

TOWN OF CASTLETON, VERMONT

159TH ANNUAL REPORT

For Fiscal Year

July 01, 2019 – June 30, 2020

TO ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS!



Dedication Page

We dedicate this Report to the essential workers of our Town and region.

Not since World War II, has America faced an enemy that so threatened normal life, exposed large numbers of its people to risk, and required great sacrifice and courage from the subset of citizens asked to continue, on behalf of the rest of us, critically important roles.

So, this is for the healthcare workers, first-responders, teachers, truckers, fuel & package deliverers, store clerks and for the highway crew, transfer station staff, USPS employees, and many others.

All these individuals have kept our society going; and most, in performing their service, exposed themselves and their families to the danger of an infection, the consequences of which can range from mild to mortal.

We cannot adequately thank you for all you have done during this global pandemic.

In memory of Bill Mulholland



C. William (Bill) Mulholland, a long-standing member of the Castleton community, passed away March 7, 2020 surrounded by family. Bill moved his family to Castleton in the late 1960's, and in 1973 began purchasing various properties to start family owned/operated businesses in Castleton, building them from the ground up with his family. The businesses, which are still in operation today, include rental properties, the Lakes Region Car wash & the Lakes Region Laundromat.

Bill had a strong drive for his community and public service. During his years in Castleton, he served many years as a School Director, many terms on the Board of Selectmen, and Castleton Fire District #1 Committee. His biggest dedication to public service, as well as fulfilling his passion for firefighting, was to the Castleton Volunteer Fire Department, where he served a total of 39 years, 22 of them as the Fire Chief. As a member of the Fire Department, he spent many years taking on the task of preparing and maintaining the local skating rink for local youth on Main Street in Castleton. Bill also worked multiple municipal positions for the Town of Castleton, including the Highway Department, Transfer Station & Town Manager following his retirement from CVPS/Green Mountain Power.

His public service continued even after he retired and moved to Harmony, Maine late in 2009, where he continued to serve his community on the Harmony Fire Department, Rescue Squad, Cemetery Commission and Board of Selectmen.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Municipal Offices (802) 468-5319

Connecting to:

Accounting	x 206
Treasurer	x 205
Administration Asst.	x 202
Assessor's Office	x 209
Health Officer	x 207
Tax Dept.	x 204
Town Clerk	x 201
Town Manager	x 203
Zoning Administrator	x 208

Other Town Departments

Castleton Free Library	468-5574
Crystal Beach	273-2424
Fire Department	468-5060
Highway Garage	468-2459
Police Department	468-2750
Transfer Station	468-3005
Wastewater Treatment Facility	468-5315

MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

***Due to Covid-19 our Town Office is open by appointment only. Please call if needed and use the drop box out front.**

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

Tuesday	8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Thursday	12:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

TOWN CLERK'S HOURS

Monday-Wednesday	8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Thursdays	10:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Fridays	8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

(Closed M-Th 12:30-1:00 P.M. lunch)

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Winter /October 1st – April 30th

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Summer/ May 1st - September 30th

Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Saturday: 8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M..

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Tuesday	2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday	2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Thursday	3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Friday	10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Saturday	10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

**Water is governed by Fire Districts 1 & 3
For questions & payments:**

**Castleton Fire District #1
P.O. Box 227, Castleton, VT
Phone: (802) 468-8900**

**Castleton Fire District #3
P.O. Box 306, Bomoseen, VT**

Phone: (802) 278-8013

castletonfiredistrict3@aim.com

General Information

Population- 4,717 (2010 Census)

Registered Voters- 2828

Area- 26,688 acres, 38 square miles

Road Class:

I 1.096 miles

II 17.860 miles

III 36.110 miles

IV 4.370 miles

76.715 total road miles.

59.946 maintained by town.

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget

Town Budget = \$3,418,269.00

Sewer Budget = \$677,600.00

**Mailing Address for Town Offices & Town Clerk:
263 Rte. 30 N, PO Box 727, Castleton VT 05735**

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Elected Officials

Position	Term	Expires
<u>TOWN CLERK</u> Nedra Boutwell	3 years	2021*
<u>CONSTABLES</u> (1 st) Silas Loomis	2 years	2021*
<u>LIBRARY TRUSTEES (5)</u>		
Pam Arel	5 years	2022
Joan E Brown	5 years	2023
Pat Keller	5 years	2025
Nancy Mark	5 years	2021*
Pat Schroeder	5 years	2024
<u>TOWN MODERATOR</u> Michael Finnegan	1 year	2021*
<u>SLATE VALLEY MODIFIED UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>		
Toni Lobdell	3 years	2021*
Tim Smith	3 years	2022
Julie Finnegan	3 years	2023
<u>SELECTMEN (5)</u>		
Joseph Mark	1 year	2021*
Robert Spaulding	3 years	2022
Zachary Holzworth	3 years	2021*
Richard Combs	3 years	2023
James Leamy	1 year	2021*
<u>TREASURER</u> Nancy L. Trudo	3 years	2021*
<u>JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (12)</u> 2 years Beginning February 1, 2021		
Michael Bethel	Patricia Albin-Diercksen	
Frank Giannini	Gerard Ashton	
Mary Beth Hadeka	Bonnie Hanley	
Jennifer Jones	Deborah Rosmus	
Scott Lobdell	Patricia Schroder	
Laura Sargent	Lilian Sheren	

*Indicates those positions open for election on March 2, 2021.

Titled Positions					
<u>Animal Control Officer</u>					
Chris Forrest		undefined	Frank Johnson		2021
<u>Assessor Office</u>			Val Waldron		2021
Mary Jo Teetor		Employee	Elisabeth MacKay		2022
Vacant, Clerk		Employee	<u>Police Chief & Emergency Management Coordinator</u>		
<u>Cemetery Over Viewers</u>			Peter Mantello		Employee
Kenneth Flowers		2021	<u>RCSWD Representative</u>		
Raymond Ladd		2021	Timothy Gilbert		2021
Jon Pintello		2021	Zachary Holzworth		2021
<u>Development Review Board (5) *Chairman</u>			<u>Recreation Commission (5)</u>		
Bruce Longtin*		2021	Martha Clifford		2021
Daniel Forcier		2021	Ann Niklassen		2022
Patrick Keller		2021	Michael Hall		2023
Donald Wood		2021	Amy Clapp		Employee
Sean Steves		2021	Melinda Hart		Employee
Joseph Mark (alternate)			<u>Road Commissioner</u>		
Laura Sargent (alternate)			Michael Jones		Employee
<u>Community Development and Economic Revitalization Advisory Committee:</u>			<u>Emergency Management Director</u>		
Mark Brown		2022	Michael Jones		Employee
Richard Combs		2022	<u>Rutland Regional Planning Commission- Representative</u>		
Janet Currie		2022	Joseph Bruno		2021
Martha Clifford		2022	Valerie Waldron		2021
Mary McIntyre		2022	<u>Tax Collector</u>		
Jennifer Jones		2021	Michael Jones		Employee
Mark Grossarth		2021	<u>Town Manager</u>		
Ted Molnar		2022	Michael Jones		Employee
Tim Munks		2022	<u>Regional Ambulance Service Representative</u>		
<u>Fire Chief</u>			Aleda Dutton		2021*
Heath Goyette		2021	<u>Transfer Station Supervisor</u>		
<u>Forest Fire Warden</u>			Chris Forrest		Employee
Heath Goyette		2021	<u>Tree Warden</u>		
<u>Health Officers</u>			Scott Welch		2021
James P Leamy		2024	<u>Wastewater Treatment Facility</u>		
Joseph Bruno (Deputy)		2023	Edward Savage, Licensed Supervisor		Employee
<u>Public Works Director</u>			Jeff Jordan		Employee
Edward Savage		Employee	Russ Hallett		Employee
<u>Librarian</u>			<u>Zoning Administrator</u>		
Janet Jones		Employee	Jonas Rosenthal		Employee
Mary Kearns		Employee			
<u>Planning Commission (5)</u>					
Joseph Bruno*		2021			
Bob Franzoni		2023			

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of Castleton, in the County of Rutland, and the State of Vermont, are hereby warned to meet remotely via Zoom for a virtual informational Town Meeting on **Wednesday February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** and on the first Tuesday in March, being **March 2, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.** at the Town of Castleton Public Safety Building (aka the Castleton Fire Station) at 273 Rte. 30 N in said Town to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 1 through 47
Polls close at 7:00 p.m. on March 2, 2021.

Here is the information to join this year's virtual Town Meeting via Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83825059720> , Meeting ID: 838 2505 9720, Phone (929) 205-6099

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting shall be virtual and residents can participate by logging into the meeting using the provided link, or by calling the phone number and using the meeting ID provided above. The meeting will commence on time, so please log in by 6:50 p.m.

Article 1. To elect Officers for the following terms: a Town Clerk for 3 years; a 1st Constable for 2 years; a Treasurer for 3 years; a Library Trustee for 5 years; a Town Moderator for 1 year; two (2) Select Board members for 1 year; a Select Board member for 3 years.

Article 2. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$26,542 for Legislating? (Prior year \$26,079)

Article 3. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,965 for Ordinances & Proceedings? (Prior year \$1,965)

Article 4. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$182,428 for Managing Municipalities? (Prior year \$177,245)

Article 5. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,804 for Conducting Elections? (Prior year \$11,162)

Article 6. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$48,159 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds? (Prior year \$46,746)

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$104,833 for Accounting? (Prior year \$97,048)

Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for Auditing? (Prior year \$12,000)

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$34,434 for Tax Listing? (Prior year \$39,332)

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$42,596 for Tax Collecting? (Prior year \$41,573)

Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$80,878 for Document Recording/Issue? (Prior year \$78,394)

Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for Legal Services? (Prior year \$25,000)

Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,738 for Municipal Planning & Zoning? (Prior year \$41,836)

Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$7,490 for Community Development & Economic Revitalization (Prior year \$5,996)

Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$192,850 for General Government Buildings? (Prior year \$194,950)

Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,439 for General Government Equipment? (Prior year \$23,439)

Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$526,025 for Police Department? (Prior year \$523,038)

Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$36,218 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders) (Prior year \$36,218)

Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$167,144 for Fire Department? (Prior year \$165,147)

Article 20. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,750 for Emergency Management? (Prior year \$9,000)

Article 21. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,155,379 for Highway Department? (Prior year \$1,153,191)

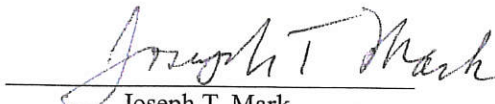
- Article 22. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,400 for Town Lands? (Prior year \$3,400)
- Article 23. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries? (Prior year \$5,000)
- Article 24. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$29,000 for the Hillside Cemetery (Prior year \$29,000)
- Article 25. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,443 for Health Regulating & Inspecting? (Prior year \$1,446)
- Article 26. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,469 for Animal Control? (Prior year \$5,170)
- Article 27. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$29,803 for Constables? (Prior year \$37,239)
- Article 28. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$345,277 for Transfer Station? (Prior year \$346,430)
- Article 29. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$113,797 for Recreation? (Prior year \$108,827)
- Article 30. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,300 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade? (Prior year \$9,650)
- Article 31. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$116,000 for Library Administration? (Prior year \$111,500)
- Article 32. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires? (Prior year \$1,500)
- Article 33. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,161 for Tree Warden? (Prior year \$9,749)
- Article 34. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$43,000 for Rutland County Tax? (Prior year \$40,000)
- Article 35. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources, and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 36. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need. (Not included in the budget)
- Article 37. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 38. Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 39. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice (\$550 to support Rutland Area Hospice & \$6,170 to support RAVNAH Home and Community Health Services)? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 40. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 41. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 42. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 43. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget)
- Article 44. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget)

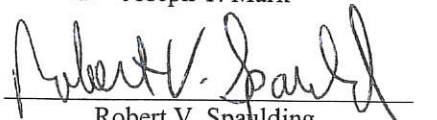
Article 45. Shall the Town, pursuant to VSA 32, § 3840 and beginning this current year, exempt in whole the non-income producing property owned by Lee Lodge No. 30, a non-profit organization from taxation for a period not exceeding five (5) years?

Article 46. Shall the Town exempt all non-income producing real and personal property owned by the Castleton Community Seniors from taxation for a period of 5 years pursuant to 32 VSA 3832 (7)?

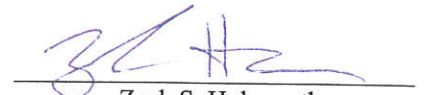
Article 47. Shall the Town of Castleton withdraw from Rutland County Solid Waste District and take the necessary steps to join the Solid Waste Alliance Communities?

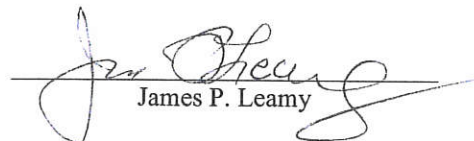
Approved by the Select Board at Castleton, Vermont this 18th day of January 2021.


Joseph T. Mark


Robert V. Spaulding


Richard A. Combs


Zack S. Holzworth


James P. Leamy
SELECT BOARD

WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Castleton, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Public Safety Building, 273 Route 30N, in the Town of Castleton on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, between the hours of eight o'clock (08:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Castleton in an amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of rehabilitating and upgrading the Wastewater Treatment Facility, the aggregate estimated cost of all such improvements being Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000)?

The legal voters of the Town of Castleton are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

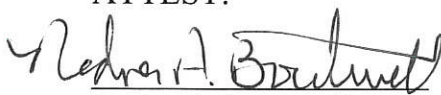
DUE TO EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT, VOTERS ARE URGED AND ENCOURAGED TO OBTAIN ABSENTEE AND EARLY BALLOTS FROM THE CASTLETON TOWN CLERK (802-468-5319 ext. 201; casclerk@shoreham.net ON AND AFTER FEBRUARY 11, 2021.

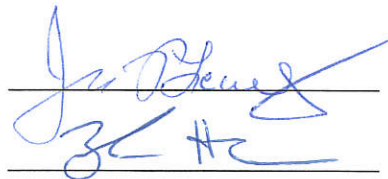
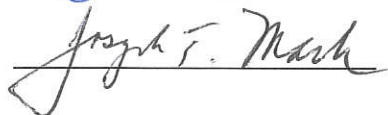
The legal voters of the Town of Castleton are further notified that a virtual informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof. Informational hearing attendance is limited to virtual attendance through the following: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84100919891> Meeting ID: 841 0091 9891

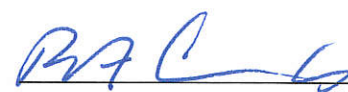
Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Select Board of the Town of Castleton duly called, noticed, and held on January 25, 2021. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Castleton on January 26, 2021.

ATTEST:


Nedra A. Boutwell
Town Clerk



Select Board

Castleton FY 2021-2022 Budget Summary

REVENUE	Budget FY19-20	Actual YTD 06/30/20	Budget FY20-21	Actual YTD 12/31/20	Proposed Budget FY21-22	Difference to prior year budget	
						\$	%
TAXES PENALTY INT-CURRENT	\$2,080,493	\$2,091,992	\$2,272,377	\$2,205,201	\$2,055,687	-\$216,690	-9.5%
PENALTY INT ON DELQNT TAX	\$46,000	\$44,190	\$45,000	\$13,294	\$45,000	\$0	0.0%
LICENSES/PERMITS/FEES	\$18,400	\$13,260	\$14,200	\$4,848	\$15,500	\$1,300	9.2%
GRANTS	\$591,550	\$605,243	\$601,900	\$534,461	\$594,500	-\$7,400	-1.2%
COPIER	\$300	\$179	\$300	\$51	\$300	\$0	0.0%
TRANSFER STATION REVENUES	\$297,682	\$290,988	\$306,216	\$172,691	\$301,996	-\$4,220	-1.4%
TOWN CLERK & MISC	\$68,850	\$91,365	\$76,800	\$60,204	\$82,700	\$5,900	7.7%
RECREATION PROGRAMS	\$48,334	\$34,289	\$39,509	\$18,196	\$44,792	\$5,283	13.4%
INTEREST DIVIDENDS	\$10,000	\$13,138	\$6,000	\$1,099	\$3,000	-\$3,000	-50.0%
GIFTS & DONATIONS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
REFUNDS & OTHER	\$5,600	\$10,994	\$6,000	\$13,444	\$5,600	-\$400	-6.7%
SURPLUS/DEFICIT APPLIED	\$209,961	\$0	\$103,000	\$0	\$279,747	\$176,747	171.6%
INS & OTHER REIMB	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,377,170	\$3,195,637	\$3,471,302	\$3,023,489	\$3,428,822	-\$42,480	-1.2%

EXPENSES	Budget FY19-20	Actual YTD 12/31/19	Budget FY20-21	Actual YTD 12/31/20	Proposed Budget FY21-22	Difference to prior year budget	
LEGISLATING	\$25,708	\$21,782	\$26,079	\$14,673	\$26,542	\$463	1.8%
ORDINANCES & PROCEEDINGS	\$2,565	\$913	\$1,965	\$0	\$1,965	\$0	0.0%
MANAGING MUNICIPALITIES	\$167,439	\$167,355	\$177,245	\$92,030	\$182,428	\$5,183	2.9%
CONDUCTING ELECTIONS	\$9,064	\$8,300	\$11,162	\$10,294	\$8,804	-\$2,358	-21.1%
COLLECT CUST. DISB FUNDS	\$43,502	\$41,365	\$46,746	\$21,423	\$48,159	\$1,412	3.0%
ACCOUNTING	\$88,394	\$85,803	\$97,048	\$40,915	\$104,833	\$7,785	8.0%
AUDITING	\$12,000	\$14,750	\$12,000	\$9,450	\$12,000	\$0	0.0%
TAX LISTING	\$38,644	\$23,658	\$39,332	\$14,399	\$34,434	-\$4,898	-12.5%
TAX COLLECTING	\$38,375	\$36,629	\$41,573	\$17,991	\$42,596	\$1,023	2.5%
DOCUMENT RECORDING/ISSUE	\$75,500	\$79,240	\$78,394	\$27,497	\$80,878	\$2,484	3.2%
LEGAL SERVICES	\$30,000	\$6,090	\$25,000	\$7,434	\$20,000	-\$5,000	-20.0%
MUNICIPAL PLANNING/ZONING	\$40,939	\$29,099	\$41,836	\$15,836	\$41,738	-\$98	-0.2%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION	\$0	\$0	\$5,996	\$979	\$7,490	\$1,494	24.9%
GEN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	\$190,013	\$196,203	\$194,950	\$125,841	\$192,850	-\$2,100	-1.1%
GEN. GOVERNMENT EQUIPMENT	\$20,700	\$18,643	\$23,439	\$15,503	\$23,439	\$0	0.0%
POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$509,950	\$461,844	\$523,038	\$265,496	\$526,025	\$2,987	0.6%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SVCS.	\$36,218	\$33,968	\$36,218	\$19,957	\$36,218	\$0	0.0%
FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$160,799	\$152,200	\$165,147	\$87,148	\$167,144	\$1,997	1.2%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$11,000	\$13,380	\$9,000	\$2,548	\$8,750	-\$250	-2.8%
HIGHWAY	\$1,114,081	\$1,133,641	\$1,153,191	\$798,110	\$1,155,379	\$2,188	0.2%
TOWN LANDS	\$3,600	\$2,506	\$3,400	\$258	\$3,400	\$0	0.0%
HISTORICAL CEMETERIES	\$5,000	\$644	\$5,000	\$9,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
HILLSIDE CEMETERY	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$0	0.0%
HEALTH REG & INSPECTING	\$1,449	\$1,365	\$1,446	\$262	\$1,443	-\$3	-0.2%
ANIMAL CONTROL	\$5,186	\$1,374	\$5,170	\$841	\$5,469	\$298	5.8%
CONSTABLES	\$40,525	\$31,779	\$37,239	\$20,273	\$29,803	-\$7,436	-20.0%
TRANSFER STATION	\$344,453	\$307,198	\$346,430	\$205,823	\$345,277	-\$1,153	-0.3%
RECREATION	\$109,050	\$124,855	\$108,827	\$49,305	\$113,797	\$4,970	4.6%
MEMORIAL DAY DECORATIONS/JULY 4TH PARADE	\$9,650	\$7,850	\$9,650	\$0	\$3,300	-\$6,350	-65.8%
LIBRARY	\$111,500	\$111,500	\$111,500	\$35,849	\$116,000	\$4,500	4.0%
PREV/CONTROL FOREST FIRES	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
TREE WARDEN	\$9,834	\$9,005	\$9,749	\$5,134	\$10,161	\$412	4.2%
OTHER GOVERNMENT	\$40,000	\$39,319	\$40,000	\$42,943	\$43,000	\$3,000	7.5%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,324,137	\$3,191,258	\$3,418,270	\$1,986,211	\$3,428,822	\$10,552	0.3%

A detailed Comparative Budget Report is available on the Town's website

Town of Castleton
Financial Comparison
General Fund
For Informational Purposes Only

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	PROJECTED	PROPOSED
	<u>2017/2018</u>	<u>2017/2018</u>	<u>2018/2019</u>	<u>2018/2019</u>	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>
Balance July 1 surplus (deficit)	0	718,439	0	994,567	209,961	1,059,932	103,000	1,027,916	279,747
Add: Revenues	3,329,925	3,356,575	3,165,245	3,335,610	3,167,209	3,212,275	3,315,269	3,315,269	3,149,075
Less: Expenditures	-3,329,925	-3,080,447	-3,165,245	-3,270,246	-3,377,170	-3,244,291	-3,418,269	-4,063,438	-3,428,822
Prior year adjustments									
Balance June 30 surplus (deficit)	0	994,567	0	1,059,932	0	1,027,916	0	279,747	0
Reserved		0		0		0		0	
Nonspendable		73,095		71,797		77,118			
Restricted		658,561		530,364		474,190			
Committed				9,530		0		0	
Assigned		52,950		316,516		196,861			
Undesignated / unassigned		209,961		131,725		279,747		279,747	
Total		<u>994,567</u>		<u>1,059,932</u>		<u>1,027,916</u>		<u>279,747</u>	
Town Budget	3,279,617		3,112,212		3,324,137		3,418,269		3,428,822
CERT Bldg Reserve									
Fire Station Bond pmt (est)	included in budget		included in budget		included in budget		included in budget		included in budget
Social Services	25,308		28,033		28,033		28,033		28,033
Castleton Community Center	25,000		25,000		25,000		25,000		25,000
Prior yrs' deficit to increase amount to be raised by taxes									
New Town Office Loan Pmt Yr 1-2-3	included in budget		n/a		n/a		n/a		n/a
4th of July Fireworks & Celebration					included in budget		included in budget		included in budget
Total Expenditures	3,329,925		3,165,245		3,377,170		3,471,302		3,481,855
Less: Other Revenues	-1,031,439		-1,013,994		-1,070,716		-1,080,925		-1,078,388
Interest & Penalties	-51,000		-61,000		-61,000		-60,000		-60,000
From sale of bus fleet to cover police station construction costs									
Total Expenditures less Non-tax Revenues	2,247,486		2,090,251		2,245,454		2,330,377		2,343,467
Prior yrs' surplus used to reduce amount to be raised by taxes					-209,961		-103,000		-279,747
Subtotal	2,247,486		2,090,251		2,035,493		2,227,377		2,063,720
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	2,247,486		2,090,251		2,035,493		2,227,377		2,063,720
Municipal Tax Rate (excluding Local Tax Agreement amounts)	<u>0.4732</u>		<u>0.4387</u>		<u>0.4238</u>		<u>0.4588</u>		<u>0.4297</u>

*Note: The FY21-22 tax rate is only a projection, based on the above criteria.
Municipal Grand list figure used = \$4,855,106 (07/23/20 Municipal Grand List)*

The Financial Reports of the Town of Castleton, Vermont for the year ended June 30, 2020 have been audited by Pace & Hawley, CPA LLC of Montpelier, VT. The full report will be available for viewing after March 15, 2021 on the Town's website www.castletonvermont.org or at the Castleton Town Clerk's Office.

**TOWN OF CASTLETON
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2020**

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Reserve Fund	Total Governmental Funds	Sewer (Enterprise) Fund	Library Fund (Component Unit)
Assets:						
Cash	1,723,462		1,407,893	3,131,355		55,274
Investments				0		301,776
Property Tax (Sewer) Receivables, net	436,738			436,738	61,580	
Other Receivables, net	7,323			7,323		
Due From Other Governments		42,328		42,328		
Prepaid Expenses	77,118			77,118		
Due From Other Funds	160		97,251	97,411	740,532	
Capital Assets					7,770,109	
Less Accumulated Depreciation					(6,060,053)	
Total Assets	2,244,801	42,328	1,505,144	3,792,273	2,512,168	357,050
Liabilities:						
Accounts Payable	95,790	28,288	7,185	131,263	12,095	1,289
Accrued Payroll & Related Liabilities	37,823			37,823	31,630	1,332
Other Accrued Expenses	20,205			20,205		
Due To Other Funds	747,454	90,329		837,783		160
Deferred Revenue	15,445			15,445	1,402	
Deferred Revenue-property taxes	300,168			300,168		
Bonds Payable-Current					18,529	
Bonds Payable-L/T					299,135	
Total Liabilities	1,216,885	118,617	7,185	1,342,687	362,791	2,780
Fund Balances:						
Nonspendable						
Prepaid Expenses	77,118			77,118		
Restricted	-	11,111	587,272	598,383		
Highway	474,190			474,190		
Committed	-		804,370	804,370		
Assigned	196,861		106,317	303,178		
Restricted for Community Development						
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt					1,392,392	
Unassigned	279,747	(87,400)		192,347	756,985	354,270
Total Fund Balances	1,027,916	(76,289)	1,497,959	2,449,586	2,149,377	354,270
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	2,244,801	42,328	1,505,144			
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.				4,863,291		
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the governmental funds.				300,168		
Deferred outflows & inflows of resources, and the net pension liability related to the Town's proportionate share of VMERS pension plan are not reported in the funds.				(326,109)		
Long-term liabilities, including capital leases payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.				(1,412,074)		
Net position				5,874,862	2,149,377	354,270

TAX & SEWER COLLECTION SUMMARY

CURRENT REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY

Original Amount Billed	\$	9,629,362.99	
Adjustments:			
Additions	\$	168.48	
Deletions	\$	(9,926.15)	
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$	9,619,605.32	
Collections	\$	(9,340,576.77)	
Advance Payments	\$	(19,796.87)	
Small Balance Adjustments	\$	-	
NEMRC Adjustments	\$	9,339.69	
Total Outstanding Current Taxes as of 6/30/20	\$		268,571.37

DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY

For Collection 07/01/19	\$	408,478.71	
Adjustments:			
Additions	\$	-	
Deletions	\$	-	
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$	408,478.71	
Small Balance Adjustments	\$	-	
NEMRC Adjustments	\$	(1,129.09)	
Abatements	\$	(2,506.47)	
Collections	\$	(278,356.59)	
Total Outstanding Delinquent Taxes as of 6/30/20	\$		126,486.56

TOTAL OUTSTANDING TAXES AS OF 06/30/20

\$ 395,057.93

CURRENT SEWER

Original Amount Billed	\$	682,457.76	
Adjustments:			
Additions			
Deletions	\$	(3,009.12)	
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$	679,448.64	
Advance Payments	\$	-	
Small Balance Adjustments	\$	-	
NEMRC Adjustment	\$	-	
Credit Removal	\$	(1,292.22)	
Collections	\$	(636,673.03)	
Total Outstanding Current Sewer as of 06/30/20	\$		41,483.39

DELINQUENT SEWER

For Collection 07/01/19	\$	74,112.02	
Adjustment:			
Additions	\$	-	
Deletions	\$	(38.62)	
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$	74,073.40	
Collections	\$	(54,794.16)	
Total Outstanding Delinquent Sewer as of 06/30/20	\$		19,279.24

TOTAL OUTSTANDING SEWER AS OF 06/30/20

\$ 60,762.63

Treasurer's Report Of Cash Balances

As of 06/30/20

Operating Account Checking	\$1,722,961.56
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Total Operating	\$1,722,961.56
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Cash on Hand/In Transit	\$500.00
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Reserve Account	\$592,727.34
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TD Bank	\$815,165.67
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Total Reserve	\$1,407,893.01
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Verified to Auditors Report

Nancy L Trudo/Treasurer

Castleton Cemetery Association 2020

Beginning Balance ... (1-1-2020) \$ 40,550.47

RECIEPTS

Lot sales	\$ 7,520.00
Burials .. Full \$ 5,175.00 ... Cremations .. \$ 6,449.00...	\$ 11,624.00
Town Appropriation	\$ 29,000.00

TOTAL RECIEPTS \$ 88,694.47

EXPENDITURES

Personal Services	\$ 20,789.23
Operating Expenses (includes \$75.00 Railroad Lease ..	\$ 6,291.35
Office Expenses	\$ 553.40
Insurance.....	\$ 1,278.00
Professional Services.....	\$ 3,947.00
Gas/Parts/Labor.....	\$ 2,394.78
Taxes.....	\$ 8,442.17
Transfer from checking to Perpetual Care/Savings.....	\$ 1,504.00
Lot corner posts.....	\$ 495.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES..... \$ 45,694.93

Ending Balance ... (12-31-2020)..... \$ 42,999.54

CASTLETON CEMETERY ASSOCIATION 2020 Perpetual Care / Savings Account

Beginning balance... (1-1-2020)	\$ 17,459.04
Interest earned	\$ 7.94
Transferred from checking	\$ 1,504.00
Ending balance (12-31-2020)	\$ 18,970.98

2020

(Taxable properties only - State and Non-tax status properties are not listed below)

REAL ESTATE Category/Code	Parcel Count	Municipal Listed Value	Homestead Ed Listed Value	Nonhmstd Ed. Listed Value	Total Education Listed Value
Residential I R1	1,296	294,295,650	145,022,797	149,272,853	294,295,650
Residential II R2	273	70,662,700	46,940,447	23,722,253	70,662,700
Mobile Homes-U MHU	92	2,478,000	1,495,585	982,415	2,478,000
Mobile Homes-L MHL	45	3,456,900	1,537,188	1,919,712	3,456,900
Seasonal I S1	174	45,490,700	3,037,055	42,453,645	45,490,700
Seasonal II S2	12	1,417,400	0	1,417,400	1,417,400
Commercial C	106	33,247,500	99,500	33,148,000	33,247,500
Commercial Apts CA	14	6,415,600	0	6,415,600	6,415,600
Industrial I	5	4,335,800	0	4,335,800	4,335,800
Utilities-E UE	2	9,508,000	0	9,508,000	9,508,000
Utilities-O UO	1	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
Farm F	12	5,383,800	2,173,000	3,210,800	5,383,800
Other O	22	2,172,900	331,300	1,841,600	2,172,900
Woodland W	12	1,055,200	0	1,055,200	1,055,200
Miscellaneous M	284	14,599,900	0	14,599,900	14,599,900
TOTAL LISTED REAL	2,350	494,525,050	200,636,872	293,888,178	494,525,050
P.P. Cable	1	924,512		924,512	924,512
P.P. Equipment	0	0			
P.P. Inventory	0	0			
TOTAL LISTED P.P.	1	924,512		924,512	924,512
TOTAL LISTED VALUE		495,449,562	200,636,872	294,812,690	495,449,562
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	32/32	320,000	290,000	30,000	320,000
Veterans >10K		960,000			
Total Veterans		1,280,000	290,000	30,000	320,000
P.P. Contracts	1	924,512			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	3/3	786,475			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total Contracts	4/3	1,710,987	0	0	0
FarmStab Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Farm Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	0/0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total FarmStabContr	0/0	0	0	0	0
Current Use	51/51	6,588,700	1,796,900	4,791,800	6,588,700
Special Exemptions	6		0	1,081,709	1,081,709
Partial Statutory	2/2	359,300	0	359,300	359,300
Sub-total Exemptions		9,938,987	2,086,900	6,262,809	8,349,709
Total Exemptions		9,938,987	2,086,900	6,262,809	8,349,709
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		4,855,105.75			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			1,985,499.72	2,885,498.81	4,870,998.53
NON-TAX 87 NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411					

TAX RATE CALCULATION 2020 - 2021						Total Town
	Town	School		Total		+ Homestead
		Homestead	Non-residential	Town + Homestead	Town + Non-residential	+ Non-residential
Amount to be raised by taxes	2,251,614.98	3,038,807.32	4,956,421.31	5,290,422.30	7,208,036.29	10,246,843.61
Municipal & Education Grand List @ 07/23/20	4,855,105.75	1,985,499.72	2,885,498.81			
Tax Rate = $\frac{\text{Amt to be raised by taxes}}{\text{Grand List}}$ (rounded)	0.46376	1.53050	1.71770			
	0.4638	1.5305	1.7177	1.9943	2.1815	
Municipal & Education Grand List @ 07/23/20	4,855,105.75	1,985,499.72	2,885,498.81			
x Tax Rate	0.4638	1.5305	1.7177	1.9943	2.1815	
Total to be raised by taxes (rounded)	2,251,614.98	3,038,807.32	4,956,421.31	5,290,422.30	7,208,036.29	10,246,843.61
Variance (due to rounding)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOWN OF CASTLETON
TOWN MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30pm
Jeffords Center for Science & Mathematics Auditorium
Castleton University

PRESENT: Michael Finnegan, Town Moderator; Jim Leamy, Select Board Chair; Richard Combs, Select Board Vice Chair; Zack Holzworth, Select Board Secretary; Robert Spaulding, Select Board Member; Joe Mark, Select Board Parliamentarian; Michael Jones, Town Manager; Eliza LeBrun, Recording Secretary; Peter Mantello, Police Chief; Silas Loomis, Constable; members of the public.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Michael Finnegan greeted the public and called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Finnegan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Finnegan shared guidelines with the audience for the evening. Audience members should raise their hand to be recognized. All speakers should identify themselves and the street they live on. All questions should be addressed to the moderator.

ROBERT HELM: UPDATE & REPORT ON WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MONTPELIER

Mr. Helm was unable to attend due to illness.

PRESIDENT OF CASTLETON UNIVERSITY, KAREN SCOLFORO Ed.D

President Scolforo greeted the audience with a brief introduction. President Scolforo acknowledged the relationship between the Castleton University Public Safety Department and the Castleton Police Department, she thanked Chief Mantello for his work with Public Safety Director Keith Molinari.

President Scolforo shared that the University has launched 21 new programs and had 800 new students this fall. There are currently 2,500 students attending Castleton University in some capacity. Thanked the community for their support

President Scolforo recognized the work of the Bridge Committee and thanked Martha Molnar for her leadership and commitment.

President Scolforo shared that she has moved from her home on January 9, 2020 as it will be the site of the new Early Childhood Lab and is now under construction. A combination of \$600,000 in grants have been awarded for this project. President Scolforo recognized Laura Jakubowski, Chief Financial Officer of Castleton University for all of her hard work on this project. They hope to open the childcare facility this fall. However, the University still needs to raise another \$150,000 to be where they would like to be to serve 70 students from infant to preschool. This is a breakeven initiative and absolutely worth it.

Castleton University now has a listing of events to share with the community, President Scolforo encouraged everyone to visit <https://www.castleton.edu/calendars/community-events-email-sign-up/>.

President Scolforo also provided handouts about the Coronavirus and discussed Castleton University's plans to keep everyone safe. There is an emergency management team on campus to stay on top of what is happening. President Scolforo also provided copies of a letter explaining the teams approach as well as providing posters from the CDC.

DIANA MARTINEZ MANTRANO, VP OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS, STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Ms. Mantrano is a student from Mexico. She is currently the Vice President of Community Relations, she is involved with the international freshmen class, mentoring at local elementary schools among other things. Ms. Mantrano noted that there are nearly 50 clubs on campus working with different organizations to benefit the community. Some of these organizations include Castleton Cares, BROCC and Habitat for Humanity.

Ms. Mantrano would like to invite everyone to an event March 16, the Brown Back Series, where students from other countries share their experiences.

This Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 12:30pm in the Campus Center there will be an International Festival, the community is invited to attend. There will be an International Cookbook for sale for \$5.00. The cookbook was put together with recipes from Students, Faculty and Community members.

Ms. Mantrano shared that she is a representative for the Host Families program. Eventually they would like to open the Host Family program to more than just international students. She encouraged those interested to reach out.

Girls on the Run will begin later this semester.

THON is a donation-based charity which raises money for the Four Diamonds Fund. The Four Diamonds Fund is used to support pediatric cancer patients. This year students have organized a 12-hour dance marathon to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund.

SELECT BOARD INTRODUCTIONS

All members of the Select Board and the Town Manager introduced themselves.

Mr. Finnegan proceeded to read the following Articles to the Public for their motions and discussion:

Article 1. *Shall the Town accept the Town Report as printed?*

Resident Ken Flowers made a motion to accept the Town Report as printed with the listed corrections. Resident John Burke seconded the motion.

- On page 25, the header labeled Proposed 2020/2020 Budget should be corrected to 2020/2021.
- On page 36, Sue Decarolis' name is misspelled twice, it should be Decarolis.

The Moderator called the question. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 2. *Shall the Town authorize payment of real and personal property taxes to the Town Treasurer in four (4) installments, with the dates for payment being August 31, November 30, February 28 (29 in leap Year) and May 31?* **Resident John Burke made a motion to authorize payment of real and personal property taxes to the Town Treasurer in (4) installments, with the dates for payment being August 31, November 30, February 28 (29 in Leap Year) and May 31. Resident Ken Flowers seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Article 3. *Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to borrow money in anticipation of taxes?* **Resident Julie Finnegan made a motion to authorize the Select Board to borrow money in anticipation of taxes. Resident Ken Flowers seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

Article 4. *Shall the Town at this meeting discuss the proposed Select Board's budget for the expenses for the ensuing year?* **Resident Julie Finnegan made a motion to discuss at this meeting the proposed Select Board's budget for the ensuing year. Resident Joan Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.**

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WILL BE VOTED ON MARCH 3, 2020 BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES 6 - 57.

Mr. Finnegan noted that Article 5 would be deferred to the end of the meeting for citizen comments and concerns.

Article 6. *To elect Officers for the following terms: a Town Agent for 1 year; a 2nd Constable for 2 years; a Grand Juror for 1 year; Library Trustee for 5 years; a Town Moderator for 1 year; 2 Select Board members for 1 year; a Select Board member for 3 years.*

There was no discussion.

Article 7. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$26,079 for Legislating? (Prior year \$25,708)*

Resident Robert Franzoni asked what Legislating represented. Legislating is the title for Select Board budget.

Article 8. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,965 for Ordinances & Proceedings? (Prior year \$2,565)*

There was no discussion.

Article 9. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$177,245 of for Managing Municipalities? (Prior year \$167,439)*

There was no discussion.

Article 10. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,162 for Conducting Elections? (Prior year of \$9,064)*

There was no discussion.

Article 11. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$46,746 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds? (Prior year \$43,502)*

There was no discussion.

Article 12. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$97,048 for Accounting? (Prior year \$88,394)*

Resident John Burke asked why there was a substantial increase over last year. Select board member Zack Holzworth responded that the Town Accountant received a 3% raise and an assistant was hired.

Article 13. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for Auditing? (Prior year \$12,000)*

There was no discussion.

Article 14. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$39,332 for Tax Listing? (Prior Year \$38,644)*

There was no discussion.

Article 15. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,573 for Tax Collecting? (Prior year \$38,375)*

There was no discussion.

Article 16. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$78,394 for Document Recording/Issue? (Prior year \$75,500)*

There was no discussion.

Article 17. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for Legal Services? (Prior year \$30,000)*

Resident Don Wood asked why the budget was only down \$5,000 when last years budget was \$30,000 and only \$12,000 was spent. Select Board Chair Jim Leamy answered that they anticipate spending the balance before the year ends and there will be no union negotiations next year.

Article 18. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,836 for Municipal Planning & Zoning? (Prior year \$40,939)*

There was no discussion.

Article 19. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,996 for Community Development and Economic Revitalization? (Prior year \$0)*

Resident Bonnie Condit asked what the plan was for this money. Select Board Chair Jim Leamy responded that the money is to pay stipends for the members of the new committee as well as to pay for assistance from the Rutland Economic Development Committee and possibly contracting grant writers. Mr. Leamy invited Resident Mark Brown to speak about the newly formed CDERAC.

Mr. Brown introduced himself as the Chair of the CDERAC. Mr. Brown noted that the #1 goal for the Committee is to keep Castleton a vibrant community. The CDERAC hopes to be a resource for local businesses while reaching out to the community to see what they would like to see brought into Town. Mr. Brown reiterated that the CDERAC will work to keep the fabric of Castleton the same while adding to the community

Article 20. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$194,950 for General Government Buildings? (Prior year 190,013)* There was no discussion.

Article 21. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,439 for General Government Equipment? (Prior year \$20,700)* There was no discussion.

Article 22. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$523,038 for Police Department? (Prior year \$509,950)*
Resident Mark Brown praised the Castleton Police Department. Resident Julie Finnegan thanked the Police Chief for his time spent in the local schools with the children.

Article 23. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$36,218 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders) (Prior year \$36,218)*
There was no discussion.

Article 24. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$165,147 for Fire Department? (Prior year \$160,799)*
Resident Ted Day extended a thank you to the Castleton Fire Department for their dedication to the community. Moderator Michael Finnegan, also a member of the Fire Department, shared that the Castleton Fire Department had received a grant from FEMA and now has the top of the line "Jaws of Life." Mr. Finnegan thanked the community for their support.

Resident Robert Franzoni asked what the Castleton Fire Department would do if there was a fire on one of the islands on Lake Bomoseen. Moderator Finnegan responded that in the past, when there have been emergencies needing water transportation, Woodard Marine has provided boats under very short notice. Mr. Finnegan did note that fire safety equipment would need to be shuttled to the island as there is not any permanently stored fire safety equipment on the islands.

Article 25. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for Emergency Management? (Prior year \$11,000)*
Resident Susan Day asked what was involved in Emergency Management that was different from the Police and Fire Departments. Moderator Michael Finnegan explained that emergency management is for larger scale disasters in Town that may require relocating residents and may be ongoing for several days.

Resident Ted Day asked what would happen to the funds if there was no emergency management situation. Town Manager Michael Jones stated that if the funds were not used, they would go back into the budget.

Article 26. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,153,191 for Highway Department? (Prior year \$1,114,081)*
Resident Martha Molnar noted the large increase and asked the Select Board for an explanation. Select Board Vice Chair Richard Combs noted that there was 3% increase in planning on more infrastructure and paving. The Town Manager added that there was a 14% increase in health care for Town employees and both union contracts were ratified with 9% pay increase.

Resident Cornell Dawson asked about the difference in road management and capital improvement. Mr. Combs noted that there is \$200,000 in budget for paving as well as an amount being rolled over from last year that was not spent. The Town is not anticipating paving any new roads.

Resident Charlie Brown noted that last year can be rolled over for specific purpose and if it is not spent again, the money should go back to the residents. Mr. Combs stated that the roads will be paved this coming year. The Town Manager Michael Jones noted that there was \$209,000 left over from last year.

Article 27. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,400 for Town Lands? (Prior year \$3,600)*

There was no discussion.

Article 28. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries? (Prior year \$5,000)*

There was no discussion.

Article 29. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$29,000 for Hillside Cemetery? (Prior year \$28,000)*

There was no discussion.

Article 30. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,446 for Health Regulating & Inspecting? (Prior year \$1,449)*

There was no discussion.

Article 31. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,170 for Animal Control? (Prior year \$5,186)*

There was no discussion.

Article 32. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$37,239 for Constables? (Prior year \$40,525)*

Resident Mark Brown would like to mention that Constable Silas Loomis has had a life of public service and would encourage everyone to vote for this article.

Moderator Michael Finnegan noted that after the tragedy at Sandy Hook, Constable Loomis was at Castleton Elementary the next day without being asked, Mr. Finnegan stated, "That is Community Policing right there."

Resident Ted Day asked why the reduction in the budget if there are two (2) Constables. Constable Loomis responded that they cut some items that were not needed.

Resident John Burke also acknowledged Constable Loomis and shared that the Town would never be able to repay him for what he has given the community.

Article 33. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$346,430 for Transfer Station? (Prior year \$344,453)*

Resident Charlie Brown asked how much of this amount would need to be raised by taxes. Select Board Parliamentarian Joe Mark noted that \$50,000 would need to be raised by taxes.

Resident Susan Day asked how much the implementation of the Food Waste Collection will add to the expenses at the Transfer Station. Town Manager Michael Jones responded that at this time, there is no charge for food waste composting, the Town is spending about \$4,500 to dispose of the food composting. The Town is anticipating an increase but is not sure how much of an increase as individuals will have to take steps to begin composting. Also, Mr. Jones noted that before the Select Board sets the fees that go into July 1, Mr. Jones has a proposal to close the gap to make this cost neutral.

Resident Michael Holden asked when will the Town start charging for recycling? The Town Manager noted that addressing this will be included in his recommendation to the Select Board.

Resident Donald Wood noted that the more we compost, the less we dump, the less we dump, the less we pay at the Transfer Station so there would be a loss.

Select Board member Robert Spaulding noted that the less we dump, the less often the Town will need to haul away the garbage.

Resident Susan Day would like to encourage the Select Board into chipping and shredding their wood and branches and turning that around and giving it back to residents as mulch. Town Manager Jones noted that he is working with the University and other agencies to address the composting and ways to give back to the community.

Resident Mr. Potter asked if the sticker price would be increased this year? Town Manager Jones stated that he will be addressing this in his proposal to the Select Board.

Article 34. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$108,827 for Recreation? (Prior year \$109,050)*

Resident Mr. Potter would like to Martha Clifford a round of applause for her work.

Resident Mark Brown asked what the anticipated revenue for recreation would be. Select Board Parliamentarian Joe Mark stated that the revenue was approximately \$48,000. Select Board Vice Chair Richard Combs noted that one of the items to be paved this year would be the parking lot at Crystal Beach.

Resident Sue Decarolis recognized Amy Clapp for the programming she has done for the Recreation Department.

Article 35. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,650 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade? (Prior year \$9,650)*

There was no discussion.

Article 36. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$111,500 for Library Administration? (Prior year \$111,500)*

Resident Sue Decarolis recognized Librarians Jan Jones and Mary Kearns for the number of programs and services they bring.

Article 37. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires? (Prior year \$1,000)*

Resident William Potter asked who the Fire Warden was and what the increased was for. Select Board Parliamentarian Joe Mark answered that Fire Chief Heath Goyette was also the Fire Warden and the increase was to purchase some fire fighting backpacks for forest fires.

Article 38. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,749 for Tree Warden? (Prior year \$9,834)*

There was no discussion.

Article 39. *Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for Rutland County Tax? (Prior year \$40,000)*

There was no discussion.

Article 40. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 41. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 42. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget)*

Resident Jo Ann Riley shared information about the Castleton Community Center and the many programs offered for seniors and community members. Mrs. Riley shared that there are over 100 volunteers and thanked the Castleton voters for their support.

Resident William Potter stated he felt it was important that people from other towns pay their equal share. Mrs. Riley noted that Fair Haven appropriates \$7,000 and Hubbardton appropriates \$1,000 in support of the Castleton Community Center.

Resident Mark Brown stated he was proud of the work Mrs. Riley has done at the Community Center.

Mrs. Decarolis acknowledged the work of Laura Knauer the Program Director.

Article 43. *Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 44. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region (formerly known as Rutland Area Visiting Nurse & Hospice)? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 45. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 46. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 47. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 48. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 49. *Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget)*

There was no discussion.

Article 50. *Shall the Town authorize expanding the reserve account for the Castleton Emergency Response Team (CERT) Building to include the Police Department?*

Resident Susan Day asked for an explanation for this article. Select Board Vice Chair Richard Combs explained that the language of the reserve account needed to be changed to include the Police Department as well as the Fire Department in order to use the money within the account for the entire CERT building.

Resident Ted Day noted that there was no money involved with this article.

Article 51. *Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use \$100,000 from the Capital Improvements of the Town Reserve to apply toward the 20% match needed to secure a grant to construct a salt and sand shed on Town property? (The \$100,000 represents proceeds from the sale of the old fire station and the remainder of the reserve that helped fund the new Town Office.)*

Resident Cornell Dawson asked for an overview of funding on the reserve accounts. Town Manager Jones explained that at this time the vehicle reserve account is robust and the reserve accounts for the Fire Department, Police Department and Town Office are less as they are newer buildings.

The \$100,000 from the Capital Improvements Reserve is the 20% match to a grant for the Town Salt Shed. This \$100,000 is from the proceeds of the sale of the Old Fire Station.

Resident Bill Potter questioned the location of the new Town Salt Shed. Town Manager Jones responded with an explanation of the mitigation of the stormwater runoff.

Article 52. *Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use the remaining balance in the Weed Harvesting Reserve account (estimated to be \$18,477 as of June 30, 2020) and remaining balance in the Lake Related Reserve account (estimated to be \$620 as of June 30, 2020) for the purpose of dredging the lake at the mouth of the Sucker Brook tributary to remove silt and debris, and to stabilize the banks of Sucker Brook to mitigate erosion and further degradation of the stream bank?*

Resident Bonnie Condit asked if this amount will be enough to cover the cost for this project and what is the proposed timeline. Town Manager Jones answered that this is not enough money to cover the full cost, however there may be additional money available.

Resident John Burke acknowledged working with the State on a project at Crystal Beach and noted that the State of Vermont is familiar with the issue. The Town Manager affirmed that he was told by the State to apply for the permit.

Article 53. *Shall the Town authorize \$8,000 from the unassigned General Fund surplus as of June 30, 2019 to be placed in the Castleton Emergency Response Team (CERT) (Police, Fire, and EMS) Building Reserve for the purpose of "capital improvements/repair of the Public Safety Building (CERT) property?"*

Resident Don Wood asked if this Article ties into Article #50. The answer was yes.

Resident Liz McKay asked what the balance was in the General Fund Surplus. Select Board Vice Chair Richard Combs stated that there was approximately \$140,000.

Mrs. McKay asked if the goal was to have reserve accounts for every department. Mr. Jones responded that it was the goal to have a reserve account for every building, not every department.

Resident Ted Day noted that this was money that the Town already had, they were just asking for permission to move it.

Article 54. *Shall the Town authorize the establishment of a reserve fund for the Town Office building and lands for capital improvements/repair?*

There was no discussion.

Article 55. *Shall the Town authorize \$8,000 from the unassigned General Fund surplus as of June 30, 2019 to be placed in reserve fund for the purpose of capital improvements/repairs of the Town Office building and lands?*
There was no discussion.

Article 56. *Shall the voters of the Town of Castleton vote to exempt the real and personal property of the Bomoseen Valley Grange #273, from taxation for a period of five years to become effective this current year and remain in effect for five consecutive years, Pursuant to 32 VSA Section 3840?*

Resident Bill Potter asked if this Article was new or if it was a renewal. Select Board Vice Chair Richard Combs noted that this was a renewal as the previous tax exemption on the property had lapsed.

Article 57. *Shall the Town of Castleton withdraw from Rutland County Solid Waste District and take the necessary steps to join the Solid Waste Alliance Communities?*

Mr. Potter asked why on Front porch Forum, 4 of the 5 Select Board members voted against this article. Select Board Chair Richard Leamy referred Residents to the handouts available. Mr. Leamy noted that this article was added to the Ballot by petition and the Select Board had requested the Town Manager to research the information. There was a public meeting held on Monday, February 24, 2020 to discuss the Solid Waste Alliance

CASTLETON TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 2, 2020

8 | Page

Community and the Rutland County Solid Waste District. There was not a SWAC representative present and the Town Manager recommended that the Town stay with RCSWD based on his findings. Mr. Leamy noted that 2 previous Town Manager's also came to the same conclusion and agreed to stay with RCSWD.

Resident Katherine McCully stated that she has gone over Town Manager Jones analysis and is concerned that Castleton would be paying more for less if they were to leave RCSWD. Ms. McCully requested that Moderator poll the Select Board members.

Select Board Chair, Jim Leamy supports remaining with RCSWD based on current information.

Select Board Vice Chair, Richard Combs will vote no on Article #57.

Select Board Member, Zach Holzworth will vote no on Article #57 because the numbers have been consistent over the last several years.

Select Board Member, Robert Spaulding supports Article #57. Mr. Spaulding feels that the charges shown in the handout for costs to RCSWD only represent the costs at the Transfer Station, they do not include the costs paid to private haulers or to the University. The costs for SWAC covers all of the Town. Mr. Spaulding also feels that very little services will be lost.

Select Board Parliamentarian, Joe Mark will vote to remain with RCSWD as he believes that the Select Board obligation is to the budget and what the taxpayers pay.

Resident Joe Bruno asked why when the same question was asked last year and the voters approved leaving, the Select Board did not uphold the vote. It was explained that the language of the article last year was to allow the Town of Castleton to leave RCSWD and join SWAC if the cost would be a savings to the Town, there was not a definitive savings determined.

There was discussion on the language of last year's article.

Resident Liz McKay asked if those articles added by petition could be identified on the ballot.

Resident Susan Day asked if the Town would lose its investment in RCSWD if we were to leave. The Town Manager deferred to Tim Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert stated that last year there was a letter that stated that the Town would need to pay the balances of outstanding leases. Although the letter stated that the Town would get this money back, Mr. Gilbert stated that this was an error and the Town would not get their money back if they were to leave.

Article 5. *To act upon any business, which may properly come before this meeting?*

Resident Tim Gilbert stated that he appreciated the work of the Fire Department and that he did not feel that they should have to stand in the road for donations, he would rather add to their budget.

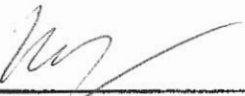
Resident Joe Bruno noted that Vital Statistics were not included in the Town Report this year and he does not agree with the exclusion.

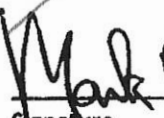
Thank everyone for coming. Voting is tomorrow at the Castleton Fire Station, 273 Route 30N. Polls open at 8:00am and close at 7:00pm.

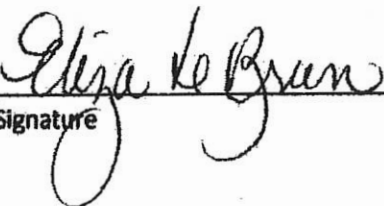
ADJOURN

Resident Ken Flowers made a motion to close the Town Meeting at 8:47 p.m. Constable Silas Loomis seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted; Eliza LeBrun, Recording Secretary

 Moderator 3/9/2020
Signature Date

 Mark Brown Justice of the Peace 3/9/2020
Signature Date

 Eliza LeBrun 3/9/2020
Signature Date

Respectfully submitted; Eliza LeBrun, Recording Secretary

PART 1

OFFICIAL BALLOT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

CASTLETON, VERMONT

MARCH 3, 2020

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,162 for Conducting Elections? (Prior year \$9,064)

811 YES ☒
319 NO ☐

Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$46,746 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds? (Prior year \$43,502)

736 YES ☒
427 NO ☐

Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$97,048 for Accounting? (Prior year \$88,394)

655 YES ☒
514 NO ☐

Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for Auditing? (Prior year \$12,000)

968 YES ☒
206 NO ☐

Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$39,332 for Tax Listing? (Prior Year \$38,644)

777 YES ☒
393 NO ☐

**TURN BALLOT OVER
AND VOTE BOTH SIDES**

- A. To vote, completely fill in the oval ☐ to the right of your choice(s), like this: ☒
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the oval.
- D. If you wrongly mark, tear or deface the ballot, return it and obtain another.

TOWN AGENT

For One Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

(WRITE-IN) ☐**SECOND CONSTABLE**

For Two Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

MICHAEL A. JONES 930 ☒(WRITE-IN) ☐**GRAND JUROR**

For One Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

(WRITE-IN) ☐**LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

For Five Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

PATRICK KELLER 972 ☒(WRITE-IN) ☐**TOWN MODERATOR**

For One Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

MICHAEL FINNEGAN 948 ☒(WRITE-IN) ☐**TOWN SELECTMAN**

For Three Year Term (Vote for not more than ONE)

JOE BRUNO 446 ☐RICHARD "DICK" COMBS 690 ☒(WRITE-IN) ☐**TOWN SELECTMAN**

For One Year Term (Vote for not more than TWO)

JIM LEAMY 692 ☒JOE MARK 692 ☒ROB STEELE 523 ☐(WRITE-IN) ☐(WRITE-IN) ☐**TOWN ARTICLES**

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$26,079 for Legislating? (Prior year \$25,708)

795 YES ☒
371 NO ☐

Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,965 for Ordinances & Proceedings? (Prior year \$2,565)

944 YES ☒
230 NO ☐

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$177,245 for Managing Municipalities? (Prior year \$167,439)

811 YES ☒
355 NO ☐

Results

<p>Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,573 for Tax Collecting? (Prior year \$38,375)</p> <p>684 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>467 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 22. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$523,038 for Police Department? (Prior year \$509,950)</p> <p>771 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>394 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 29. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$29,000 for Hillside Cemetery? (Prior year \$28,000)</p> <p>921 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>241 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$78,394 for Document Recording/Issue? (Prior year \$75,500)</p> <p>659 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>485 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 23. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$36,218 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders) (Prior year \$36,218)</p> <p>1090 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>86 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 30. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,446 for Health Regulating & Inspecting? (Prior year \$1,449)</p> <p>976 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>178 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for Legal Services? (Prior year \$30,000)</p> <p>927 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>224 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 24. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$165,147 for Fire Department? (Prior year \$160,799)</p> <p>944 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>225 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 31. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,170 for Animal Control? (Prior year \$5,186)</p> <p>932 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>231 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,836 for Municipal Planning & Zoning? (Prior year \$40,939)</p> <p>751 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>397 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 25. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for Emergency Management? (Prior year \$11,000)</p> <p>971 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>183 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 32. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$37,239 for Constables? (Prior year \$40,525)</p> <p>951 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>215 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,996 for Community Development and Economic Revitalization? (Prior year \$0)</p> <p>733 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>413 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 26. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,153,191 for Highway Department? (Prior year \$1,114,081)</p> <p>878 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>277 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 33. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$346,430 for Transfer Station? (Prior year \$344,453)</p> <p>855 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>314 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 20. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$194,950 for General Government Buildings? (Prior year 190,013)</p> <p>673 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>471 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 27. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,400 for Town Lands? (Prior year \$3,600)</p> <p>925 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>230 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 34. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$108,827 for Recreation? (Prior year \$109,050)</p> <p>913 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>258 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Article 21. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,439 for General Government Equipment? (Prior year \$20,700)</p> <p>739 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>409 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 28. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries? (Prior year \$5,000)</p> <p>1001 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>161 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Article 35. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,650 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade? (Prior year \$9,650)</p> <p>867 YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>292 NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>

GO TO NEXT BALLOT
AND CONTINUE VOTING

PART 2

OFFICIAL BALLOT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

CASTLETON, VERMONT

MARCH 3, 2020

Results

- A. To vote, completely fill in the oval ☐ to the right of your choice(s), like this: ☒
- B. If you wrongly mark, tear or deface the ballot, return it and obtain another.

<p>Article 36. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$111,500 for Library Administration? (Prior year \$111,500)</p> <p>965 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>241 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 40. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>927 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>257 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 43. Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>898 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>296 NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>Article 37. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires? (Prior year \$1,000)</p> <p>954 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>251 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 41. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>993 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>207 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 44. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region (formerly known as Rutland Area Visiting Nurse & Hospice)? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>1012 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>188 NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>Article 38. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,749 for Tree Warden? (Prior year \$9,834)</p> <p>905 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>288 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 42. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>996 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>206 NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Article 45. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget)</p> <p>941 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>262 NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>Article 39. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for Rutland County Tax? (Prior year \$40,000)</p> <p>935 YES <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>246 NO <input type="radio"/></p>		

**TURN BALLOT OVER
AND VOTE BOTH SIDES**

Article 46. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget)

837 YES ☒
303 NO ☐

Article 47. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget)

910 YES ☒
242 NO ☐

Article 48. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget)

954 YES ☒
198 NO ☐

Article 49. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget)

850 YES ☒
294 NO ☐

Article 50. Shall the Town authorize expanding the reserve account for the Castleton Emergency Response Team (CERT) Building to include the Police Department?

842 YES ☒
299 NO ☐

Article 51. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use \$100,000 from the Capital Improvements of the Town Reserve to apply toward the 20% match needed to secure a grant to construct a salt and sand shed on Town property? (The \$100,000 represents proceeds from the sale of the old fire station and the remainder of the reserve that helped fund the new Town Office.)

822 YES ☒
316 NO ☐

Article 52. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use the remaining balance in the Weed Harvesting Reserve account (estimated to be \$18,477 as of June 30, 2020) and remaining balance in the Lake Related Reserve account (estimated to be \$620 as of June 30, 2020) for the purpose of dredging the lake at the mouth of the Sucker Brook tributary to remove silt and debris, and to stabilize the banks of Sucker Brook to mitigate erosion and further degradation of the stream bank?

832 YES ☒
303 NO ☐

Article 53. Shall the Town authorize \$8,000 from the unassigned General Fund surplus as of June 30, 2019 to be placed in the Castleton Emergency Response Team (CERT) (Police, Fire, and EMS) Building Reserve for the purpose of capital improvements/repair of the Public Safety Building (CERT) property?

855 YES ☒
283 NO ☐

Article 54. Shall the Town authorize the establishment of a reserve fund for the Town Office building and lands for capital improvements/repair?

689 YES ☒
437 NO ☐

Article 55. Shall the Town authorize \$8,000 from the unassigned General Fund surplus as of June 30, 2019 to be placed in reserve fund for the purpose of capital improvements /repairs of the Town Office building and lands?

702 YES ☒
422 NO ☐

Article 56. Shall the voters of the Town of Castleton vote to exempt the real and personal property of the Bomoseen Valley Grange #273, from taxation for a period of five years to become effective this current year and remain in effect for five consecutive years, Pursuant to 32 VSA Section 3840?

728 YES ☒
395 NO ☐

Article 57. Shall the Town of Castleton withdraw from Rutland County Solid Waste District and take the necessary steps to join the Solid Waste Alliance Communities?

506 YES ☐
596 NO ☒

RESULTS

YOU HAVE NOW
COMPLETED VOTING

Town of Castleton Personnel Wage / Benefit Summary FY2019-2020

Insurance Benefits			Insurance Benefits		
Employee	Gross Wages	Paid by Town	Employee	Gross Wages	Paid by Town
ALKINBURGH SCOTT J.	9,407.20	2,990.06	KASUBA SUSAN K.	45.00	-
BALLARD TYLER-JOSEPH L.	382.50	-	KEARNS ESTELLE F.	157.51	-
BARBER JOSEPHINE M.	172.48	-	KEARNS MARY E.	23,751.91	-
BESTE JOEL A.	94.05	-	LABEN-HARDT MELINDA M.	8,032.83	-
BLACK ROBERT L.	80.00	-	LANTHIER ANDREW R.	1,805.65	-
BLAIR MELISSA A.	1,746.00	-	LEAMY JAMES P.	750.00	-
BOUTWELL NEDRA A.	38,540.33	16,195.14	LEBRUN ELIZA J.	4,792.01	-
BRUNO JAMES A.	14,479.00	-	LONGTIN BRUCE W.	40.00	-
CAETANO FABIO	11,421.00	4,947.70	LOOMIS SILAS R.	21,346.50	-
CHALMERS EVAN D.	38,065.61	8,233.67	MACKAY TREVOR A.	880.53	-
CHAMBERLAND HARRY E. III	614.46	-	MANTELLIO PETER J.	91,766.94	22,754.16
CHRISTIAN CAEL A.	3,360.44	-	MARR DAVID E.	472.52	-
CLAPP AMY E.	8,726.19	-	MARR IVY M.	315.01	-
CLIFFORD MARTHA J.	6,019.79	-	MARR TWYLA V.	168.77	-
COLOMB MARK A.	40.00	-	MARR-HILLIARD ZOE W.	599.67	-
COLOUTTI RYLEIGH A.	2,183.16	-	MARTIN JOHN J.	8,172.90	-
COMBS MELANIE J.	53,550.80	16,195.13	MATTHEWS ELLSWORTH W.	823.20	-
COMBS RICHARD A.	1,000.00	-	MCGANN GAIL D.	2,194.78	-
CUMMINGS JUDITH B.	980.98	-	MCGRAW SHAWN M.	200.00	-
CURRIE JANET K.	400.00	-	NORTH CARLTON D.	3,807.33	-
CURTIS ELIZABETH A.	1,133.00	-	PACIULLI KEVIN A.	1,530.00	-
DAVIS JILL M.	2,623.88	-	PELKEY CASSANDRA M.	913.61	-
DAY ROBERT E.	120.00	-	PETTY MARGARET A.	35,007.17	16,467.57
DECHEN STEPHEN J.	16,172.61	-	ROGERS PAUL A.	37,635.71	-
DENNO RYAN R.	4,398.66	-	ROGERS ROLLIN N. II	955.20	-
DRAPER GREGORY T.	40.00	-	ROSARIO ELIZER A.	1,567.50	-
EAGAN PAUL C.	62,901.98	16,505.69	ROSENTHAL JONAS H.	15,790.50	-
FINNEGAN PATRICK J.	2,688.54	-	RUFFIN CHRISTOPHER C.	1,118.36	-690.00
IORE MARK J.	3,426.01	-	SCOTT NICHOLAS T.	270.30	-
FITCH MEGAERA V.	570.95	-	SHUTTS ROBERTA M.	200.00	-
FOLEY KATHLEEN M.	84.38	-	SMITH MICHAEL J.	43,579.21	8,233.67
FORREST CHRISTOPHER R.	39,129.90	8,034.47	SPAULDING ROBERT V.	1,000.00	-
FRANZONI ROBERT A.	440.00	-	STEVENS SCOTT A.	6,588.73	-
FURLAN HELVI A.	1,046.31	-	STEWART GRAHAM R.	4,630.77	-
GARRIGAN JOSEPH P.	14,358.00	-	STEWART KAREN L.	36,935.63	15,628.24
GOODRICH KYLE M.	16,753.53	-	SZABO KELLEY L.	1,285.43	-
GOSSELIN JULIA A.	5,060.50	-	SZAREJKO JUSTIN A.	92,456.85	8,097.56
GOYETTE HEATH C.	48,038.85	16,467.58	TEETOR MARY JO	16,916.75	-
HALLETT RANDALL R.	28,969.87	19,241.93	TRACEY EDWARD	9,450.00	8,401.20
HASKINS MARY A.	2,607.42	-	TRAYNOR NATHAN J.	200.00	-
HAYES EDWARD C.	74,686.60	8,805.73	TRUDO NANCY L.	10,948.02	-
HILLIARD ALEXANDRA	2,407.55	-	VAN NOORDT DARCY A.	1,498.32	-
HOLZWORTH ZACK S.	1,000.00	-	WARD ROBERT B.	54,991.33	6,331.29
HUSSEIN HUSSEIN A.	90.01	-	WEBSTER NATHAN C.	6,218.65	720.09
JONES JANET L.	29,330.88	-	WELCH SCOTT T.	4,745.50	-
JONES MICHAEL A.	81,586.46	-	WOOD DONALD P.	120.00	-
JONES SARAH E.	1,315.88	-			
JORDAN JEFF L.	39,549.10	23,136.84	Totals Employees Reported: 94	1,228,471.46	226,697.72

Meetings

***Due to COVID-19 all meetings are held remotely due to occupancy limits. Please see posted agenda for remote participation information.**

Select Board

2nd & 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00 P.M. Or as posted.

Planning Commission

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 P.M. or as posted.

Recreation Commission

1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M. at the Town Office

Development Review Board

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. or as posted.

Community Development & Economic Revitalization Advisory Committee:

3rd Thursday each month at 6:30 P.M.

Congratulations to James P. Leamy for being awarded the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Lifetime Achievement Award:

Thank you, Jim, for 56 years of service to Castleton. For over five (5) decades Jim Leamy has been Castleton's Health Officer. In 1995 Jim was elected to the Castleton Select Board for the first time. His current term represents his seventeenth year on this board of which he is the Chairman.

Perhaps most important of all Jim's contributions, is his legacy of clean lake water. His simple approach proved quite effective. In the early days, there was no sewer line running up the east side of the lake, and many of the lakeside structures, including early-20th Century "camps" and several large hotels, had primitive septic systems at best.

Jim persisted in discovering the offending properties & his consistent follow up with testing identified whether sewer effluent was escaping into the lake. Jim ensured the landowner remedied the situation. As a result, gradually over the years, septic leaks and overflows declined, and the quality of Lake Bomoseen's water improved significantly. Through all of Jim's efforts, the

quality of Lake Bomoseen's water continued to improve to the point where it was not only safe to drink but wonderfully clear. Jim later secured funding for the weed harvesters and was appointed Executive Director of the Lake Bomoseen Association and served in that capacity for more than 20 years.

We recognize the tireless decades of service that Jim Leamy has given to our town, our residents & our lake. We are all grateful that his efforts preserved Lake Bomoseen as a tremendous asset to our community, while his participation in our municipal governing body has positioned our town for a bright future.

Congratulations Jim & thank you for over 50 years of service to our hometown.

Select Board Report

The Select Board would like to express our sincere appreciation for all the members of our community who stayed working during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to provide essential goods and services to the community. You are the true unsung heroes who stayed on the front lines, exposing yourself to potential infection day in and day out. As the pandemic continues to threaten the health and safety of our community, we pledge to provide support to the community through legislative measures as needed, or by ensuring critical services are funded and employees remain as safe as possible as not to disrupt services expected by residents and taxpayers. The Select Board will work with Castleton University to ensure transparency and action with the largest agency in our community.

The board would also like to recognize and thank all Town employees for their dedication and support during the pandemic. Employees stayed on the job and did not telework or work in shifts. They supported the COVID-19 restrictions, respected each other's views, and ensured critical services were provided. The Select Board supported closing public buildings to walk-in service, but departments set up an appointment system for those who chose to utilize it. The drop box at the Town Office was heavily used by residents. Residents were able to conduct their business with very few issues. This practice will continue throughout the pandemic.

The board would like to acknowledge the many individual volunteers, civic groups, and social service agencies who selflessly gave of their personal time to provide, prepare, deliver, or donate food and other products to those in our community who were in need. The Castleton Police Department partnered with

Castleton Cares, American Legion Post #50, the Castleton Community Center, to distribute food and conduct health and welfare checks on vulnerable members of our community. The services you provide are invaluable to our community.

The Select Board is appreciative and provides unwavering support of our First Responders. They are a small group of fire and EMS volunteers who selflessly serve the community anytime, day or night. They operate on budgets much smaller than those of full-time fire and EMS agencies, yet they respond to the same type emergencies and expectations remain the same. We owe it to them to be sure they have the vehicles, equipment, supplies, and training to perform the actions necessary to influence a positive outcome when a resident, visitor or passerby is experiencing an emergency.

The Select Board would like to thank our Treasurer Nancy Trudo and her husband Graham for their efforts to secure donations, solicit volunteers, plan, and conduct Castleton's first-year participation in a Wreath's Across America ceremony. The board would also like to recognize and thank the Castleton Cemetery Association for allowing the event to take place in the Hillside Cemetery. The event drew about fifty volunteers and started with short ceremony where local veterans placed wreaths representing all branches of service, including the U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. We would also like to thank Rutland City Fire Chief James Larsen for participating in the ceremony and providing the fire department's side-by-side utility vehicle to help transport wreaths and those with ambulatory problems to veteran's grave sites throughout the cemetery. The event concluded with volunteers placing wreaths at the marked graves of veterans.

The board is committed to ensuring budgets conform to the needs of the community and that funds necessary to repair and maintain our roads, bridges, buildings, and other critical infrastructure are included in operating budgets and capital reserves, so they do not fall into a state of disrepair. The board has worked closely with the Town Manager to ensure necessary repairs to critical infrastructure is planned and adequately funded as not to disrupt critical services to the community.

The board is appreciative of those who serve on boards, commissions and committees want to recognize them for their selfless service and supporting a vision for a strong and resilient community. This group of dedicated individuals share a vision to improve our infrastructure, policies, ordinances, and regulations to best serve all residents. They apply for grants to get projects funded

that would not be possible otherwise. We are always looking to appoint volunteers to serve on our boards, commissions, and committees, even if as alternates.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Leamy (Chair)
Richard Combs (Vice Chair)
Robert Spaulding
Zackary Holzworth
Joseph Mark

Town Manager Report

I would like to echo the Select Board and express my appreciation for all the essential workers who remained on the job to provide critical goods and services to the public. I never want to experience another supply and demand crisis over toilet paper ever again! I realize many businesses suffered through the State's COVID-19 restrictions, and I am hopeful all will be able to continue to weather the storm and come back even stronger in 2021. I urge all residents to buy local and support our business owners.

I want to thank the Castleton Volunteer Fire Department and Castleton First Response for remaining on the front lines during the pandemic. Despite the many restrictions placed on them due to the pandemic, they found ways to safely train while keeping each other healthy and safe. Although it was not an ideal situation, it would only have taken one of the members to be infected with the virus and we could have lost a significant portion of our volunteers to quarantine requirements. These volunteers play a critical role in public safety, therefore taking steps to keep them healthy and safe was necessary to ensure they were available in a time of need.

I would like to thank the many volunteers who spend countless hours planning and organizing community events. The Fourth of July Committee holds several planning meetings to organize the fireworks display and the street and boat parades. In December 2019, several groups worked together to organize a winter parade, tree lighting ceremony, Christmas market, and a cookies and hot chocolate event with Santa. This really brought the community together and so many stated they looked forward to the event in 2020. I would also like to thank the many vendors who participated in the Christmas market and our business owners who remained open and to patrons. It was a successful collaborative event and I look forward to the next one. If interested in being part of the Fourth of July Committee, please contact me at the Town Office.

The second half of the fiscal year proved challenging due to the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). It certainly changed how business was conducted. The Town Office was closed to the public for a few months, and then I reopened it to the public by appointment only. It was an inconvenience for some, but I felt it necessary to minimize the risk of infection to employees. If an employee were to be infected, it may have negatively impacted the services provided to residents. I felt it more important that employees remained on the job and not sick and quarantined at home. I wish to express my gratitude to all employees who did not miss work due to the restrictions. All offices/departments remained operationally ready and employees rose to the occasion by embracing our COVID-19 risk mitigation policies and procedures. At the close of the fiscal year, there were no COVID positive cases in the workforce and despite the inconveniences restricting walk-ins caused, we were able to provide all the routine services the public expects.

The Town ended the fiscal year with an unaudited budget surplus. The Town will undergo its annual audit by accounting firm Pace & Hawley. If the budget surplus is confirmed by the audit, I will approach the Select Board about using a portion of the surplus for some community space upgrades. If they are accepted by the Select Board, it would go to the voters for their approval.

The Transfer Station continues to undergo much needed upgrades. I feel optimistic that proposed fee restructuring, if approved, will bring fees in line with what neighboring Transfer Station are charging, and more importantly, make the operation of the Transfer Station cost neutral to the taxpayers. I am confident that upgrades can be made, and fees restructured that will allow us to not only maintain the level of service we provide to patrons, but to increase or expand those services.

The Select Board and voters agreed to remain members of the Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD). They continue to be a strong partner and have helped us maintain compliance with all State of Vermont and federal requirements. I appreciate such assistance because they bring a wealth of solid waste knowledge to the table. Fines levied against the Town for non-compliance could far exceed any cost savings from a lesser partner. I asked that an informal inspection of the Transfer Station be conducted by the RCSWD to get feedback on our strengths and vulnerabilities. The

feedback was extremely positive and proves that investing in our infrastructure and hiring good employees can produce positive outcomes. I am appreciative to have their support and to have such dedicated and customer-oriented employees working for the Town of Castleton.

Highway Foreman Paul Eagan announced his desire to retire in the fall of 2020. Paul will retire after many years of service to the Town of Castleton and I want to thank Paul for those many years of faithful service. I decided to go a different direction with hiring Paul's replacement. The Select Board approved a job description for a Director of Public Works rather than a Highway Foreman. The Director of Public Works will continue as the highway foreman but will also provide oversight over the Wastewater Treatment Facility, Transfer Station, and the Tree Warden. My assessment of the current workforce structure led me to believe such a bold change would make operations more efficient, effective, and not increase the budget. A hiring board interviewed some very qualified applicants from all over New England. The final decision was made to hire Poultney resident and longtime Wastewater Grade 5 Chief Operator, Edward Savage. Ed previously worked for the Town/Village of Poultney, City of Rutland, Town of West Rutland, and General Electric. Ed will play an instrumental role assisting me and the Select Board with the planning and modernization of public infrastructure and equipment. We owe it to the residents and taxpayers to ensure we are maintaining what we have, and to conduct strategic and capital planning for the future. Ed is scheduled to start in August 2020, and he brings decades of experience in the wastewater and public works arena, so I look forward to working with him.

The Wastewater Treatment Facility is due an engineering study in the fall of 2020 to look at the condition of the treatment and collection systems. The loan for the last twenty-year upgrades was paid off in July of 2019. The municipal wastewater system is run as an enterprise and is paid for by the users and not all taxpayers. It is a critical service that so many rely on, so keeping the mechanical and non-mechanical components upgraded and efficient is something that is typically done every twenty (20) years. The collection system is getting old. It consists of 62 grinder pumps, four pump stations, several manholes, and the sewer lines themselves. There are still sewer lines that are 1970's vintage concrete asbestos sewer lines that are in varying states of operational readiness and may need replacement. Additionally, some of the treatment components at the wastewater facility on Route 30 need upgrades, including the ultraviolet light disinfectant system and pre-treatment headworks.

Crystal Beach had a few upgrades this year. First, the parking lot was repaved and lined. I worked with our Tree Warden, Scott Welch, and Recreation Director Martha Clifford, to remove some dead and dangerous trees at the beach. The old willows along the lake shore and Sucker Brook have come to the end of their lifespans. They are rotting from the inside and creating a safety hazard for patrons. We worked to have several of the trees trimmed or taken down to avoid any serious injury to patrons, but there are more to remove. Trees were planted to replace those taken down. Our Tree Warden will continue to monitor the health of the trees and be sure to take necessary action to ensure the safety of all those who use the facility.

The Castleton Police department filled officer vacancies. Chief Mantello, a community member, and I conducted interviews to hire new officers. The Town hired Nathan Webster, who was working for the Rutland County Sheriff's Department, and Casey Morey, who will attend the basic course later in 2020. Please welcome these officers to our community.

The Town continues to apply for grants to improve roads, community spaces, pedestrian safety, recreation opportunities. The VTRANS Class II paving grant was suspended, so roads that were scheduled to get paved had to be postponed. A Better Roads grant for Little Rutland Road was suspended due to COVID-19 but funds should be released in late 2020. The Town has plans to replace culverts, remove trees, ledge, and reestablish ditches on the Town maintained portion of Coon Hill Road using money from Grants-in-Aid funding. The Town also applied for a VTRANS Bike and Pedestrian grant that would provide the funds needed to complete sidewalks from Drake Road to Castleton Four Corners and Castleton Four Corners north to the Castleton Health Center in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Jones
Town Manager

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission (PC) met 20 times this past year. The Castleton PC has been working with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, through a Municipal Planning Grant, on updates to the Zoning (2013), Subdivision (1986), Flood Hazard Regulations (2009) and is proposing River Corridor Bylaws that will enhance the Town's ability to recover additional Flood Disaster Aid.

The Commission has proposed and drafted an Enhanced Energy Plan that would allow the Town party status in siting of large and small solar projects using local siting criteria that would address its concerns to the Vermont Public Utility Commission to encourage smart energy growth. The Commission needs further information before it decides whether to move forward on adopting this Plan.

The Planning Commission looks forward to 2021. Our goals are to collaborate on grant funding opportunities, encourage new business growth and to provide a more streamlined zoning process.

We wish to thank past Commission members Chairperson Janet Currie and Jon Pintello for their service to the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Bruno
Planning Commission Chair

Transfer Station

In the fiscal year of 2019-2020 many improvements have been made at the Transfer Station. A complete clean out and renovation has been done to the pit. It is no longer one big pile of assorted waste. Each type of waste has its own separated area. In that same time a nice rose bed was constructed by the entrance with a flagpole flying high. We are grateful for Joe Garrigan who performed the excavation, Paul Rogers for hauling out the old compost to make room for the current setup. I continue as Supervisor of our Transfer Station and am proud of the improvements thus far. This level of pride will continue as we strive to be better each year.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Forrest
▪ Chief Operator

Assessors Report

As continuous reminders to all residents, if you reside in the Town of Castleton as of April 1, when you file your Vermont income tax please be sure that you fill out the HS-122 form. Particularly if you have a tax preparer emphasize this, as many out of state preparers seem to overlook or are not aware of this important piece of the VT individual tax return. The HS-122 is your homestead declaration form for your principal dwelling.

Go to the State of Vermont website at <http://tax.vermont.gov> for instructions and due dates. This form is how you declare your homestead residency. This office gets the information directly from the tax department to determine homestead as well as any state payment issued to offset property tax for those who qualify.

Also, our veterans should be sure to speak with your VA office about the criteria and application for eligibility for a special exemption. If you have questions about these applications, feel free to call the office and we will do what we can to provide contact information or go to www.veterans.vermont.gov. Eligibility must come from the VA directly to our office. There is always a lot to do, I look forward to serving the Castleton community and encourage folks to call or visit if they have questions. I am happy to make appointments at your convenience.

Each year begins as we receive the determination of the CLA (common level of appraisal) and COD (common level of dispersion) for the upcoming tax year. These numbers are a result of yearly sales studies that consider three years of revolving data. The CLA is applied to the calculation that determines tax rates.

General maintenance of entering property transfers, initializing site visits for permits open and new, updating and maintaining the grand list are also continual processes. Anyone interested in making an appointment for a site visit please feel free to contact this office. I will try my best to set up appointments for property owners before visiting. I will always leave a card with contact information if I have stopped by when you are not there. Due to COVID-19 most appointments will be exterior only. It is helpful to discuss with the homeowner any upgrades and interior changes that have been done before the abstract is filed. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in these difficult times.

Working to bring the town tax maps up to date and resolving some inaccuracies is also an ongoing process. Moving forward our hope is to work with the property owners, if they have surveys that may not be on file it is helpful to have them in the vault so that we can identify any possible errors that have not been picked up. When we do the annual map update in the spring, we should be able to integrate discrepancies that were missed. We encourage property owners to file their Mylar surveys with the clerk's office so that maintenance of the town's tax mapping is done with the best available information. It also helps to have the most current information on file for research purposes when property is transferring. The spring update will occur with information on file by April 1, 2021.

The goal of this office is to acquire the information needed to be fair and equitable to all property owners. Your participation in the process is helpful to ensure the accuracy of the information used to determine fair market value.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Jo Teetor
Assessor

Castleton Volunteer Fire Department

The Castleton Fire Department was established in 1946. This year the department responded to 161 emergency calls which included vehicle accidents, agency assists for structure fires, carbon monoxide alarms, and downed power lines.

We continually work to enhance our skills by attending in house and online trainings, as well as performing maintenance on our vehicles and equipment. Our community is very fortunate to be served by such a dedicated group of firefighters who respond to your calls.

Currently, there are 22 members and 2 college students on our roster. Any Castleton residents who are interested in serving as a volunteer firefighter please call the fire Chief at 802-342-0167 and set up a time to meet, fill out an application, and answer any questions you may have.

The Castleton Firefighters Association is always looking for additional volunteers as well. This is a volunteer group that helps the fire department with fundraising and community events.

This year due to the COVID 19 pandemic (as with all other departments, organizations, businesses, and citizens) has been a difficult time for our town and country. The fire department has been no exception. The pandemic circumstances made it difficult at times to hold meetings and training sessions, but we have made the best of it.

A big thanks goes out to all our members and volunteers. Everyone has stepped up to get creative and follow state guidelines to work hard to safely serve the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heath Goyette
Fire Chief

Hillside Cemetery

The Castleton Cemetery Association completed a COVID challenged year with the closing of the cemetery in December. The construction of the roadway was completed for the new Section D. We thank Rick Hall for his work which should carry our needs for many years.

Our gratitude goes out to Sara Grey and MaryAnn Jakubowski who share the secretary position. Present work is being performed to update our cemetery section maps and lot record pages.

Ray Ladd handled our lot sales again this year. Sexton Mike Eagan, Supervisor Reggie Beayon and Assistant Ryan Woods navigated a difficult pandemic path through 2020. We cannot thank them enough. Thanks to Phyllis Blanchard for her efforts as Treasurer and to all the Trustees for their hours of service. Even though December 19th is a challenge at this latitude, we were pleased to participate in the "Wreaths Across America" celebration. Hats off to the Trudo's for their effort in organizing that event. We will have new lawn mowers for our workers in 2021 and we continue to be proud of the appearance of Hillside Cemetery.

Finally, we want to welcome our new board member, Julie Marcy and look forward to our work with her help.

Respectfully Submitted,

John D. Burke, President
John Pellegrino, 1st Vice President
Silas Loomis, 2nd Vice President
Sara C. Grey & MaryAnn Jakubowski, Co-Secretaries
Phyllis Blanchard, Treasurer
Michael Eagan, Sexton
Joan Lord, Trustee
Aleda Dutton, Trustee
Lois Ladd, Trustee
Richard Hall, Jr., Trustee
Julie Marcy, Trustee
Raymond Ladd (Non-Voting)

Castleton First Responders

Regional Ambulance Service Castleton First Responders The Regional Ambulance Castleton First Responders are comprised of volunteer Castleton residents, Castleton University Students, and members of the Castleton

Police Department. We provide early treatment to stabilize patients for transport. Regional Ambulance Service provides advanced treatment and transport to Rutland Regional Medical Center.

During Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Regional Ambulance Castleton First Responders were called out 379 times. Our volunteer responders attempt to cover the community 24 hours a day 7 days a week if the volunteers are available. Regional Ambulance Service has an excellent response time to our emergency calls. Additional responders are always needed and welcome. If you have an interest in becoming a Regional Ambulance Castleton First Responder and would like more information you may call the town office at 802-468-5319.

This year has been a trying time for everyone with COVID-19. I would ask that if you need to be seen and treated please do not be afraid Regional Ambulance Castleton First Responders, Regional Ambulance and Rutland Regional Medical Center are taking all the necessary precautions for a safe visit to the Emergency Room. As of writing this report most of the First Responders have received both shots of the COVID-19 vaccine.

On behalf of our team, I would like to thank the Castleton Police Department, Castleton Fire Department, Castleton Constables and Vermont State Police for their dependable and rapid response. Their help and presence at our calls is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Ducharme
Field Chief RAS/ CFR

Castleton Free Library

What a year - even before COVID-19 arrived on our radar!

Summer 2019 began with community members reading inspiring words of Frederick Douglass on the library steps. We had a full schedule of kids' programs - designing cardboard modules to commemorate the moon landing, stenciling t-shirts, experimenting with virtual reality and dance improvisation. A Clif grant and program provided free books to every child. Autumn brought a look back at VT in the 60's, Castleton

Day at Crystal Beach, pollinators, international games, a heady look at art, and our annual Thriller zombies on the lawn. We ushered in the December holidays with a frigid, fantastic Town collaboration on Main St., with lights and merriment at every turn, but also poignant memories of dear friends. There were fireside stories, Hanukkah candles, Christmas crafts, and gingerbread - so many traditions that bind us together.

A new year - 2020! We heard reflections on war and writing, discussed Civil Rights during VT Reads programs, unlocked clues at Family Math Night, and rocked the library at Family Dance Night. All along, monthly Book Clubs, Weekly Story Hours, and Playgroups thrived. We formed a partnership with a young Robotics team from MA and bonded with a wonderful group of CU International Students from Indonesia, Kosovo, Pakistan, Tibet & Japan. They volunteered many hours in the library and planned an exciting series of community presentations with us. And then on the day of the first program, it all shut down. The next few months brought steep learning curves, anxieties about patron needs and community safety, and bewildering transitions. We said sad goodbyes to our new CU friends as they waited for flights home. We wrote Pandemic Policies with the Trustees and shifted our service practices in response to press conferences: lockdown, work from home, curbside & deliveries. Mary learned how to be a Zoom host, presented a COVID-19 program, sourced masks, gloves, & sanitizer. Jan researched copyright infringement, learned how to present virtual Story Hours, filmed forest walks, and installed a Story Walk along the CU trails.

Meanwhile behind the scenes, big ideas were growing the whole time. Despite the stresses of COVID-19, a group of believers and library supporters put in countless hours of Zooming, researching, debating, grant-writing, meeting with architects, studying floor plans, and dreaming - to improve our lovely old building and make it accessible to all in 2021. We are beyond excited that after so many years of wishing, we soon will have an elevator, upstairs bathroom, and improved walkways! Herein we'd like to express our deep gratitude to all the believers - our dear volunteers and friends, the Town Office staff, and especially Denise Nangle, who ignited it all with her generosity.

Likewise, we want to honor and thank our steadfast weekly volunteers: Alice Dawson, Sue DeCarolis, Joan Eaton, Kathleen Foley, Bob Franzoni, Sally Grace, Normandie Keller, & Mary Waite. We thank CU for the work-study students and volunteers who brought us joy and new perspectives.

An annual report is meant to convey statistics, so here are a few. In FY 19-20 we had about 820 "active" registered patrons (those who recently checked out solid materials for themselves and other family members), and many others who downloaded electronic materials, used our computers and outdoor Wi-Fi, and attended programs. Our circulating collection includes 24,706 physical items (books, DVD's, audios, museum passes, snowshoes, bicycles, and more), and access to thousands of electronic titles and databases. There were 10,321 physical circulations, and more than 1,800 downloads. We borrowed 364 items from other libraries and loaned 336. We had 16 in-person programs aimed primarily at adults; 50 programs mainly for children, and 5 community events for all. These programs were attended by about 1,320 people. We offered 8 virtual programs on Facebook Live or Zoom, and 30 DIY takeaway kits/programs for children. Additional programs were provided by our Friends Group and the Rutland Co. Parent-Child Organization.

For more information on any of our services, please call (468-5574) or email (castletonfreelibrary@gmail.com). For quick updates, follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Browse our full catalog on the new website (castletonfreelibrary.org).

The library is more than books, DVD's and Wi-Fi. Our library, whether virtual, brick, or out-in-the-community, is that rare kind of place that welcomes all people; that supports the imagining of a better world through interactions, creativity, and abundance of spirit; and that builds resilience in times of crisis. We are chomping at the mask to get back to normal, but in the meantime, stay well and explore our alternate library world.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Jones, Director & Children's Services
Mary Kearns, Adult Services & Tech
Trustees:
Nancy Mark (Chair)
Pam Arel (Treasurer)
Patricia Schroeder (Clerk)
Joan E. Brown
Patrick Keller
Patricia Schroeder

Constables

The current pandemic has had a profound effect on the world, our nation, and our home state of Vermont. Our lives and our world quickly changed. As your Constable I strive to improve our community for taxpayers, and residents in the Town of Castleton.

As we close out the 2019-2020 fiscal year, First Constable Silas R. Loomis has handled the following services and complaints in your Constabulary. (Not including November and December of 2020). With the help of your police department, we have knocked on the doors of our elderly and handicapped citizens in our community; extended our welfare checks to bring quality of life to those who have been unable to get out. We have spear-headed the distribution of care packages and food. This has been supported by several groups who kept us aware of people in need of help and helped us on many occasions. We had private citizens making donations and bringing food to the Castleton Police Station. From there we transferred food to the walk-in coolers at the American Legion Post 50. Dry storage was in the main hall. Police and Legionnaires "rolled up their sleeves" to help the citizens and veterans of the Castleton area. I would like to sincerely thank Administrative Patrol Officer Justin Szarejko and Chief of Police Peter Mantello for their critical initiative during this effort. And all others that cared to come in and help with this mission I say "a job well done!"

These are the activities performed by your Constable for this last year:

Requested safety speed checks on town selected highways when requested by our Chief of Police and our Town Manager; health, welfare & elderly checks (upon request); citizen disputes; missing persons; citizen assistance, assistance with domestic complaints (CPD, VSP, FHPD); attempt to locate persons or subjects; assistance to assaults; assistance to Castleton Hubbardton Union Grade School and Middle School; vehicle parade ending the school year; (Castleton Police Dept and out volunteers from Castleton Fire Dept. were a big help.) Your Constable also assisted with special traffic details; public safety at motor vehicle incidents, collisions, assisting VSP on Interstate 4 E- W; special traffic details for construction work (both town and private); ATV and UTV complaints; snowmobile complaints; trespass complaints VINS; unlawful mischief complaints; motor boating complaints.

Aided the following agencies: Federal Law Enforcement; Castleton First responders; Castleton Volunteer Fire Dept.; Castleton Police Dept.; Castleton Highway crew. Constable Loomis is still working with the Vermont American Legion and the

Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council with the Vermont Police Cadet Program. The hunter safety course, formerly conducted in collaboration with Castleton Lions Club, was also cancelled this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic. I am grateful for the support of many local and regional agencies.

A big thank you to the Castleton Board of Selectmen; our Town Manager; our "unsung heroes" working in our town office who were always there to help your town Constable; our highway crew; and our town mechanic who never get enough recognition for a great job done; our transfer station workers; and others. Thank you to the Castleton Volunteer Fire Dept. and our first responders; the Constables of Fair Haven, Poultney, Hubbardton, Wells and Pawlet. Another "thank you" to our Chief of Police and his officers; Fair Haven Police Dept.; our Vermont State Police (Castleton and Rutland); our VSP dispatching service in southern VT; past Rutland County Sheriff Steven Benard; new appointed Sheriff Fox and his personnel for all their support.

There are three individuals I wish to especially thank for their years of service and dedication. First, Paul C. Egan, our road foreman, who spent many years working for the Town Road Crew and has just retired. I want to thank you for the many times you helped me in so many ways. Enjoy your well-earned retirement and best of luck. Second, Steven J. Dechen, one of our Castleton police officers. Thanks for being there whenever I needed "backup". You were always there to help. Thanks, and enjoy your retirement.

Third, my former Second Constable, Scott A. Stevens. You spent a lot of time with me and when I was deployed, you were the eyes and the ears for our Constabulary! Thank you so much Scott! I wish you well!

To you, the voters, and taxpayers of the Town of Castleton, I am very grateful for your support. I continue my commitment to our community through quality policing, public safety, traffic safety, public relations, and rural policing. As the Constable of the town of Castleton, I pledge to serve and protect our community to best of my ability.

Respectfully Submitted,

Silas R. Loomis
First Constable

Fire Warden

This year the Fire Warden issued 89 burn permits. This is a very small percentage of permits that residents should have requested. A permit saves Fire Department and the Town a lot of time and money with a simple phone call. With the summer we had this year, there was only 1 brush fire called in. With the summer's dry conditions, and more people at home due to the pandemic, this was great.

Please remember that it is "NOT OKAY" to have an open fire without a permit. The permit process is simple. You must call the Fire Warden at 802 342-0167 at least 24 hours prior to the planned burn and leave a message indicating:

- . Who you are (name, address, and contact number)
- . What you are burning
- . Where you will be burning
- . Where the burn will occur

The Fire Warden will only make further contact if there are any questions.

By doing the above, you and the Town are better protected from the consequences of illegal burning or an out-of-control burn.

REMINDER: Only clean natural wood, brush and grass may be burned. No painted material, plywood of pressure treated wood is allowed. Please call if there are any questions.

If you are looking for information on burn warnings in town, please check out Smokey the Bear on the front lawn of the Fire Station at 273 Route 30 North. He will be holding a sign!

Thank you to the members of the Castleton Volunteer Fire Department and Association for all you do to protect our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heath Goyette
Fire Warden

Highway Department

We had a very busy year this year. We continued our road improvement project. We did work on Birdseye Road, Miner Hill, Sugarwood Lane and Spooner-Johnson and a few more. We started work on Coon Hill

as well. We are improving and maintaining roads to comply with MRGP standards.

Paving was completed on Sand Hill Road, Depot Terrace, and a section of the Drake Road.

The highway crew helped rebuild concrete block walls and reconfigure parts of Transfer Station, as well as assisted with the causeway reconstruction work at Float Bridge.

This year the highway department ordered two new trucks and we are preparing three trucks to be sold. We also purchased a new sweeper attachment for the Bobcat Skid Steer, and we bought a three-point hitch blower to assist with the annual task of cleaning debris from ditches and culverts.

The weather dictated an early start and consistent attention, making it a very busy winter and early spring. The crew applied a lot of sand & salt to keep the roads clear and safe for motorists.

I want to thank the crew for a great job done and look forward to continuing to serve the community.

As always, please call the garage with any road issues. We are located at 273 Staso Road and our phone number is: (802) 468-2459.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Savage
Director of Public Works

Police Department

This past year is a tale of two halves. The first half was status quo, focused, and prepared. The second half was non-status quo because of the COVID19 pandemic that affected local businesses, schools, social gatherings for residents and visitors, and continues to restrict everyday normal activities and local commerce.

Approximately 6 weeks into the pandemic we recognized a need from the community that residents needed food and dry goods. During the planning stages in meeting those needs Castleton residents with their steely resolve created a community of volunteerism resulting in a coordinated distribution of food and dry goods. To witness and participate in this venture was truly awesome. The relationships that this Department has formed with the Castleton residents exemplifies the trust and teamwork between the PD and the residents. I

want to publicly commend and list the Castleton residents that assisted with food distribution during the pandemic: Angela Woodbury, Nancy Trudo, Susan Day, Walter Ducharme, and Lois Ladd were the first residents that assisted with food distribution at Castleton Meadows' residents.

There were two fund-raising events coordinated and conducted by Pam Traverse, Jill Mulholland, Susan Holden, and other volunteers in assisting for food distribution success. Castleton Family Health Center also donated funds to purchase food for distribution for residential needs.

Castleton Police Department formed a partnership with Castleton Cares Inc., Colleen Ruiz (President), Luis Bauzo (Vice-President) and Lynn Petty (Administrative Director), and several others for distribution of food to over 60 families during the holiday season. Shaw's Market, Prunier's Market, and the Castleton Dollar General were businesses that offered purchased goods for distribution to Castleton residents from the fund-raising proceeds. The Castleton Police Officers that assisted with the distribution were Officer Justin Szarejko, Officer Nate Webster, Officer Ed Hayes, and 1st Constable Silas Loomis.

The Slate Valley Union School District lead the way in continuing in school education during the pandemic and realized that face to face education is essential for the children and young adults while maintaining strict COVID-19 protocols. Castleton Police Department continued to maintain a School Resource Officer for the District. We thank the Castleton Town Select Board and the Slate Valley Union School Board for continued support of this position.

I thank all the agencies and organizations for supporting us with equipment, calls assistance, and investigative case work; Vermont State Police, Fair Haven Police Department, Regional Ambulance Services, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, 1st Constable Loomis, Castleton First Responders, the Castleton Fire Department, VT Department of Liquor Control, and Rutland County Sheriff's Department. We thank Castleton University and the University's Public Safety Department for their continuing support of this department's patrols on off campus student issues. This statistical report reflects the past year of administration, July 1st, 2019 to June 30th, 2020. Castleton Officers conducted 4,678 service calls. The increase in call volume can be attributed to the services requested from the community and their expectations in providing those services.

Listed below are the summary totals of the of the call types:

Alarm (Residential/Business) 58
Accident-Fatality 0
Accident-Personal Injury 7
Accident-Property Damage 84
Agency Assist 95
Alcohol Offense 12
Animal Problem Complaint 24
Assault Complaint 9
Attempt to Locate 30
ATV Complaint 1
Burglary 8
Background Check 40
Citizen Assist 216
Citizen Dispute 52
Conditions of Release Violation 5
Custodial Dispute 1
Death Investigations 6
Directed Patrols 1342
Disorderly Conduct 20
DLS-Criminal 16
Drugs 7
DUI-Alcohol/Drugs 8
E911 Hang Up 32
Family Fight/Domestic 50
Fingerprints 64
Fire Department Assist 18
Foot Patrol 93
Found Property 14
Fraud Complaint 10
Intoxicated Person 24
Juvenile Problem 13
Littering Complaint 2
Medical Emergency 80
Missing Person 2
Motor Vehicle Complaint 154
Noise Disturbance 45
Overdose 10
Parking Complaint 24
Phone Problem Complaint 4
Property Watch (Residential) 1518
Public Speaking Event 28
Restraining Order Violation 1
Service Abuse Prevention Order (Restraining Order) 23
Sexual Assault 6
Sex Offender Registry Check 15
Suicide Attempt 7
Suspicious Person/Circumstance 120
Theft Complaint 30
Threatening Complaint 10
Traffic Hazard 69
Trespassing Complaint 11
Unlawful Trespass 7

Vandalism Complaint 7
VIN Inspection 58
Wanted Person 4
Welfare Check 54

TOTAL CALLS 4678

Arrests:

Accidents Duty to Stop 2
Assault on LEO 1
Assault (Simple/Aggravated) 1
Conditions of Release Violation 5
Disorderly Conduct 1
Domestic Assault 4
DUI-Alcohol/Drugs 11
Driving License Suspended 14
Excessive Speed (30 MPH or more over speed limit) 1
False Pretenses 1
False Info. To Law Enforcement Officer 1
Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adult 1
Forgery 1
Negligent Operation 2
Offense Committed in Presence of a Child 1
Petit Larceny 2
Possession of Stolen Property 2
Retail Theft 2
Resisting Arrest 3
Restraining Order Violation 5
Sex Offender Failure to Registered 1
Unlawful Trespass 2
Wanted Person 4

TOTAL ARRESTS: 58

Tickets:

Animals at Large (Municipal) 4
Consuming Marijuana in Public 1
Defective Equipment 10
Display of Plates 1
Disorderly Conduct (Municipal) 2
Driving on Roadways Laned for Traffic 9
Electronic Device (Cell Phone) 15
Failure to Use Child Restraint 4
Failure to Yield to Emergency Vehicle 28
Fictitious License 2
Following Too Close 4
Inspection Violation 66
Insurance Violation 13
Misuse of Plates 8
No License (Expired/Revoked) 23
No Registration 18
Noise in the Night (Municipal) 7
Operating Suspended License- Civil 30
Open Container (Municipal) 17
Passenger Restriction 2
Possession of Marijuana 7
Seat Belt Violation 41
Speeding Violation 1179

Starting Parked Vehicle 1
Stop Sign Violation 10
Traffic Control Devices 3

Underage Drinking/Possession Violation 51

TOTAL TICKETS: 1483

There were 58 arrests totaled for Vermont State criminal violations and Castleton officers issued 1483 Vermont Civil Traffic Violations during the past year. The reduction reflects the pandemic shutdown. The increase of these directed patrols reflects the proactive patrols during the pandemic.

The Department's full-time employees include the following: Officer Justin Szarejko, Officer Ed Hayes, Officer Nathan Webster, and Officer Casey Morey who will finish his full-time law enforcement certification in January 2021. Detective Steve Dechen retired July 1st, 2020 after 12 years of dedicated service in policing for the Castleton Police Department. Steve and his wife Linda are busy with vegetable gardening, cooking, and being grandparents. Part-time officers include: Officer Mark Fiore, Officer Scott Stevens, Officer Carlton North. Officer Justin Szarejko continues to provide this department with excellent administrative duties in maintaining our grants and case records for this department. The Castleton Police Department will continue to evolve and perform in accordance with the laws and ordinances of the Town of Castleton, and the State of Vermont.

The Castleton Police Department will continue to serve the residents of Castleton without biases, with patience, and a commitment to utilize the best police practices available.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Again, I thank you very much in supporting the Castleton Police Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chief Peter Mantello

Recreation Commission

The 2020 summer season at Crystal Beach was unlike any other. I believe that we succeeded during these trying circumstances and were able to safely navigate the pandemic while keeping our beach open. First and foremost, I want to acknowledge our frontline workers, the gate staff: Mary Haskins, Jill Davis, Ryleigh Coloutti. These workers were very diligent throughout the season in screening the patrons when COVID-19 was

threatening the beach operation each day. I would also like to acknowledge the maintenance staff: Eliza Lebrun, Chris Forest, Graham Stewart, Cael Christian, and Gail McGann are to be commended. Our crew worked tirelessly to open the beach by Memorial Day and continued to persevere throughout the season to ensure that our patrons were able to use sanitized restrooms and enjoy a meticulously clean park.

Our monthly water testing results were very clean. Acceptable rate, according to state regulations, is no more than 250 parts per million of E. coli bacteria. In June the amount of E. coli bacteria detected was less than 3 parts per million. In July, the amount of E. coli bacteria was 10 parts per million and August test results less than 1 part per million. It was noted in the July sample, by the tester, that there were ducks in the area which can impact water quality.

The beach ran on abbreviated hours (1 pm to 8 pm) from Memorial Day until mid-June because maintenance staff was unavailable during the school year. Daily patron visits total approximately 2,450 this season. This season there were 141 total passes sold and 90% of these were sold to residents.

Over the winter we booked 10 pavilion rentals for the summer. Due to COVID-19 some were cancelled because the gathering did not adhere to the Governor's guidelines. The remainder were cancelled by the renter due to their apprehension about the virus. Typically, one of the pavilions is booked both days every weekend of the summer and many weekend days both pavilions are rented. In the end, the south pavilion was rented three times. The north pavilion was not open for rental during the 2020 summer.

We had many compliments on the new surface on the parking lot from the patrons. The new drainage at the north end of the parking lot worked very well and there was no runoff that damaged the beach this year! The new tractor was very useful this summer. After staff training, the tractor was utilized to clean and rake the beach and the volleyball court, help spread sand and fill in ruts made by ambitious diggers, transport heavy items, and of course mow. Between the tractor, Scagg, and the riding mower the lawns have never looked better. The Scagg needs some TLC before next season and the rider is getting very tired! Picnic tables were all repaired as needed and in good condition. There were plenty of tables to go around and two of the older grills were replaced with new grills before the season began. Bids for several dead tree removal and stump grinding are in the process. The roof of the bathhouse is leaking,

and we will have bids and work completed prior to the 2021 season.

YOUTH SPORTS

Although we were pushed to think creatively, this year was different, but successful, despite the lock down and other COVID-19 restrictions. Additionally, we have taken this time to reflect, and collaborate with other groups both inside and outside the town to figure out how to make Castleton Recreation stronger. I will work backwards--we just finished our soccer season, which although the game season was abbreviated with just three Saturdays of games, and families had to follow state COVID guidelines, still provided the foundation for developing soccer skills for many kids in the town. Our K,1,2 program met on Saturday mornings and was well attended. We had a boys' and girls' team for third and fourth graders, and also quickly met the demand to coach and get logistics set up for a fifth and sixth grade boys' and girls' team when the school was not able to provide one. Thank you to all the coaches who helped make these experiences possible: Josh Hardt, Jason Hirshburger, Jeff Hayes, Katheryn Grossarth, and Tim Smith.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We had a great line-up of summer programs set up that had to be reshuffled around after the crazy spring. We were developing a summer day camp that would run at Crystal Beach and the Village School (thank you Eliza Lebrun for your creative thinking), a three-week theater program with Castleton University theater department, and planned on continuing two weeks of the sailing program. However, all of those programs got put on hold due to the pandemic, and instead we put our heads together to figure out what we could do. After participating in several Zoom calls with other recreation departments around Rutland County, we decided to run Pop-Up Drop-In programs for the summer where each week we provided different activities at Crystal Beach and kids could sign up for one at a time as they wished. The programs included: pottery, archery, birding, tracking, improv, theater games, and fishing.

Then there are the programs that were slated for the winter/spring that had to be canceled which included dance, baseball, drumming, nature themed art, and learning magic tricks. We are thankful for all the instructors who showed so much flexibility through these uncertain times. Additional programs that were offered last year included: climbing team, basketball, holiday gift making, knitting, Make Your Own Valentine's, pottery, art workshops and dance.

The Recreation Commission has taken this pause in our normal activities to reflect on our where we have been and where we are going. We have seen a small but steady decline in our number of participants in our non-sports programs over the years and we cannot really put our finger on why. We are evaluating what we want to offer in a more sustainable way. We have also started to collaborate with Fair Haven Recreation and will continue to see where that goes. Additionally, we have begun to try and form a tighter union with all the entities in town who provide programming for kids to see what trends they are seeing and to see if we might be stronger working all together. We are grateful that the Covid-19 has given us time to really explore ways to become better.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Francis-Clifford
Commission Chair

Wastewater Treatment Facility

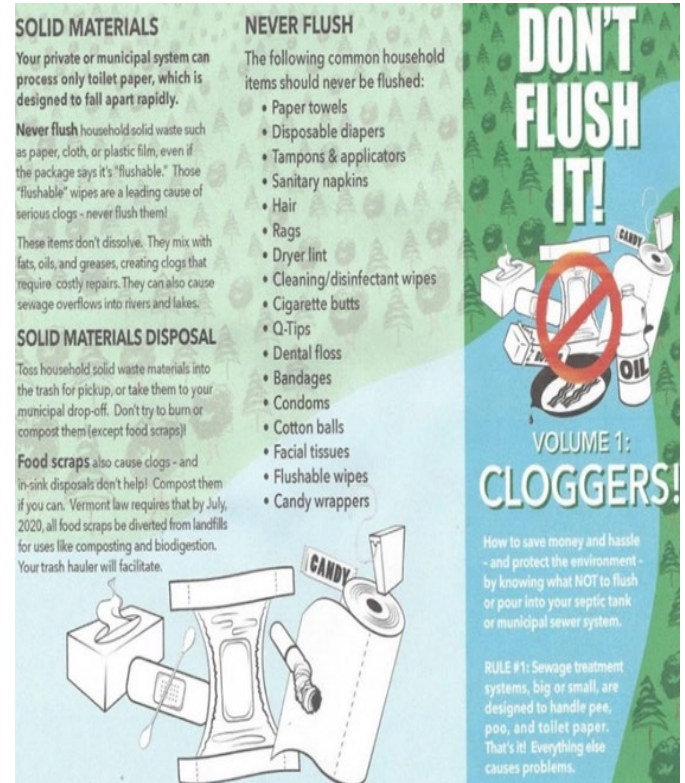
The Town of Castleton Wastewater Treatment Facility continues to excel in producing a high-quality effluent. Engineering is underway for the upgrades to the main plant, and pump stations. Auto transfer switches were added to three of our pump stations, so we can be more confident that we will not get any spills due to a power outage. Through the continued support of the Select Board and Town Manager, our ongoing effort to a proactive approach to maintenance has made the system more efficient. Please take the time and go to the state environmental web site and read the "FATS, OILS, & GREASES" rules and "WHAT NOT TO FLUSH" rules, this will help the environment and cut down on breakdowns and help cut costs to the user.

In closing, the staff at the Wastewater Treatment Facility extends an invitation to any interested parties to tour the facility. Please call 468-5315 for an appointment so that we may accommodate your visit.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Jordan
Russ Hallett

24HourEmergencyResponseNumber (802) 773-5549



Zoning Administrator

The Zoning Administrator (ZA) received 52 permit applications during the past fiscal year. This represents a decrease of 5 applications compared to FY 2018-19. The number of single-family dwellings did not increase from the previous year.

This year the Development Review Board (DRB) met 9 times to review 15 permit application requests. Many of these applications involved either an Appeal of a Zoning Administrators decision, Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Permits for non-conforming parcels. (meaning that they did not meet the minimum lot size required in the Zoning District).

I would like to thank the current members of the DRB for their service to the community. Current Board members include Chairman Bruce Longtin, Don Wood, Patrick Keller, Sean Steves, Daniel Forcier and alternates Laura Sargent and Joe Mark. We would also like to thank past Chairman Bob Day for his many years of service.

I would also like to thank Planning Commission members Chairman Joe Bruno, Frank Johnson, Robert Franzoni, Val Waldron, Liz Mackay and alternate Mike Holden. Special thank you to former Chairperson Janet Currie and Jon Pintello for their many years of service to

the Castleton community.

In summary, the type of permit applications received were:

Single Family Residential (includes removal & replacement and/or construction of a new single- family residence) 7

Renovations & additions to existing buildings (mostly residential use; includes decks & porches) 20

Replacement and /or construction of accessory structures (sheds, garages etc over 120 sq. ft.) 13

Change of use: (single to multi-family & commercial) 2

Miscellaneous Permits 0

Subdivision/Simple Parcel/Lot Line Adjustment 5

Agricultural Buildings (to qualified farmers) 0

Municipal/School/Public Utilities/State Activities 2

Permits withdrawn or denied 3

Total Permits 2019-2020 52

If you are uncertain about whether a permit may be required, please ask your Zoning Administrator. I prefer to assist property owners rather than issue penalties and notices of violation. My office hours are Tuesdays from 8:30 - 4:00 PM and Thursday afternoon from 12:30 - 4:00 PM, and by appointment. Please call (802) 468-5319 x 208 or email me at zoning@castletonvt.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonas Rosenthal
Zoning Administrator

Animal Control

Please keep your dog up to date with rabies shots & register him/her annually with the Town Clerk. It is difficult to identify the owner of an unregistered dog in the event of an emergency. Please be a responsible pet owner & a good neighbor.

To contact Animal Control: (802) 342-2933.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Forrest
Animal Control Officer

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for maintaining all land documents, vital records and town records as required by Vermont Statutes. Other varied duties include maintaining Vermont Property Transfer Tax Returns, filing survey maps, election preparations and results, voter registration, Clerk of the Board of Civil Authority and Board of Abatement, marriage licenses, oaths and appointments, notary services, Green Mountain Passports, certified copies, land posting, hunting & fishing licenses, dog licenses, and DMV renewals. If you have any questions, please call the office at 468-5319 x 201.

LAND RECORDS:

3315 pages of Land Records were received and recorded by this office, July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. It cost \$15.00 per page to record, set by State Statute. Copies of land records may be purchased for \$1.00 per page.

VITAL RECORDS:

Certified copies of Vital Records, birth, death and Castleton marriages, are available for \$10.00. These copies are issued on Vermont State-issued engraved, forgery-proof paper. Please note: people who request a certified copy of a birth or death certificate must present valid identification and complete a brief, standardized application. The public can search the new electronic system for an index of Vermont birth and death certificates dating back to January 1, 1909 and order certified copies online after entering valid identification information, healthvermont.gov/stats/vitalrecords. They can also visit any town or city clerk's office or the Health Department to request a certified copy or apply by mail. The fee for a certified copy is \$10.

LIQUOR LICENSES:

This office issued the following licenses for the 2020 licensing period:
9 First Class Liquor Licenses (6 with Outside Consumption Permits)
9 Second Class Liquor Licenses

DOG LICENSES.

406 dog licenses have been issued in the 2020 calendar year. Vermont State law requires all dogs 6 months or older to be registered by April 1 of each year. After April 1, there is a penalty fee in addition to the regular license fee. New licenses will be issued beginning

January 4, 2021. A current rabies certificate and proof of spaying or neutering, if appropriate, is needed.

On or before April 1, 2021:

Spayed & Neutered Dogs \$13.00

Un-spayed & Un-neutered Dogs \$17.00

After April 1, 2021:

Spayed or Neutered Dogs \$15.00

Un-spayed & Un-neutered Dogs \$21.00

*Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic we are NOT scheduled to have a Rabies Clinic at this time. If we can set up a clinic in the spring it will be publicized.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS:

The Town Clerk can renew registrations for cars, trucks, trailers, motorcycles, snowmobiles, and motorboats. For us to process the renewal we must have the renewal form that the DMV mails to you and a check or money order made out to VT DMV. There is also a separate \$3.00 fee due to the Town Clerk. We cannot accept renewals that are more than 60 days old, except for snowmobiles.

VOTING:

If you are registered to vote in the Town of Castleton and have moved to a new address within the town, please call the office to update your address. If you have moved here from another town or state, you may stop by the office and register to vote or register online at My Voter Page at <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>. The new Election Day Voter Registration law went into effect January 1, 2017, this means eligible residents will be able to register to vote on any day up to and including Election Day.

Absentee ballots are available at least two weeks before any election. Ballots may be obtained by written request (forms available at Town Clerk's office), by calling to request a ballot, or online at My Voter Page at <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>. Please note Absentee Ballot requests are only valid for one year and must be made each year. Absentee Ballots may be requested until the close of business on the day before any election.

Hunting & Fishing Licenses:

We also sell Vermont Hunting & Fishing Licenses for your convenience.

*I enjoy this opportunity to serve my community,
Thank You!*

Respectfully Submitted,

Nedra Boutwell

Castleton Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK'S VITAL STATISTICS

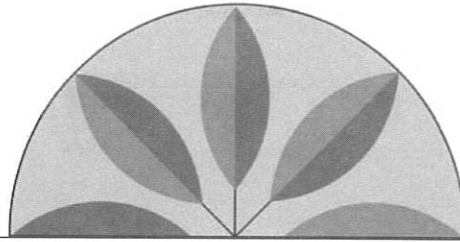
BIRTHS: JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020

Due to the laws regarding adoption and legitimization of children and the Town's liability exposure, Births will no longer be published in the Town Report. Vermont still has an "open records" law, so anyone is welcome to view the Birth Records at the Town Clerk's Office during business hours. Castleton had 24 births this year. Castleton had 22 Marriages and 37 Deaths between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Regrettably, privacy and identity theft concerns have led to the omission of names/dates from the Vital Records Report. Vital records are public information and are available for viewing during business hours at the Town Clerk Office.

Dates to Remember in 2021

February 28	Due date for the 3 rd quarter of the 2020/2021 property taxes
February 24	Informational Town Meeting: 7:00PM Virtual: Zoom.us, Join Meeting, Meeting ID: 838 2505 9720, Phone (929) 205-6099. *This will be recorded and aired on PegTV March 1 st .
March 2	Election of Town & School District Offices, Budget & Bond vote 8:00am – 7:00pm at the Castleton Fire Station at 273 VT Route 30 North
March 31	Due date for the 3 rd quarter of the 2020/2021 sewer service charge
April 1	Last day to register dogs without a penalty.
April 30	Last day for Office of Veteran's Affairs to receive application for tax exemption due to their Veteran's Exemption Eligibility Statement.
May 1	Green Up Day
May 31	Due date for the 4 th quarter of the 2020/2021 property taxes and sewer charges
June 3	Castleton Village Farmer's Market. Thursday's from 3:30pm-6 *June to October
June 30	Last day to pay taxes or sewer by 4:00pm without any penalties.
July 4	4 th of July Parade & Fireworks
August 7	Shrine Football Game at Castleton University – Parade (TBA) & Game to Follow
August 1 & 2	Lion's Club Auction on "The Green"
August 14	Castleton Women's Club Colonial Day
August 31	Due date of the 1 st quarter of the 2021/2022 property taxes
August/September	Castleton Day: To be announced.
September 30	Due date of the 1 st quarter of the 2021/2022 sewer service charge
November 30	Due date for the 2 nd quarter of the 2021/2022 property taxes
December	Village Holiday Celebration: Tree lighting, Winter Christmas Market, Fireworks & Parade. Date to be announced.
December 18	Wreaths Across America
December 31	Due date for the 2 nd quarter of the 2021/2022 sewer service charge

*All events are currently subject to Covid-19 guidance and may be changed or cancelled.



CASTLETON COMMUNITY SENIORS, INC. 2108 MAIN STREET

CASTLETON, VT 05735

802-468-3093

To: Voters of the Town of Castleton

From: Castleton Community Seniors, Inc.

The Castleton Community Seniors extend a sincere thank you to the voters of the Town of Castleton for their continued support that has allowed the growth of our senior and disabled transportation program, senior meal site, health and fitness activities and numerous other educational and recreational programs and services for the community.

- **Elderly and Disabled Transportation**

From July 1, 2019 through March 19, 2020, before the Center had to close due to the pandemic, the Castleton Community Seniors provided 1,726 rides for seniors and disabled residents of our community for doctor's appointments, physical therapy, adult day care, senior meals and essential food shopping. We resumed essential travel July 7, 2020 for seniors and disabled residents following Vt. State guidelines.

- **Senior Meals**

From July 1, 2019 through March 19, 2020, before the Center had to close due to the virus, we served 714 nutritious hot meals in our dining room. When we had to stop serving meals at the Center, the Meals on Wheels program helped to bridge the gap, and they distributed over 4,200 home delivered meals.

- **Wellness Program**

Our Wellness Program continued to operate during the pandemic closure by using Zoom, You Tube and Peg TV for virtual classes including: Tai Chi for Arthritis, Tai Chi for Diabetes and a Matter of Balance falls prevention program. Our walking trail with fitness stations saw a major increase in activity for all members of the community during the closure and the Kayak Club was able to meet every week during the summer. In person Wellness Classes were able to resume July 6, 2020 in our outdoor shelter

- **Socialization**

Opportunities for socialization resumed July 6, 2020 when we opened our outdoor shelter to accommodate guitar and ukulele lessons, the knitter's network, an outdoor game day and a painting workshop.

- **Life Long Learning**

Our commitment to lifelong learning resumed in September 2020 with the return of the Great Courses educational series via Zoom and in person Creative Writing Classes.

- **Community Meeting Space**

The Community Center **serves as a regular meeting place for local non-profit groups** and organizations including: AA, Child Care Providers, Rutland Regional Medical Center, Windy Hollow Mobile Home Group and Lake Bomoseen Association.

Financial support for the Community Center programs and services comes from special event fund raisers, donations, program fees, grants, membership dues and appropriations from the towns of Castleton, Fair Haven and Hubbardton. Thank you!

SENIORS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Lee Lodge #30
Free and Accepted Masons
Castleton, Vermont

Lee Lodge, a non-profit organization would like to thank the Voters of Castleton for their support over the past many years.

Once again, Lee Lodge will be appealing to the voters for a reduction in tax liability on the non-income producing portion of our property.

While the initial focus of the Masons is individual development, Freemasonry is deeply involved in helping all people. The Freemasons of North America and their subordinate bodies contribute over 2 million dollars a day to charitable causes. Subordinate bodies include the Shriners Hospitals for children, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, and the Scottish Rite Children's Center for Dyslexia Education.

The C.A.R.E. (Comprehensive Assessment and Recovery Effort) program in Vermont, trains teachers and administrators on methods to work with, and support children at risk. Since the program's inception in 1989, teachers and administrators from over 235 Vermont schools have attended. Vermont Freemasons have donated over \$600,000 to provide these sessions.

For the last ten years Lee Lodge has provided \$26000 in assistance and scholarships to local students, \$23368.14 was donated to Municipal purposes, persons in need, Schools, Senior Citizen Center, the food shelf, Clothing for School kids, and special equipment for the Police Department. \$4500 of fuel was donated to local Churches. We contribute to our active duty personal and honor those Veterans whom has passed, by fundraising \$2300 for Operation Sweet Tooth, in which small bottles of Vermont Maple Syrup was sent overseas to our Vermont National Guard, and participating in Wreaths Across America where wreaths are laid upon the markers of our Veterans. Fundraising \$6400 for a family that was about to lose their home. The list could go on and on.

Lee Lodge asks you, as a voter of Castleton, to again consider a reduction on our tax liability for the next five years by voting YES on Article 45.

Thank You and God Bless



December 9, 2020

To the Citizens of the Town of Castleton,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action assisted **137** residents in the Town of Castleton. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, weatherization, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$2,725.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Castleton as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom", is placed above the printed name of the sender.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org



Rutland Office: 802-786-5990
Bennington Office: 802-442-5436
Helpline: 1-800-642-5119

Report to the Citizens of Castleton

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Castleton in 2020:

Nutrition Support

The Council helped provide 3,993 meals that were delivered to the homes of 31 elders in your community. This service is often called “Meals on Wheels”. In addition, 102 Castleton elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 879 meals were provided.

Additionally, SVCOA provided 10 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 18 residents of Castleton.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 36 elders in your community for a total of 309.25 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder’s home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder’s situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

1) “Senior Helpline” assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA’s Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland County Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals.



Marble Valley Regional Transit District
"The Bus"

2020 Town of Castleton, Annual Report

Lee Bizon, Community Outreach

Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD), known as "The Bus" is in its forty fourth year of providing service to the residents of the greater Rutland area. The Bus is the largest, non-urban, public transportation system in the State of Vermont and provides transportation to the general public throughout Rutland County, as well as to social and human service agencies, the resort communities and area businesses. MVRTD provides an enhanced level of self-sufficiency for the elderly, disabled and transportation disadvantaged who rely on public transportation. System ridership was over 672,500 rides this past year. MVRTD provides 65 jobs year round, with upwards of 80 during the winter peak season.

MVRTD provided over 4,400 rides to Castleton on the Fair Haven Route, a commuter service with stops at the Amtrak station, Castleton Park and Ride, Castleton Post Office, Castleton Village Store, Castleton University and the Castleton Family Health Center. Other highly successful commuter routes operated by MVRTD both within Rutland County and beyond provide connections to three adjoining counties thus serving the growing population committed to the environmental benefits of public transit use as well as the savings realized in the cost of fuel.

MVRTD has provided service under the Elderly and Disabled Program to Castleton for many years.

For more information about schedules and services please call 773-3244 x112 or visit MVRTD's web site at www.thebus.com.

MVRTD thanks the residents of Castleton for their support of public transit.

Live Green – Ride the Bus



Business: 802-773-1746
Emergency: 911
FAX: 802-773-1717

36th
ANNUAL REPORT
(Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019)
36 Years of Service 1983 - 2019

To the Honorable Citizens of Castleton:

We are pleased to present our 36th annual report to the Citizens we serve. Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. has continually provided emergency and non-emergency ambulance service for thirty-six years. From 1983 to the end of the fiscal year, Regional has responded to 221,426 ambulance calls. This past year, ending June 30, 2019, the service responded to a total of 9,057 ambulance calls in our 12 communities and an additional 242 "Medic One" paramedic intercept calls. We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to continuing to serve the public.

We congratulate Robert "Bob" Walters, Paramedic, for being honored as our "Star of Life" at the American Ambulance Association's Stars of Life celebration in our nation's capital in 2019.

With the continued support of the citizens, our employees, and community governing bodies, we have successfully level funded or lowered the assessment rate for the past 35 years. Since 1990 the assessment rate has been decreased by 36%. Our current assessment rate is \$4 per capita and remains unchanged for the next fiscal year. The public support of our Membership program, direct donations, memorials and estate gifts have been vital to our continued success. Thank you.

This past year, two new ambulances were placed into service to replace two older ambulances each with more than 100,000 miles of service. A state of the art ventilator was purchased for our critical care transports.

Our motto "Serving People First with Pride, Proficiency and Professionalism" is demonstrated by our employee's commitment to continuing EMS training. Each year our employees have specialized training in Critical Care Paramedicine, ALS, BLS, Prehospital Advanced Trauma Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Bloodborn Pathogens and a variety of continuing education programs. Our professional staff is extremely capable and dedicated.

Regional Ambulance continues to focus on training for all levels to include specialized Critical Care Paramedic training to expand our abilities for critical transfers to other hospitals.

Monthly C.P.R. classes are taught at Regional Ambulance. Last year, through the R.A.S. Training Center, 2,146 people were trained in C.P.R. Tours, lectures, demonstrations, and C.P.R. classes are available for the general public. Child Car Seat inspections are Wednesdays at the Regional Ambulance building by appointment. We completed 173 child car seat inspections this past year.

The public is encouraged to visit and talk to our employees at our Stratton Road facility. Please feel free to contact Jim Finger, Chief Executive Administrator, or your Representative, if you have any questions concerning the service.

We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to serving you in the future. The Board of Directors, Administration and employees of Regional Ambulance Service Inc. will continue working to provide the highest quality of emergency ambulance care at the lowest possible cost to all of the citizens we serve.

Sincerely, Paul Kulig, President
R.A.S. Board of Directors

Aleda Dutton,
Town of Castleton Representative
R.A.S. Board of Directors



**2021 REQUEST FOR TOWN FUNDING & Yearly Report for FY20
TOWN OF CASTLETON • AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$900.00**

Brief Description of RSVP & The Volunteer Center

RSVP and The Volunteer Center is a volunteer management program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through volunteer service. RSVP/VC considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Rutland County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health care, education, literacy, and the arts. RSVP/VC involves individuals in service that matches their personal interests and makes use of their varied life and professional experiences. RSVP/VC enables people to contribute to their communities while enjoying the personally satisfying and rewarding experience that community engagement offers. RSVP also offers several free "Signature Programs" that benefit residents. These include RSVP Bone Builders, an osteoporosis prevention program which provides strength and balance exercise classes offered twice per week at many locations in Rutland County; RSVP Rutland Reads a children's literacy and mentoring program; and RSVP Operation Dolls & More, which distributed approximately 25,000 items through RSVP Operation Dolls & More to 47 partner agencies and an estimated 1,200 children. We also partner with AARP to provide income tax return services to low income residents of Rutland County.

Locally, RSVP & The Volunteer Center is the largest program of coordinated volunteer services serving the people of Rutland and Addison Counties with 711 volunteers. From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, RSVP/VC volunteers provided 124,606 hours of community service. Based on the Independent Sector National Value of a volunteer hour, this equates to \$3,389,276 in service to the community.

Services Provided to Castleton Residents

In FY'20 Castleton residents took advantage of RSVP programs such as our free income tax return preparation services, and our free Bone Builders classes. Castleton RSVP volunteers donated their services to the following non-profit organizations: Fair Haven Concerned & Food Shelf, Bridges & Beyond, One-2-One, American Red Cross, Fair Haven Free Library, West Rutland Food Shelf, the Meadows, Young at Heart Senior Center, Rutland Regional Medical Center, and RSVP Bone Builders. Some of the services they provide include; knitting mittens and clothing for needy children, entertaining and activity assistance at nursing homes, providing office assistance, library assistance, collecting and delivering clothing donations, and couriering at the hospital, friendly visitation to elders, preparing bulk mailings, assisting at local food banks, board member at local non-profit, restoring dolls and toys for the RSVP Operation Dolls & More program, and leading RSVP Bone Builders Classes to Castleton residents. In FY'20 Castleton RSVP/VC volunteers donated 9,552.75 hours of service to the community.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help defray the financial impact of COVID-19 on our organization. Our volunteers are continuing to support our communities with new COVID-19 initiatives such as mask making for local agencies and schools in addition to making wellness calls to isolated seniors. However, we are currently encountering revenue loss due to the pandemic. With your help, RSVP & The Volunteer Center will continue to respond to the increasing needs of our local communities.

On behalf of RSVP & The Volunteer Center and our non-profit partners, we would like to thank the residents of Castleton for their continued support of our organization. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at 775-8220.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alix O'Meara', written over a horizontal line.

Alix O'Meara

Director



ANNUAL REPORT TO
The Town of Castleton

2020

The Rutland County Humane Society provides shelter and care to companion animals while finding loving families for those at risk or homeless.

We also serve our community by providing information and referral services to people dealing with animal issues.

The RCHS shelter is the largest program of the agency, taking in more than one thousand animals in 2020.

Our agency is funded through fees for service, town funding, donations and special events. No funding comes from the state or federal government or national organizations. We sincerely thank those who support our operations. We can only save lives with your help.

The Rutland County Humane Society took in 54 animals from Castleton in the past year.

Please call as at 483-9171 or visit our website at RCHSVT.org if you would like more information about the Rutland County Humane Society.



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

Report of Services for Town of Castleton

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2020 Fiscal Year was an exciting one. In September, we held a successful fundraising and awareness event, Dancing With The Stars of Burlington, and have sustained our outreach efforts throughout the state to ensure that all Vermonters are aware of our services. The number of clients we serve has continued to increase annually. A new referral system was also developed in the fall, which is intended to increase the number of referrals we receive from eye care providers, thus connecting more clients with life-changing vision rehabilitation therapy.

As with many nonprofits, VABVI had to make several adjustments in light of COVID-19. We quickly adjusted from providing services in client homes and schools, to providing remote services via telephone and video conferencing. We are continuing to accept new clients and are currently providing remote services. We will be resuming in-person services as soon as it is safe to do so, and are continuously developing protocols to keep staff and clients safe when we are able to meet face-to-face.

It's clear to us at VABVI that our mission and services will continue to play a critical role in the lives of many Vermonters well into the future. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have adapted our services and are working nonstop to support anyone living in Vermont who is experiencing vision loss.

SMART Device Training Program (formerly known as the iOS Training Program): The program has served 239 clients across Vermont since it was established in 2018. Now, due to COVID-19, the SMART Device Training Program is more important than ever. Current social distancing protocols have led to our blind and visually impaired clients to become increasingly at risk for feelings of isolation and loneliness. In addition, with many healthcare providers now only seeing patients via "telehealth," it is critical that our clients know how to utilize technology. Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapists (VRTs) are providing remote services to program clients who are in need of assistance. Clients who received technology training prior to COVID-19 have reported that the skills learned in this program have been invaluable throughout the pandemic.

PALS (Peer Assisted Learning and Support) Groups: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and to discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. Now, due to social distancing requirements, PALS groups are operating remotely via Zoom and telephone.

HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence): The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills. This program is currently being conducted remotely.

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, meet adult mentors, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This year's IRLE Camp, which was



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

going to take place throughout Southern New England with activities at the Mystic Aquarium and Roger Williams Zoo, has been postponed until 2021.

During Fiscal Year 2020, we served 1,804 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 1 adult client in Castleton, and 23 adults and 10 students in Lamoille County.

For more information about VABVI's services or to volunteer, please contact Shannon Turgeon at (802) 863-1358 ext. 217, or at sturgeon@vabvi.org. Visit us our website at www.vabvi.org and feel free to "like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/vabvi802/>.