our large highway projects, including the various elements of the County Road project as well as others still to come. Doug had an unparalleled ability to work effectively with VTrans, other regulatory agencies, local boards, contractors and townspeople. He will be greatly missed.

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The FY2023 budget reflects a concerted effort to present a balanced spending plan while absorbing some significant personnel cost increases. Not only has the pandemic redefined normal compensation levels for many town jobs, resulting in a necessary recalibration of hourly wages, we are embarking on an effort to redistribute town office duties with the expectation that the equivalent of a full-time employee slot will be added. The general fund budget is up 3.8%, mostly due to a 13.4% rise in direct employee compensation plus associated increases in employee benefit lines along with modest growth of \$23,500 (6.6%) in the EMFD service lines and \$13,000 (2.9%) in the capital reserve fund line. Overall expenditures, including projected appropriations for all voted articles, are up 4.1%. The use of \$150,000 of our available fund balance coupled with a 3.7% jump in anticipated revenues plus a minimal expected rise in the grand list results in a projected municipal tax increase of 3.5%, about 2.3 cents on the tax rate.

Although the EMFD service costs are up less than expected for FY2023, there is a separate article on the 2022 warning for the use of \$133,333 in existing town capital reserve monies to provide partial funding for the overdue replacement of EMFD's 1995 fire engine. The town's contribution will be combined with \$66,667 from Calais and \$225,000 from EMFD's capital fund fueled by ambulance service revenue. This is the first time in well over a decade that the towns have been asked to directly contribute to a fire department capital purchase. The EMFD capital fund has not only paid for all ambulance service capital expenses, but has also covered the entire cost of recent fire service replacements of a tanker and a heavy duty rescue vehicle. We're also pleased to note that after a challenging period of negotiation, Calais, EM and EMFD have solidified our partnership under a revised service agreement that provides for greater town flexibility while continuing the rock-solid working relationship between the parties developed over the past decades.

2022 is likely to bring a significant changing of the guard at the town office. In particular, Town Treasurer Don Welch is retiring after providing over a decade of calm, effective management of the town's finances. With eyes wide open, Don stepped into a chaotic environment, shepherded the town through the shift from elected to appointed treasurers and established the framework for professional-level handling of our financial activities. Don, as treasurer, selectboard member, auditor, and so much more, will leave with a legacy of exceptional service to the community to which we should all aspire. Thank you, Don, for everything.

SETH GARDNER, *Chair*
CARL ETNIER, *Vice Chair*
AMY WILLIS
JON JEWETT
JUDITH DILLON



**Projected FY2023 Tax Rate with Preliminary Education Rates
and Financial Impact of Warned Articles on the FY23 Tax Rate**

Prepared for the East Montpelier 2022 Town Meeting [PRELIMINARY]

Actual FY22 Grand List \$3,104,000

Est FY23 Grand List \$3,120,000

2022 Article #	Warned Amount			Impact on Tax Rate		
	Actual FY21		Estimated FY22	Actual FY21		Estimated FY22
2	1,927,032		2,000,127	0.6208		0.6411
6	42,022		46,764	0.0135		0.0150
7	4,500		4,400	0.0014		0.0014
8	9,700		12,000	0.0031		0.0038
9	4,000		4,000	0.0013		0.0013
10	9,000		9,000	0.0029		0.0029
11	6,000		6,500	0.0019		0.0021
12	7,833		7,834	0.0025		0.0025
13	1,500		1,499	0.0005		0.0005
14	5,000		5,000	0.0016		0.0016
15	21,466		23,666	0.0069		0.0076
Total	2,038,053		2,120,790	0.6566		0.6797

Homestead Education Rate

1.8215

1.7390

Non-Homestead Education Rate

1.7116

1.6472

Town Local Agreements Rate

0.0028

0.0028

Total Tax Rate - Homestead

2.4809

2.4215

**less Prior Year Actual Tax Rate
Change**

2.5381

2.4809

-0.0572

-0.0594

Total Tax Rate - Non-Homestead

2.3710

2.3297

**less Prior Year Actual Tax Rate
Change**

2.3804

2.3710

-0.0094

-0.0413

The homestead education rate is the 01/12/2022 Scenario B projection by the Washington Central Unified Union School District; the non-homestead rate is as shown in the Scenario B forecast by the VT Tax Commissioner on December 1, 2021; both as adjusted for our CLA of 89.97%. Rates will change during the legislative session.

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER REVENUES

CASH & RECEIPTS

AVAILABLE CASH ON HAND:

NON-TAX RECEIPTS:

Dog licenses
 Excess Weight Fees
 Liquor licenses
 Recording/copy fees
 Vault fees
 Zoning fees
Total Licenses & Fees

Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid
 Roadside Management Grants
 COVID-19 Grants
Total Grants

Current use hold harmless
 Green Up
 ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais
 State aid highways
 ANR Pilot Program
 General State Building Pilot Program ..
 State Equalization Reimbursement

	FY21 Budget (7/1/20- 6/30/21)	FY21 Actual (7/1/20- 6/30/21)	Over (Under) FY21	FY22 Budget (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	FY23 Proposed Budget (7/22-6/23)	Change from FY22 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY22 Budget (+/-) %
AVAILABLE CASH ON HAND:	\$ 100,000	0.00	100,000.00	100,000	150,000	50,000	50.0%
NON-TAX RECEIPTS:							
Dog licenses	2,300	2,149.00	(151.00)	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Excess Weight Fees	400	530.00	130.00	400	400	0	0.0%
Liquor licenses	100	345.00	245.00	100	100	0	0.0%
Recording/copy fees	20,000	28,885.00	8,885.00	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
Vault fees	4,000	4,085.00	85.00	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Zoning fees	4,000	6,814.80	2,814.80	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Total Licenses & Fees	30,800	42,808.80	12,008.80	30,500	30,500	0	0.0%
Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid	0	11,682.47	11,682.47	0	0	0	0.0%
Roadside Management Grants	0	11,666.00	11,666.00	0	0	0	0.0%
COVID-19 Grants	0	20,200.64	20,200.64	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Grants	0	43,549.11	43,549.11	0	0	0	0.0%
Current use hold harmless	99,000	100,145.00	1,145.00	99,000	102,000	3,000	3.03%
Green Up	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.0%
ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais	52,076	52,076.50	0.50	50,640	49,156	(1,484)	-2.93%
State aid highways	144,000	189,016.99	45,016.99	148,000	160,000	12,000	8.11%
ANR Pilot Program	800	634.80	(165.20)	600	600	0	0.0%
General State Building Pilot Program ..	3,200	3,632.00	432.00	3,400	3,400	0	0.0%
State Equalization Reimbursement	0	1,236.00	1,236.00	0	0	0	0.0%

Traffic fines	1,000	837.26	(162.74)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Reimbursements	300,076	347,578.55	47,502.55	302,640	316,156	13,516	4.47%
Interest / Money Market	3,000	1,738.77	(1,261.23)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous income	100	1,067.95	967.95	100	100	0	0.0%
Tax Sale Expense - Reimbursement	0	1,340.75	1,340.75	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Other	3,100	4,147.47	1,047.47	1,100	1,100	0	0.0%
Interest on delinquent taxes	9,000	19,446.11	10,446.11	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
Penalty on delinquent taxes	10,000	21,498.80	11,498.80	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Interest on late taxes	6,000	9,092.09	3,092.09	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Education retention fees	9,000	10,695.33	1,695.33	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Total Tax Related Charges	34,000	60,732.33	26,732.33	35,000	35,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL NON-TAX RECEIPTS	\$ 367,976	498,816.26	130,840.26	369,240	382,756	13,516	3.66%
TAXES:							
Selectboard Budget	1,871,223		1,927,032	1,927,032	2,000,127	73,095	3.79%
Other Money Articles	103,396		111,021	111,021	120,663	9,642	8.68%
Total Taxes	1,974,619		2,038,053	2,038,053	2,120,790	82,737	4.06%
Grand List (estimated for FY23)	3,075,000		3,104,000	3,104,000	3,120,000		
Local Tax Rate (estimated for FY23) ...	0.6422		0.6566	0.6566	0.6797		
TOTAL TAXES	\$ 1,974,619	2,066,845	104.67%	2,038,053	2,120,790	82,737	4.06%
GRAND TOTAL CASH & RECEIPTS ..	\$ 2,442,595	2,565,661	105.04%	2,507,293	2,653,546	146,253	5.83%

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER EXPENDITURES

GENERAL EXPENSES:

Town Officers:

	FY21 Budget (7/1/20- 6/30/21)	FY21 Actual (7/1/20- 6/30/21)	Under (Over) FY21	FY22 Budget (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	FY23 Proposed Budget (7/22-6/23)	Change from FY22 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY22 Budget (+/-) %
Municipal Employees	\$ 221,000	217,601.73	3,398.27	224,500	270,000	45,500	20.3%
Health Officer	1,000	1,000.00	0	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Tree Warden				1,000	2,000	1,000	100.0%
Selectboard	5,500	5,500.00	0	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
PC Stipend	4,750	4,750.00	0	4,750	4,750	0	0.0%
Internal Audit (Town Auditors)	7,000	6,561.00	439.00	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Listers Payroll	23,000	13,767.18	9,232.82	23,000	23,000	0	0.0%
Animal Control Officers Stipend	1,500	1,500.00	0	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Constables Stipend	1,500	1,500.00	0	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Total Town Officers	265,250	252,179.91	13,070.09	270,750	317,250	46,500	17.2%

Employee Benefits/Insurances

Social Security/Medicare	39,500	36,592.52	2,907.48	40,500	46,000	5,500	13.6%
Municipal Retirement	27,500	26,558.50	941.50	29,000	38,000	9,000	31.0%
Unemployment	2,200	2,798.00	(598.00)	3,800	3,500	(300)	-7.9%
Health Insurance	136,000	130,735.62	5,264.38	139,000	159,000	20,000	14.4%
Dental Insurance	3,300	2,863.63	436.37	3,300	3,300	0	0.0%
Life & Disability Insurance	3,600	3,262.89	337.11	3,600	3,600	0	0.0%
Town Liability Insurance	5,500	4,701.50	798.50	4,500	5,800	1,300	28.9%
Workers Compensation	18,000	15,838.50	2,161.50	16,000	16,300	300	1.9%
Total Employee Benefits/ Insurances	235,600	223,351.16	12,248.84	239,700	275,500	35,800	14.9%

Law Enforcement Expenses:

Community Advisory Board	100	100.00	0	100	100	0	0.0%
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Vermont State Police	15,000	10,069.37	4,930.63	17,000	17,000	0	0.0%
Total Law Enforcement Expenses	15,100	10,169.37	4,930.63	17,100	17,100	0	0.0%
Professional Fees							
Contracted Payroll Services	1,000	145.00	855.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
External Audit	15,000	14,800.00	200.00	15,500	15,800	300	1.9%
Legal Fees	8,000	2,598.75	5,401.25	8,000	8,000	0	0.0%
Total Professional Fees	24,000	17,543.75	6,456.25	24,500	24,800	300	1.2%
Municipal Building							
Custodial	2,700	2,580.00	120.00	2,700	2,700	0	0.0%
Electricity	1,800	3,138.04	(1,338.04)	3,000	3,300	300	10.0%
General Expenses	1,000	1,271.40	(271.40)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Heating Fuel	2,000	193.57	1,806.43	1,200	500	(700)	-58.3%
Repairs/Maintenance	3,000	465.00	2,535.00	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Telephone	2,600	2,935.45	(335.45)	3,000	3,200	200	6.7%
Water (Crystal Springs)	1,000	801.36	198.64	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Municipal Building	14,100	11,384.82	2,715.18	14,900	14,700	(200)	-1.3%
Municipal Operations							
Advertising	2,000	1,048.83	951.17	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Copier Lease	3,500	2,594.65	905.35	3,500	3,000	(500)	-14.3%
Education/Seminars	2,000	48.00	1,952.00	1,500	1,200	(300)	-20.0%
Equipment Purchases (over \$200)	1,000	8,148.00	(7,148.00)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Gifts/Special Occasions	700	0	700.00	700	700	0	0.0%
Mileage/Travel Expense	1,800	733.19	1,066.81	1,500	1,200	(300)	-20.0%
Fees	1,800	1,561.57	238.43	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%
Grounds Maintenance	11,500	10,502.50	997.50	11,500	11,500	0	0.0%
Office Supplies	5,000	2,982.23	2,017.77	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%

EXPENDITURES (continued)						
	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Under (Over)	FY22 Budget	Proposed FY23 Budget	Increase (Decrease)
						Change (+/-) %
Postage	3,700	3,559.31	140.69	3,700	3,700	0 0.0%
Printing	1,300	1,692.07	(392.07)	2,100	2,100	0 0.0%
Town Report Printing and Mailing	6,300	5,338.40	961.60	5,800	5,800	0 0.0%
Property and Casualty Insurance	14,000	13,340.50	659.50	13,000	13,000	0 0.0%
Public Records Management	10,000	8,349.00	1,651.00	10,000	10,000	0 0.0%
Street Lights	6,000	5,965.98	34.02	6,300	6,300	0 0.0%
Subscriptions/Memberships	450	341.48	108.52	450	450	0 0.0%
Town Document Updates	5,000	0	5,000.00	5,000	3,000	(2,000) -40.0%
Total Municipal Operations	76,050	66,205.71	9,844.29	74,350	71,250	(3,100) -4.2%
Loans and Interest						
Bond Interest for ESF (20-year)	51,230	51,229.50	0.50	46,919	42,467	(4,452) -9.5%
Bond Principal for ESF	105,000	105,000.00	0	105,000	105,000	0 0.0%
Tax Anticipation Interest	1,000	0	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	0 0.0%
Total Loans and Interest	157,230	156,229.50	1,000.50	152,919	148,467	(4,452) -2.9%
Computers						
Equipment/Hardware Purchases	2,500	846.98	1,653.02	2,500	2,500	0 0.0%
General Services/Maintenance	12,000	15,151.73	(3,151.73)	13,000	16,000	3,000 23.1%
GIS Mapping Services	4,500	4,400.00	100.00	4,500	4,500	0 0.0%
Software	1,500	4,296.65	(2,796.65)	3,500	1,500	(2,000) -57.1%
Total Computers	20,500	24,695.36	(4,195.36)	23,500	24,500	1,000 4.3%
Town Clerk Budget						
Ballot Clerks/Election Workers	3,000	5,289.70	-2,289.70	1,000	3,000	2,000 200.0%
Dog Licensing - tags and licenses	350	309.91	40.09	350	350	0 0.0%

Election Equipment	3,000	8,388.28	-5,388.28	2,000	3,000	1,000	50.0%
Record Restoration/Preservation	3,000	0	3,000.00	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Vault Expenses/Town Records	1,000	0	1,000.00	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Town Clerk Budget	10,350	13,987.89	-3,637.89	7,350	10,350	3,000	40.8%
Dues and Fees							
CV Economic Development	900	900.00	0	900	900	0	0.0%
CV Regional Planning Commission	3,220	3,220.00	0	3,266	3,456	190	5.8%
CV Solid Waste Mgt. Dist.	2,571	1,285.50	1,285.50	2,551	2,598	47	1.8%
VT Association of Conservation Districts	100	100.00	0	100	100	0	0.0%
VT League Cities & Towns	4,280	4,280.00	0	4,280	4,369	89	2.1%
Washington County Court Expense	25,641	25,641.00	0	24,901	25,277	376	1.5%
Wrightsville Beach Dist.....	3,986	3,985.50	0.50	3,986	3,986	0	0.0%
Total Dues & Fees	40,698	39,412.00	1,286.00	39,984	40,686	702	1.8%
Budget Requests							
Fire Department	129,796	129,796.00	0	122,076	125,673	3,597	2.9%
Ambulance Service	190,241	190,241.00	0	223,159	242,167	19,008	8.5%
Recreation Board	3,500	3,500.00	0	3,500	4,000	500	14.3%
Cemetery Committee	20,000	20,000.00	0	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
Total Budget Requests	343,537	343,537.00	0	368,735	391,840	23,105	6.3%
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,202,415	1,158,696.47	43,718.53	1,233,788	1,336,443	102,655	8.3%
GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS							
Invasive Species Control	300	85.00	215.00	300	300	0	0.0%
Front Porch Forum	500	500.00	0	500	500	0	0.0%
EMFD Dry Hydrants	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.0%
Roadside Management Expense	0	26,665.21	(26,665.21)	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%

EXPENDITURES *(continued)*

	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Under (Over)	FY22 Budget	Proposed FY23 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Better Roads Grant Expense	0	9,757.50	(9,757.50)	0	0	0	0.0%
Capital Reserve Fund	446,634	496,634.00	(50,000.00)	446,634	459,690	13,056	2.9%
TOTAL GRANTS & SPEC PROJECTS	\$ 447,434	533,641.71	(86,207.71)	462,434	475,490	13,056	2.8%
HIGHWAY EXPENSES:							
Highway Operations							
Chloride	27,000	24,769.59	2,230.41	27,000	27,000	0	0.0%
Crack Sealant	12,000	8,000.00	4,000.00	12,000	12,000	0	0.0%
Culverts	7,600	6,642.00	958.00	7,600	7,600	0	0.0%
Diesel	58,000	29,182.02	28,817.98	58,000	58,000	0	0.0%
Education/Seminars - Highway Personnel	600	0	600.00	600	600	0	0.0%
Equipment Rentals	7,000	2,561.90	4,438.10	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Erosion Stone	8,000	480.00	7,520.00	8,000	8,000	0	0.0%
General Supplies	14,500	9,627.17	4,872.83	14,500	14,500	0	0.0%
Gravel	110,000	118,325.53	(8,325.53)	115,000	115,000	0	0.0%
Green Up Expenses	600	0	600.00	600	600	0	0.0%
Guardrails	5,000	1,429.00	3,571.00	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Haz Mat disposal	750	0	750.00	750	750	0	0.0%
Hydroseeder Mulch	2,000	199.98	1,800.02	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Pavement Management	4,000	263.90	3,736.10	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Pavement Markings	5,200	8,569.89	(3,369.89)	5,200	5,200	0	0.0%
Permit Fees	2,000	1,590.00	410.00	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Reciprocal Road Maintenance	1,300	1,312.50	(12.50)	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%
Road Fabric	3,500	828.00	2,672.00	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Salt	62,000	54,017.56	7,982.44	62,000	62,000	0	0.0%
Sand	42,000	44,846.50	(2,846.50)	42,000	42,000	0	0.0%
Signs	4,000	2,267.99	1,732.01	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%

Stabilization Fabric	0	199.98	(199.98)	0	0	
Uniforms	5,800	5,891.34	(91.34)	5,800	6,000	3.4%
Weather Reporting	1,000	800.00	200.00	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Total Highway Operations	383,850	321,804.85	62,045.15	388,850	389,050	0.1%
Town Garage Expenses						
Electricity	1,400	1,753.76	(353.76)	1,600	1,800	12.5%
General Expenses	2,000	384.76	1,615.24	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Heating Fuel	7,000	4,609.12	2,390.88	7,000	7,000	0.0%
Bldg Repairs and Maintenance	3,000	1,039.81	1,960.19	3,000	3,000	0.0%
Facility Renovations	0	1,458.51	(1,458.51)	0	0	0.0%
Rubbish	2,000	3,074.38	(1,074.38)	2,500	3,000	20.0%
Security	400	759.29	(359.29)	400	400	0.0%
Telephone/Communications	2,700	2,553.88	146.12	2,700	2,700	0.0%
Total Town Garage Expenses	18,500	15,633.51	2,866.49	19,200	19,900	3.6%
Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs						
Vehicle-Gas/Oil/Grease		7,173.30				
Vehicle - Maint/Supplies/Equipment ...		7,703.51				
Vehicle - Plows/Blades		3,317.75				
Vehicle - Tires/Chains		7,033.46				
'13 GMC Sierra Pickup		494.29				
'19 John Deere Grader		2,430.73				
'08 Volvo Excavator		5,048.30				
'18 Komatsu Loader		352.37				
'18 John Deere Tractor & Mower		289.10				
'20 Kubota Tractor & Snowblower		0.00				
'13 Mack Truck		14,495.17				
'17 Mack Truck		3,822.61				
'18 Mack Truck		2,357.06				

EXPENDITURES (continued)

	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Under (Over)	FY22 Budget	Proposed FY23 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
'15 International 7400		2,405.35					
'12 Freightliner Truck		4,306.69					
'98 MorBark Brush Chipper		15.00					
York Rake		346.24					
Sander		0.00					
Total Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs	60,000	61,590.93	(1,590.93)	65,000	65,000	0	0.0%
Highway Labor							
Total Labor	227,000	207,942.19	19,057.81	227,000	247,000	20,000	8.8%
Total Highway Labor	227,000	207,942.19	19,057.81	227,000	247,000	20,000	8.8%
TOTAL HIGHWAY BUDGET	\$ 689,350	606,971.48	82,378.52	700,050	720,950	20,900	3.0%
TOTAL SELECTBOARD BUDGET ...	\$ 2,339,199	2,299,309.66	39,889.34	2,396,272	2,532,883	136,611	5.7%
Voted Articles							
Four Corners Schoolhouse	4,000	4,000.00	0	4,500	4,400	(100)	-2.2%
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	42,022	42,022.00	0	42,022	46,764	4,742	11.3%
Land Conservation Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
East Montpelier Signpost	0	0	0	9,700	12,000	2,300	23.7%
Rural Community Transportation				7,833	7,834	1	0.0%
GMTA Rte 2 Commuter Bus Service ...	8,333	8,333.00	0	1,500	1,499	(1)	-0.1%
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	9,000	9,000.00	0	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
East Montpelier Trails	0	0	0	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Central VT Home Health & Hospice ...	6,000	6,000.00	0	6,000	6,500	500	8.3%
Cross Vermont Trail Association	7,500	7,500.00	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Twin Valley Seniors, Inc.	5,000	5,000.00	0	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Total Voted Articles	81,855	81,855.00	0	89,555	96,997	7,442	8.3%

Funding Requests

American Red Cross	250	250.00	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Big Heavy World	250	250.00	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Capstone Community Action (CVCAC)	500	500.00	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education .	750	750.00	0	750	750	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Council on Aging	1,875	1,875.00	0	1,875	1,875	0	0.0%
Central VT Disaster Animal Response Team	200	200.00	0	200	200	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity .	250	250.00	0	350	350	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	1,000	1,000.00	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Circle (Battered Women's Serv and Shelter)	675	675.00	0	675	675	0	0.0%
Community Connections	2,500	2,500.00	0	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Community Harvest of Central VT	250	250.00	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Downstreet Housing & Comm. Dev (CVCLT)	150	150.00	0	150	150	0	0.0%
Family Center of Washington County ..	500	500.00	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Friends of the Winooski River	200	200.00	0	200	200	0	0.0%
Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	300	300.00	0	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Beginnings of Central VT	300	300.00	0	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Samaritan Haven	750	750.00	0	900	2,000	1,100	122.2%
Green Mountain Transit	1,366	1,366.00	0	1,366	1,366	0	0.0%
Green Up Vermont	150	150.00	0	150	150	0	0.0%
HomeShare Vermont	800	800.00	0	800	800	0	0.0%
Mosaic Vermont (Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	250	250.00	0	250	250	0	0.0%
North Branch Nature Center	750	750.00	0	750	750	0	0.0%
Onion River Food Shelf Inc.	1,000	1,000.00	0	1,200	1,000	(200)	-16.7%
OUR House of Central VT	250	250.00	0	250	250	0	0.0%
People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc..	1,250	1,250.00	0	1,750	1,250	(500)	-28.6%
Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont	300	300.00	0	300	300	0	0.0%
Project Independence	125	0	125.00				
Rural Community Transportation (RCT)	1,000	1,000.00	0				
T W Wood Gallery	500	500.00	0	500	500	0	0.0%
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually Impaired	150	150.00	0	150	150	0	0.0%
				<i>(incorporated into FY23 Warned Art. 12)</i>			

EXPENDITURES *(continued)*

	FY21 Budget	FY21 Actual	Under (Over)	FY22 Budget	Proposed FY23 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Vermont Bar Foundation					1,500	1,500	
Vermont CARES	150	150.00	0	150	150	0	0.0%
Vermont Center for Independent Living .	300	300.00	0	300	400	100	33.3%
Vermont Family Network	200	200.00	0	200	200	0	0.0%
Washington County Diversion Program .	600	600.00	0	600	600	0	0.0%
Washington County Mental Health Services	800	800.00	0	800	800	0	0.0%
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	400	400.00	0	400	400	0	0.0%
Winooski Natural Resources Conserv. Dist.	500	500.00	0	600	800	200	33.3%
Total Funding Requests	21,541	21,416.00	125.00	21,466	23,666	2,200	10.2%
Total Voted Articles & Funding Requests	\$ 103,396	103,271.00	125.00	111,021	120,663	9,642	8.7%
GRAND TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES	\$ 2,442,595	2,402,580.66	40,014.34	2,507,293	2,653,546	146,253	5.8%
Grand Total Revenues	2,442,595	2,565,661.26		2,507,293	2,653,546		
Net Income		163,080.60					

TOWN BUDGET SUMMARY

	FY19: 7/18-6/19	FY20: 7/19-6/20	FY21: 7/20-6/21	FY22: 7/21-6/22	FY23: 7/22-6/23
Selectboard w/o Voted Articles	\$ 2,204,612	2,236,350	2,339,199	2,396,272	2,532,883
Less: Cash on Hand	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	150,000
Subtotal	2,104,612	2,136,350	2,239,199	2,296,272	2,382,883
Less: Proposed Non-Tax Receipts	378,116	386,586	367,976	369,240	382,756
Municipal Proposed Taxes w/o Articles	1,726,496	1,749,764	1,871,223	1,927,032	2,000,127
Plus: Voted Articles	119,896	124,296	103,396	111,021	120,663
Total Town Current Taxes	\$ 1,846,392	1,874,060	1,974,619	2,038,053	2,120,790

Photo: Deborah Fillion



Road crew at work on Horn of the Moon Road, January 17, 2022.

DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Notes Payable:	Payments Due					
	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Emergency Services Facility*						
Loan Balance: \$1,155,000						
Interest Rate: 4.34%						
Principal payments:	\$ 105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000
Interest payments:	51,230	46,919	42,467	37,853	33,096	28,235
2018 Mack Truck**						
Loan Balance: \$31,921						
Interest Rate: 2.84%						
Principal payments:	31,921	0				
Interest payments:	906					
Debt Payments:	\$ 189,057	151,919	147,467	142,853	138,096	133,235
Outstanding Principal at Fiscal Year End:	\$1,050,000	945,000	840,000	735,000	630,000	525,000

On June 30, 2021, the Town of East Montpelier owed \$1,050,000 principal and \$253,748 interest on the Emergency Services Facility Bond.

* FY11 Emergency Services Facility Bond:

Upon completion of construction in FY10, a twenty (20) year bond for the full construction costs including the interest on the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) was executed in the authorized amount of \$2.1 million (East Montpelier 2/3 share = \$1,400,000; Calais 1/3 share = \$700,000). Beginning in FY12, principal payments are constant (\$105,000 total: East Montpelier = \$70,000; Calais = \$35,000). The interest payment declines each year as the principal amount is reduced, resulting in a constantly declining annual payment in subsequent years. Payments are made twice a year. In FY21, East Montpelier's share was \$104,153 of the \$156,229.50 due. In 2016 a bond refinancing generated interest savings for FY17, FY18, and FY19; the original interest schedule resumed in FY20. Final payment of the bond is due in December 2030.

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

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

BALANCE SHEET

	FY20	FY21
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,594,240	\$ 2,266,232
Investments	309,325	313,049
Receivables	489,701	169,784
Loan Receivable	241,710	233,012
Prepaid Expenses	39,569	38,525
Capital Assets:		
Land	608,702	408,702
Construction in Progress	320,049	36,069
Other Capital Assets, (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	4,807,052	5,241,810
Total Assets	<u>8,410,348</u>	<u>8,707,183</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	85,468	132,008
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>85,468</u>	<u>132,008</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	273,179	40,925
Accrued Payroll and Benefits Payable	15,737	18,019
Accrued Interest Payable	9,194	8,185
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Due within One Year	144,836	112,915
Due in More than One Year	1,390,027	1,370,886
Unearned Revenue	4,196	—
Tax Sale Overpayments	13,609	—
Less Total Liabilities	<u>1,850,778</u>	<u>1,550,930</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Prepaid Property Taxes	2,485	2,148
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	4,963	9,117
Less Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>7,448</u>	<u>11,265</u>
	<u>\$ 6,637,590</u>	<u>\$ 7,276,996</u>
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	4,562,687	4,650,401
Restricted For:		
Culture and Recreation	53,702	54,802
Community Development	233,736	240,953
Cemetery	98,175	99,900
Other	9,030	15,492
Unrestricted	1,680,260	2,215,448
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 6,637,590</u>	<u>\$ 7,276,996</u>

Adapted from FY20 & FY21 audits performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier. Final audits are available at the Town Office and town website at <https://eastmontpelier.vt.org>

EAST MONTPELIER FY21 TAXES RAISED

Base Tax Rates:

School - Homestead	\$1.8929
School - Non-Residential	1.7352
Town	0.6422
Local Agreement	0.0030

Total Homestead Tax Rate	\$2.5381
Total Non-Residential Rate	\$2.3804

Values, include Local Agreements:

Municipal Grand List	\$3,078,490.44
Homestead Edu. Grand List	\$2,174,463.72
Non-Residential Edu. Grand List	\$896,535.22



Taxes to be raised (as billed):	
at Town Tax Rate	0.6422 x 3,078,490.44 = \$1,977,000.37
at Local Agreement Rate	0.0030 x 3,078,490.44 = 9,236.05
at Homestead Tax Rate	1.8929 x 2,174,463.72 = 4,116,042.33
at Non-Res. Tax Rate	1.7352 x 896,511.22 = 1,555,626.41
plus late homestead filing penalties	WAIVED
TOTAL	<u>\$7,657,905.16</u>

TY20/21 TAXES collected as of 5/17/2021

Current Taxes Collected	\$7,475,517.54
Abated Taxes	5.58
Adjusted 5/24/21 (to correct posting error)	294.82
Uncollected TY20/21 taxes (see facing page)	182,087.22
TOTAL	<u>7,657,905.16</u>



2020/2021 EDUCATION TAX BREAKDOWN

Total Due Schools	\$5,680,122.00
Town payments to schools:	\$4,636,092.79
State adjustment payments	1,033,333.88
0.225% Retained by Municipality	10,695.33
Total education tax paid	<u>\$5,680,122.00</u>
Balance due school district (within 120 days)	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

DELINQUENT TAXES

Tax Year	Taxes Due July 1, 2020	Paid In FY21	Abated FY21	Balance Due June 30, 2021
TY17/18	628.03	628.03	0	0.00
TY18/19	19,820.95	14,930.53	0	4,890.42
TY19/20	184,631.19	174,159.36	0.18	10,471.65
	<u>\$205,080.17</u>	<u>189,717.92</u>	<u>0.18</u>	<u>15,362.07</u>
TY20/21 Del. Taxes Submitted to Collector on 5/20/21	182,087.22	91,281.15	5.68	90,800.39
	<u>\$387,167.39</u>	<u>280,999.07</u>	<u>5.86</u>	<u>106,162.46</u>
Interest on Late & Delinquent Tax		24,730.20 *		
Penalties on Delinquent Tax		8,493.03 **		
Total Delinquent Taxes, Interest, and Penalties collected in FY21		<u>\$314,222.30</u>		

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

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

TAX COLLECTION NOTICE

In September 2021, one property tax bill was sent out, payable in two installments. The due date and time is voted on at Town Meeting each year. The first installment for tax year 2021/2022 was due in November, and the second is due on Monday, May 16, 2022. Property taxes must be received in the Town Treasurer's office on the due date. A mailed payment bearing a clear USPS postmark dated on or before the tax payment due date will be accepted as timely. The Municipal Office Building has two options for after-hours drop off of payments: there is a secure drop box next to the handicap ramp and a mail slot in the back door. The Town offers two methods for electronic payment of taxes: direct debit and a payment portal for credit and debit cards along with eChecks.

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

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2021

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 608,702	0	200,000	408,702
Construction in Progress	320,049	417,938	701,918	36,069
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	<u>928,751</u>	<u>417,938</u>	<u>901,918</u>	<u>444,771</u>
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	2,404,772	0	0	2,404,772
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	1,667,907	98,516	0	1,766,423
Infrastructure	3,366,157	701,918	0	4,068,075
Totals	<u>7,438,836</u>	<u>800,434</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,239,270</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	590,688	49,093	0	639,781
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	461,085	114,215	0	575,300
Infrastructure	1,580,011	202,368	0	1,782,379
Totals	<u>2,631,784</u>	<u>365,676</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,997,460</u>
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	<u>4,807,052</u>	<u>434,758</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,241,810</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u><u>\$5,735,803</u></u>	<u><u>\$852,696</u></u>	<u><u>\$901,918</u></u>	<u><u>\$5,686,581</u></u>

Depreciation was charged as follows:

Governmental Activities:

General Government	\$ 7,721
Public Safety	39,825
Highways and Streets	315,250
Culture and Recreation	501
Cemetery	<u>2,379</u>
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 365,676</u></u>

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



TOWN PROPERTY

Information as of December 31, 2021

LAND, BUILDINGS, AND CEMETERIES

Town Office	0.35 acre
Town Garage	24.70 acres
Town Salt Shed	1.50 acres
Templeton Fire Station	1.00 acre
Emergency Services Facility	1.52 acres
Town Forest	96.36 acres
North St. (Baird)	45.73 acres
Rte. 2 (Benton)	10.42 acres
Coburn Rd. (Soule)	5.00 acres
Recreation Field	12.00 acres
LaPerle & Hodgeman Parcel	6.04 acres
Rte. 14N (Park 'n Ride)	0.55 acres
Rte. 2 (Hudson parcel)	0.25 acres
Coburn Covered Bridge	
Cate Cemetery	0.67 acre
Cutler Cemetery	2.70 acres
Doty Cemetery	2.80 acres
Quaker Cemetery	0.42 acre
Tinkham Cemetery	0.20 acre
Village Cemetery	2.70 acres, <i>incl. former Town Hall lot</i>
Wheeler Cemetery	1.30 acres

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

	Mileage	Hours
2020 Kubota Tractor/Snowblower	N/A	29
2019 John Deere 772G Grader	N/A	1,078
2018 John Deere 6110 Tractor & Mower	N/A	792
2018 Komatsu WA270-8 Wheel Loader	3,217	1,442
2018 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck	60,160	4,091
2017 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck	45,010	4,063
2015 International 7400 6-wheel Dump Truck	38,600	3,088
2013 GMC Sierra 2500 HD Pickup	85,240	N/A
2013 Mack 10-wheel Dump Truck	102,340	7,174
2012 Freightliner 6-wheel Dump Truck	64,718	5,991
2008 Volvo Excavator	N/A	4,965
1998 Morbark Brush Chipper	N/A	1,076
2020 Scag Tiger Cat II Mower (Cemetery)	N/A	93
2015 Kubota Lawn Tractor (Cemetery)	N/A	472

TOWN PAYROLL SUMMARY

Employee	FY21 Salary	Salary & Benefits*	Employee	FY21 Salary	Salary & Benefits*
OFFICE			STIPEND		
Chickering, Rob	1,751	1,884	Boucher, Jon	1,500	1,615
Deegan, Ed	347	373	Burley, Ginny	1,000	1,077
Fillion, Deborah	5,990	6,448	Cutler, Clarice	500	538
Flynn, Kristi	1,616	1,740	Dillon, Judith	667	718
Hazel, Ross	9,540	10,270	Eley, Paul	500	538
Johnson, Bruce**	94,000	109,534	Etnier, Carl	2,000	2,153
Laquerre, Rosie**	50,500	84,771	Gardner, Seth	1,500	1,615
Occaso, Carla	225	242	Hess, Scott	500	538
Racanelli, Chris	2,574	2,771	Jewett, Jon	1,000	1,077
Sparrow, Denise**	40,646	65,891	Lam, Siu Tip	500	538
Welch, Don	39,000	41,984	Lane, Mark	500	538
			Northrup, Casey	333	358
	\$ 246,187	\$ 325,907	Pauly, Jack	500	538
HIGHWAY			Perry, Amber	500	538
Campbell, Frank**	47,622	81,653	Potter, Julie	750	807
Hill, Peter	40	43	Sullivan, Zach	500	538
Lorden, Ken**	50,823	58,623	Watson, Kim	500	538
Perry, Guthrie**	62,728	100,036	Willis, Amy	1,000	1,077
Seadeek, Craig**	48,339	74,814			
				\$ 14,250	\$ 15,340
	\$ 209,552	\$ 315,168	CEMETERY		
			Lamson, Nicholas	3,815	4,107
			Lamson, Timothy	4,930	5,307
			Morse, Elliott	2,891	3,112
				\$ 11,636	\$ 12,526
			TOTAL	\$ 481,625	\$ 668,941
			PAYROLL		

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

** These benefits also include employer-paid premiums for coverage of Health and Dental Insurance, Retirement, Short- and Long-Term Disability, and Life Insurance. Totals do not include Workers Compensation (\$15,838.50) and Unemployment Insurance (\$2,798.00) coverage for road crew and office staff in FY21.

FY21 payroll does not include \$5,289.70 paid to Election Workers.

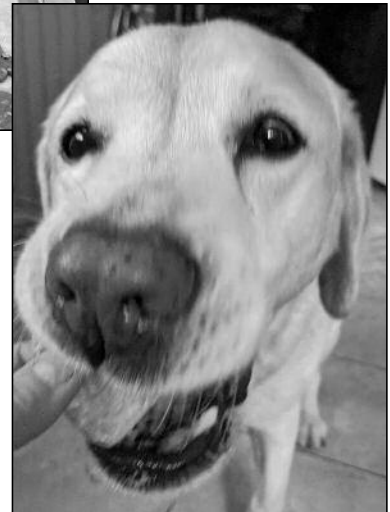
Note:

This payroll report shows 26 biweekly payrolls (FY21 pay periods ending on July 2, 2020 through June 17, 2021). Reports elsewhere in this book show accrued (partial) pay periods.



FUNDRAISER FOR CENTRAL VERMONT HUMANE SOCIETY

Kindergarteners at East Montpelier Elementary School baked and sold dog biscuits to benefit the Central Vermont Humane Society. CVHS met with the class via Zoom and talked about where the money they raised will be going: surgeries, dental needs, veterinary appointments, food, supplies, spay and neutering, and more.



Lucky dogs all over town enjoyed the delicious peanut butter oatmeal treats.

RESTRICTED FUNDS SUMMARY

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

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

CARLTON C. SMITH RECREATIONAL FUND*

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 53,701.83
Interest Income	1,100.18
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 54,802.01</u></u>

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

EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 13,804.53
Interest Income	15.80
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 13,820.33</u></u>

GRAND LIST REAPPRAISAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$124,333.90
Interest Income	143.24
Received from State of Vermont	10,506.00
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$134,983.14</u></u>

LAND CONSERVATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 20,643.14
Interest Income	23.62
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 20,666.76</u></u>

RALLY DAY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 668.82
Interest Income76
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 669.58</u></u>

RECREATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 6,670.55
Interest Income	7.17
FY21 Appropriation	3,500.00
Grants	4,196.00
Revenue: Program service fees.....	960.00
Revenue: Apparel sales	233.32
Expense: Program costs (supplies, refs).....	(3,021.13)
Expense: Field maintenance	(8,509.85)
Expense: Electricity, rubbish removal, septic	(3,260.92)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 775.14</u></u>

RESTORATION FUND, LAND RECORDS*

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 22,772.03
Interest Income	16.68
Revenue: Fees, Licenses, and Permits.....	10,400.00
Expense: Land Records digitization project.....	(19,317.55)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 13,871.16</u></u>

** Legislative changes in 2019 required the Town to put aside \$4 per recorded page in a land records preservation fund. On 6/22/20, the Selectboard authorized transfer of funds remaining in Mnc Opr-Public Records Management, TC&T-Restoration/Preservation, and TC&T-Vault Exp/Town Records, as well as \$10,000 from FY20 Budget Surplus, to the Land Records Restoration Fund to use for the digitization of Town land records.*

TOWN FOREST FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 27,168.93
Interest Income	31.10
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 27,200.03</u></u>

VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 1,448.89
Interest Income	1.65
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 1,450.54</u></u>



GRANTS REPORT FOR 2021

These pages give a brief accounting of the open and recently closed grants benefiting the town. Most are state grants that come with a town match of 0–20%. We also receive small targeted grants from other organizations, including annual 50/50 grants from the VT League of Cities & Towns for safety equipment.

ACTIVE GRANTS

American Rescue Plan Act local fiscal recovery funding. First half, \$381,280, has already been received; second round expected in August 2022. The town has until end of 2024 to obligate the funds and end of 2026 to expend.

Federal funds	\$ 762,560
Town match	\$ 0
Total grant	\$ 762,560

FY2022 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace/upsized/relocate the Center Road/Mallory Brook culvert just south of the Dodge Road intersection.

State funds	\$ 175,000
Town match	\$ 19,445
Total grant	\$ 194,445

FY2022 VTrans Better Roads Grant to replace/upsized the County Road/Mallory Brook culvert just north of Barnes Road.

State funds	\$ 60,000
Town match	\$ 15,000
Total grant	\$ 75,000

FY2022 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace/upsized the County Road/Mallory Brook culvert just north of Barnes Road.

State funds	\$ 24,773
Town match	\$ 2,752
Total grant	\$ 27,525

FY2022 ANR & VTrans Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program, funded through CVRPC, for small stormwater management projects.

State funds	\$ 12,100
Town match	\$ 3,025
Total grant	\$ 15,125

FY2020 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace a large culvert on County Road just south of Morse Farm.

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

FY2020 VTrans Class 2 Town Highway Paving Program Grant to repave County Road from the Montpelier line to Powder Horn Glen Road.

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

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

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

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

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

GRANTS CLOSED IN 2021

FY 2018 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to conduct an engineering study for the replacement of the Mallory Brook culvert on Center Road.

State funds	\$ 31,811
Town match	\$ 3,534
Total grant	\$ 35,345

2021 Ash Tree Management Grant from VT Forests, Parks & Recreation for conducting a project for removal of ash trees in the County Road vicinity.

State funds	\$ 5,000
Town match	\$ 13,975
Total grant	\$ 18,975

2020 Ash Tree Management Grant from VT Forests, Parks & Recreation for conducting a pilot project for removal of ash trees in the Gallison Hill Road vicinity.

State funds	\$ 15,000
Town match	\$ 19,045
Total grant	\$ 34,045

2021 Arbor Day Grant from VT Forests, Parks & Recreation for tree planting in the EM Center vicinity.

State funds	\$ 1,100
Town match	\$ 113
Total grant	\$ 1,213

COVID-19 Response Grant from the Center for Tech and Civic Life for 2020 election & election equipment expenses.

CTCL funds	\$ 5,000
Town match	\$ 125
Total grant	\$ 5,125

2021 Vermont Secretary of State funding for annual meeting costs related to handling of ballots in response to COVID-19.

State funds	\$ 2,674
Town match	\$ 0
Total grant	\$ 2,674

FY2021 ANR Municipal Grants-in-Aid Equipment Purchase Program, funded through CVRPC, for the purchase of shoulder disks for road shoulder management.

State funds	\$ 6,400
Town match	\$ 4,545
Total grant	\$ 10,945

FY2021 ANR & VTrans Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program, funded through CVRPC, for a culvert replacement project on Cherry Tree Hill Road.

State funds	\$ 14,020
Town match	\$ 5,285
Total grant	\$ 19,305

2020 VLCT PACIF Equipment Grant for town office and highway department safety equipment.

VLCT funds	\$ 782
Town match	\$ 782
Total grant	\$ 1,564



EAST MONTPELIER CAPITAL PLANNING BUDGET EXECUTIVE SUMMARY *

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

Item	Actual FY2021	FY2022 Budget	Presented for FY2023 Budget	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Municipal Building													
Total Exp by Yr	0	19,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,000	0	8,000	0	8,000
Town Garage													
Total Exp by Yr	0	6,000	0	0	0	6,000	0	0	17,000	0	3,000	0	22,000
Emergency Services Facility													
Total Exp by Yr	0	34,000	0	0	3,000	0	36,000	6,000	0	18,000	0	23,000	0
Vehicles													
Total Exp by Yr	118,872	45,000	35,000	35,000	135,000	80,000	74,400	96,200	70,000	70,000	70,000	80,000	35,000
Heavy Equipment													
Total Exp by Yr	0	0	0	0	0	175,000	0	0	0	0	0	300,000	275,000
Paving													
Total Exp by Yr	0	1,672,500	281,250	131,250	0	84,375	431,250	530,625	448,125	318,750	281,250	131,250	0
Opportunity Fund													
Total Exp by Yr	6,667	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Totals													
Total Exp by Yr	125,539	1,776,900	316,250	166,250	138,000	345,375	541,650	632,825	547,125	406,750	362,250	534,250	340,000
Yearly Planning Budget	446,634	446,634	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690
GF Transfers and Interest	251,193												
Capital Plan Balance	1,490,133	159,867	303,307	596,747	918,437	1,032,752	950,792	777,657	690,222	743,162	840,602	766,042	885,732
Total Audited Capital Plan	\$917,845												

* See facing page and Capital Improvement Committee report on page 57.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 917,844.44
Revenues:	
Interest earned	1,192.73
FY21 Appropriation (Budget Line Item)	446,634.00
Transfer from General Fund Surplus	50,000.00
Sale of Asset: Old LaPerle Farm property	200,000.00
	<u>697,826.73</u>
Expenses:	
Local Matching Funds for 2 Grants:	
Paving & Structures; VLCT Safety Fund	(3,412.61)
Debt Service: Vehicle Loan Payments	(32,827.11)
Town of Barre - Purch Used Truck	(38,000.00)
Champlain Valley Equip - Kubota for	
Village sidewalks snow removal	(29,600.00)
H P Fairfield - shoulder disk attachment	(10,945.15)
Pratt's Forest Mngmt - log grapple attachment	(7,500.00)
Barre Electric & Lighting Supply Inc.	(2,761.15)
Hudson Property (water bill)	(493.08)
	<u>(125,539.10)</u>
Ending Bank Balance – June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 1,490,132.07</u>

Capital Reserve for the Emergency Services Facility (ESF)

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

Also note: EMFD holds recent years' capital contributions for future equipment and truck replacement in its accounts. On June 30, 2021, EMFD had \$114,571 designated in a capital account. In any calendar year, EMFD may spend up to \$20,000 of capital account funds for emergency purchases at its own discretion. Any capital purchase exceeding \$20,000 requires approval by both Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards or, at the discretion of the Selectboards, may require approval by voters of both towns with a warned article at Town Meeting. The Emergency Services Fund, which contains the ESF bond remainder money, is used for minor upgrades, like protective flooring in fire truck bay areas.

SANDY PINES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 66,182.33
Loan Repayments from Housing Foundation, Inc.	15,828.05
Interest earned in FY21.....	86.56
Annual Payment to State of VT.....	(7,957.31)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2021	<u>\$ 74,139.63</u>

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

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

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

Loan Balance: The balance receivable as of June 30, 2021 was \$233,012, only a portion of which will remain with the Town to be used as described below.

Revolving Loan Fund: The town's portion of the repayment of VCDP funds is available for grants or loans to qualifying projects. The Selectboard acts as a Revolving Loan Advisory Committee, with the assistance of an advisor, currently Becca Schrader. In February 2020, the grant/loan that had been awarded to the East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative was closed out, with the unused portion returned to the Fund. The town continues to investigate potential programs to improve and increase the stock of affordable housing in East Montpelier.

In June 2020, the Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD) created the Restart Vermont Loan and Grant Program to provide financial assistance to small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. ACCD requested that towns with revolving loan funds contribute to the pool of program money. The Selectboard pledged up to \$50,000 of the town's Fund. Due to the large influx of federal funds targeting the same purpose, the ACCD program was abandoned and the town's pledge was canceled in June 2021.

Photo: Alex Brown

*Geese migrating on foot at Sibley Farm.***CONSERVATION FUND SUMMARY**

Date	Project	Town Funds	Total Amount	Acres
12/7/90	Cleaves Farm	\$ 32,000	\$ 301,968	285
5/14/93	Bair/Chapell	4,000	264,030	479
10/13/94	Sparrow Farm	31,000	307,975	163
6/28/96	Frihauff/VLT	5,000	106,470	167
10/24/96	Sibley Farm	10,000	229,895	172
6/16/99	Christiansen Farm	14,795	150,000	237
10/12/04	Mallory Brook/Pratt	15,000	400,000	481
6/15/06	Clark Farm, phase 1	5,000	177,500	72
2/5/07	Fairmont Farm	10,000	316,092	159
6/19/08	Benton Project	12,000	120,000	11.5
3/5/12	Soule (Coburn Rd)	2,100	21,000	5
1/15/14	Clark Farm, phase 2	4,685	136,385	134.7
11/2/15	Ormsbee Farm	15,000	15,000	171.5
9/27/17	Fairmont Dairy	6,000	\$470,000	361
6/23/20	Fairmont Dairy	5,000	\$630,000	196
Total Completed Projects		\$ 171,580	\$3,646,315	3,094.7



EAST MONTPELIER CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Tim Lamson was elected chair and Emily Goyette was named clerk for 2021-2022. It is our intention that the graves of all veterans be marked with a flag. Please advise the committee if a grave has been missed.

Tasks for the 2022 season include:

- Mow and maintain landscape as usual.
- Maintain all equipment.
- Purchase a new chainsaw.
- Install 10 new posts and paint fencing at the East Village cemetery.
- Repair and paint broken fencing at Cate cemetery.
- Replace veterans' flags before Memorial Day.
- Continue project of building and mounting boxes on posts at each cemetery. (similar to those at the East Montpelier Trail access points) containing plastic-coated sheets in a ring binder with map and location of graves, and perhaps a visitor sign-in sheet. Begin installation in White, Gould, Clark, Wheeler, and Willard Cutler Farm.
- Photograph headstones in Willard Cutler and Gould cemeteries and upload to Find-a-Grave.com.
- Survey cemeteries with available plots and update the maps.

2021 activities in addition to routine mowing and trimming:

- The small cemeteries: Willard Cutler and Peck had large maples fall that were sawed up and moved. Clark had a large pine fall that was sawed up and moved. Gould, Wheeler, White, and Quaker needed no extra work except propping up a stone or two and removing some fallen debris. Woodchuck holes were bombed at Tinkham and Quaker.
- Large cemeteries: East Village had 40 new posts installed. Many trees were trimmed and some that were encroaching upon headstones were cut down. Woodchuck holes were bombed. Cutler had some large limbs put into the woods, and all the small trees and brush near the road were cut and removed. Doty required only standard maintenance.
- Power tools purchased: 2 front wheel drive push lawn mowers, 1 trimmer.
- Hand tools purchased: pole saw, hand saw, axe, shovel, gloves.

Future anticipated expenses:

- Land acquisition for additional burial space.

Budget request of \$22,000 (same as last year) for this coming year:

- Payroll \$16,000 • Fence Painting & Repair \$2,000 • Corner Markers \$150
- Tree & Invasive Plant Control \$500 • Equipment Maintenance \$2,000
- Fuel \$500 • Cemetery Association Fees \$100 • Miscellaneous \$750

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

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

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

TIM LAMSON, *Chair*
EMILY GOYETTE, *Clerk*

MARK LANE

ELLIOTT MORSE
JONATHAN BOUCHER

CEMETERY FUNDS

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2020	\$ 104,186.66
Income:	
Town Appropriation	20,000.00
Sale of plots (perpetual care)	1,725.00
Sale of plots (expendable)	2,025.00
Sale of equipment (expendable)	0.00
Cemetery Services	2,100.00
	<u>25,850.00</u>
Interest Income	1,774.25
Care of Cemeteries Expense (see below)	(18,490.81)
Ending Balance - June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 113,320.10</u></u>

BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2021

Expendable Funds:	
People's Bank Account	13,515.52
Interest on North Country FCU CD	1,863.40
	<u>15,378.92</u>
Non-Expendable Perpetual Care Funds:	
North Country Fed Credit Union CD1	21,500.00
People's Bank - from sale of lots	2,700.00
North Country Fed Credit Union CD2	75,475.00
	<u>99,675.00</u>
Cemetery Funds in accounts on June 30, 2021	\$ 115,053.92
Minus Liability: Accrued Payroll	(1,150.04)
Minus Liability: Accounts Payable	(583.78)
Total Cemetery Funds - June 30, 2021	<u><u>\$ 113,320.10</u></u>

CARE OF CEMETERY EXPENSES

Payroll	\$ 12,735.52
Fencing	0.00
Stone Cleaning & Repair	2,000.00
Trees & Invasive Species	0.00
New Corner Markers	630.00
New Equipment	600.92
Equipment Maintenance	806.83
Fuel	225.86
Burial Services	1,100.00
Miscellaneous	391.68
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$ 18,490.81</u></u>

ABSTRACT OF THE GRAND LIST — 2021 EQUALIZATION STUDY*

East Montpelier 12195

School Dist. ID: 65

Category	Property Count	ED Form 411 Listed Value	CUSE Value	Listed Value Excl. CUSE	Listed Value Excl. CUSE	Applied Ratio	Equalized Value	Equalized Value	COD	Incl. State Exemption
Residential 1	496	113,587,700	0	113,587,700	113,347,700	84.15	134,982,412	134,697,207	12.08	228,524
Residential 2	411	139,592,357	1,121,100	138,471,257	138,291,257	95.56	146,095,421	145,907,058	11.28	360,366
Mob.Home-Unlanded	57	1,351,200	0	1,351,200	1,351,200	108.26	1,248,106	1,248,106	9.66	23,705
Mobile Home-Landed	47	6,269,900	0	6,269,900	6,209,900	88.38	7,094,252	7,026,363	9.59	132,126
Seasonal 1	6	1,588,300	0	1,588,300	1,588,300	88.38	1,797,126	1,797,126	0.00	264,717
Seasonal 2	10	3,037,300	34,000	3,003,300	3,003,300	88.38	3,434,268	3,434,268	22.60	365,120
Commercial	49	18,576,800	19,100	18,557,700	18,557,700	87.81	21,154,206	21,154,206		381,492
Commercial Apts	4	3,625,700	0	3,625,700	3,625,700	87.81	4,129,029	4,129,029		906,425
Industrial-Manufac.	3	3,359,900	0	3,359,900	3,359,900	87.81	3,826,330	3,826,330	0.00	1,119,967
Utilities-Electric	12	7,758,300	0	7,758,300	9,022,600	95.38	8,134,095	9,459,635	0.00	751,883
Utilities-Other	1	290,800	0	290,800	290,800	87.81	331,170	331,170	0.00	290,800
Farm	10	4,506,640	553,400	3,953,240	3,953,240	87.81	5,089,637	5,089,637	0.00	824,650
Other & Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	
Miscellaneous	97	6,227,091	468,300	5,758,791	5,756,391	87.81	7,055,480	7,052,747	21.49	101,056
Total Real Prop.	1,203	309,771,988	2,195,900	307,576,088	308,357,988		344,371,531	345,152,881		
Personal Property:			Cable	555,472	0	100.00	555,472	0		

BOARD OF LISTERS REPORT

This past year East Montpelier has seen a dramatic rise in the sale price of property. The combination of low interest rates, concerns about the economy and the pandemic has driven the demand for property here and elsewhere, where there appears to be a stable community. The higher prices paid for property are also driven by the scarcity of supply.

In the Town of East Montpelier, between April 2, 2020, and April 1, 2021, there were 36 “arms-length sales.” An arms-length sale is a valid sale between two private parties. In the previous period, April 2, 2019, through April 1, 2020, there were 31 valid sales and in 2018 – 2019 for the same period there were 24 such sales.

In 2021, the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) decreased from 94.18% to 89.97%. This change of the CLA factor, in the equation that determines the Town’s residential education tax rate, will tend to increase that rate. When the CLA decreases to a value of 85% or lower, the State of Vermont will mandate a Town-wide reappraisal. Similarly, if the CLA rises above 115%, a Town-wide reappraisal is mandated.

The Town’s COD (Coefficient of Dispersion), increased from 11.74% in 2020 to 13.2% in 2021. The COD is a measure of the disparity in the ratios of assessed values to arms-length sales price that in the aggregate make up the CLA as measured against the median values of these ratios. In essence the COD measures the fairness of the assessed values relative to each other. The smaller the COD the more equitable the assessments. When the COD rises to 20%, the State will mandate a Town-wide reappraisal.

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

ROSS HAZEL
CHRIS RACANELLI

CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for East Montpelier

1998	100.93%	2004	77.38%	2010	98.92%	2016	94.94%
1999	99.99%	2005	68.91%	2011	97.16%	2017	95.83%
2000	100.35%	2006	60.89%	2012	98.22%	2018	95.32%
2001	98.69%	2007	57.55%	2013	98.98%	2019	93.82%
2002	92.27%	2008	56.44%	2014	94.10%	2020	94.18%
2003	87.67%	2009*	98.73%	2015	94.60%	2021	89.97%

**Reappraisal*

See final computation sheet of 2021 Equalization Study on facing page.



RESILIENT ROADS COMMITTEE

The Resilient Roads Committee, created by the Selectboard in 2017, continues to work on the implementation of two plans—the Rural Road Resilient Right-of-Ways Vegetation Assessment (1/13/20) and the East Montpelier Ash Tree Management Plan (6/1/21). Since the Committee was first created, it has worked closely with and been guided by the Urban & Community Forestry Program (UCFP) of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (VTFR). The main charge of the Committee is to enhance and protect roadside vegetation such that the values for stormwater runoff control, wildlife habitat, aesthetics and cultural importance are maintained. Key to its success is close coordination of its efforts with the town road crew; the road foreman is an active committee member. The completed plans are available on the Town website.



Ash Tree Management

Unfortunately, much of the Committee focus was redirected in 2018 to how best to manage roadside ash trees given the discovery of emerald ash borer in the nearby town of Orange in February of that year. While that non-native insect pest had been actively destroying ash trees for a decade in the mid-western states, the 2018 discovery was the first evidence that it had entered Vermont. Since then, it has been found in several other central Vermont towns, including Barre, Plainfield, Marshfield, and Montpelier. So it came as no surprise when this past summer a specimen showed up on a purple trap the Committee set out on the chair's Murray Road farm.

In early summer 2019, with continued assistance from the UCFP, citizen volunteers inventoried all the ash trees, 6-inch diameter and larger, within the town road rights of way as the first step in developing the action plan that was approved by the Selectboard as the East Montpelier Ash Tree Management Plan. Under the plan, the Committee has initiated preemptive removal of roadside ash trees at several locations in town, the first being a 2020 pilot project encompassing Gallison Hill Road, Wheeler Road, and Schoolhouse Road. With the success of that project, and a second grant through UCFP, the Town contracted with a town-based arborist, Foxfire Tree Care, to remove the ash trees along the County Road, about 170 trees, in Spring 2021.

Starting in 2022, the plan envisions a 5-year program for removal of about 260 trees per year. With almost 400 trees removed to date, including work by the road crew on Dodge and Johnson roads, roughly 2,000 trees remain within the town rights of way (shared utility rights of way not included).

The Town is seeking an additional grant for 2022 to remove another 200 ash trees along North Street and Sparrow Farm Road. The road crew will likely complete tree removal on Dodge and Johnson roads in 2022 and, if time allows, remove the small number of ash trees along Vincent Flats Road.

Photo: Susan Bull Riley



Malcolm Fielder, Charlie Waterman, Steve Justis, and Jeff Cueto planting maple trees last summer along Center Road.

Additional 2021 Projects

In 2021, the Town retained staff from the City of Montpelier Parks Department to do an injection insecticide treatment on five ash trees that had been judged of particularly high value during the inventory (two in the U-32 Gallison Hill Road hedgerow, two on the east side of North Street; and one on Center Road at the Templeton Farm trailhead). Montpelier's cooperation significantly reduces the cost of treatment for these large trees. Treatment will have to be repeated at a two- or three-year interval.

In 2021, the Committee planted two red oaks in the parking area at U-32. This was a continuation of work started in 2020 to address the loss or poor health of several trees and the fact that a number of the school's landscape trees are green

ash. The Committee and road crew also did selective thinning and invasive plant species removal in the Gallison Hill hedgerow on campus.

The Town received an Arbor Day grant through UCFP for \$1,100 to plant trees along the road in East Montpelier Center. Seven sugar maples were sourced from the E.C. Browns' Nursery in Thetford Center and planted on five properties in the summer. Enthusiastic support was received from the Center community, which pitched in on the planting work and kept the Committee nourished through the day. The effort also included more thinning of hedgerows work as part of the Committee's long-term vision to enhance our roadsides by removing invasive plants, selecting existing small trees that will become dominant hedgerow trees over time, improving plant diversity, and removing trees that are dead, in poor health, or compete with the selected trees.

Looking Ahead: 2022

In addition to the aforementioned ash tree removal projects, the Committee will be completing the Town's shade tree preservation plan over the first three months of the year. Part of this will include public outreach and a hearing to identify which roadside trees will constitute "shade trees" under state law. Under recent changes to the tree warden statutes, unless a tree is planted by the municipality, a tree within the right of way must now be formally designated as a shade tree in order to be subject to the tree warden's authority and stewardship.

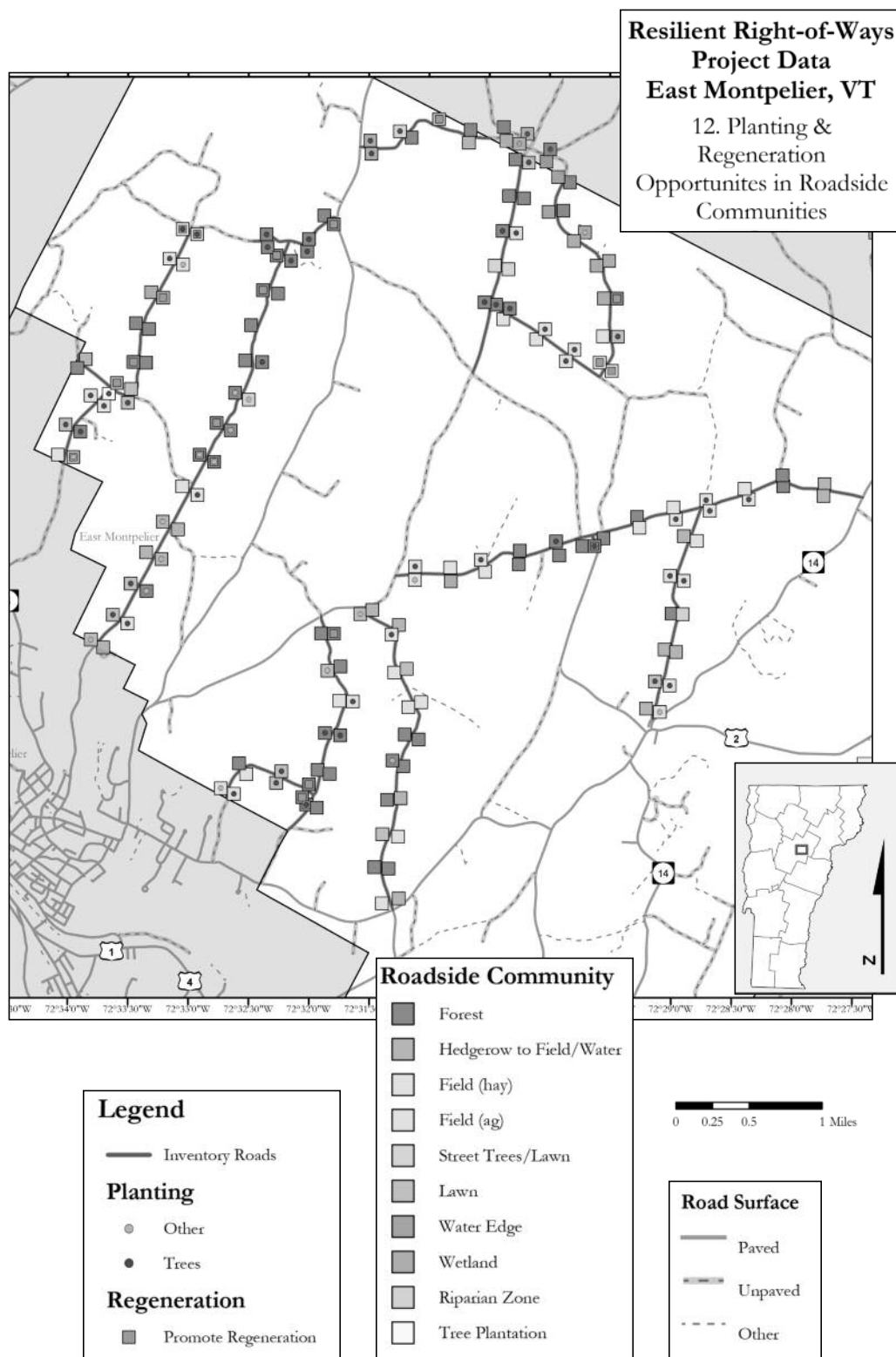
The Committee plans to explore interest in developing a cost-share program for planting of roadside trees. Many of our roads are very scenic and user experience can be enhanced by improving or creating hedgerows along them.

The Committee has discussed, and recommended to the Selectboard, appointing a deputy tree warden to assist our tree warden, Paul Cate, in carrying out his duties, which have become more expansive with the statutory changes.

JEFF CUETO, *Chair*
PAUL CATE, *Tree Warden*
STEVE JUSTIS
MARK LANE
GUTHRIE PERRY

The map on the facing page is excerpted from *Rural Road Resilient Right-of-Ways Vegetation Assessment: Town of East Montpelier Action Items and Recommendations*.

To see the entire plan, with photos and maps in full color, go to Roadside Vegetation Management under Boards and Committees on the town website at eastmontpeliervt.org. There you can scroll down to Documents of Interest and click on "EM Resilient ROW Action Plan."



CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CVRPC, a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington and western Orange Counties, provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners.

2021 East Montpelier Activities

- Completed Grants in Aid FY21 pre-construction site visit.
- Coached Town on Public Utilities Commission participation for a proposed cellular tower.
- Distributed energy efficiency information for tracking progress on energy goals.
- Researched lot coverage and parking requirements for zoning update.
- Provided information for Village Center Designation renewal.
- Provided Planning and Zoning Roundtable trainings on Economic Development, Forest Economy, Accessory Dwelling, On Farm Businesses, and Prevention Planning.

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 planning, exercises, and training.
- *Energy conservation and development:* Foster projects that 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.
- *Regional plans:* Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth 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 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 to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. CVRPC is your resource — please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission (PC) turned over three positions in 2021. Jack Pauly, Paul Eley, and Siu Tip Lam stepped off, while Richard Hall and Gianna Petito were elected in March 2021 and Spencer Hardy was appointed to serve until Town Meeting 2022. The commission would also like to thank Julie Potter, who will not be seeking reelection, for her many years of service and her significant contributions to town planning.

The PC met remotely through June and switched to a hybrid in-person/online meeting format when the COVID-19 state of emergency was lifted. We hope to continue the format as a means of increasing accessibility both for commissioners and members of the public who may have difficulty attending in person.

We focused on two significant projects this past year: completing the updates to the land use and development regulations which are needed to implement the 2018 Town Plan, and writing an amendment to the Town Plan to address the siting of telecommunications (cell) towers. The commission finalized proposals for three new zoning districts to implement the 2017 Village Master Plan, addressed changes in statute that had made portions of the zoning obsolete, and addressed issues with the current zoning. We also drafted amendments to the town plan to provide stronger guidance for the citing of cell towers, both providing criteria for preferred sites as well as strengthening protections for areas where towers would not be appropriate.

At the time of this writing, both proposals still need to go through a public hearing process. We had originally planned to bring the town plan amendment to a hearing prior to Town Meeting, but the current COVID wave has caused us to postpone until after Town Meeting. The hearings will be publicly warned and will be announced on Front Porch Forum.

In 2021, the PC also led the town's renewal of the village center designation for East Montpelier Village, and filed as an intervenor in a solar power project there, supporting the project but requesting and receiving conditions on the approval relating to screening and decommissioning of the project.

Individual commission members serve on other related committees, including the Development Review Board, the Capital Improvement Committee, the Resilient Roads Committee, the Energy Committee, and the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

The PC holds its regular meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 PM. Meetings will be held either remotely or in a hybrid in person/online format depending on the state of the pandemic and modifications to the open meeting law. The PC encourages interested citizens to attend any of its meetings; meetings begin with an opportunity for public comment. Persons may also contact any of the PC members (as of January 2022) below:

ZACH SULLIVAN, <i>Chair</i>	RICHARD HALL	MARK LANE
CLARICE CUTLER, <i>Vice Chair</i>	SPENCER HARDY	GIANNA PETITO
KIM WATSON, <i>Corr. Secretary</i>	SCOTT HESS	JULIE POTTER

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Residential zoning action in year 2 of the pandemic was remarkably similar to year 1. New residential development remained slow, with 5 single-family dwellings, 1 accessory dwelling and 2 building lots receiving permits. The bulk of the permitting, as always, was centered on property improvement projects like barns, sheds, garages, house alterations and, somewhat unexpectedly, 2 greenhouse additions. The striking difference in 2021 was a surge in commercial applications, with 4 new businesses coming to town along with 5 building expansions. The commercial activity kept the DRB busy, with 21 hearings, including one that stretched over 4 meetings. The DRB also had to contend with a spate of variance requests which are generally rare events.

Zoning Applications Submitted Jan. 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

5	New & Replacement Dwellings
33	Residential alteration, addition, garage, or accessory structure
7	Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment
13	Commercial, Multi-Family, Public Facility, or Sign
6	Access or Right-of-Way Permits
64	Total Zoning Permit Applications

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

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

—C. BRUCE JOHNSON, *Zoning Administrator*



DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT

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

In 2021, the DRB met 10 times and conducted the following reviews:

- 7 Site Plan, Conditional Use, and/or Permit Compliance
- 6 Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment
- 4 Appeal, Variance, and/or Waiver
- 4 Sketch Plan and/or Conceptual Site Plan
- 21 Total DRB hearings

The DRB thanks Kristi Flynn, who serves as our Recording Secretary.

STEVE KAPPEL, <i>Chair</i>	MARK LANE	STEVE JUSTIS
JEFF CUETO, <i>Vice Chair</i>	NORMAN HILL	LAUREN OATES
CLARICE CUTLER	KIM WATSON	GLENN WEYANT



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE *

The CIC was established and has been meeting since 2013. Its purpose is to develop and help the Town implement and maintain a capital asset budget plan for its future needs. The membership makeup of the committee includes at least one of each of the following; a selectboard member, a planning commissioner, the Town treasurer and a member at large.

The objective of having a capital budget is to assist the Town in maintaining a stable tax rate by anticipating and incorporating the Town's monetary asset needs into its budgets. This may preclude the need to finance some capital assets through the issuance of debt or borrowing for asset purchases.

Each year the committee solicits input from East Montpelier Town boards, committees and community organizations as well as residents to assess and anticipate the Town's future capital needs. Our goal is to anticipate future capital expenses based on the Town's needs and incorporate them into the capital budget plan.

The CIC has reviewed and adjusted the existing capital budget plan to reflect the Town's current capital budget needs. This year's committee recommendations for the capital reserve budget contribution has been approved by the selectboard and is included in the Town's FY2023 budget.

All documents including budgets, agendas and committee minutes can be found on the Town's web site. We accept input and suggestions at any time.

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

ED DEEGAN, *Chair (Member at Large)*
 KIM WATSON (*Planning Commissioner*)
 DON WELCH (*Town Treasurer*)
 JON JEWETT (*Selectboard Member*)
 SCOTT HESS (*Member at Large/Planning Commission*)

**See Capital Planning Budget Executive Summary and Capital Reserve Fund on pp. 42-43.*

TOWN CLERK REPORT

While the battle against COVID-19 and its variants continues, the Clerk's office has remained open to the public during the last year, with various precautions in place. It's been wonderful to assist you, your children, and dogs in person!

During odd numbered years, the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) works with the Town Clerk to ensure the voter checklist is as accurate as possible. Voters who the BCA believe have moved away are "challenged." While these voters are still eligible to vote, they are required to sign an affidavit swearing they still reside in East Montpelier when they arrive at the polls or request an absentee ballot to re-activate their voter status. In Vermont, it is difficult to be removed from the checklist. The three ways to be removed are:

- A voter who has been inactive for more than four years (two general election cycles) may be removed by the BCA;
- A death notice is received; or
- The voter has provided a written request for removal to the Town Clerk.

You can help us clean up challenged voters by encouraging adult children and former neighbors who have moved away to contact the Town Clerk to discuss the removal process.

New election laws going into effect this year allow voters who submitted a ballot with an incomplete or unsigned certificate envelope to "cure" that defect so that their votes can be counted. Always remember to return all ballots and complete the certificate envelope to avoid this.

Kate Phillips was appointed by the Governor to replace Justice of the Peace Rob Chickering upon his resignation. Rob has served in that office since 2010. His wide smile and eagerness to help will certainly be missed.

Preservation work continues in our land records collection. Alphabetical tabs were replaced in General Index Book 3, and a quote has been received to digitize our oldest land records. Funding for preservation comes from a portion of the recording fees collected throughout the year.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Do you need to register to vote?

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

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

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

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

Photo: Terry J. Allen



Pandemic Town Meeting Day 2021.

There were 419 dogs licensed in 2021. Maya, a canine resident of North Street, was the winner of our third annual #1 dog drawing. The 2022 winner will be drawn on Monday, April 4. We are unable to hold a rabies clinic this Spring. It is my hope to host another drive-through rabies clinic at the school during the summer months. Please contact our office to find out other ways to get your dog vaccinated.

Whether it's Notary service, a certified copy of a vital record, a Green Mountain Passport, marriage license, dog license or a receipt for your tax payment, we are happy to help you. Please contact either one of us if you need assistance.

ROSIE LAQUERRE, *Town Clerk*

clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

802-223-3313 x 201

DENISE SPARROW, *Assistant Town Clerk/Municipal Assistant*

office@eastmontpeliervt.org

802-223-3313 x 202



VOTING RECORD AND POPULATION

East Montpelier Residents per 2020 Census: 2,598

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Registered</u>	<u>Australian Ballot (AB)</u>	<u>AB / FV Percentage</u>	<u>Floor Vote (FV)</u>
Town Meeting:				
2021	2,306	914	40% / n/a	n/a
2020	2,245	1,046	47% / 7%	159
2019	2,103	560	27% / 7%	147
2018	2,058	554	27% / 8%	165
2017	2,115	552	26% / —	—
2016	2,025	1,130	56% / 14%	290
2015	1,997	571	29% / 10%	190
2014	1,995	543	27% / 13%	255
2013	2,109	576	27% / 10%	216
2012	2,037	696	34% / 11%	218
2011	2,028	510	25% / 11%	214
2010	1,990	650	33% / 11%	213
2009	2,057	880	43% / 13%	262
2008	1,903	1,151	60% / 16%	301
2007	2,102	743	35% / 11%	222
2006	2,059	674	33% / 12%	249
2005	2,076	626	30% / 8%	160
2004	1,984	807	41% / 8%	164
2003	2,011	525	26% / 8%	167
2002	1,973	587	30% / 15%	294
Primary Election:				
2020	2,262	963	43%	
2018	2,200	633	29%	
2016	2,024	889	44%	
2014	1,986	147	7%	
2012	2,052	326	16%	
2010	2,011	730	36%	
2008	1,942	160	8%	
2006	2,066	423	20%	
2004	2,053	224	11%	
2002	1,995	394	20%	
General Election:				
2020	2,312	1,781	77%	
2018	2,223	1,400	63%	
2016	2,107	1,631	77%	
2014	2,014	1,093	54%	
2012	2,116	1,600	76%	
2010	2,038	1,330	65%	
2008	2,046	1,675	82%	
2006	2,097	1,450	69%	
2004	2,116	1,569	74%	
2002	2,029	1,300	64%	

CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

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

TOWN MEETING DURING THE PANDEMIC

The battle against the Coronavirus and its various mutations continues. To ensure citizens can vote safely, the Selectboard has decided to once again mail ballots to all active voters, forgoing the traditional floor vote again this year.

Ballots for the Town and School will be mailed to all registered active voters beginning February 9. Your ballot delivery will look a bit different this year due to a nationwide paper shortage. **They will arrive in a business size envelope that carries the “Election Mail” indicia and the town’s return address.** Inside you will find two ballots (white for the town and gray for the school), a very small certificate envelope and a return envelope addressed to the Clerk. Please complete the certificate envelope, fold and place your voted ballots in it and put that sealed certificate envelope into the return envelope. You can mail the completed ballot packet (don’t forget to put a stamp on it), or bring it into the town office or drop it in the secure drop box outside the town office building. Call the Town Clerk at 802-223-3313 if you have questions related to how to vote. If you receive a ballot that doesn’t belong to you, please write “RETURN TO SENDER” on it and put it back in your mailbox. Alternatively, bring it to the Town Office.

The ballot for the Central Vermont Career Center is not available to be mailed with your other ballots and **MUST** be requested separately from the Town Clerk’s office for early or absentee voting. Alternatively, you may choose to come to the polls on Town Meeting Day to vote this ballot in person.

There will be in-person voting on Town Meeting Day at the East Montpelier Elementary School from 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

COVID-19 safety precautions will be in place and curbside voting will be available for those who wish to vote in person but do not want to enter the building. Please **bring your ballot packet with you.** If you forget to bring your mailed ballot, you will be asked to sign an affidavit stating that you have not voted before you can get a new ballot packet. School rest rooms will not be available for public use. If you have not received your ballots in the mail by Wednesday, February 16, please contact the Clerk’s office.

Please contact me or Denise Sparrow with any questions you might have. We are available every weekday via e-mail clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org or phone at 802-223-3313.

ROSIE LAQUERRE, *Town Clerk*



— VITAL STATISTICS —
January 1 to December 31, 2021

BIRTHS

Clyde Wilder Hagerty	Addylynn Rose Perkins
Malcolm Andrew Hubbs	Liam Stroman Preston
Warren Sheldon Hutchins	Audrey Elizabeth Simard
Aurora Kim Ledwidge	June Anne Southern
Lucia Lynn Merry	Corey Scott Storey
Sylvie Rose O'Hara	Aria Rae Thomas

MARRIAGES

Freyda Neyman & Sarah Swift
Simone Labbance & Juan Vistro
Christina Gilbert & Daniel Lipner
Carol Rogstad-Meunier & James Sloan
Quinn McDonagh & Mark Browning, Jr.
Neda Basic & Ramiz Bikic
Julia Bochenska & Dillon Cabe
Carl Benson & Sally Boisvert
Shannon Searles & Rome Cottrell

DEATHS

Ina Broe (81)	Paul Mascitti (78)
Phillip Bushey (85)	Thomas McKenney (64)
Carlos de los Santos (36)	Thomas Morse (41)
Donald Edwards (87)	Emily Ovaitte (21)
Barbara Eniti (96)	Cooleen Parker (79)
Kristi Garner (54)	Leanne Ponder (84)
Patricia Gathright (93)	Millicent Seguin (93)
Shirley King (84)	Dylan Wirth (22)
Lawrence LaPerle (66)	Joan Witham (74)
Bruce Marshall (77)	

No one in East Montpelier died in 2021 due to contracting COVID-19.

PASS-THROUGH ACCOUNTS

FY21:	<i>Paid to State</i>	<i>Balance Due</i>
Dog State Rabies Program	\$ 379	\$ 120
Dog State Spay / Neuter Program	1,516	480
Marriage Licenses	300	100
State Liquor Licenses	140	0
<i>(Pass-through funds are fees collected by the Town Clerk and paid to the State)</i>	\$ 2,335	\$ 700

ANIMAL LICENSES

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

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

		Late registration
--	--	-------------------

1. Neutered/Spayed dogs or wolf-hybrids	\$9.00	\$11.00
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2. Unneutered/Unspayed dogs or wolf-hybrids	\$13.00	\$17.00
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Note: For each license sold, \$5.00 pass through to the State as follows:

\$1.00 to State Rabies Program; \$4.00 to VT Spay/Neuter Program (below).

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

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

Current rabies vaccination means that:

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

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

RABIES & VT SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

Neutering and spaying your pet helps control the population and reduces the chance for mammary and testicular cancer in pets. The **Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program** (VSNIP) offers affordable spaying and neutering through most veterinarians.

Applications and guidelines for the income sensitive VSNIP spay/neuter program are available at the Town Clerk's office (802-223-3313).



**Article 7
on page 9**

FOUR CORNERS SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION (FCSH)

The Four Corners Schoolhouse was shuttered for the better part of 14 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It seems surreal in retrospect. We began to reopen this past June by hosting our first in-person board meeting since March of the previous year. Use of the building has picked up slowly, mimicking many of our individual returns to a new sense of normal. Presently the building is open to use, following the town's mask requirements. Yet, as I write this report I wonder what the Omicron variant may do to us in the next month or two?

Like so much of the pandemic, it was hard to decipher beforehand how things would all sugar out. The building itself managed just fine at a reduced heat setting all last winter, and the drop in oil prices helped us too. No real problems exposed themselves during the shutdown. While we did suffer from almost zero income with the loss of rentals, we gained from the generosity of folks who simply donated to help keep us running.

Hopefully, by the time this report is being read, things will be trending back to normalcy and we will be looking forward to another spring, with its associated sense of stepping into the expanding light, and another year of hosting parties, activities, music and more at the schoolhouse.

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

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

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



FCSH FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Cash Balance – July 1, 2020 \$ 5,700.09

Income

FY21 Town Funds	4,000.00	
Building Rentals	95.00	
Donations and Reimbursements . . .	1,270.00	
Total Income	5,365.00	

Expenses

Electricity	(499.00)	
Insurance	(853.00)	
Janitorial services	(380.00)	
Mowing	(770.00)	
Registration and fees	(194.00)	
Plowing & Sanding	(75.00)	
PO Box rental	(76.00)	
Total Expense	(2,847.00)	

Ending Cash Balance – June 30, 2021 \$ 8,218.09

* * *

Ending Cash Balance allocation:

Temporary Restricted:

Floor Refinishing Fund	790.00	
Furnace Fund	200.00	
Painting Fund	3,033.00	
Reserve Fund (unassigned)	1,136.50	
Septic Fund	200.00	

Subtotal – Temporary Restricted 5,359.50

Unrestricted 2,858.59

Total End of Year Balance \$8,218.09





EAST MONTPELIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our year's activities were abbreviated due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 virus. We met in July for a one-sided croquet game and ice cream social as Calais' group was absent. We thank Chris Reed and Teresa Doyle for hosting us.

In the fall we tested out two meetings via Zoom with the help of Andy Christiansen who hosted us. Dan Bragg talked about his work to create and install several Vermont history roadside signs. Nathan Phillips presented a series of aerial photos from the 1960's of homes and farms along Routes 2 and 14 in town and Calais. We expect to have a sequel to this program in 2022.

Zoom meetings allow participants who have moved out of town to join in our programs. Both of these presentations may be watched for free in their entirety by going to:

<http://eastmontpelierhistoricalsociety.org/index.php/programs/>

Additional current research being done about town farms may be seen on the website along with town history information in general. Our publications are available at the Town Office. Our society and the Calais society will be planning for new programs in 2022. Watch for public postings. For questions or program suggestions, contact Sandal Cate <sandal.cate@gmail.com>.

**Article 8
on pg. 9**



EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

The East Montpelier *Signpost* is now in its 32nd year of publication. Since the first day and continuing to now, it has been run by a volunteer staff of East Montpelier townspeople. They are: Terry Allen, Lyn Blackwell, Jennifer Boyer, Alex Brown, Patty Connor, Hilari Farrington, Rachael Grossman, Renee Kievit-Kylar, Rosie Laquerre, Edie Miller, Carolyn Pastore, Barbara Ploof, Kate Rader, Mary Redmond, Merry Schmidt, Rachel Senechal, Michelle Singer, and Ann Stanton. Thank you to them for their ongoing efforts to keep the town informed and connected. Find the entire archive of issues of the *Signpost* at **www.emsignpost.com**.

The *Signpost's* expenses of printing, postage, and small miscellaneous fees have been generously supported by the town and we hope to continue earning that support as we move forward. We are also grateful to the businesses that sponsor us and the townspeople who send donations.

The *Signpost* publishes six issues per year and hosts a planning meeting every other month to discuss and lay out the upcoming issue. Every time we gather, we invariably stray from topic, swap news, and tell stories. Someone always comments on how much they enjoy the group (even when we are meeting on Zoom). The sense of community we feel, interest in our town, and delight in where we find ourselves, together, in East Montpelier, is reflected in the *Signpost* itself.



SIGNPOST FINANCIAL REPORT

Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021

NCFCU Checking, Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	\$ 3,967.46
NCFCU Savings Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	4,927.54
	<u>8,895.00</u>

INCOME: Town Funding (TM2021, Art.6)	9,700.00
Contributions	1,400.00
Sponsorships	1,650.00
Dividend Income	3.35
Subscriptions	47.00
Post Office Refund	16.12
	<u>12,816.47</u>

EXPENSES:

Printing and Postage	(9,306.03)
Misc Postage	(34.04)
PO Box and Quicken Renewal	(139.11)
501(c)(3) filing fee	(275.00)
	<u>(9,754.18)</u>

NCFCU Ending Balance — Dec. 31, 2021	<u><u>\$11,957.29</u></u>
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Checking Balance on Dec. 31, 2021	10,526.40
Savings Balance on Dec. 31, 2021	1,430.89
NCFCU Ending Balance	<u><u>\$11,957.29</u></u>

The featured people and businesses, the notices and updates from committees and boards, the history features, recipe, and Town Weathervane all serve the same purpose as our meetings: to leave us better informed and appreciative of the community of East Montpelier.

We welcome you to join us. Whether you are interested in sharing ideas, writing, editing, or just being part of the *Signpost* for the fun of it, contact Michelle Singer at michellealsinger@gmail.com. The financial report shows *Signpost* revenues and expenses for the calendar year 2021 and notes the balances at North Country Federal Credit Union, the sole holder of *Signpost* funds.



RECREATION BOARD

Despite continued challenges presented by the pandemic, East Montpelier Recreation had a successful year, providing safe opportunities for kids to be active and compete. The Central Vermont Little League season in the spring/summer of 2021 went very well, with the Montpelier East Bulldogs winning the league championship. The Recreation Field also served as the home field for the District 4 champion Little League all-star team during the summer. The spring season saw us run our first K-2 lacrosse program. This spring we hope to have a full lacrosse season across all elementary grades.

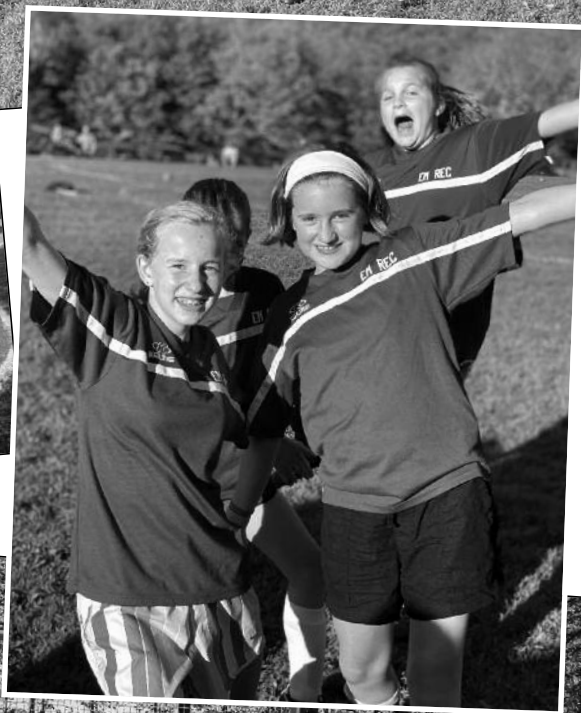
In the fall our pre-K through 6th grade soccer program had 130 kids participate across eight teams, playing a combined 31 regular season games and two jamborees. Thanks to some food-related upgrades to our shed, we were able to offer concessions beyond just jamborees this season, expanding to regular week-night games and run entirely by volunteers. The program received a huge amount of support and community involvement by way of donations, volunteer coaches, and concession staff.

After being unable to have a basketball season last winter due to COVID, we ran a full K-6 program this year with 77 students participating. Though practices sometimes look a little different, due to groups being in pods, the players have all had opportunities to be active, build skills, and compete in games throughout the season.

Our ice rink on the recreation field also opened again this winter, providing free skating to the community. As we look to spring, it is our hope that we will be able to restart the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Recreation Field. Overall, we are very happy with our accomplishments this year and the opportunities we've been able to offer students during these challenging time. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from the town and community and look forward—with fingers crossed—to a more “normal” 2022.

—JACK ZEILENGA, *Chair*





Article 9
on page 9

EAST MONTPELIER TRAILS, INC.

emtrails.org

Year 2 of the pandemic presented challenges and rewards for the East Montpelier Trails. Folks were using the trails in greater numbers than ever as they provided a healthy escape for those who were homebound, for exercise and exploration, and as a safe way to spend time with friends outside. The downside of that good news is that there has been some vandalism of private property along the trails and misuse of the parking areas including illegal activity and trash dumping. We are doing our best to address these troubling issues and appreciate the community cooperation in deterring and reporting them to us and to the proper authorities.

VSECU checking account (previously TD Bank)	
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	\$ 15,270.00
Income:	
Town Meeting 2021, Article 7 (received 12/14/21)	4,000.00
Receipts (grants/donations)	1,200.00
Interest (TD Bank)	4.77
Advance for opening new account	100.00
Expenses:	
Goods	(496.87)
Services	(2,408.46)
Reimburse advances (2)	(125.00)
Transfer to VSECU Share and Reserve account	(2,980.00)
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2021	14,564.44
VSECU Share and Reserve account	
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	0.00
Advance for opening new account	25.00
Transfer from checking	2,980.00
Interest	0.35
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2021	3,005.35
NCFCU Certificate of Deposit	
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	14,387.43
Interest	75.91
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2021	14,463.34
NCFCU Share account	
Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2021	5.01
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2021	5.01
Total Assets – Dec. 31, 2021	\$ 32,038.14

NOTES: The VSECU Share and Reserve is to hold a \$3,000.00 reserve for emergencies. The NCFCU Certificate of Deposit is dedicated to trail acquisition, based on the Esther Salmi original gift. It matures every 6 months.



Making light work of moving heavy objects on the new Sparrow Farm North Trail.



On the brighter side, we scheduled 3 major work days and were impressed by the turnout of volunteers. Many new faces joined those who help out every year. Together we completed the reroute of the open field on the Lollipop loop of the Mallory Brook Trail, south of Minister Road. The field presented problems with exposure to deer ticks so we routed the trail to higher ground under a sweet mixed pine forest. This loop trail will connect to the new Bobolink Trail, slated for construction in 2022, with a grant pending at the time of this writing. The new trail section will lead to Schoolhouse Road and then to the Clark Trail, U32 trails, and down to the new bridge across the Winooski River. Cross Vermont Trail Association pulled off this amazing bridge project initiated almost 30 years ago. The CVTA will be looking for volunteers this summer to construct the trails surrounding the bridge, a project for which they won a federal Recreation Trails Project grant.

→



*Fresh tracks on
the Ormsbee Trail.*

Follow the signs.



Another new trail construction project is taking place on “Sparrow Farm North,” where we are excited to be working with the new landowners of a property conserved with a trail easement over 25 years ago! The trail is not yet open for public use, but please stay tuned for more work opportunities in 2022. Your participation will be rewarded with the feeling of pride and good will from working with other community members and their families, and the knowledge that the trails will be free to use for generations to come.

The board sends heartfelt thanks to founding board member Madeleine Mongan, who stepped down during the year while we welcomed 4 new members (marked with an * below).

The East Montpelier Trail network truly is a treasure made possible by the generosity of our landowners, the trail stewards, and the untold volunteers and trail users who use and look after the trails, clearing fallen branches, cleaning up the parking areas, and reporting problems as well as positive experiences.

NONA ESTRIN
SUE CHICKERING
LAUREN PADILLA
JODY STRYKER*

RICK HOPKINS
RICHARD BROCK
MATT DIGIOVANNI*
TRISH DWYER*

DAVE WEBB
JENNIFER BOYER
ALLAN SERRANO*
MARY STONE

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 2021 the Beach District had a total revenue of \$95,800. \$61,400 was from User Fees, the rest comes from the following three sources: the Town Assessments (\$1.50 per capita collected from each of the District Towns), Washington Electric Coop (WEC), and from the State of Vermont for our annual maintenance of the Shady Rill Recreation Area.

The 2021 season was the second year operating during the pandemic. Fortunately this year was more like a normal season. Except the weather was a little inverted, with a heatwave in May, and 60’s with rain throughout July. Fortunately area residents invested in our operations and their summer recreation, by purchasing a total of 530 Season Passes. Because our July revenue was down by many thousands due to the weather, the record number of Season Pass sales was critical for our ability to cover operating expenses.

We greatly appreciate the great support from area residents and specifically their purchasing of Season Passes, thank you. Our mission is to provide you with swimming and other recreation options, at a cost that everyone can afford. To accomplish the mission, we need your continued support. We will continue to operate responsibly, and provide the best recreational product possible to help you exercise and play outdoors.

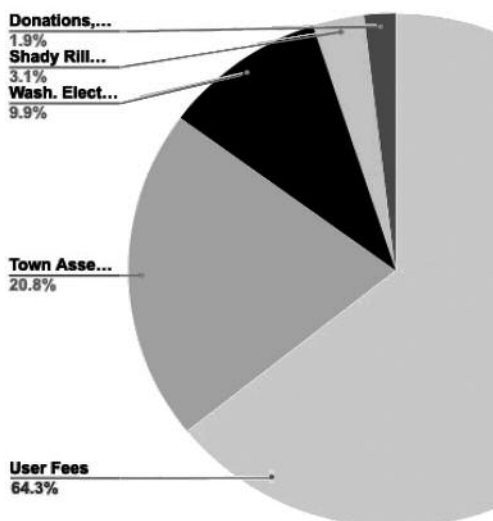
For 2022 all residents of the member communities get 10% discount off Season Passes, and 25% off boat rentals. This means any Season Pass holding District Resident gets 50% off boat rentals.

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*



FRIENDS OF COBURN POND

In early January of a new year, as the temperatures are about to plunge into the subzero degrees for a few days, reflecting on a year of observations and activities at Coburn Pond is a pleasurable task. Every year is a bit similar in how one season follows the next, and how both the naturalizing ecosystems and human activities shift and change in response. This past year—another pandemic year that amplified the importance of our easily accessible, outdoor community recreation area—again highlighted the unique creativity of community members to find enjoyable and safe recreational activities. Just yesterday we captured an image of a lone ice fishing hut. We’ve not yet seen the assortment of ice skaters on the pond, or the sledding trails and snow shoe tracks so prevalent last year—but it’s early in the season, and we’ve not yet had much snow. Even the snowmobile trails await the Gully Jumpers’ grooming. It seems that the deer, wild turkeys, coyotes, and smaller four-legged mammals have been out and about, leaving plenty of tracks to join those of humans and their canine pets.

Last March, we photographed a local resident braving icy waters for a wintry plunge after her partner chopped through the surface thickness, and then chatted with them as he wrapped her into the wooly blanket for the walk back down the path. By April, the ice was gone, although only the hardiest dared dive in—and a few did. Once the warmer weather arrived, and then throughout the summer months, people came in droves to enjoy the waters and shoreline, with groups, pairs, or singles, with or without dogs and children, picnics, barbecues, coolers, boats, fishing gear, inflatables, and some—mostly on weekends—with tents and enough supplies to overnight.

Our Facebook page helped us to communicate with members who use the pond, and to solve the few problems as they arose (there are always a few): alcohol use, rowdiness of a few dominating the nearest shoreline (people go to further beaches); camping policy in relation to homeless populations, especially when those who camp make big messes (they cleaned up before they left); people cutting tree limbs for firewood instead of bringing their own; and, in one case, when concerned swimmers contacted the local EMTs who were challenged to safely remove a belligerent person with clear mental health issues. It was an unfortunate situation, that worked out well for all in the end. Over the course of a full season, for the most part, people showed up to have fun, to swim, to enjoy pandemically-made-rare social contact in a safe outdoor environment. Several groups set off displays of fireworks for the Fourth of July. And many arrive in the early morning, or later in the evening for quieter immersion with wildlife and the solace of solitude.

Organizationally, *Friends of Coburn Pond* has been experiencing a lull: Managing Green Up Day clean-up, public and private communication with members, and enjoying the pleasant spaces and clean clear water; being an almost invisible presence, but ready to respond when necessary. Our stalwart funder shifted priorities to mutual aid and sustainable agriculture. And the pandemic had



us laying low for a second year in a row. 2022 will see us moving back on track, seeking enough funds to upgrade our presence in the digital sphere, and expanding our organizational capacity to re-begin the process towards long-term and sustainable safe management of the swimming hole property.

For now, *Friends of Coburn Pond* wants to express appreciation for the care taken throughout the year—of the property and for each other. If you enjoy any of the seasonal activities—walking, swimming, fishing, observing wildlife, dog walking, skiing, snow shoeing, ice-skating, ice fishing, snowmobiling, or just visiting, and want to help decide how the property will be managed, please contact us. If you are able to make a donation, checks can be mailed to: *Friends of Coburn Pond*, 1085 Coburn Rd, Apt. #1, Plainfield, VT 05667

You can find us online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/121684841230804/?ref=bookmarks>
<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/friends-of-coburn-pond/>
www.friendsofcoburnpond.org

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

RENÉE CARPENTER

ROSS HAZEL

THOMAS WEISS

for the *Friends of Coburn Pond*





CROSS VERMONT TRAIL ASSOCIATION (CVTA)

A historic year for trail construction. After 15 years of planning and preparation, CVTA completed a new 200 foot bike/ped bridge over the Winooski River in fall of 2021. CVTA contractors also installed a new safety median rail for 650 feet beside Rte 2, and then a gravel path outside of the rail between the road and the river; as well as a new trailhead parking lot on Rte 2.

CVTA is working now to join these contractor-built segments and connect up the first phase of useable new trail which will continue the Montpelier Bike Path from Gallison Hill Rd out across the new bridge and on upstream to the new trailhead parking—with a ribbon cutting in late May 2022. This remaining work is smaller scale (though longer distance) and we are getting it done with a combination of staff labor, smaller contractors, conservation corps members—and there is plenty of opportunity for volunteers to make a difference.

The Winooski Bridge is the start line, not the finish line. After the bridge is open to the public in late May, the next phase, to open later in the year, will be a new access trail from the bike path up to the U-32 School, as well as several additional recreation trails in the school forest and along the river. Finally, we will begin the third and final phase of this large project which will keep the bike path going across East Montpelier up to Rte 14 where the existing rail trail begins and runs in various forms to Plainfield, Groton State Forest, and beyond. Thanks to contributions from the Town of East Montpelier and hundreds of local individuals, the Winooski Bridge and other large projects were fully funded and built this



Visit <https://crossvermont.org/> to see dramatic drone footage of the bridge being lifted over the water.

past year. Fundraising is still ongoing to complete the path all the way to Rte 14, and individual donations to CVTA will be put to work building more trail.

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. CVTA's mission is to create and maintain a multi-use trail across Vermont through the Winooski and Wells River Valleys between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River. Our vision is: public recreation that is inviting and accessible to all; safe off-road travel to desired destinations; convenient locations for healthy outdoor activity; permanent greenway for easy local access to the natural world; and collaboration of landowners, community groups and local governments to foster regional trail networks with the Cross Vermont Trail as the connection among them. CVTA is funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. Residents of all towns through which the trail route passes are invited to get involved. Get better trails near where you live. Maps, guidebook, and more information on the trail routes are available at <https://crossvermont.org/> or call 802-498-0079.

P.S. Join us at this summer's Central Vermont Cycling Tour, a group bike ride on scenic back roads. The Tour is also the annual meeting for CVTA, all are welcome to the cook out and gathering. Always the last Sunday in June—6/26/2022.

—GREG WESTERN, *Executive Director*

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS (VLCT)

The VLCT is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state. The most recent audited financial statements are posted on our website, vlct.org/about/audit-reports.

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

- **Legal, consulting, and education services,** including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. In 2021, VLCT's legal and technical assistance included answering more than 4,000 legal questions and publishing guidance, templates, research reports, and several new groups of FAQs explaining how municipalities can implement the state's COVID-19 requirements. In addition, VLCT quickly researched, assembled, and distributed important information about fiscal impacts, grant opportunities, and how to hold public meetings remotely.

- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials** who carry out their duties required by state law, as well as pertinent statewide topics. In response to the pandemic, the League provided online trainings, a virtual week-long conference, and timely information from state officials about how to comply with requirements and access to funding and assistance.

- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government,** ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to respond to the pandemic, address road and bridge repair, tackle cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities. This federal partnership was instrumental in securing more than \$200 million in local pandemic aid through the American Rescue Plan Act, and ensuring it reached every city, town, and village in Vermont.

- **Access to two exceptional insurance programs.** The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Employment Resource and Benefits (VERB) Trust provides unemployment insurance, life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products to members at a competitive price. Both programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help municipalities stretch their budgets, and are *only* available to VLCT members.

- **Access to a host of educational and informative materials and member**

conferences, including a news magazine, handbooks, reports, articles, and events that all focus on the needs of local government and provide additional educational and networking opportunities.

At the heart of all these activities is VLCT's commitment to serving as a good steward of member assets, and we are proud of the progress we continue to make in that effort. Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions, and to access resources that can help them carry out the important work of local government. For a comprehensive list of member benefits and services, please visit vlct.org/memberguide.

To learn more, visit the VLCT website at vlct.org



CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

This past year plus has been challenging for everyone. CVEDC has been able to reach a wide and varied group of businesses with the support critical to survive. Historically many small businesses have not accessed the services of CVEDC, thinking wrongly that our work focused on only the larger employers. As we all know, small business is the backbone of our economy, and during the pandemic felt the full brunt of the economic impacts of COVID. CVEDC is proud to have provided substantial and meaningful support to our small business community.

At the beginning of the year our primary work was helping businesses navigate through the myriad of programs coming from the Federal government, including the EIDL and PPP loan programs. In the fall of 2020 Regional Development Corporations were awarded funding to provide technical assistance grants to businesses across the State. We created a program from scratch with hundreds of private sector service providers signing up for our provider registry. In just over six weeks we served over 350 companies (52 were located in Central Vermont) providing grants averaging \$3,000 to pay for graphic design, videography, e-commerce site development, architectural services, accounting, legal aid, and more. This helped both small businesses and the small operations providing services.

We recently began work on a second round of similar funding, with a longer lead time attached. This will permit additional businesses and projects to receive this benefit, with the advantage of a longer development timeline.

It is only with the support of our partners, and specifically our municipal members, that CVEDC is able to provide no cost services for any business in the region. Your membership has been critical to our continued success. Our support from the regional Municipalities helps to leverage \$9 for every \$1 raised from municipalities. We are seeking level funding this year as we are fully aware of the economic demands currently facing town government. We sincerely appreciate all you do to support our regional economy and the work of CVEDC.

—JAMIE STEWART, *Executive Director*
MELISSA BOUNTY, *Assistant Director*

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on pg. 9

MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Everyone 50+ is welcome at Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC), where vibrant programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, falls prevention and resource access. MSAC's mission is **to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being in a welcoming, flexible environment.**

In 2021, MSAC transitioned through several changes in personnel and continued to adapt and build-on its pandemic-safe operations. Despite COVID-19, MSAC is still a vital resource for the community. MSAC currently provides FEAST Meals on Wheels and Curbside pick-up meals, referrals to area services, three dozen weekly, (online, in-person, or hybrid), affordable classes, plus over a dozen free drop-in groups. MSAC offers financial aid, technology assistance, tax preparation, foot care clinics, DVD borrowing, wellness calls and more. MSAC's Aging in Place Americorps member assists with and places volunteers to perform indoor and outdoor chore assistance and socialization. Staff and volunteers look forward to resuming a national accreditation process and remain dedicated to supporting socialization, safety and wellness.

In FY21, MSAC served at least 87 East Montpelier residents (and some free activities don't track town data, so the number could be as high as 100+). MSAC appreciates East Montpelier voters' and residents' support and hopes to welcome and serve more of you in the coming year! We recognize Twin Valley Senior Center and other senior centers' and agencies' importance to your residents and believe in working collaboratively. Thank you for considering our level-funded request of \$9,000. More info: <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1142/MSAC-and-surrounding-communities>.

To learn more, register for a program or be added to our weekly e-list, visit our website, call 223-2518 or email msac@montpelier-vt.org.

www.montpelier-vt.org/msac



TWIN VALLEY SENIOR CENTER

*Article 14
on pg. 9*

As 2021 came to a close, Vermont was still battling COVID, which has impacted businesses and residents. Twin Valley Seniors stayed the course and has met many challenges to serve the people of your community.

- Gene Troia joined us as Executive Director. Gene brings a wealth of experience and energy to help lead the Center forward. The Board of Directors is very pleased to have Gene at the helm.

- We purchased the building in 2020. We are currently working on making upgrades and deferred maintenance to the building with an estimated total cost of \$100,000.

- TVSC continued to deliver Meals on Wheels to your town's residents with no interruption of service, delivering approximately 1,000 meals a month between the 6 towns in our service area.

- We replaced a broken freezer with a more energy efficient 24 cubic foot freezer to store frozen meals for Meals on Wheels.

- The Center is again open 3 days a week to serve lunch with GMT bus service bringing people to the Center as well as walk-ins. In addition to lunch, they play cards, cribbage and enjoy socializing. We are looking for opportunities to expand our services.

- Host monthly foot clinics, flu shots, and tax preparation clinics.

- Classes are offered 4 days a week that include exercise and art.

- Senator Sanders stopped in to observe a Tai Chi class but sadly did not join us. Senator Sanders also made a generous donation to the Center from the sale of his mitten sweatshirts.

The TVSC Board regularly applies for grants to fund continuing and additional services for the people of your community. Your past and continued support will help us achieve our goals **to facilitate the social, emotional and physical well-being of independent senior citizens by providing access to community resources, providing services and activities that maintain senior citizen's independence and wellness.** Your support is needed and appreciated.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

www.twinvalleyseniors.org



PEOPLE'S HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

People's Health & Wellness Clinic (PHWC) provides free healthcare to uninsured and underinsured people in Central Vermont. Services include high quality medical, mental health, oral health, and bodywork services which are provided at no cost to patients. PHWC also continues to provide extensive case management, referrals, and assistance enrolling in health insurance and financial assistance programs.

2021 brought with it another year of the COVID-19 pandemic, forcing Clinic staff and volunteers to continue a flexible and creative approach to care. With the return to in person visits, the need for telehealth services remained, connecting with patients via video and phone calls. This virtual option greatly increased access for many patients who were unable to attend in person because of health concerns, transportation, or time constraints.

In July of 2021 PHWC relocated to 51 Church Street in downtown Barre. A year-long project made possible by generous community supporters, this new facility offers a welcoming and safe space for services, and positions the Clinic in a more visible and accessible location in the community.

Throughout the year the Clinic continued its collaboration with Good Samaritan Haven and the Vermont Department of Health to vaccinate over 200 Central Vermont residents through numerous walk-in vaccination clinics. PHWC continues to work with these partner organizations to support the health and safety of Central Vermont's most vulnerable community members.

In 2021, PHWC cared for 287 unduplicated patients, 90 of whom were new to the clinic. Patients visited the clinic (in person and via telemedicine) for 342 medical visits, 210 dental visits, and 111 mental health visits. 38 patients had 65 visits to receive assistance enrolling in Medicaid, other health insurance plans, and financial assistance programs. Patients came from 48 cities and towns and more than half had an income of less than 185% of the federal poverty level. Most new patients reported having to delay care because of the cost.

Services provided to 10 East Montpelier residents in 2021:

- 7 medical visits with care provided by volunteer practitioners
- 2 mental health appointments
- 9 dental hygiene appointments
- 5 visits to receive assistance with Medicaid/health insurance enrollment
- 9 medical consultations and case management interactions

As a federally deemed free clinic, PHWC cannot charge for services and depends on grants, donations, and municipal funding. We are grateful to the voters of East Montpelier for many years of support and are very pleased to be able to provide free and accessible healthcare to the Central Vermont community. For additional information, please contact Daniel Barlow, Executive Director, at 802-479-1229, ext. 109, or daniel@phwcvt.org.

www.phwcvt.org

CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

*Article 11
on pg. 9*

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a full-service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association that provides intermittent, short-term medical care, education, and support at home to help Central Vermonthers recover from an illness, surgery, or hospital stay and manage their chronic disease. We serve 23 communities in Washington and Orange Counties and care for people of all ages. Our services include home care, hospice, and maternal-child health care. We also offer public foot-care and flu vaccine clinics and COVID-19 vaccinations at home. In addition, we offer long-term care and private care services and free grief support groups. CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all Central Vermonthers regardless of a person's ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs. CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonthers' care needs are met. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of East Montpelier January 1 – December 31, 2021*

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	1,209
Hospice Care	584
Long Term Care	187
Maternal Child Health	12
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	1,992
TOTAL PATIENTS	89
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	113

*Audited figures are not available at the time of report submission. These preliminary figures are prorated based on the number of visits from January 1 – September 30, 2021 and are not expected to vary significantly.

Town funding is imperative in ensuring that CVHHH will provide services in East Montpelier through 2022 and beyond. For more information contact Sandy Rousse, President & CEO, or Kim Farnum, Director of Community Relations & Development at 223-1878.

www.cvhhh.org



Article 12
on pg. 9

RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT), is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which has provided public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex Counties since 1991, and now serves Lamoille County. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, allowing connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Elderly & Disabled program, and Rides 2 Wellness.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury, and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar service spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. A number of our 9,000 riders utilizing 74,000 trips in FY2021 have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic and RCT's practices of social distancing, mask requirement, and vehicle sanitization have had an impact on its passenger load, we have continued to operate uninterrupted and strive to provide safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation. In FY2019, we provided over 300,000 rides; in FY2021, ridership decreased by about half. RCT continues to be greatly impacted by the pandemic; however, we are now operating at 100% capacity and do our part to keep healthy and safe those who may not have another means of pandemic-sensitive transportation.

RCT gratefully benefits from a robust volunteer program, with fifty-five volunteers providing rides to neighbors and those needing non-shuttle transportation to access vital services. We depend on our volunteers to help meet the needs of their neighbors near and far.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match, and are therefore crucial to RCT's operations. Your generosity allows RCT to transform your funding into the ability to thrive, grow, and provide your community with reliable quality transportation service.

For route maps and schedules, go to <https://www.riderct.org/maps>.

riderct.org

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

*Article 13
on pg. 9*

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

GMT was chartered in 1973 by the VT General Assembly after the private bus operator went out of business. GMT serves the communities of Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Winooski, Milton, Hinesburg, and a portion of Colchester. LINK Express routes serve Montpelier, Middlebury, and St. Albans commuters. GMT is considered a municipality and is the first and only transit authority in the State of Vermont.

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 and support, we would be unable to provide the services that we do.

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 FY23. 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.

Our Mission: The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible, innovative and sustainable public transportation services in the northwest and central Vermont region that reduce congestion and pollution, encourage transit oriented development and enhance the quality of life for all.

GMT Services: In Chittenden County, GMT offers fixed routes, local commuter routes, LINK Express routes, and ADA paratransit services. GMT also provides shuttles from senior housing complexes to local supermarkets and neighborhood specials for student transportation to Burlington schools. Outside of Chittenden County, in Washington, Lamoille, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties, GMT provides a variety of public transportation services including local routes, commuter routes, demand response medical shuttles, and service to elders and persons with disabilities.

Please accept our genuine thanks and appreciation in continuing this mutually beneficial partnership.

ridegmt.com

Article 6
on pg. 9

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY (KHL)

FY21 was not *business as usual* for any of us. At the KHL, when the state of emergency meant limited access to the building, we made more than 500 home and offsite deliveries, we moved our programs to digital and then outdoors, and we still circulated 290,246 library materials and 40,225 digital items. We hand-selected materials for families and individuals and answered 7,525 reference questions. Our trustees voted to abandon the practice of charging overdue fines as of July 1, 2021, and waived all current fines for more equitable access.

We carried on with programs like story times, summer reading, PoemCity, and First Wednesdays. In FY21 we offered 220 programs for adults and children with 9,953 attendees. Recordings of many of these are on our YouTube channel or on our website, as well as videos with step-by-step instructions for accessing library services; like using your library card to access *Consumer Reports* articles.

Everyone in our supporting communities (Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester) can access our physical collection of 70,180 books, DVDs, cd audiobooks as well as our digital catalog of over 80,000 eBooks, audiobooks, streaming videos and magazines and 52 research databases; and connect to state-level services like the A.B.L.E. library, historic VT newspapers on Newspapers.com, and VT vital records through Ancestry.com. KHL is also the place to go if you need to print, scan or copy, or if you need a quiet corner to finish some remote work. If you can't make it into the Library, call or use our website to sign up for a library card, request items from our collection and from libraries statewide, and more. East Montpelier's 737 active patrons borrowed 12,180 physical items last year, plus digital use not tracked by town.

A Palace for the People: Behind the scenes we've been completing capital improvements to our beautiful 125-year-old building, funded by our successful *Give the Library a Lift!* capital fund drive. Our 45-year-old elevator was completely rebuilt, we upgraded our HVAC system, restored 31 historic windows, renovated our basement meeting room, replaced our exterior awnings and our front book drop, repointed our masonry, and repaired our basement walls and floors, all without taxpayer dollars. If you haven't come into the Library recently, we're fully open and you'll find it more beautiful than ever before. We still have more projects to go, but we anticipate their completion at the end of FY2022.

Library Funding: The Library is funded annually through tax support from the municipalities we serve (54%), income from our endowment (26%), private contributions and fundraisers (18%), and miscellaneous income (2%). Our funding requests are per capita based; this is the same way libraries across Vermont measure their municipal tax support. This year we are requesting a \$1 per capita increase from each of our outlying towns, or \$18 per capita which is about half of the state *average* of \$35 per capita. We last sought a funding increase from your town in 2018; our total funding request from East Montpelier is \$46,764. Jennifer Myka is your town representative on our Board of Trustees and our Co-Directors are Jessie Lynn and Carolyn Brennan. **Thank you for your support!**

FUNDING REQUEST STUDY COMMITTEE

*Article 15
on pg. 10*

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

Last year voters agreed to appropriate \$21,466 (just under 1% of the town budget) to support 35 organizations. This year the committee considered requests totaling \$23,966 from 36 organizations. There was one new organization, the Vermont Bar Foundation, the state's leading funder of groups that provide free and low-cost legal aid services to those in need. The committee's recommendations are listed below, totaling \$23,666, a 10.2% increase resulting largely from the addition of the Vermont Bar Foundation and a sizeable boost in funding to support the worthy efforts of Good Samaritan Haven.

The FY2023 funding recommendations appear **in bold** in the list below along with the amounts approved in the previous two fiscal years. If available, we have included the number of residents directly served. Please feel free to contact these organizations when in need, to volunteer your own time and skills, or to make additional financial contributions.

American Red Cross, Northern New England Region (800-464-6692) provides immediate relief and shelter for victims of disasters, works to educate citizens on health and safety issues, organizes blood drives, and provides local personnel with trainings on disaster preparedness and shelter operations. The organization did not provide emergency assistance to any families in East Montpelier last year, but is ready to provide support when necessary. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

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

Capstone Community Action (formerly CVCAC) (802-479-1053) works with families to build better lives and to create thriving local communities through Head Start and Early Head Start, Community Economic Development programs, and other Family & Community Support services, including Emergency Food and Crisis Fuel, Home Weatherization assistance and more. It served 76 residents during the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education (802-476-4588) provides free basic education and literacy services for adults and teens over sixteen years. Approximately half of the students receive help preparing for GED certificates or

alternative high school diplomas. CVABE provided service to 4 residents during the past year. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Central Vermont Council on Aging (802-479-0531) provides meal and transportation services, legal advice, case management, and advocacy for Central Vermont elders. CVCOA also operates the RSVP Volunteer Program, linking volunteers with nonprofit organizations. The organization served 48 residents in the past year. (\$1,875; \$1,875; **\$1,875**)

Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (802-505-7677) provides shelter for family pets when their owners are unable to care for them due to a natural disaster or extended emergency, often working in conjunction with the Red Cross. CVDART works closely with towns, including East Montpelier, to create and maintain emergency plans for pets during disasters. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity (802-522-8611) provides homeownership opportunities to low-income families. Many of you may have participated in the recent CVHH home-building project in East Montpelier and the organization hopes to do more projects here in the future. The organization served 3 residents in the past year. (\$250; \$350; **\$350**)

Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center (802-229-5900) operates the ice-skating rink used by area schools and offers open skating times for residents in East Montpelier. The Civic Center also serves as a Red Cross emergency shelter. (\$1,000; \$1,000; **\$1,000**)

Circle (802-476-6010; Hotline: 877-543-9498) serves families in Washington County in cases involving domestic abuse. The shelter provides safe homes, emotional support, legal assistance, food and clothes, and a 24-hour hotline. The organization also develops and sponsors prevention programs in local schools. It served 9 residents directly in the past year. (\$675; \$675; **\$675**)

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (802-229-4281) brings our community together through gleaning to recover surplus food produced on area farms to feed those with limited access to healthy, fresh local food, and in the process helps the community to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction. It served approximately 200 residents during the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Downstreet Housing and Community Development (802-476-4493) (formerly Central Vermont Community Land Trust) develops and manages affordable housing projects; it provides education, counseling, loans, and financial services for homeowners through its Homeownership Center and facilitates community development projects. Seventeen residents took advantage of Downstreet services during the past year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

East Montpelier Community Connections (802-223-7936) provides after school, vacation, and summer programming for preschool and school-age children, including mentoring and youth outreach, and creates opportunities for chil-

dren to learn from community members. It served 49 students in the past year. (\$2,500; \$2,500; **\$2,500**)

Family Center of Washington County (802-262-3292) provides services for children and families, including preschool playgroups, parent education, home visits, and referral services for childcare. It served 54 residents in the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Friends of the Winooski River (802-279-3771) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Winooski River, including its tributaries and watershed, from Cabot to Colchester. Members monitor water quality, conduct river cleanup projects, and educate landowners and students in river stewardship. In 2021 East Montpelier residents have access to free stormwater assessments and free plantings to reduce lawn size. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring (802-224-6500) was originally part of Community Connections. It currently provides the link between at-risk youths, ages 8 to 18, and volunteer mentors, who encourage healthy activities and can make a positive difference in their lives. In the past year, 2 youths were paired with mentors in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont (802-595-7953) provides free home visitation services and workshops for new parents. Volunteers visit for one to three hours per week for up to three months to connect new parents to community support and provide supplies and information about good parenting. In the past year, it served 5 families in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Samaritan Haven (802-479-2294) provides emergency shelter and support services to people experiencing homelessness in central Vermont. Federal and state funds support its core program, which provides housing and employment assistance, case management, and referral services. Service was provided to 350 central Vermonters last year. (\$750; \$900; **\$2,000**)

Green Mountain Transit (802-223-7287) is a community transportation service that matches requests for rides from local residents, who are either disabled or elderly, with available transport, including vans, volunteer drivers, and van/pools. 36 townspeople were provided services in the past year. The company, along with Rural Community Transportation, also operates the commuter bus service along U.S. Route 2 supported by a separate appropriation in the town budget. (\$1,366; \$1,366; **\$1,366**)

Green Up Vermont (802-229-4586) uses town funds to provide Green Up Day bags, posters, publicity, and information for town chairpersons to promote roadside cleanup and litter control on Green Up Day. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

HomeShare Vermont (802-863-5625), which has replaced Home Share Now in our area, provides affordable housing options through facilitation of shared housing. Formerly operated under the Central Vermont Council on Aging, the organization matches people needing housing with those who wish to remain in

their homes. Services and in-kind contributions are exchanged for housing. HomeShare Vermont served 8 town residents last year. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

Mosaic Vermont, Inc. (formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington Co.) (802-476-1388; hotline: 802-479-5577) operates a hotline and provides emergency medical assistance, shelter, counseling, advocacy and legal advice for victims of sexual violence. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

North Branch Nature Center (802-229-6206) offers environmental education through nature programs and summer camps and provides open trails on its 28-acre property. The Educating Children Outdoors program trains teachers to operate programs in our local schools. Approximately 200 East Montpelier residents participated in programs at the center. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Onion River Food Shelf, Inc. (802-223-6548) provides emergency food for three days for those in need in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Calais, Marshfield, and Cabot. It served 30 residents in the past year. (\$1,000; \$1,200; **\$1,000**)

OUR House of Central Vermont (802-476-8825) works closely with DCF (Dept. for Children & Families) and law enforcement to provide a safe space, supportive environment, and counseling for sexual assault victims, survivors, and non-offending family members during the investigative process. Nine residents benefited from services in the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc. (802-479-1229) provides basic primary, preventive, and oral care to the uninsured and underinsured through a team of volunteer doctors, nurses, and a dental hygienist. It also assists patients with healthcare financing and insurance applications. The clinic served 10 residents in the past year. (\$1,250; \$1,750; **\$1,250**)

Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont (802-229-5724) works to prevent child abuse and neglect through parent education, support, and public awareness programs. The Care for Kids program trains childcare professionals, parents, and others who interact with children to prevent child sexual abuse. Last year 7 residents participated in its programs. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

T. W. Wood Gallery (802-262-6035) provides educational art services for children, families, seniors, and other Central Vermont residents, including exhibits of contemporary local art, art camps for children, afterschool programs, and art classes for all ages. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (802-505-4006) provides training and support services to children and adults with vision problems, either blindness or impairment, to maintain independence. Last year it served 2 East Montpelier clients. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Vermont Bar Foundation (802-223-1400) provides access to essential legal services for low-income Vermonters. The foundation funds organizations like Vermont Legal Aid, Have Justice-Will Travel, and the Vermont Law School's

Legal Clinic. Agencies funded by the foundation served 148 East Montpelier residents last year. (\$0; \$0; **\$1,500**)

Vermont CARES (802-371-6222) supports and advocates for people infected with HIV/AIDS. The organization works to prevent infection through testing and awareness programs. It served 8 East Montpelier residents last year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Vermont Center for Independent Living (802-229-0501) provides services and advocacy for people with disabilities. The organization helps disabled people lead active and productive lives with as great a degree of independence as possible. It served 4 residents in the past year. (\$300; \$300; **\$400**)

Vermont Family Network (800-800-4005) is a statewide organization whose mission is to empower and support families of children with special needs. Programs and services include trainings, parent matches, school meeting support, and a helpline. VFN served 1 local family last year. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Washington County Diversion Program (802-479-1900) offers first-time offenders a one-time opportunity to take responsibility for their offenses by compensating crime victims and providing community service hours to local organizations. The program saves tax dollars that would have been spent on court proceedings. It served 6 residents in the past year. (\$600; \$600; **\$600**)

Washington County Mental Health Services (802-229-1399; Hotline: 802-229-0591) operates emergency and community support services for people with mental illness and developmental disabilities. Programs include home-based support for children and families, counseling, residential treatment, and psychiatric and nursing services. It served 66 East Montpelier residents in the past year. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

Washington County Youth Services Bureau – Boys and Girls Club (802-229-9151) helps youths and their families create healthy conditions in their lives. Emphasis is on problem resolution; crisis intervention; individual and family counseling; and substance abuse prevention, including early intervention, and treatment. It served 5 East Montpelier youths in the past year. (\$400; \$400; **\$400**)

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (802-778-3178) promotes the conservation, development, and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife across its service area. Residents can receive technical assistance in invasive species management, native plant selections, and stormwater erosion control. WNRCD provides access to grant funding for farm improvements as well as training and workshops on a range of water quality and habitat topics. (\$500; \$600; **\$800**)

LINDY JOHNSON
SUE RACANELLI

GINNY CALLAN
PAUL ERLBAUM

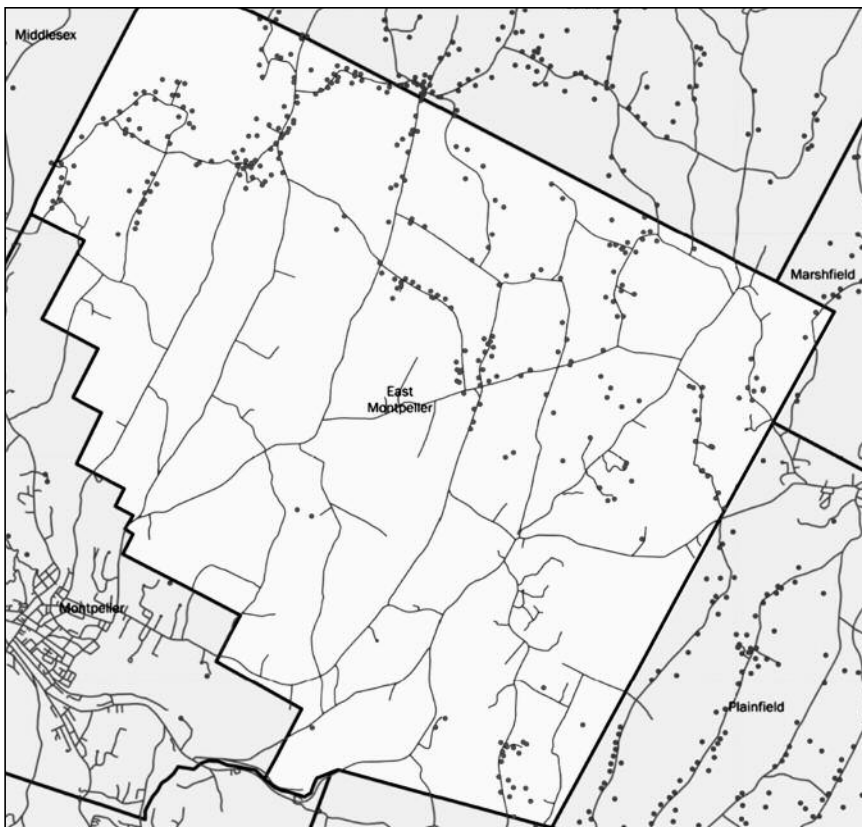
KATE RADER
SARAH KINTER

CVFIBER

CVFiber is a nonprofit municipality consisting of 21 communities, including East Montpelier, with the mission to build a public, reliable, and affordable high-speed fiber network to serve the community, particularly those who are unserved, and the underserved, those without reliable Internet and operating at speeds lower than 25/3 Mbps. Construction of the 1,200 mile, \$50 million, fiber-to-the-home, 100/100 Mbps network will begin in the second quarter of 2022.

Before construction and service can begin, it is necessary to conduct pole inventories to figure out which poles may need to be replaced and the work needed to prepare the poles for the fiber. In 2021 CVFiber completed pole inventories for Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, Moretown, and Worcester. Pole inventories for twelve more towns will be completed in 2022. Network design work began in 2021 and will continue into 2022. This all precedes the “make-ready” work, the actual preparation of the pole for the wire strand onto which the fiber will be lashed, a very expensive and time-consuming process.

CVFiber executed an agreement with the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative in December to supply network design, project and construction



East Montpelier Underserved. (Source: VPSD)

management, and equipment and materials procurement services. By the 2022 town meeting, we will have engaged Waitsfield & Champlain Valley Telecom to be the CVFiber Community Network operator and Internet service provider.

In October CVFiber was awarded a \$2.8 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant by the Vermont Community Broadband Board to pay for the twelve-community pole inventory, detailed design and engineering, and administration expenses. CVFiber will be applying for a multimillion-dollar construction grant in the first quarter of 2022.

CVFiber is competing with other eligible entities for a share of an expected \$250 million in ARPA grant funds and, in 2023, \$100 million in Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant funds. CVFiber is hopeful it will receive 40% to 50% of the total cost of building the \$50 million network from these grant funds. The cost to build the East Montpelier portion of the network is estimated at \$3.0 million. The first priority is providing broadband access to the state identified 290 underserved residences in East Montpelier, shown in the map on the facing page. Grant funds are important because they enable faster development, and they lower the cost of subscription rates. Without grants CVFiber would have to sell bonds and pay interest, from which the principal and interest costs would then be passed on to subscribers.

Each of our communities, including East Montpelier, also received ARPA grant funds, which could be spent in many ways, including for broadband infrastructure. CVFiber is asking that each of its member communities consider contributing a portion of its ARPA grant funds to CVFiber to deliver service to the underserved in their community. Any funds contributed by a community will be spent in that community. The Vermont Community Broadband Board will match town contributions to CVFiber up to a \$1.5 million for the total contribution commitments made before September 15, 2022.

More information is available on the CVFiber website at www.cvfiber.net.

JEREMY HANSEN,
Founder and Chair,
CVFiber Governing Board

TOM FISHER,
East Montpelier Delegate,
CVFiber
<tfisher@cvfiber.net>

CVFIBER 2022 BUDGET		
INCOME		
Operations		\$ 850,950
Grants		
	ARPA	\$ 9,800,000
	IIJA	\$ 1,000,000
	Town ARPA Contributions	\$ 3,500,000
Total Income		\$ 15,150,950
EXPENSES		
Administration		\$ 360,500
Preconstruction		\$ 3,400,910
Construction		\$ 8,184,250
Operations		\$ 2,791,000
Total Expenses		\$ 14,736,660
Reserves		\$ 414,290

CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The CVSWMD serves 19 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents to reduce and manage solid waste. Ann Stanton represents East Montpelier 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. The per capita assessment is set at \$1.00 this year.

In FY21, CVSWMD provided \$6,447.50 in School Zero Waste and Organizational Waste Reduction & Reuse Program Grants, and \$4,483.54 in Green Up Day Grants. The District invites all member municipalities to apply for an annual non-competitive Green Up Day Grant each spring. Also in FY21, we provided \$9,500.00 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, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates.
- **Outreach and Education:** In FY21, CVSWMD provided 13 workshops and webinars on recycling, composting, safer cleaning, and reducing toxins at home.
- **School Programming:** Our School Zero Waste Program works with 26 schools in the District, teaching solid waste lessons in classrooms and facilitating the recycling of paint, bulbs, electronics, batteries and more. In FY21, CVSWMD provided 1 virtual program for a fifth-grade class at East Montpelier Elementary School, and U-32 Middle & High School was given 100 free food scrap buckets. Remote support was provided to both schools in managing lunch-generated waste in classrooms. Our School Program Coordinator works with maintenance staff and teachers to help schools compost on site and mentors student groups who lead initiatives toward zero waste in their schools.
- **Special Collections:** In FY21, 5 collection events were held, collecting 52.1 tons of household hazardous waste, paint, batteries, e-waste, and fluorescent bulbs. 874 households were served.
- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC, at 540 N. Main St. in Barre, open M, W, F 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM and every third Saturday from 9 AM to 1 PM. The ARCC is a recycling drop-off for hard-to-recycle materials. In FY21, 237.7 tons of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill; 409 visitors from East Montpelier recycled at the ARCC. *Blue bin recyclables are not accepted at the ARCC.* More info at cvswmd.org/arcc.
- **Web Site:** CVSWMD posts useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what items are banned from the landfill (and how to dispose of those), what items can be recycled at the ARCC, what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, Act 148, details about our special collections, and an A to Z Guide listing disposal options for many materials. For specific questions, call 802-229-9383.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. Additional information about your local health office and related programs can be found at:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>

COVID-19

It has been almost two years since the COVID-19 pandemic began, and in response, our families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless other groups have worked to better protect the health of our communities. Together we ensured towns had access to the vaccine, testing, and other services needed to make more informed decisions about their health. As of December 1, 2021, approximately:

- 494,000 Vermonters received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- 546,055 people have been tested and a total of 2,570,835 tests completed.
- Many COVID-19 resources are now provided in over 20 different languages.
- Up-to-date information, including town-level data can be found on our website at: **<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity>**.

Public Health Programs

In addition to COVID-19 response efforts, Local Health offices continue to provide health services and programs to Vermont communities, including but not limited to:

- In collaboration with Town Health Officers and other local partners, we help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health at a time when more of us are spending time at home with our families. Find information about environmental health and lead, asbestos, toxic chemicals, child safety, food safety, climate change, drinking water, and more at: **<https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment>**.
- The WIC nutrition program continues to provide primarily remote access to services with phone appointments. In 2021, an average of approximately 11,300 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont each month.
- As of November 23, 2021, 193,000 flu vaccine doses have been administered. Protecting people from influenza continues to be particularly important as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting these efforts. We look forward to what 2022 brings, to seeing you in the community, and encourage you to stay in touch with us.

Learn more about what we do on the web at www.healthvermont.gov

Join us on www.facebook.com/healthvermont

Follow us on www.twitter.com/healthvermont

CENTRAL VT STATE POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

We are an independent, non-profit organization, created to provide an information conduit between VT State Police of the Middlesex Barracks and the 18 towns in its service area, including East Montpelier. After missing a year due to the pandemic, the annual Trooper Appreciation picnic was held this year. It was a pleasure to see the troopers and their families get together, have a good time and enjoy some good food. To discuss any non-emergency issues you may have, please contact your town's representatives: **Carol & Don Welch 223-6208.**

Of the 251 towns and cities in Vermont, approximately 200, like East Montpelier, do not have their own municipal police force. VT State Police (VSP) is the default law enforcement agency. Basic law enforcement services are paid for by the State through legislative appropriation; VSP does not bill the town for services unless the town chooses to contract with VSP for additional patrol time. East Montpelier currently contracts with VSP to provide about 20 hours per month over and above VSP's routine coverage, carried out by officers on an overtime basis. For more information on Local Law Enforcement and CVSPCAB, visit <https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/local-law-enforcement/>

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

VT State Police – A Troop Middlesex Barracks: 2020 Crime & Police Service Report for East Montpelier

	Violent Crime				Property Crime				Other		Traffic Incidents				Misc.			
	Murder/Manslaughter	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Assault (aggravated/simple)	Burglary	Larceny/Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Other Property Crime	Illegal Drug Incident	Disorderly Conduct/Other	Fatal Crash	Accident Investig. (DMV)	MV Related Incident	DUI Incident	Runaway Juvenile	Death Investigation	Misc. Service Call	Total Law Incident
2021	0	0	1	6	0	12	1	15	2	22	0	7	40	5	0	0	232	343
2020	0	0	0	5	1	9	0	12	0	28	0	11	40	3	0	0	202	311
+/-	0	0	1	1	-1	3	1	3	2	-6	0	-4	0	2	0	0	30	32

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

State Game Warden Dustin Circe
State Police dispatch **229-9191** — Home phone **793-6629**

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

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

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

East Montpelier First Constable Jon Boucher - phone 917-4855

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

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

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



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Officially, animal control officers are responsible for calls related to domestic animals (both house pets and livestock) in our town. In practice, we receive calls both from East Montpelier and from nearby towns, not only about things like a lost dog or a found goat, but also a baby raccoon stuck in a sewer or a mangy-looking fox. Where we can't offer direct help, we try to steer callers in the right direction.

We urge all dog and wolf-hybrid owners to register their animals with the town and put the tags on the animals' collars; it makes it so much easier to get them back home if they are found wandering. And we thank the residents of town for their respect on various calls and for many people's willingness to take care of lost and frightened animals.

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

EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT and AMBULANCE SERVICE

What does 2021 look like in the rear-view mirror? As we look back, we look at our successes, our challenges, our failures, our stresses along with many other aspects of life; for many the next week will be planning for the new year and setting goals to make 2022 better than 2021. May all your dreams come true.

For East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) this was again a record-setting year for emergency services provided to our Towns. Our responses included burn permits to grass fires, structure fires to car accidents, mutual aid to assist neighboring communities, CO alarms to smoke detector activations, medical calls to overdoses and yes, an increase of calls to COVID patients.

Today wherever you go so much of the discussion surrounds COVID, what are best practices for safety, how do we protect our families, what do we do? At EMFD we have worked diligently to stay up to date on best practices to keep our volunteers and employees safe, including daily sanitization of the station and equipment. Our staff completes daily surveillance questions and is completely outfitted with PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for all responses, and as a result even with COVID exposures during emergency responses or contact tracing we have had no members or employees contract COVID. We are also supplying staff to work at the local vaccination sites and have sponsored several vaccination clinics at U-32 as well as at EMFD's facility at 54 Village Acres.

2021 reflects an increase in calls for drug overdoses, some have survived and some tragically have not made it. The drugs consist of narcotics, prescription drugs, cannabis, synthetic drugs and many others. EMFD is part of the State Naloxone Leave Behind Program which provides us with Naloxone kits to leave behind with heroine users and may give somebody with them the chance to save their life. I encourage you to seek help for your family and friends, to get them the resources they need. Take time to sit with your children and have the hard conversations about the risks of drug and alcohol use; this may save their life.

This year allowed us to purchase several new pieces of equipment to improve employee safety and to improve our response capabilities. We have ordered a power loading system for our cots that will be installed sometime in January

2021 CALL LOG	East Mont.	Calais	Plainfield	Marshfield	Mutual Aid	Totals
Fire	51	19	3	1	18	92
Fire/Assist Medical	16	1			1	18
Fire/Burn Permit	55	0				55
Fire/MVA	19	8		1		28
Medical	179	86	82	71	17	435
Medical/Assist Fire	6	9	1			16
Medical/MVA	29	8	5	18	1	61
	355	131	91	91	37	705



2022. This system provides a battery-powered lifting system that assists with the loading of cots and patients into the ambulance. We also put a UTV (Utility Terrain Vehicle) into service to use for off-road rescues and forest fire suppression. The unit is carried inside an enclosed trailer and has capabilities to carry water with a high-pressure pump, forestry equipment, personnel, EMS supplies and a stokes litter for patient transport. If you have insight into trail layouts and access points that you feel would be helpful, we'd appreciate hearing from you. We've been putting together a book of local maps and working on identifying access points. A local mountain bike rider who is also a career firefighter has been working with us on trail data. This unit deployed five times since April.

Looking forward, East Montpelier Fire Department is coming to Town Meeting with the request to purchase a new fire engine. This truck will be replacing a 1994 fire engine and if ordered in 2022 would arrive sometime in mid-2023. Purchase options are being explored with EMFD contributing to the purchase from our Capital fund.

Call before burning! Call Fire Warden Ty Rolland at 225-6247 for burn permits in East Montpelier. Burn permits are issued for the burning of natural growth products, no trash or building debris.

Fireworks Permits: For Calais and East Montpelier Fireworks Permits, call the EMFD at 225-6247. Permits must be submitted at least **15 days** in advance and need to include a site map and the Landowner's approval.

Thank you to all the men and women who serve at the East Montpelier Fire Department and for your commitment and dedication to support our communities. If you or somebody has interest in becoming part of our team, please reach out to Chief Ty Rolland at 225-6247.

Due to Covid the Fire Station is closed to public access until further notice and we will not be hosting a rabies clinic this year.

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

EMFD Membership by Seniority with Rank, January 2022

1	Morse, Elliott	Safety Officer, Founding Member
2	Brazier, Tom	Firefighter
3	Winston, Jon	Firefighter
4	Parker, Todd	Firefighter
5	Pelchuck, Greg	Firefighter
6	Rolland, Ty	Fire Chief, Firefighter, EMT
7	Copping, Jay	Firefighter, AEMT
8	Copping, Robin	Firefighter, AEMT
9	Barstow, Rick	Firefighter
10	Talbot, Toby Deputy	Chief EMS, President, Firefighter-1
11	Tuller, Chris	Firefighter
12	Wong, Jason	Lieutenant, Firefighter, EMR, Board Member
13	Guare, Paul	Asst. Chief, Firefighter
14	Conti, Sandy	Lieutenant, Firefighter, EMR, Board Member
15	Brown, Larry	Deputy Chief Fire, Firefighter-1, AEMT
16	Nutbrown, Brad	Firefighter
17	Fleury, Brad	Firefighter, Board Member
18	Boguzewski, Alex	Firefighter
19	Petrella, Albert	Captain, Firefighter, Board Member
20	Lowe, Veronica	EMT
21	Parker, Thomas	Lieutenant, Firefighter, EMT
22	Adams, Fiona	Firefighter, EMT
23	McGuiggan, John	Firefighter, EMT
24	Longchamp, Chris	Firefighter

ACTIVE SUPPORTING

Gray, Jason	Firefighter-2, Paramedic
Larrabee, Jake	Firefighter-1, AEMT
Bagg, Scott	Firefighter, Paramedic
Wood, Jay	Paramedic
Gero, Jeannine	AEMT
Carlson, Amanda	EMT
LeBlanc, Jacob	EMT
Romei, Matt	Paramedic
Truedson, Marc	Paramedic
Warman, Jim	AEMT
Pearson, Sara	AEMT
Renzello, Kim	EMT
Townsend, Dixie	EMT
Magnant, Elise	EMT
Durgin, Jeff	EMT
Bennington, Will	EMT
Townsend, Dixie	EMT
Hayden, Greg	EMT
Soutar, Jen	EMT
Woodbeck, Judy	Treasurer/Administrative Assistant

**EAST MONTPELIER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 2021**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>
CASH RECEIPTS:	
East Montpelier appropriation	\$ 320,037
Calais appropriation	160,018
Plainfield appropriation	52,062
Marshfield appropriation	53,363
Grants - Covid	17,995
Donations	17,502
Interest	183
Ambulance fees	167,291
Contract revenue - Covid	42,155
Miscellaneous	15,683
Total cash receipts	<u>846,289</u>
CASH DISBURSEMENTS:	
Fire services	263,365
Ambulance services	499,557
General and administrative	46,547
Total cash disbursements	<u>809,469</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	36,820
CASH, beginning of year	<u>177,475</u>
CASH, end of year	<u><u>\$ 214,295</u></u>

Notes:

- For more information about the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) Capital Reserve Program, see pages 42–43.
- For more information about the Emergency Services Facility bond repayment, see page 30.
- The East Montpelier Town Auditors do not inspect the EMFD accounts. A copy of EMFD's independent audit is available for review at the Town Offices.

FIRE DEPT. BUDGET

	Actual	Budget	Budget	Proposed	
	7/1/20-6/30/21	FY21	FY22	FY23	Increase
ORDINARY INCOME / EXPENSE					
Income					
4100 E. Mont. Contribution	129,796	129,796	122,076	125,673	2.95%
4120 Calais Contribution	64,898	64,898	61,038	62,837	2.95%
Dry Hydrant		0			
Total Income	\$ 194,694	194,694	183,114	188,510	2.95%
Expense					
5010 Audit	5,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	
5020 Building 1	1,936	1,000	500	500	
5030 Building 2	12,570	8,000	11,500	11,500	
5050 Bookkeeping	13,987	10,000	11,000	11,000	
5060 Cellular Phone	1,976	2,000	2,000	2,000	
5070 Diesel	823	2,000	1,000	1,000	
5080 Dispatch	34,196	32,344	35,814	36,710	2.5%
5085 Dry Hydrants	0	3,000	2,000	2,000	
5090 Dues	85	1,100	1,000	1,000	
5100 Electric-Station 1	899	800	800	800	
5110 Electric-Station 2	8,689	10,000	10,000	10,000	
5112 Snow Plowing	4,450	5,500	5,500	5,500	
5130 Equipment Repair	595	5,000	2,500	2,500	
5140 Firefighting Supplies	15,865	3,000	3,000	3,000	
5150 Gasoline	451	1,500	750	750	
5160 Heating Oil-Station1	2,169	5,000	3,500	3,500	
5165 Wood Pellets-Station 2	7,987	4,000	4,000	4,000	
5170 Heating LP-Station 2	1,021	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5200 Insurance	41,796	40,000	41,000	41,000	
5230 Legal	675	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5240 Bank Charges	113	100	100	100	
5245 Chaplain's Fund	0	250	250	250	
5260 Office Supplies (Fire)	1,730	2,000	1,000	1,000	
5280 Personal Gear	4,380	7,500	5,000	5,000	
5285 Physicals	220	3,000	3,000	3,000	
5300 Postage	502	800	500	500	
5320 Radio Repairs	3,297	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5325 Radio Replacement	0	2,500	2,500	5,000	100%
5340 Refreshments	631	2,000	2,500	2,500	
5360 Stipend, Matching Funds	10,118	9,400	9,400	9,400	
5380 Telephone	5,019	5,000	5,000	5,000	
5400 Vehicle Repairs	8,292	14,000	8,000	10,000	25%
5420 Training	445	1,500	1,000	1,000	
5440 Turnout Maintenance		0			
5450 Hose Testing		3,400			
Total Expense	\$ 190,417	194,694	183,114	188,510	2.95%
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 4,277				

NOTE: Other income sources (Donations, Grants, etc.) are shown on page 101.

AMBULANCE BUDGET

	Actual 7/1/20-6/30/21	Budget FY21	Budget FY22	Proposed FY23	Increase
ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE					
Income					
4959 Plainfield Budget Pmt (Amb)	52,062	52,062	53,624	55,232	3.0%
4960 E. Mont. Budget Pmt (Amb).	190,241	190,241	223,159	242,167	8.5%
4961 Calais Budget Pmt (Amb).....	95,120	95,120	111,580	121,083	8.5%
4963 Marshfield Budget Pmt (Amb)	53,363	42,436	43,709	45,020	3.0%
4800 Insurance reimbursements.....	2,538				
COVID Grant for expenses	17,995				
COVID Hazard pay	42,155				
Transfer from contingency to op....	15,000	15,000		15,000	
Total Income	\$ 468,474	394,859	432,072	478,502	10.8%
Expense					
5050 Bookkeeping	2,595	4,000	4,500	5,000	
5070 Diesel.....	4,748	6,000	6,000	6,000	
5080 Dispatch.....	10,680	10,781	11,105	11,400	2.7%
5090 Dues.....	330	0	0	0	
5130 Equipment Repair	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5200 Insurance	20,409	30,750	24,000	26,000	8.3%
5230 Legal	300	0	0	0	
5240 Bank Charges	52	0	0	0	
5250 Admin/Office Supp (Amb)....	2,920	3,000	3,000	3,000	
5260 Office Supplies (Fire).....	183	0	0	0	
5265 Office Computer/Software	6,998	6,000	6,000	6,000	
5280 Personal Gear	44	0	0	0	
5285 Physicals.....	220	0	0	0	
5320 Radio Repairs	129	0	0	0	
5400 Vehicle Repairs.....	11,141	5,000	5,000	6,500	30.0%
5420 Training	465	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5430 Defibrillator Maintenance	0	1,402	0	0	
5440 Turnout Maintenance	20	0	0	0	
5500 Salary					
5501 Salary - Other.....	242,110	231,350	267,577	303,766	
5502 Salary - Marshfield	42,436	42,436	43,709	45,020	
Total 5500 Salary	284,546	273,786	311,286	348,786	12.0%
5503 COVID Hazard Pay					
5511 Hazard Pay Taxes.....	2,950				
5503 Hazard Pay - Other	38,561				
Total COVID Hazard Pay	41,511	—			
5510 Payroll Tax	31,030	29,400	34,241	38,366	12.0%
5515 Payroll Fee	947	1,200	1,400	1,500	7.1%
5520 Medical Supplies	22,432	16,000	18,000	18,000	
5530 Infection Control	0	250	250	250	
Ambulance Tax (3.3% of revenue)	3,866	4,290	4,290	4,700	9.6%
5550 Oxygen	1,092	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5540 COVID Related Supplies	10,547	—			
Total Expense	\$ 457,205	394,859	432,072	478,502	10.8%
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 11,269				

NOTE: Other income sources (Ambulance fees, etc.) are shown on page 101.

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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

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

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial
 Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an
 Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
 "Government Auditing Standards"**

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

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards", issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 18, 2021.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Members of The American Institute and Vermont Society of Certified Public Accountants

(55)

Town of East Montpelier, Vermont

-2-

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Deficiencies in Internal Control as Item 2021-01 to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under "Government Auditing Standards".

We also noted certain other matters that we reported to the management of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont in a separate letter dated October 18, 2021.

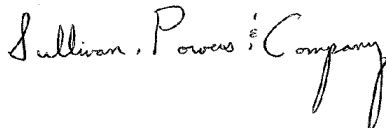
Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's Response to Deficiency in Internal Control

The Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's response to the deficiency in internal control identified in our audit is included with the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Deficiencies in Internal Control. The Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards" in considering the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

October 18, 2021
Montpelier, Vermont
VT Lic. #92-000180



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

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL
JUNE 30, 2021

Deficiencies in Internal Control:

Material Weaknesses:

2021-01 Segregation of Duties - Cash

Criteria:

An important factor in developing good internal control procedures is to divide responsibilities so that no individual can both perpetrate and conceal errors or irregularities. One of the most common division of duties is the division between the check signing and bank reconciliation functions.

Condition:

In the Town, the same person that reconciles the bank accounts also collects cash, posts to the journals, makes deposits and has check signing authority.

Cause:

The limit staff available in the office provides little opportunity to achieve an optimum separation of duties and responsibilities.

Effect:

The Town has inadvertently made its assets susceptible to misappropriation.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Town revise their procedures to ensure that the bank reconciliation function is delegated to an individual who does not have check signing authority. Otherwise, we recommend that, at a minimum, someone other than a check signer review all bank reconciliations, bank statements, cancelled checks and any debit memos.

TOWN AUDITORS' REPORT

for the fiscal period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

The elected Town Auditors review the accounts of the town as well as produce and distribute this book to East Montpelier voters, as per 24 V.S.A. § 1681–1689. We access records of cash receipts, accounts payable, tax collections, payroll, the grand list, bank statements and the general ledger in order to examine and to express the town's financial condition in this report. We strive to use a straight-forward, user-friendly presentation.

Based on our review of all the individual fund accounts, to the best of our knowledge, the records as reported here represent fairly the position of the Town of East Montpelier. We have compared our findings to the external audit prepared by Sullivan, Powers & Company (available on the town website) and find they are consistent. In addition to pages created by the Town Auditors, we've adapted two financial pages found in the external audit report.

The elected auditors play a role in the internal control function of the town's accounting system by providing a review of account reconciliations prepared by the Treasurer. It was noted in the external audit that a material weakness existed due to the lack of review and segregation of functions performed by the limited number of staff. The Town Auditors have been reviewing the bank statements and reconciliations as part of our year-end audit for many years. In November, to satisfy the concerns expressed in the external audit letter (see facing page) and to exercise the town's internal control process more timely, the Town Auditors began reviewing the Treasurer's reconciliations every month.

The Town Auditors also collect and review a substantial amount of supplementary information regarding the various operations of the town as well as the reports and information associated with the school district. We do not review in detail the records related to the school as part of our function.

We'd like to acknowledge the passing of a former colleague, Putnam Clayton. A retired high school math teacher, he served as an elected Town Auditor with Deb from 2008 to 2016, then went on to be a Lister. Put was an example of the dedicated residents willing to share responsibility for the interests of our town on behalf of their fellow citizens.

DEBORAH FILLION, *Chair*
ED DEEGAN
CARLA OCCASO
January 31, 2022



SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE TO

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

The Annual Report for Washington Central Unified Union School District
including the 2022-23 Budget will be mailed to all voters
and available online at <https://www.wcsu32.org/domain/537>

LETTER FROM THE WCUUSD BOARD CHAIR

As I sit and think about the past year and about all of the positive and truly wonderful things that have happened at each of our schools and across this district, I wonder if I might find a way to write this report and not even mention COVID-19. I could talk instead about how people have come together to care for one another; how teachers and families and students and everyone connected with our schools have made sacrifices to keep our doors open and our children safe. I could focus on the many silver linings I have seen: outdoor learning and a stronger connection to the environment; a renewed emphasis on equity; a greater awareness of our need for one another; and a greater appreciation for little things we used to take for granted. Maybe if I wrote only of these things—even if I have to use the word ‘COVID’—I could put the past year into a truly positive perspective. As I sit and think about the year—though I know we are all very tired—I cannot help but think we have so much to be grateful for.

To our entire staff we say, thank you—for the sacrifices you’ve made and for the care and dedication you bring with you every day.

If you’ve lived in Vermont for any length of time, you know that across the state, enrollments are declining and costs are going up. For those of us on the school board, that presents a difficult challenge. How do we provide our students with the resources they need to enter a competitive workforce, or the college of their choice, without taxing people out of their homes? How do we balance the need to hire and support high quality teachers, provide state of the art technology, art and music programs, athletic teams, maintain our buildings, and meet our contractual obligations with being fiscally sensitive and responsible? I believe the answer is this: we need to be creative. We need to be transparent. We need to engage with our communities and have what might be difficult conversations around whether our current structure is sustainable in the long term. None of the decisions that we will face in the coming years can be decided solely by the school board. Each community’s voice must be heard and we must be willing—as communities and as a district—to look at things differently, and openly, and intentionally. I am enormously grateful for the support this district receives year after year from the towns we serve, and it is why I feel optimistic that we have a strong and bright future ahead of us. As long as we work together and are willing to listen to one another, we have nothing to fear.



We Love to Grow Together!



Our long term goals—and budget planning—are guided by four basic things: long term capital planning (what we **MUST** do to keep our buildings safe and up to code); educational equity and quality (so that every student has access to the same opportunities and instruction); academic and transferable outcomes (so that our graduates are prepared to enter a rapidly changing world); and community engagement (so that every stakeholder has a voice). This is never an easy process, and there are many voices and opinions to consider. But I can assure you, every budget dollar we allocate to a program or service or cost center has been looked at from every possible angle. And then we make the best decisions we can given our students' needs and the data—or mandates—that we have.

As we approached budget planning for the coming year, we kept several parameters in mind, including: strengthening our social and emotional supports; continuing to offer multi-layer systems of support to students and professional development opportunities to teachers; keeping expenses in check; further developing our existing initiatives; tightening our IT system against cyber attacks; and developing a contingency plan should budgets need to be reduced. It is our hope that you will carefully consider this year's budget recommendations, with the understanding that a great deal of thought and planning has gone into it.

At the beginning of this year, I shared the board's re-commitment to nurturing and inspiring in all students the passion, creativity, and power to contribute to their local and global communities. We also re-committed to making our school district a place that creates inclusive educational opportunities that are relevant both historically and culturally, and that also address the impacts of bias, prejudice and discrimination. And finally, we re-committed to the development of cultural humility and personal growth that respects differences and provides a sense of belonging and inclusion to everyone. I feel that we are making good strides in these directions, but we still have much to learn.

In closing, I want to thank all of you, not only for your support and patience over the past year, but also for the civil discourse we've experienced, regardless of whether we've agreed with one another or not. There is a great deal of divisiveness in the world today—and that's normal, people disagree—but I am thankful and grateful that despite our disagreements, we have been able to engage in civil conversations which, in turn, model good citizenship to our children. As we begin to rise together from this pandemic, we look forward to continuing the good work of moving our district forward and providing our children with a bright and solid future.

Please remember to review our District Report, you will be receiving the District Report in the mail and it is posted in our website too. Don't forget to vote!

—FLOR DIAZ SMITH, *for the WCUUSD School Board*



EMES ENROLLMENT

as of October 1st

Year	PreK	EEE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	K-6 Total	Grand Total
1990-91			26	34	37	40	35	34	43	249	
1991-92			21	28	33	36	40	35	32	225	
1992-93			36	23	29	38	37	43	40	246	
1993-94			32	32	24	28	37	38	42	233	
1994-95			22	33	30	24	30	38	39	216	
1995-96			39	26	32	33	23	33	41	227	
1996-97			37	41	31	33	37	24	33	236	
1997-98			20	41	41	35	34	34	24	229	
1998-99			32	24	41	40	35	32	37	241	
1999-00			23	34	26	38	40	34	32	227	
2000-01	16	3	21	25	37	29	43	40	35	230	249
2001-02	18	1	21	26	27	37	31	45	43	231	250
2002-03	5	13	26	25	26	30	35	33	47	222	240
2003-04	20	3	27	29	24	26	28	32	36	202	225
2004-05	22	1	33	29	32	25	29	29	35	212	235
2005-06	23	3	30	28	27	31	26	27	29	198	224
2006-07	28	3	26	32	29	29	34	26	28	204	235
2007-08	21	3	31	36	25	34	34	34	27	223	247
2008-09	31	4	31	32	35	25	35	38	39	235	270
2009-10	27	3	32	33	31	32	29	31	37	225	255
2010-11	32	3	26	31	30	32	32	31	31	213	248
2011-12	32	3	27	29	31	30	34	35	33	219	254
2012-13	29	—	21	28	25	34	26	38	36	208	237
2013-14	21	—	26	18	27	26	34	30	36	197	218
2014-15	38	—	15	25	16	27	27	41	30	181	219
2015-16	22	5	28	16	26	18	27	23	38	176	203
2016-17	32	4	25	31	17	28	22	25	26	174	210
2017-18	37	4	34	26	31	19	31	22	25	188	229
2018-19	37	4	27	29	29	31	19	28	23	186	227
2019-20	40	5	15	29	31	30	33	19	31	188	233
2020-21	32	4	25	18	30	33	29	36	21	192	228
2021-22	36	1	20	31	18	33	31	33	36	202	239

EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As I write this year's report and look back on the past 12 months, I find myself amazed on so many levels. I am amazed that we are still dealing with a pandemic that has completely changed how we teach and how we interact with our families and the greater community. I am amazed (constantly) at the too-many-to-count ways in which our teachers and staff have stepped up and supported one another. And I am amazed that what we jokingly used to call our "new normal" has now become our "now normal" AND that we've gotten pretty good at it.

Our students—your children—are happy and productive. Our hallways are filled with light and color and art and the sounds of laughter. Our classrooms and playgrounds are bustling with activity. And it practically breaks my heart that none of you are here to see it. Yes, you get a glimpse of what's happening here in our Zoom meetings, and (I hope!) from what your children are sharing with you when they get home. But no one from the community—parents included—has been able to walk freely through our doors since August of 2020. If there's anything about this "now normal" environment that dampens all of the wonderful things that are happening here, it's that we can't invite you in to experience it with us. I pray those days will return, and that they will return soon.

I'm happy to report that our enrollments continues to grow, which I believe is a testament not only to all the fantastic things going on here, but also to the warm and welcoming community in which we operate. We have many new families this year who—and again, I can't believe I'm saying this—have never actually stepped foot in the school to see what's going on. As a community based and supported school, that's probably been the hardest change brought on by COVID-19.

Speaking of this wonderful community, we are so fortunate here at EMES to be able to give back to the people who've supported us over the years. Through the EMES Cares Fund, which receives donations from community members, businesses, teachers, staff, and even students, we are able to provide food, clothing, holiday gifts, winter gear, and toys to families who are struggling and having a difficult time making ends meet. We've all been there before, but with COVID putting so many people out of work, the need for help and assistance has grown exponentially over the past couple of years. Again, this concept of community members helping community members is what EMES is all about.

In other news, we recently purchased a new liner for the ice rink that was built last year. It's raining as I write this report, but by the time it's in your hands I expect we'll all have logged in some wonderful hours on this great addition to the school. We've also been able to bring back some clubs and activities that had to be suspended last year. Band is back (with 30 students participating!), tech club is back, book club is back, we have a new after school theater program, lego robotics is back, and our 6th grade student leadership team is going strong. It's



Statue of Liberty by Anya, Grade 5



Roman Colosseum by Margo, Grade 6

Rubber Block Relief Printmaking

another testament to how well we've been able to adjust to this "now normal" in our day to day activities.

One new initiative about which I'm very excited: eight members of our 6th grade leadership team will be working this winter with our librarian to audit, review, and document our book collection with an eye towards equity and diversity. They'll be looking at authors, illustrators, main characters, and story lines to determine whose stories are being told and whose are not—whose cultures and histories are represented among our many books and whose are missing. The end goal is to diversify our library collection to ensure that as many stories as possible are being told.

Along those lines, we are also fortunate to have an Equity Scholar in Residence this year. Shelly Vermilye has been working with students and staff on how to have hard—but honest—conversations around diversity and equity. She'll be helping us understand how to better communicate with one another openly, honestly, and with sensitivity as the world, and our little corner of Vermont, becomes more diverse.

Our teachers continue to spend 90 minutes a week in what we call "embedded professional development" where teachers share their expertise with one another on a range of issues, including how to improve math and literacy understanding.

We continue to be ever so grateful for the sacrifices our parents and caregivers are making to ensure our students, teachers, and staff enjoy a safe and healthy environment for learning. While we've learned how to teach and learn and grow and celebrate and thrive in this strange and now two year old "now normal," we look forward to inviting parents and community members back into our halls and classrooms, and returning to the "old normal" that we all miss so much. Thank you for your continued patience and support of the East Montpelier Elementary School. Despite all we have gone through, our corner of the world is still pretty special.

—ALICIA LYFORD, *Principal*

EAST MONTPELIER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community Connections is entering its twenty-first year serving the children and families of East Montpelier, Berlin, Calais, Middlesex, and Worcester.

This year was a challenging year as we continued flexing to meet the many concerns presented by the pandemic. It was important for Community Connections staff to continue to adapt and adjust, which allowed us to once again operate all our normal programs. We opened our doors daily to families at 7:30 a.m. until we transitioned children to the school day. During the day, we provided childcare for preschoolers in a wrap-around service to the school's preschool program. After school, CC provided various options for students until parents arrived from work or school, closing at 5:30 p.m. Finally, we offered camps during most school vacations for students in Kindergarten to 6th grade.

In 2020-21 we served over 49 children at East Montpelier Elementary and employed East Montpelier residents in our programs. CC worked closely with school staff to support the needs of each student and family. The demand for these services continued to be strong, though the gradual rise in enrollment throughout a normal school year continued to be impacted by COVID-19 and its variants. The beginning of the school year presented staffing challenges as the need and demand for childcare steadily increased; most programs are seeing an enrollment increase this school year of approximately 50% over the previous school year.

In the summer of 2021 Community Connections helped to provide the summer food program and camps for preschool age to elementary age students. Our programs are a critical part of the social safety net in East Montpelier. We are there for those who need us. Thank you for continuing to support these great youth programs, we cannot express how much your support during these unusual times has been appreciated!

—KIMBERLY BOLDUC, *Program Director*

FY21 FINANCIAL REPORT

Income Sources	Percent of Income	Total Income
State (Childcare subsidies)	41.0%	\$ 26,883
Town Funds [TM20, Art. 12]	3.8%	2,500
Other (User fees)	55.2%	36,309
Total Income	100.0%	\$ 65,692

Expenditures	Budgeted Percent	Budgeted Dollars	Actual Percent	Actual Dollars
Personnel	96.8%	\$ 58,000	96.1%	\$ 47,889
Insurance/Rent/Utilities	1.1%	650	1.3%	632
Other (Travel)	0.8%	450	0.4%	195
Other (Snacks & Supplies)	1.3%	800	2.2%	1,118
Total Expenses	100.0%	\$ 59,900	100.0%	\$ 49,834

EMES STAFF

Name	Title	FTE*
Agran, Richard	Paraeducator	1.00
Blanchard, Michael	Physical Education Teacher	1.00
Blow, Bruce	Custodian	0.50
Bradley, Carmen	Personal Care Attendant/Paraeducator	1.00
Brown, Kimberly	Pre-Kindergarten Paraeducator	0.60
Brown, Kimberly	Pre-K Paraeducator	0.40
Brucoli, Arlyn	Library Media (.4)/Technology Integration (.6)	1.00
Campbell, Jennifer	Art Teacher	0.50
Christiano, Christine	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Clark-Warner, Heather	Pre-Kindergarten Teacher	0.80
DeForge, Susan	Pre-K Paraeducator	0.40
DeForge, Susan	Administrative Assistant	0.60
Dyer, Karen	Behavior Interventionist/Paraeducator	1.00
Dy, Elliot	Paraeducator	1.00
Fecura, Jessica	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Finegan, Anne	Cook/Food Services Agent	1.00
Fitch, Jennifer	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Fitz, Carrie	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Gallagher, Claire	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Gannon, Robin	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Gariboldi, Lisa	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Giammusso, Laura	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Goodell, Glen	Custodian	1.00
Hill, Todd	Maintenance Lead/Head Custodian	1.00
Jones, Peter	Custodian	0.50
Langevin, Mary	School Counselor	1.00
Laquerre, Danielle	Behavior Interventionist/Paraeducator	1.00
Lehrer, Dina	Paraeducator	1.00
Lyford, Alicia	Principal	1.00
Mathies, David	School Nurse	1.00
Mishkin, Samantha	Music Teacher	0.60
Parker, Bethany	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Parker, Jodi	Administrative Assistant to the Principal	1.00
Pearce, Kayla	Behavior Interventionist/Paraeducator	1.00
Pinard, Noelle	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Purchase, Melissa	Paraeducator	0.70
Shedd, Ellen	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Sherwin, Michael	Behavior Coach	1.00
Wiater, Jennifer	Assistant Cook	0.71
Willard, David	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Zeilenga, Jillian	Classroom Teacher	1.00

* FTE (Full-Time Equivalent)

Total: 36.31

CENTRAL VERMONT CAREER CENTER

cvtcc.org

The Central Vermont Career Center is located in Barre and provides professional opportunities at career-based education in a variety of programs for students from six sending schools. Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides students of all ages with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. Classes offered at the CVCC include automotive technology, baking and culinary arts, building trades, co-operative education, cosmetology, digital media arts, electrical technology, emergency services, exploratory technology, medical professions, natural resources and sustainability, and plumbing and heating.

8 Reasons to Vote for the Creation of the Central Vermont Career Center School District:

1. Enable all citizens across our 18 town region to enjoy more direct access and control over matters affecting CVCC including programming needs and budget.
2. Expanded opportunities for CVCC to collaborate with all of our communities and their businesses, opening career pathways for our students.
3. Expanded knowledge of what the Central VT Career Center (CVCC) has to offer.
4. Regular, monthly board meetings allow for a more nimble response to the needs of our students and communities (currently our Regional Advisory Board (RAB) meets quarterly and is only advisory).
5. State data shows students who attend Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are more likely to stay in Vermont. This new district representation will allow us to make the decisions necessary to support students across central Vermont to access our programming.
6. Position CVCC as a progressive and innovative school of choice, emphasizing 21st century skills, empowering CVCC graduates to work for industry or pursue a post secondary education in preparation for local, state, national and global employment.
7. Install a governing board representative of the entire region with a sole focus on control and oversight of CVCC.
8. Planning for the future, with 350 applicants last year and over 275 first round applicants for next year — CVCC needs to grow and your voice is important to that growth.



WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING for MARCH 1, 2022 VOTE

The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District who are residents of the Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester, are hereby notified and warned to meet at their respective polling places on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 between the hours of seven (7:00) o'clock in the forenoon (a.m.) at which time the polls will open and seven (7:00) o'clock in the afternoon (p.m.) at which time the polls will close; to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business:

ARTICLE 1

Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District vote to establish the Central Vermont Career Center School District as described in the Governance Planning Committee Report approved by the State Board of Education on December 15, 2021?

ARTICLE 2

To elect four members to the Central VT Career Center School District for the ensuing term commencing March 2, 2022 as follows:

- One at-large director from Barre Unified Union School District to serve a term of three years.
- One at-large director from Harwood Unified Union School District to serve a term of three years.
- One at-large director from Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools to serve a term of one year.
- One at-large director from Washington Central Unified Union School District to serve a term of two years.

~~~~~

The legal voters and residents of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held virtually via zoom on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 6pm for the purpose of explaining the articles to be voted on by Australian ballot. A recording of this forum will be placed on the CVCC website at cvtcc.org.

The legal voters of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said election shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Washington Central Unified Union School District held on January 19, 2022. Received for the record and recorded in the records of the Washington Central Unified Union School District on January 20, 2022.

ATTEST: ROSIE LAQUERRE, *Clerk*

SIGNED BY:

*Washington Central Unified Union School District Board of School Directors*



## WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District, a municipal corporation consisting of the Towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet in their respective towns at the polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 9 as outlined below.

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

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

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

**ARTICLE 4.** To elect the following School Directors:

|                 |                         |                                        |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Berlin          | One (1) School Director | Three (3) Year Term                    |
| Calais          | One (1) School Director | Three (3) Year Term                    |
|                 | One (1) School Director | One (1) Year of a Three (3) Year Term  |
| East Montpelier | One (1) School Director | Three (3) Year Term                    |
| Middlesex       | One (1) School Director | Three (3) Year Term                    |
|                 | One (1) School Director | One (1) Year of a Three (3) Year Term  |
| Worcester       | One (1) School Director | Three (3) Year Term                    |
|                 | One (1) School Director | Two (2) Years of a Three (3) Year Term |
|                 | One (1) School Director | One (1) Year of a Three (3) Year Term  |

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

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Clerk     | \$500.00        |
| Treasurer | \$6,600.00      |
| Directors | \$1,050.00 each |
| Chair     | \$2,100.00      |

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$36,169,267 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved will result in education spending of \$20,391 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 5.03% higher than spending for the current year.

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2022 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2022-2023 school year?

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to convey approximately 3.8 acres of undeveloped land that is now a part of the Berlin Elementary School Property to the Town of Berlin for use as part of the New Town Center?

**Polling Places and Times:**

Berlin Municipal Office in Berlin Corners - 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Calais Town Hall in Calais – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

East Montpelier Elementary School in East Montpelier – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Middlesex Town Hall in Middlesex– 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

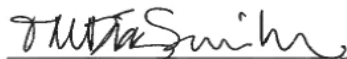
Worcester Town Hall in Worcester - 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

A virtual public hearing will take place on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 6:30 PM to provide information on the articles to be voted by Australian Ballot at the municipalities' respective Town Meetings on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. <https://tinyurl.com/yc348xyz> Meeting ID: 883 0614 4167 Password: 285100 Phone: 1-929-205-6099


In person location will be at U-32 Middle & High School 930 Gallison Hill Rd., Montpelier, VT 05602 in Rm 128/131.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be transported and delivered to the East Montpelier Elementary School at 665 Vincent Flats Road in the Town of East Montpelier where they will be commingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of district towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Washington Central Unified Union School District.

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

**SCHOOL DIRECTORS**


Flor Diaz-Smith, Chair (East Montpelier)



Kari Bradley, Vice-Chair (Calais)

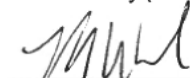


Diane Nichols-Fleming (Berlin)

Vera Frazier (Berlin)



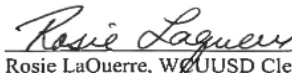
Ursula Stanley (Middlesex)



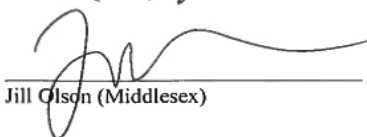
McKalyr LeClerc (Worcester)



Jonathan Goddard (Berlin)



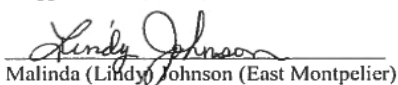
Rosie LaQuerre, WCUUSD Clerk



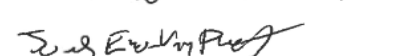
Jill Olson (Middlesex)

Stephen Looke (East Montpelier)

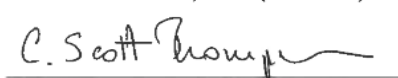
Maggie Weiss (Calais)



Malinda (Lindy) Johnson (East Montpelier)



Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Clerk (Worcester)



C. Scott Thompson (Calais)



Chris McVeigh (Middlesex)

## WCUUSD AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON MARCH 2, 2021

- Art. 1: To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.**  
Elected: Rosie Laquerre [2,804 votes]
- Art . 2: To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.**  
Elected: Mary Ormsby [2,755 votes]
- Art . 3: To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.**  
No Candidate; Top Write-in Results:  
Michael Duane [25 votes]; Susan Clark [13 votes]  
Gus Seelig [12 votes]; Paul Gilles [10 votes]
- Art . 4: To elect the following School Directors:**  
**Berlin School Director one (1) year of two (2) year term.**  
Elected: Jonathan Goddard [2,433 votes]  
**Berlin School Director three (3) year term.**  
No Candidate; Top Write-in Results:  
Vera Frazier [30 votes]  
**Calais School Director three (3) year term.**  
Elected: Kari Bradley [2,551 votes]  
**East Montpelier School Director three (3) year term.**  
Elected: Lindy Johnson [2,427 votes]  
**Middlesex School Director two (2) of three (3) year term.**  
Elected: Karoline May [2,361 votes]  
**Middlesex School Director three (3) year term.**  
Elected: Chris McVeigh [2,445 votes]  
**Worcester School Director two (2) of three (3) year term.**  
No Candidate; Top Write-in Results: Christine Pollard [67 votes]  
**Worcester School Director three (3) year term.**  
No Candidate; Top Write-in Results: Christine Pollard [22 votes]
- Art . 5: To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.**  
Clerk \$ 500.00  
Treasurer \$ 6,600.00  
Directors \$ 1,000.00 each  
Result: **Passed** [2,556 yes; 544 no]
- Art . 6: Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$34,984,949 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$19,533 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 0.01 % higher than spending for the current year.**  
Result: **Passed** [2,314 yes; 786 no]

**Art . 7:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2021 in a **reserve fund** to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

Result: **Passed** [2,577 yes; 581 no]

**Art . 8:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to **borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues** for the 2021-2022 school year? Result: **Passed** [2,305 yes; 841 no]

### 2021 School Meeting Voting Statistics

Ballots received from towns:

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Berlin          | 787   |
| Calais          | 580   |
| East Montpelier | 910   |
| Middlesex       | 686   |
| Worcester       | 356   |
| Total           | 3,319 |



## EAST MONTPELIER TOWN AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON MARCH 2, 2021

**Art. 1:** To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year.

Town Moderator, 1-year term: Elected: Michael Duane [784 votes]

Selectboard Member, 3-year term: Elected: Seth Gardner [767 votes]

Selectboard Member, 2-year term: Elected: Amy Willis [731 votes]

Selectboard Member, 2 of 3-year term: Elected: Judith Dillon [392 votes;  
defeating Gene Troia, 350 votes]

Lister, 3-year term: Elected: Ross Hazel [740 votes]

Auditor, 3-year term: Elected: Ed Deegan [760 votes]

First Constable, 1-year term: Elected: Jon Boucher [738 votes]

Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Richard Hall [709 votes]

Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Mark Lane [641 votes]

Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Gianna Petito [203 write-in  
votes]

**Art. 2:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,927,032** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022).

Result: Passed [803 yes; 91 no]

**Art. 3:** Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2022 to be paid to the Town Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by

the Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due and postmarked on or before Monday, November 15, 2021 and the second installment will be due and postmarked on or before Monday, May 16, 2022. Result: Passed [837 yes; 44 no]

**Art. 4:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$42,022** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Result: Passed [645 yes; 250 no]

**Art. 5:** Shall the Town raise the sum of \$4,500 for the Four Corners School House Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [733 yes; 163 no]

**Art. 6:** Shall the Town raise the sum of \$9,700 for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the East Montpelier Signpost for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [704 yes; 191 no]

**Art. 7:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,000** for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [772 yes; 132 no]

**Art. 8:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$9,000** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [741 yes; 154 no]

**Art. 9:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,000** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [827 yes; 67 no]

**Art. 10:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$7,833.06** for the support of Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) to provide services to residents of the Town of East Montpelier, including \$6,833.06 as its RCT portion of the fiscal year 2022 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier and \$1,000 as its fiscal year 2022 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Routes 14 & 15 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares. Result: Passed [725 yes; 165 no]

**Art. 11:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,499.94** as its Green Mountain Transit portion of the fiscal year 2022 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares. Result: Passed [725 yes; 160 no]

**Art. 12:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$5,000** for Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. for operating expenses during fiscal year 2022. Result: Passed [782 yes; 111 no]

**Art. 13:** Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town's Funding Request Study Committee for the following organizations for fiscal year 2022.

|                                                                 |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1) American Red Cross .....                                     | \$ 250   |
| 2) Big Heavy World .....                                        | \$ 250   |
| 3) Capstone Community Action .....                              | \$ 500   |
| 4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education .....                  | \$ 750   |
| 5) Central Vermont Council on Aging .....                       | \$1,875  |
| 6) Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team .....          | \$ 200   |
| 7) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity .....                   | \$ 350   |
| 8) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center .....                  | \$ 1,000 |
| 9) Circle .....                                                 | \$ 675   |
| 10) Community Harvest of Central VT .....                       | \$ 250   |
| 11) Downstreet Housing & Community Development .....            | \$ 150   |
| 12) East Montpelier Community Connections .....                 | \$ 2,500 |
| 13) Family Center of Washington County .....                    | \$ 500   |
| 14) Friends of the Winooski River .....                         | \$ 200   |
| 15) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring .....                            | \$ 300   |
| 16) Good Beginnings of Central VT .....                         | \$ 300   |
| 17) Good Samaritan Haven .....                                  | \$ 900   |
| 18) Green Mountain Transit .....                                | \$ 1,366 |
| 19) Green Up Vermont .....                                      | \$ 150   |
| 20) HomeShare Vermont .....                                     | \$ 800   |
| 21) Mosaic Vermont .....                                        | \$ 250   |
| 22) North Branch Nature Center .....                            | \$ 750   |
| 23) Onion River Food Shelf .....                                | \$ 1,200 |
| 24) OUR House of Central VT .....                               | \$ 250   |
| 25) People's Health and Wellness Clinic .....                   | \$ 1,750 |
| 26) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont .....                           | \$ 300   |
| 27) T. W. Wood Gallery .....                                    | \$ 500   |
| 28) Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired ..... | \$ 150   |
| 29) Vermont CARES .....                                         | \$ 150   |
| 30) Vermont Center for Independent Living .....                 | \$ 300   |
| 31) Vermont Family Network .....                                | \$ 200   |
| 32) Washington County Diversion Program .....                   | \$ 600   |
| 33) Washington County Mental Health Services .....              | \$ 800   |
| 34) Washington County Youth Service Bureau .....                | \$ 400   |
| 35) Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District .....      | \$ 600   |

Result: Passed [749 yes; 136 no].

**Total: \$21,466**

### **2021 Town Meeting Voting Statistics:**

910 East Montpelier voters cast a school ballot

914 East Montpelier voters cast a town ballot

This is the highest non-presidential primary year voting total for town meeting



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## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Meeting place: East Montpelier Municipal Office Building

**Selectboard** — 1st & 3rd Mon., 6:30 pm

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

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

**Conservation Fund Advisory Committee** — as needed

**Capital Improvement Committee** — as needed

Meeting place: East Montpelier Elementary School

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

**Recreation Board** — 2nd Mon., 7:15 pm

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

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

Meeting place: Four Corners Schoolhouse

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

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

Meeting place: Emergency Services Facility Community Room

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

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

## NO PARKING NOTICE — SNOW REMOVAL

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

## GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS

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

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

## CASELLA TRANSFER STATIONS ON ROUTE 2

1) **Former C.V. Landfill:** Open Mon-Fri 7:30-3:45 & Sat 8-noon; 479-2450

2) **Behind Jiffy Mart Mobil Station:** Open Mon-Fri 8-4 & Sat 8-noon; 224-0123

## CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Sponsors Household Hazardous Waste Drops from May to November.

For more information, call 229-9383 or visit [www.cvswwmd.org](http://www.cvswwmd.org)





# Annual Report 2021

# Town of East Montpelier, Vermont

Town of East Montpelier  
P. O. Box 157  
East Montpelier, VT 05651

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