

ADDENDUM TO CONSOLIDATED TOWN FEE REPORT AND REQUEST TO THE LEGISLATURE

Attached are the following for review:

- Revenue vs Expenses for Barre City, Burke, Ira, Killington, Manchester and S. Burlington. (Note that the Ira Clerk's compensation is through retainage of clerk fees and a small stipend from the town. All other clerks included in the data are compensated through salary.
- Inflation Chart showing the impact of Inflation of the \$10.00 per page fee since 2010.
- Example of Document Fees for 3 types/size of Documents in other New England States compared to Vermont's current and proposed fee.
- Percentage of Documents Recorded in Killington from 2010-2018 that are 10 pages or more.

Cost of Land Record Binders, Archival Paper, Software, Restoration/Preservation, Personnel, Storage, etc. continue to rise with inflation. The Revenue vs Expense Reports attached show that the ability of the current fees to cover the costs of the Town Clerk's office have dropped an average of 33% over the past 10 years.

The bulk of documents recorded are 1-2 pages in length with a moderate amount in 4-7 page range and only 10% or less being 10 pages or more.

If recording fees are not increased, the burden of the cost to record and maintain land records will continue to shift more and more to the taxpayers. It will limit the funds available to preserve records in perpetuity, and make it nearly impossible for towns to begin a restoration and preservation fund, or to upgrade to digitized recording systems.

Clerk Fees/Expenses

BARRE CITY

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Fee revenue									
Clerk portion - as of 2/1/19									
Recording fees	\$ 59,594	\$ 46,725	\$ 51,947	\$ 57,624	\$ 49,248	\$ 60,700	\$ 54,497	\$ 61,635	\$ 46,580
Dog licenses	\$ 1,106	\$ 1,102	\$ 1,106	\$ 1,082	\$ 1,162	\$ 1,178	\$ 1,228	\$ 1,224	\$ 1,292
Marriage licenses	\$ 680	\$ 840	\$ 810	\$ 770	\$ 800	\$ 730	\$ 820	\$ 670	\$ 520
Liquor licenses	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,850	\$ 2,610	\$ 3,480	\$ 3,720	\$ 3,330	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,720
Hunting/fishing licenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Green Mt. Passports	\$ 37	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 46	\$ 38	\$ 62	\$ 54	\$ 48	\$ 62
Vehicle registration renewals	\$ 988	\$ 1,074	\$ 753	\$ 650	\$ 553	\$ 459	\$ 465	\$ 372	\$ 417
Certified copies	\$ 8,063	\$ 8,176	\$ 7,360	\$ 6,840	\$ 8,920	\$ 10,710	\$ 9,810	\$ 7,270	\$ 7,688
TOTALS	\$ 72,868	\$ 60,847	\$ 64,856	\$ 69,622	\$ 64,201	\$ 77,559	\$ 70,204	\$ 74,779	\$ 60,279
Expenses * (clerk portion of office only)									
Recording costs	\$ 12,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 13,000
Personnel, including benefits	\$ 97,622	\$ 86,875	\$ 93,682	\$ 96,970	\$ 84,010	\$ 85,988	\$ 89,514	\$ 95,055	\$ 98,802
Other	\$ 7,875	\$ 7,400	\$ 6,950	\$ 7,050	\$ 6,950	\$ 8,850	\$ 9,325	\$ 9,625	\$ 7,725
TOTALS	\$ 117,497	\$ 104,275	\$ 111,632	\$ 114,020	\$ 100,960	\$ 104,838	\$ 110,839	\$ 116,680	\$ 119,527
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees	62.02%	58.35%	58.10%	61.06%	63.59%	73.98%	63.34%	64.09%	50.43%

* Barre City clerk & treasurer located in one office. There are 3 staff: clerk/treasurer, assistant clerk, assistant treasurer.
The totals above are adjusted accordingly to show clerk expenses only.

Clerk Fees/Expenses

TOWN OF BURKE

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Fee revenue									
Recording fees	Clerk portion								
	\$10/page minus restoration fee	\$ 27,200.00	\$ 18,690.00	\$ 23,990.00	\$ 20,880.00	\$ 15,270.00	\$ 19,540.00	\$ 17,950.00	\$ 19,170.00
Vault time (if collected)	\$2/hour	625.00	650.00	595.00	600.00	644.00	766.00	622.00	728.00
Vault copies	\$1/page	300.00	325.00	295.00	310.00	288.00	600.00	500.00	550.00
Dog licenses	\$2/license	712.00	674.00	690.00	668.00	628.00	608.00	520.00	562.00
Marriage licenses	\$10/license	110.00	190.00	200.00	260.00	250.00	90.00	190.00	240.00
Births and Deaths	\$10/license	200.00	290.00	250.00	230.00	250.00	280.00	230.00	230.00
Liquor licenses	\$70/ 2nd class & \$115/ 1st class	1,000.00	660.00	600.00	600.00	1,020.00	1,385.00	1,500.00	1,730.00
Building Permit Application	\$10/permit	490.00	500.00	400.00	520.00	130.00	470.00	400.00	440.00
Subdivision Permits	\$10/permit	40.00	130.00	30.00	20.00	30.00	10.00	10.00	100.00
Hunting/fishing licenses	\$1.50/license	49.00	37.50	69.50	13.50	54.00	304.00	130.50	70.50
Green Mt. Passports	\$2/GM passport	14.00	12.00	10.00	12.00	16.00	6.00	80.00	712.00
Vehicle registration renewals	\$3/vehicle registration	735.00	585.00	486.00	471.00	501.00	501.00	321.00	336.00
Certified copies	\$10/copy	300.00	350.00	320.00	375.00	380.00	420.00	410.00	520.00
TOTALS		\$31,775.00	\$23,093.50	\$27,935.50	\$24,959.50	\$19,461.00	\$24,980.00	\$22,863.50	\$25,388.50
Expenses * (clerk portion of office only)									
Recording costs		614.19	1,298.76	2,186.70	4,800.00	4,622.84	3,870.78	5,897.02	6,670.54
Personnel, including benefits	Excludes Benefits	47,647.18	48,045.66	48,139.68	50,213.64	59,937.00	57,939.24	61,604.67	58,380.20
Other - Shelving		7,157.50							
TOTALS		\$55,418.87	\$49,344.42	\$50,326.38	\$55,013.64	\$64,559.84	\$60,520.59	\$67,501.69	\$65,050.74
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees		57.34%	46.80%	55.51%	45.37%	30.14%	38.81%	33.87%	39.03%

Clerk Fees/Expenses

IRA

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

Fee revenue	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Clerk portion - as of 2/1/19									
Recording fees			\$ 4,685	\$ 5,005	\$ 2,730	\$ 3,178	\$ 2,030	\$ 4,123	\$ 3,075
Vault time (if collected)			\$ 117	\$ 116	\$ 38	\$ 92	\$ 53	\$ 95	\$ 29
Vault copies			\$ 363	\$ 482	\$ 159	\$ 273	\$ 257	\$ 265	\$ 227
Dog licenses			\$ 114	\$ 172	\$ 186	\$ 170	\$ 202	\$ 190	\$ 164
Marriage licenses			\$ 20	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 20
Liquor licenses			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Hunting/fishing licenses			\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 9	\$ 8	\$ 9	\$ 12	\$ 8
Green Mt. Passports			\$ 6	\$ 10	\$ 6	\$ 14	\$ 22	\$ 2	\$ 2
Vehicle registration renewals			\$ -	\$ 18	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 6	\$ 9	\$ -
Certified copies			\$ 50	\$ 100	\$ 60	\$ 180	\$ 100	\$ 220	\$ 100
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,355	\$ 5,974	\$ 3,188	\$ 3,918	\$ 2,709	\$ 4,976	\$ 3,624
Expenses * (clerk portion of office only)									
Recording costs			\$ 1,034	\$ 1,520	\$ 1,730	\$ 3,455	\$ 2,006	\$ 591	\$ 1,879
Fees Paid Out to Clerk			\$ 5,355	\$ 5,974	\$ 3,188	\$ 3,918	\$ 2,709	\$ 4,976	\$ 3,624
Personnel, including benefits			\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Other			\$ 2,296	\$ 2,317	\$ 1,680	\$ 3,918	\$ 3,621	\$ 3,622	\$ 4,794
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,685	\$ 15,811	\$ 12,598	\$ 17,291	\$ 14,336	\$ 17,189	\$ 18,297
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	39.13%	37.79%	25.31%	22.66%	18.90%	28.95%	19.81%

Town of Ira - 2012 - 10 months of data

Clerk Fees/Expenses

KILLINGTON

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Fee revenue									
Clerk portion - as of 2/1/19									
Recording fees	\$ 33,934	\$ 34,812	\$ 44,080	\$ 42,363	\$ 35,316	\$ 15,472	\$ 36,237	\$ 33,004	\$ 31,696
Vault time (if collected)	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,960	\$ 1,950	\$ 1,990	\$ 1,920	\$ 1,940	\$ 1,860	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500
Vault copies	\$ 5,497	\$ 4,626	\$ 4,508	\$ 8,788	\$ 6,585	\$ 4,903	\$ 6,885	\$ 5,276	\$ 5,408
Dog licenses	\$ 298	\$ 288	\$ 294	\$ 332	\$ 312	\$ 302	\$ 274	\$ 274	\$ 248
Marriage licenses	\$ 350	\$ 300	\$ 360	\$ 270	\$ 270	\$ 450	\$ 500	\$ 520	\$ 550
Liquor licenses	\$ 240	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 255	\$ 235	\$ 240	\$ 200	\$ 240	\$ 240
Hunting/fishing licenses	\$ 57	\$ 44	\$ 38	\$ 36	\$ 39	\$ 18	\$ 42	\$ 30	\$ 2,250
Green Mt. Passports	\$ 10	\$ 20	\$ 8	\$ 6	\$ 10	\$ 4	\$ 28	\$ 30	\$ 14
Vehicle registration renewals	\$ 219	\$ 293	\$ 183	\$ 117	\$ 120	\$ 51	\$ 93	\$ 81	\$ 110
Certified copies	\$ 390	\$ 450	\$ 540	\$ 670	\$ 600	\$ 590	\$ 700	\$ 640	\$ 890
TOTALS	\$ 42,995	\$ 43,043	\$ 52,211	\$ 54,827	\$ 45,407	\$ 23,970	\$ 46,819	\$ 42,095	\$ 43,906
Expenses* (clerk portion of office only)									
Recording costs	\$ 6,480	\$ 10,181	\$ 18,772	\$ 10,894	\$ 12,293	\$ 2,609	\$ 9,954	\$ 10,228	\$ 10,078
Personnel, including benefits	\$ 49,283	\$ 57,144	\$ 60,206	\$ 60,248	\$ 86,602	\$ 63,202	\$ 81,464	\$ 76,275	\$ 84,974
Other	\$ 2,641	\$ 3,855	\$ 2,161	\$ 3,108	\$ 3,016	\$ 2,610	\$ 2,611	\$ 2,143	\$ 3,009
TOTALS	\$ 58,404	\$ 71,180	\$ 81,139	\$ 74,250	\$ 101,911	\$ 68,421	\$ 94,029	\$ 88,646	\$ 98,061
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees	73.62%	60.47%	64.35%	73.84%	44.56%	35.03%	49.79%	47.49%	44.77%

*Killington Town Clerk & Treasurer is located in one office. There are 3 staff: Clerk/Treasurer, Assistant Clerk & Assistant Treasurer
The totals above are adjusted accordingly to show clerk expenses only.

Clerk Fees/Expenses

MANCHESTER

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Fee revenue									
Clerk portion									
\$10/page minus restoration fee		\$ 50,722	\$ 50,952	\$ 75,049	\$ 48,394	\$ 45,083	\$ 47,383	\$ 56,756	\$ 46,240
Dog licenses		\$ 5,352	\$ 5,719	\$ 6,511	\$ 5,582	\$ 5,442	\$ 5,936	\$ 5,526	\$ 5,351
\$2/license									
Marriage licenses		\$ 1,315	\$ 960	\$ 1,030	\$ 950	\$ 1,290	\$ 970	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,480
\$10/license									
Liquor licenses		\$ 4,050	\$ 4,250	\$ 3,800	\$ 4,825	\$ 4,740	\$ 4,085	\$ 4,345	\$ 4,620
\$70/ 2nd class & \$115/ 1st class									
Hunting/fishing licenses		\$ 588	\$ 488	\$ 519	\$ 561	\$ 327	\$ 416	\$ 456	\$ 289
\$1.50/license									
Green Mt. Passports									
\$2/GM passport									
Vehicle registration renewals		\$ 850	\$ 864	\$ 660	\$ 629	\$ 877	\$ 779	\$ 774	\$ 732
\$3/vehicle registration									
Certified copies									
\$10/copy									
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ 62,877	\$ 63,233	\$ 87,569	\$ 60,941	\$ 57,759	\$ 59,568	\$ 68,937	\$ 58,712
Expenses									
Recording costs		\$ 9,051	\$ 7,327	\$ 9,578	\$ 4,468	\$ 9,490	\$ 7,776	\$ 26,769	\$ 26,844
Personnel, including benefits		\$ 61,286	\$ 61,382	\$ 67,818	\$ 67,900	\$ 66,482	\$ 74,677	\$ 72,567	\$ 77,314
Other		\$ 1,504	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,749	\$ 1,804
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ 71,840	\$ 70,259	\$ 78,996	\$ 73,968	\$ 77,622	\$ 84,153	\$ 101,085	\$ 105,963
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees	#DIV/0!	87.52%	90.00%	110.85%	82.39%	74.41%	70.79%	68.20%	55.41%

* Included in Miscellaneous fees

* Included in photocopies fees

* excludes benefits

* Estimate only. All general office supplies are purchased out of general account.

Clerk Fees/Expenses

SOUTH BURLINGTON

List shows clerk fees kept by the clerk, or deposited into general fund to support operations of clerk's office

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
Fee revenue									
Clerk portion - as of 2/1/19									
Recording fees	\$ 150,949	\$ 155,547	\$ 158,248	\$ 177,687	\$ 119,008	\$ 120,538	\$ 120,389	\$ 112,651	\$ 108,669
Vault time (if collected)	\$ 21,240	\$ 25,574	\$ 21,882	\$ 28,051	\$ 25,532	\$ 25,482	\$ 23,484	\$ 24,817	\$ 24,997
Vault copies									
\$1/page									
Dog licenses	\$ 7,505	\$ 8,260	\$ 20,663	\$ 19,902	\$ 20,919	\$ 21,986	\$ 21,974	\$ 22,015	\$ 22,170
\$2/license									
Marriage licenses	\$ 1,490	\$ 1,470	\$ 1,645	\$ 1,375	\$ 1,630	\$ 1,530	\$ 1,480	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,030
\$10/license									
Liquor licenses	\$ 5,900	\$ 5,900	\$ 5,850	\$ 6,475	\$ 7,210	\$ 8,635	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,935	\$ 9,120
\$70/ 2nd class & \$115/ 1st class									
Hunting/fishing licenses	\$ 55	\$ 95	\$ 303	\$ 102	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$1.50/license									
Green Mt. Passports	\$ 171	\$ 212	\$ 218	\$ 236	\$ 306	\$ 314	\$ 302	\$ 256	\$ 288
\$2/GM passport									
Vehicle registration renewals	\$ 2,601	\$ 2,181	\$ 1,460	\$ 831	\$ 777	\$ 799	\$ 779	\$ 660	\$ 573
\$3/vehicle registration									
Certified copies	\$ 6,111	\$ 5,607	\$ 5,850	\$ 4,401	\$ 4,617	\$ 4,950	\$ 4,950	\$ 4,932	\$ 3,197
\$10/copy									
TOTALS	\$ 196,022	\$ 204,846	\$ 216,119	\$ 239,060	\$ 179,999	\$ 184,234	\$ 181,558	\$ 175,716	\$ 170,044
Expenses * (clerk portion of office only)									
Recording costs	\$ 32,259	\$ 38,745	\$ 31,347	\$ 37,203	\$ 32,131	\$ 30,090	\$ 40,046	\$ 31,223	\$ 40,294
Personnel, including benefits	\$ 234,108	\$ 237,894	\$ 239,062	\$ 254,846	\$ 247,508	\$ 253,957	\$ 262,396	\$ 291,451	\$ 301,064
Other	\$ 39,000								
TOTALS	\$ 305,367	\$ 276,639	\$ 270,409	\$ 292,049	\$ 279,639	\$ 284,047	\$ 302,442	\$ 322,674	\$ 341,358
Percentage Expenses Covered by Fees	64.19%	74.05%	79.92%	81.86%	64.37%	64.86%	60.03%	54.46%	49.81%

Vault fees and vault copies are recorded under vault time

dog fees: South Burlington also registers cats and City council approved a higher registration fee of \$21.00 for neutered dog and \$16.00 for neutered cat

Other:

- 2010 bought a large size scanner for maps for \$6,000
- 2010 bought 3 moveable shelves for land record books for \$33,000

Inflation chart

Shows what \$10 from 2009 is worth in 2018 dollars

Year	inflation rate	\$\$
2009	-0.4%	10.04
2010	1.6%	9.88
2011	3.2%	9.56
2012	2.1%	9.36
2013	1.5%	9.22
2014	1.6%	9.07
2015	0.1%	9.06
2016	1.3%	8.94
2017	2.1%	8.75
2018	2.2%	8.56

**Comparison of Document Fees
in New England States**

	Vermont (Current)	Vermont (Proposed)	Connecticut	Rhode Island	Maine	Massachusetts	New Hampshire
1 pg -Mortgage Discharge	10.00	15.00	159.00	49.00	22.00	76.00	40.00
5 pg -Deed	50.00	75.00	75.00	88.00	30.00	126.00	51.00
10 pg - Mortgage	100.00	150.00	243.00	73.00	70.00	176.00	71.00
Mylar - 1 sheet	15.00	25.00	30.00	49.00	24.00	75.00	39.00

KILLINGTON**Percentage of Documents Recorded****10 pages or more**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Documents	1278	1296	1576	1499	1412	724	1448	3062	3380
10+ pg Documents	108	106	153	151	113	44	104	106	93

% of 10+ pg Documents	8.45%	8.18%	9.71%	10.07%	8.00%	6.08%	7.18%	3.46%	2.75%
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