

City of Montpelier vermont

One Taylor Street TRANSIT CENTER



Annual Report

A review of fiscal year 2013-2014 including proposed budgets and articles to be voted on at Montpelier City Meeting March 3, 2015.

About The Cover

This is a preliminary design drawing of the One Taylor Street project which will include a new Transit Center, 34-40 apartments, a bike path, public gathering space near the river and a new bike/pedestrian bridge across the North Branch River. This project is being completed with Federal, City and Private funding and the site plan is the result of an extensive public process.



Courtesy of Gary Hall Photography

The Vermont Chapter of the American Institute of Architects awarded the Montpelier District Energy Plant a Design Award at their annual meeting. Created by a unique federal/state/city partnership, the central bio-mass fueled power plant provides heat for state buildings as well as public and private buildings in the City's downtown district. The Plant and the district heat system began full operations on October 1, 2014. The Plant was designed by gbA, a Montpelier architectural firm.

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CITY MEETING WARNING MARCH 3, 2015

The legal voters of the City of Montpelier, in City Meeting in Montpelier, in the County of Washington and the State of Vermont, are hereby warned to meet in the City Hall Auditorium, in said Montpelier, on the first Tuesday in March, March 3, 2015, at seven o'clock in the forenoon, and there and then to cast their ballot for the election of officers, matters that by law must be determined by ballot, and other matters as directed by the Council. The polls will be opened at 7:00 A.M. and shall be closed and the voting machine sealed at 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE 1. To elect one commissioner for the Green Mount Cemetery for a term of five years; one park commissioner for a term of five years; two school commissioners, each for a term of three years; one council member from each district, for a term of two years; one city clerk, for a term of three years.

ARTICLE 2. To elect one at-large Board Member to serve on the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority Board for a three-year term commencing March, 2015.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,626,087 for the payment of debts and current expenses of the City for carrying out any of the purposes of the Charter, plus payment of all state and county taxes and obligations imposed upon the City by law to finance the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$18,062,853 necessary for the support of the public school system for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Local budget of \$17,428,877 plus grant budget of \$633,976, for a total school budget of \$18,062,853.) (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$575,230 for the support of the Recreation Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters of the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA) appropriate the sum of \$75,000 (\$40,275 from Barre City and \$34,725 from the City of Montpelier) for the operating budget of the CVPSA for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by CVPSA)

ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,000 as compensation to the Mayor for services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,200 (\$1,200 each) as compensation to the Council Members for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 9. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,300 (Chair \$1,300; others \$1,000 each) as compensation to the School Commissioners for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 10. Shall the voters authorize the Board of School Commissioners to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2015 in a reserve (restricted) fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Commissioners for the purpose of operating the school? (Requested by the School Board)

ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters authorize the City levy a special assessment of \$0.0515 per \$100 of appraisal value on properties within Montpelier's Designated Downtown not used entirely for residential purposes? The assessment shall be apportioned according to the listed value of such properties except that the assessment for any property also used for residential purposes shall be reduced by the proportion that heated residential floor space bears to heated floor space for such property. Funds raised by the assessment shall be used to improve the downtown streetscape and to market the downtown. (Requested by the City Council)

ARTICLE 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$316,698 to be used by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016? (This amount is in addition to the \$39,716 for the library bond payment included in the City General Fund Budget, ARTICLE 3) (By Petition)

Message from the Mayor

There are many reasons why Montpelier keeps showing up on national lists of best small towns in America: Hubbard Park, the Farmers' Market, our vibrant downtown, our growing arts community and our good schools. My goal as mayor is to build on these great attributes and make Montpelier an even better place to live, work and play.

We've made much progress this year on three of our primary goals to make Montpelier an even better community: improving our roads and sidewalks, completing major projects, and restraining tax growth.

City Budget

The FY 16 budget that the City Council preliminarily approved on January 7th would increase our tax rate by 2.5%. The budget preserves essential services while also increasing infrastructure spending by \$166,000. With the passage of this budget, we will have seen total budget growth of 4.5% from FY 14-16, which is less than the rate of inflation during that time.

By next June, we will be halfway towards our six-year goal of increasing infrastructure spending by one million dollars per year. We are beginning to see meaningful progress in repairing our deteriorated roads and sidewalks, and that progress will accelerate as spending continues to increase each year.

At the same time, it has become more difficult each year to increase capital spending while maintaining reasonable growth in our tax rate. The city council had to make difficult budgetary choices this year, and those choices are going to become even harder in the coming years.

I have proposed that we hold a public engagement process this Spring to get input from Montpelier residents about how to address our budget and infrastructure challenges over the next three years. The challenge is this: we need to increase our capital spending by an additional \$500,000 per year to reach a sustainable maintenance level. Given our high property tax rate, we cannot afford to pay for that increase through higher taxes. I look forward to hearing ideas from city residents about how to meet that challenge.

Municipal Projects

We made great progress last year on the city's priority projects. The biomass distribution system was completed in 2014 and is providing renewably generated heat to city, state and private downtown office buildings. City Manager Bill Fraser, Assistant City Manager Jessie Baker, and the Department of Public Works staff deserve great credit for completing this project on time and within five percent of budget.

The One Taylor Street project is well underway, with the basic design in place for a new transit center, 30-40 residential housing units, river access and a bike path. We now anticipate that construction will be completed by fall 2016.

We're also making progress on the bike path extension from Granite Street to Gallison Hill Rd. The project has been designed and negotiations are underway for the necessary easements. This project is now expected to be finished in 2016.

Other Initiatives

I am excited about the progress we are making on the goal of Net Zero Montpelier. The City Council has adopted a goal of producing or offsetting all of its energy use with renewable energy by 2030. The Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee has received national recognition for its work on this project. I am hopeful that in 2015 we will develop specific, community-wide initiatives as we lead the way in transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

In partnership with Montpelier Alive, we have held a number of events that explore how we can improve the marketing and design of our downtown. We retained a consultant who led a community-wide process to redefine Montpelier's brand. That process led to the creation of a terrific new logo and branding statement.

With the assistance of a federal grant, we engaged another consultant to guide us in rethinking ways to improve some of our downtown public space. Like any brainstorming process, not all of the ideas are appropriate for action. But some – like extending the bike path from the Recreation Center along Barre Street to Main Street and redesigning that intersection – merit further exploration.

Finally, we held a community-wide Downtown Design Summit in November that was attended by nearly 100 residents. That summit produced many more ideas about how to make our downtown even more vibrant and pedestrian- and bike-friendly.

The real work on all of these initiatives is performed by our highly capable and dedicated city staff. Led by City Manager Bill Fraser and Assistant City Manager Jessie Baker, we are fortunate to have incredibly talented and committed city employees who keep our streets clean, our homes safe and our community strong.

As always, I am grateful to have the privilege and honor to serve as mayor of our great small-town capital city.

John Hollar, *Mayor*

Message from the City Manager:

It is an honor to present my 20th annual report to you, the citizens of Montpelier.

Some of the key city government activities of the year include:

- Full operation of the District Heat system.
- Identification of a One Taylor Street development partner (Redstone) and approval of a conceptual site plan after a full public process. The full project is currently on track for 2016.
- The Winooski East Bike Path Project (Granite Street to the Gallison Hill area) is moving forward with property acquisition and final design with a projected construction start of spring 2016.
- Infrastructure funding was increased in both the FY14 and 15 budgets and is increased again for FY16. As a result, more and more road, sidewalk, retaining wall and other key infrastructure work is being completed. Using road metrics, the Council and DPW have established a plan to bring all the major streets out of the lowest ranking category within five years and all roads within ten years.
- The Planning Commission has continued working diligently to prepare an updated zoning ordinance which reflects community goals. They are on track to complete this work in 2015.
- The City Council adopted a long term transition plan for the management and operation of the Recreation, Parks, Cemetery and Senior Center departments.

Budget:

The following guidelines were used in preparing this budget proposal:

- Budget must reflect the City Council's adopted goals and priorities and enable those goals to be advanced.
- Property tax rate increase target is between 2% and 3%.
- Must continue increased funding for infrastructure and capital needs based on the "Steady State" plan adopted by the City Council.
- Must deliver responsible levels of service to the residents of Montpelier.

Property Tax Impact:

- The net result of revenues and expenses is that \$7,627,087 in property tax revenues are required for the city's portion (non school, non rec, non library) of the budget. This is

an increase of \$219,300 or 3.0% over FY15. \$166,300 of that amount is for the increased capital plan while only \$53,000 is for all remaining services.

- Requires a 2.4 cent increase in the property tax rate. The capital/equipment plan is increased by 1.8 cents while the remainder of the budget again requires just 0.6 cents. A 2.4 cent increase represents a 2.5% property tax rate increase after a 0.5 cent (0.25%) increase in FY14 and a 1.5 cent (1.6%) increase in FY15. For the average residential property, this tax rate represents an additional \$53.65 on the tax bill. The three year combined increase of 4.25% compares to a three year combined inflation rate of 4.7% (1.7%, 1.5% and 1.5% respectively).
- Independent ballot items for the Kellogg-Hubbard Library and Central Vermont Public Safety Authority would add \$42,750 in new tax dollars. This is equivalent to 0.5 cents on the tax rate or \$10.77 for the average residence.

Budget Numbers:

- FY16 General Fund Budget totals \$12,622,056 which is an increase of \$450,600 (3.7%) from the comparable FY15 spending plan. This number includes the Recreation, Library and Public Safety Authority budgets.
- FY16 General Fund non-tax revenues total \$4,069,316 which is an increase of \$188,550 (4.9%) from FY14 non-tax revenues.
- Consistent with the council's fund balance policy, no general fund balance is used to offset the budget and reduce taxes.
- Revenues from the State of Vermont such as Highway Aid, Grand List Maintenance funding and the Justice Center basic grant have been assumed to remain at their present funding levels. Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) was adjusted downward to reflect actual collection in FY15.
- Grand list value is calculated at 0.2% increase from the FY15 level. With the projected grand list, \$85,146 represents one cent on the tax rate.

Infrastructure:

- The Capital Projects, Equipment and Debt Service Program is fully funded at \$2,071,304. Of this \$875,978 is in annual funding, \$680,326 is in existing debt service and \$515,000 is for equipment. This matches the long term funding plan and represents an overall increase for these combined items of \$166,300. This results in an additional \$198,408 (29.3%) in annual funding for FY16 infrastructure improvements. Over a three year period (including this proposed budget) infrastructure funding has increased \$498,900.

- The budget includes \$43,200 for the annual payment for the purchase of One Taylor Street. This expense is offset by lease revenue.
- No bonds are proposed for FY16. Future infrastructure bonds are planned with subsequent bonds of \$710,000 in FY17 and \$705,000 in FY20. Future bonds may be needed for bike path matching funds, a potential flood mitigation project and matching funds for the One Taylor Street project.
- The Capital/Equipment Plan anticipates additional increases of \$166,300 in each of the next three budget years – FY17 through FY19 – in order to bring funding levels to the projected steady state of maintenance and improvements.
- **Personnel:**
- Total number of Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTE) is 107.58 which is 0.67 FTE less than FY15. Reductions were 1.0 FTE in DPW and 0.12 FTE in the Senior Center. Additions were 0.4 in Dispatch and 0.05 in Parks.
- Cost of living allowances and step increases are built into all employee wage and salary accounts consistent with collective bargaining agreements and personnel policies. For this budget that represents a 1.5% to 2.5% contracted adjustment for Public Works union employees. A 1.5% or lower adjustment for all other employees is budgeted. Neither Fire nor Police union contracts are in place for FY15 yet. Overall wage costs are up by 1.8% in this budget.
- The budget continues the high deductible health insurance plan which was implemented three years ago. Overall benefit costs are up by 6.6% in this budget.

Operating:

- Reductions to operating costs are proposed. As with prior years, many lines have been cut to stay within fiscal guidelines. Some proposed initiatives and service expansion proposals have not been included.
- The budget continues contracting ambulance billing with the City of Barre rather than performing this function with city staff.
- The Community Justice Center budget includes all funding for all programs with commensurate revenue offsets. There is no net property tax funding projected.
- Three items totaling \$122,500 are intended to be drawn from the fund balance during FY15 or FY16. These include \$60,000 for parking garage grant match, \$22,000 for web site start up and \$24,500 for future grant matches. These are not listed in the budget.

Other Funds:

- The Water and Wastewater budgets have both been balanced. The Wastewater fund is now in a small surplus position and the Water fund is steadily reducing its deficit. The budget assumes no Water rate change, a 2.5% Sewer rate increase and no Sewer or CSO benefit charge changes. The rate structure for these funds is under review now. Funding from the CSO benefit charge is being used to address new stormwater requirements.
- Tax funding for the Senior Center is reduced below the FY14 and FY15 levels. The center continues to adjust to its new activity level. Center expenses are offset by program revenues including larger contributions from neighboring towns. This will result in slight service adjustments.
- The Parking fund is balanced while including a 5% set aside for alternate transportation funding.
- The District Heat Fund budget will cover the second full year of complete operation. The General Fund is realizing approximately \$65,000 in benefit from District Heat, \$20,000 to pay the 2009 bond and \$45,000 for DPW costs to maintain and operate the system.
- **Community Services:**
- Funding for the Housing Trust Fund has been reduced from \$41,000 to \$21,000.
- The Montpelier Community & Arts Fund is funded at \$110,175 which is reduced by \$8,000 from FY15 funding.
- \$2,250 has been reduced from the Conservation Commission
- The Parks and Public Works budgets contain \$4,563 for operation of dog waste stations. The budget assumes a \$12 increase per dog license to fund these waste stations.
- The budget includes \$40,000 funding for the GMTA circulator bus route.
- The budget includes funding for the monthly Montpelier Bridge article.

Direct Services:

- *Police:* The Police budget includes a new contractual relationship with Capital Fire Mutual Aid System for dispatching services. This provides additional revenue and improved services for Montpelier. A part time dispatcher position has been expanded to full time. Tax funding for the police canine program has been eliminated. School Resource Officer shared 50% with school is included.
- *Fire & Emergency Services:* Duties such as payroll and accounts payable have been shifted to existing department firefighting staff and the Finance department. This system

has been only moderately successful and we continue to seek means of providing more administrative support to the department. Planning is underway for shared administrative services with the Police Department. Call response and training is unchanged. Funds for call force have been reduced due to lack of participation in the program.

- *Planning, Zoning & Community/Economic Development:* The Planning & Development department budget has been left largely unchanged. The department and public still struggle with the change to a half time zoning administrator made two years ago. A proposal to restore this position to full time was not included in the budget but would be appropriate to meet the need. One VISTA position is funded, down from two.
- *Public Works:* The Street Supervisor and Water/Sewer Supervisor have been merged into one Supervisory position. This has allowed for more blended work among the two divisions. One full time position was reduced from this department as a result of this efficiency change.

Unmet Needs:

- Both city staff and Matrix had identified previously existing capacity shortcomings in the areas of human resources management, facilities management and communications. We have made some progress in the communications area but nothing in this budget specifically addresses the other concerns.
- No funding is included for Economic Development Strategic Plan, housing initiatives, community survey, review of ordinances, Net Zero initiatives or downtown wireless.

Ballot Items:

Articles 1-10 are the annual election and regular budget items. Note that Article 2 and Article 6 are for election and budget approval for the new Central Vermont Public Safety Authority.

Article 11 is for the continuation of the downtown improvement district approved two years ago where commercial properties within the designated zone pay an additional tax increment with the funds raised going directly for promotions and improvements within that district. The article establishes the tax rate for the district.

Article 12 is for \$316,698 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library which is \$8,025 higher than last year. Five years ago, the City Council chose to place the full amount of the Library request on the ballot rather than splitting the request between the ballot and the budget. This decision was made because the Library is not a municipal department under the Council's oversight and therefore the Council has no influence on the budget request.

Conclusion:

This budget is always a team effort from start to finish. The city's Department Heads worked diligently to meet our budget challenges. I would like to particularly recognize the efforts of Finance Director Sandy Gallup. I thank the City Council for carefully reviewing the budget and providing clear policy and priority guidelines early in the process.

Appreciation:

Many dedicated individuals deliver local government services to Montpelier residents 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year and they deserve our collective appreciation and thanks. We all need to remember that City employees work under difficult, stressful circumstances and sometimes dangerous conditions so that residents may have clean water, effective sewage disposal, safe and clear roads, quick and effective fire and ambulance response, responsive and preventive police work, comprehensive planning and review of local development, wonderful parks/facilities and proper administration of citizen's needs. They are highly trained and certified professionals in specialized fields. The 2009 Citizen Survey showed that residents have very positive impressions of city employees. Montpelier's staff are hard working, dedicated and incredibly capable individuals. I am very proud of all of them.

Montpelier is fortunate to have a strong team of Department Heads working for the city's interests. These individuals' experience, education, talent and dedication keep our operations among the very best in the state and in line with the high expectations of our residents. Parks Director Geoff Beyer, Community Justice Center Director Yvonne Byrd, Senior Center Director Janna Clar, Police Chief Anthony Facos, Finance Director Sandra Gallup, Fire Chief Robert Gowans, Cemetery Superintendent Patrick Healy, Planning & Development Director Michael Miller, City Clerk John Odum and Assessor Steve Twombly work as a highly efficient team while also managing their respective areas of responsibility.

As it is with every year, some city employees choose to retire or move on to other endeavors. This year we thank 11 people (10% of the city's workforce) for their service and contributions to the community. Those who left the city in 2014 include– Public Works Director Todd Law, DPW employees Tyson Blouin, Mike Bilodeau, Craig Deyo, Mike Mercadante, Les Smith and George Richardson (after 35 years!), Dispatcher Mike Armantrout, Community Service Officer Mary Alice Clark, IT Specialist Nick Daniels and Sr. Center staffer Johanna Nichols. May they all find success on the next paths of their lives and careers.

As we say goodbye to our former colleagues, we welcome the newest members of our team who bring new ideas, new energy

and new approaches. In 2014, the following new employees were hired: DPW Employees Joseph Yaeger, Peter Potvin, Arielle Smith, John Shangraw and Eric Chase, Firefighter/EMT Jacob Timian, Planning & Development Director Mike Miller and IT Specialist Seth Wood.

We greatly appreciated the efforts of Americorps participants Hannah Reckhow and Alex Prolman. We are especially pleased that Hannah Reckhow has chosen to spend a second year with us.

Montpelier has benefitted greatly from having many experienced employees who have spent distinguished careers with the city. I'd like to recognize and thank individuals with 25 or more years of experience with the City of Montpelier. These people represent about 16% of our total workforce!

Charlotte Hoyt, <i>Treasurer</i>	42 years
Sandra Pitonyak, <i>City Manager's Office</i>	41 years
Sharon Blatchford, <i>Finance Department</i>	36 years
Dean Utton, <i>Public Works Department</i>	36 years
Jane Aldrighetti, <i>Assessor/City Manager Office</i>	35 years
Michael Papineau, <i>Public Works Department</i>	35 years
Robert Gowans, <i>Fire/EMS Department</i>	35 years
Thomas McArdle, <i>Public Works Department</i>	32 years
Scott Powers, <i>Public Works Department</i>	30 years
Loretta Bresette, <i>City Clerk/Treasurer Department</i>	29 years
Dana Huoppi, <i>Fire Department</i>	29 years
Nathan Cowens, <i>Public Works Department</i>	27 years
Beverlee Pembroke Hill, <i>Tax Collector</i>	27 years
Richard Cleveland, <i>Police Department</i>	27 years
Neil Martel, <i>Police Department</i>	27 years
Anthony Facos, <i>Police Department</i>	27 years
Stephen Nolan, <i>Police Department</i>	26 years
Sharon Olson, <i>Police Department</i>	25 years

I thank the Mayor and City Council Members for their consistent support of the city staff and for the huge amount of time they commit to the community. Most people have no idea of the amount of time council members devote to what is often a thankless and stressful task.

In March, City Council Member Andy Hooper left after four terms and Council Member Alan Weiss stepped down after three terms. Council Members Dona Bate and Justin Turcotte were elected to those seats. A huge thanks to Council Members Hooper and Weiss for their many contributions.

Congratulations and welcome to Council Members Bate and Turcotte.

I thank the many citizen volunteers on our boards, commissions and committees for the long hours they give for the honorable purpose of serving their fellow residents. They face controversy, tough decisions, pressure and public criticism yet continue to offer their time, energy and expertise. Our democratic form of government relies on citizen participation for success and these individuals deserve the utmost in respect and appreciation for their dedication. I encourage more citizens to run for office, apply for appointments and volunteer for committees.

The City is very fortunate to have Jessie Baker as our Assistant City Manager. She has made a huge positive impact on the organization and in the community. I look forward seeing her contribute to Montpelier for many years to come.

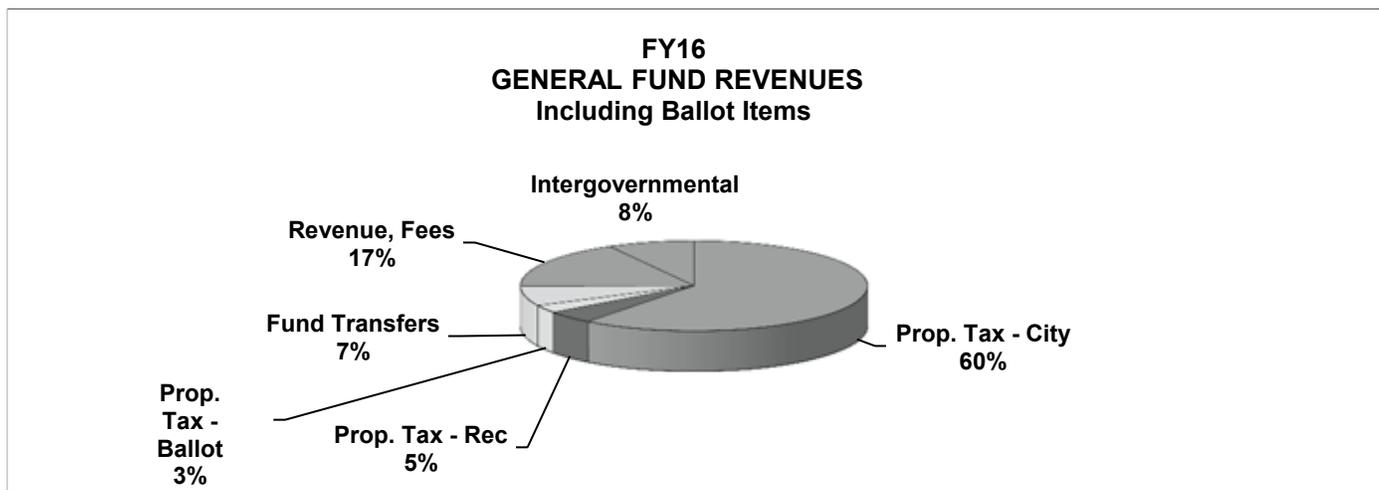
For twenty years I have had the privilege of working daily with Sandy Pitonyak and Jane Aldrighetti in the City Manager's office. Their professionalism, abilities, customer service, trustworthiness and dedication are unmatched. They are truly the "face of the city" for many people. I cannot say enough about each of them and am grateful for the chance to share office space with them.

The best part of being City Manager is the great fortune of being a resident of this wonderful city. I've been delighted to raise four children in the community, watch them journey through our fine schools (and now colleges) and grow into wonderful young people. I thank Olivia, Patrick, Claire and Angus for their own many contributions to Montpelier and for keeping a good sense of humor about their father's public job. My final thanks are for my wife, Anne, who always provides good advice, gracefully handles comments from people about city government and is my biggest supporter. I couldn't do this without her.

William J. Fraser, *City Manager*

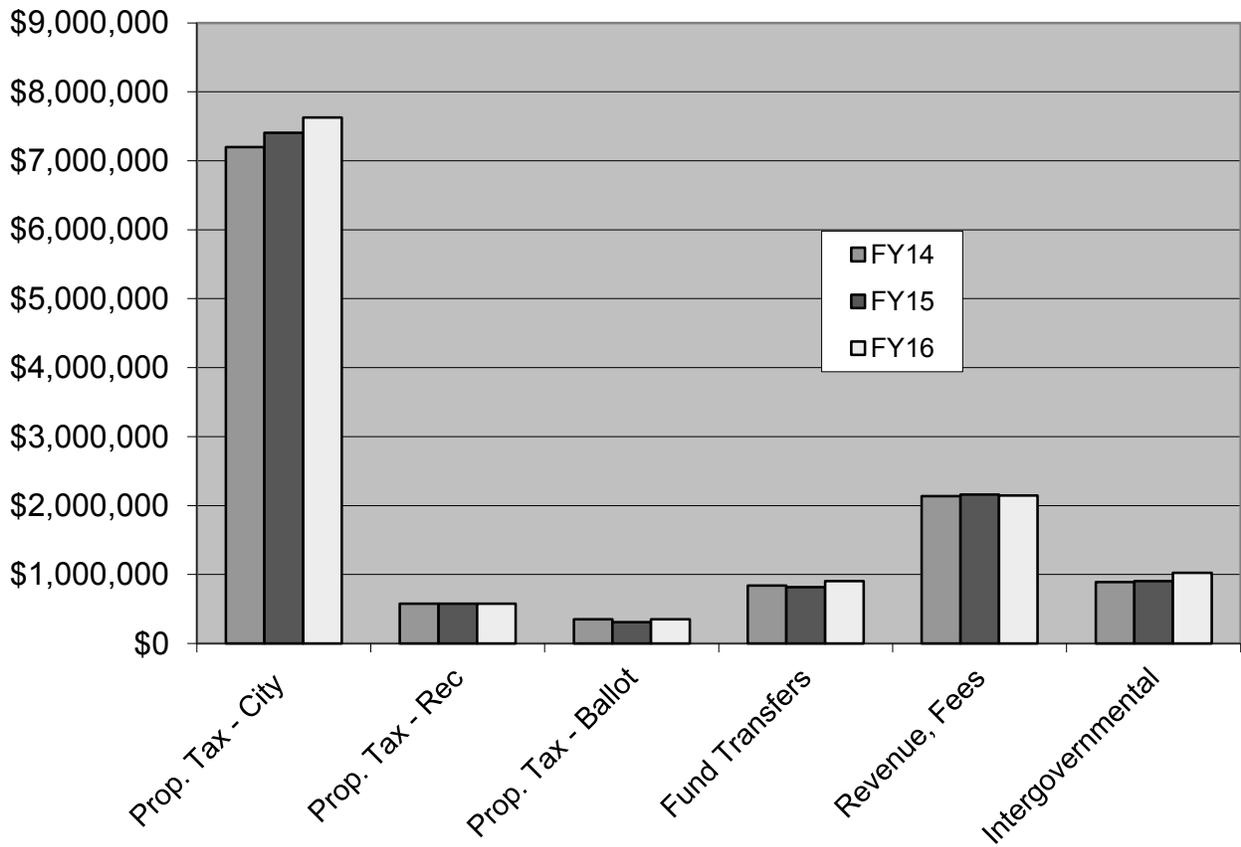
BUDGET COMPARISON - General Fund Revenue

Item	FY14	FY15	FY16	\$ Change	% Change
<i>Property Taxes - City Budget</i>	\$7,200,487	\$7,406,787	\$7,626,087	\$219,300	3.0%
<i>Property Taxes - Recreation</i>	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$0	0.0%
<i>Property Taxes - Ballot Items</i>	\$348,673	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$42,750	13.8%
<i>Property Taxes - Total</i>	\$8,124,390	\$8,290,690	\$8,552,740	\$262,050	3.2%
<i>Other Tax Related Income</i>	\$892,695	\$891,195	\$855,165	-\$36,030	-4.0%
<i>Permits & Licenses</i>	\$82,600	\$81,600	\$86,163	\$4,563	5.6%
<i>Intergovernmental</i>	\$889,384	\$905,849	\$1,022,031	\$116,182	12.8%
<i>Fees & Charges for Service</i>	\$659,193	\$671,739	\$676,595	\$4,856	0.7%
<i>Rents & Commissions</i>	\$600	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.0%
<i>Fines & Forfeitures</i>	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$10,000	40.0%
<i>Equipment Revenues</i>	\$386,755	\$414,158	\$407,539	-\$6,619	-1.6%
<i>Interest Income</i>	\$36,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	0.0%
<i>Miscellaneous Revenue</i>	\$51,537	\$53,372	\$64,505	\$11,133	20.9%
<i>Fund Balance</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
<i>Operating Transfers</i>	\$837,524	\$817,353	\$901,818	\$84,465	10.3%
<i>TOTAL - Non Tax Revenues</i>	\$3,861,288	\$3,880,766	\$4,069,316	\$188,550	4.9%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$11,985,678	\$12,171,456	\$12,622,056	\$450,600	3.7%



REVENUE CATEGORIES	FY14	FY15	FY16	\$ Change	% Change
Prop. Tax - City	\$7,200,487	\$7,406,787	\$7,626,087	\$219,300	3.0%
Prop. Tax - Rec	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$575,230	\$0	0.0%
Prop. Tax - Ballot	\$348,673	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$42,750	13.8%
Fund Transfers	\$837,524	\$817,353	\$901,818	\$84,465	10.3%
Revenue, Fees	\$2,134,380	\$2,157,564	\$2,145,467	-\$12,097	-0.6%
Intergovernmental	\$889,384	\$905,849	\$1,022,031	\$116,182	12.8%
Total	\$11,985,678	\$12,171,456	\$12,622,056	\$450,600	3.7%
Grand List	\$843,834,299	\$850,101,290	\$851,801,493	\$1,700,203	0.20%
Total Property Tax Dollars	\$8,124,390	\$8,290,690	\$8,552,740	\$262,050	3.2%
Property Tax Rate	\$0.96	\$0.98	\$1.00	\$0.029	3.0%
Avg Municipal Tax Bill	\$2,152.33	\$2,180.19	\$2,244.61	\$64.42	3.0%

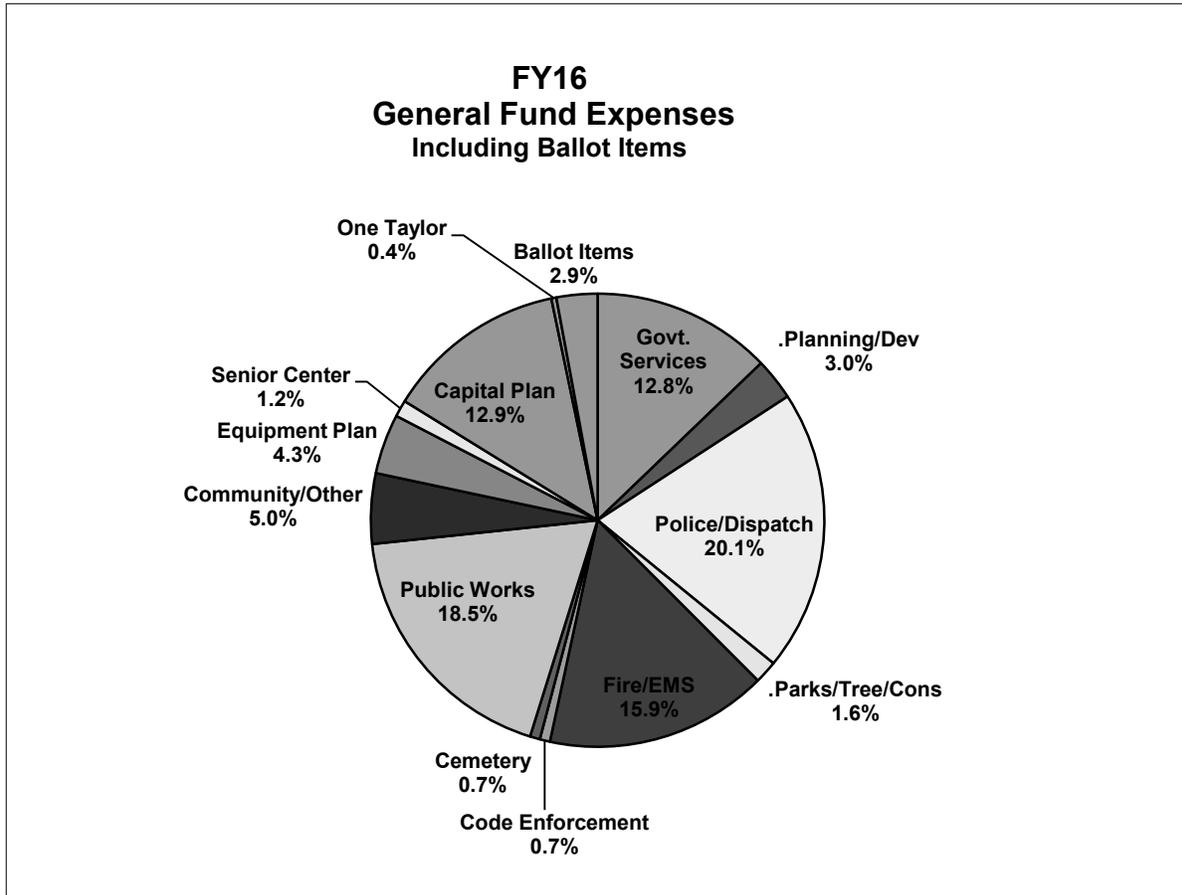
General Fund Revenue Comparison



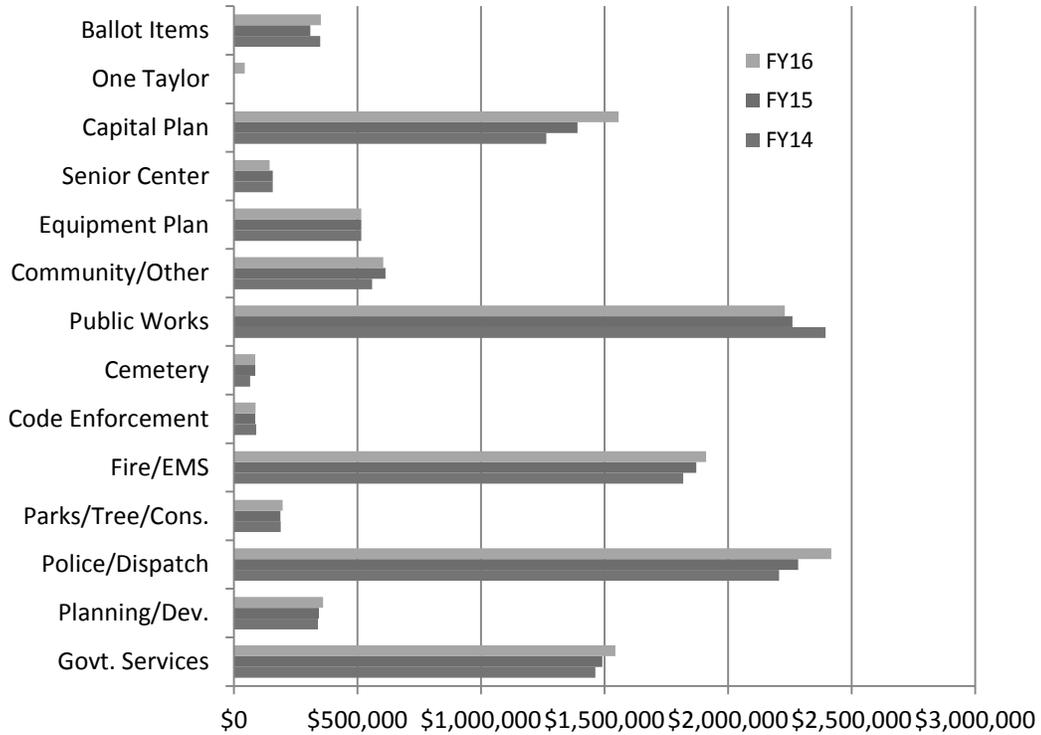
BUDGET COMPARISON - General Fund Expenditures

Item	FY14	FY15	FY16	\$ Change	% Change
City Council Operations	\$34,465	\$35,399	\$35,644	\$245	0.7%
City Manager's Office	\$385,322	\$400,561	\$420,148	\$19,587	4.9%
Clerk/Elections	\$186,917	\$182,750	\$179,874	-\$2,876	-1.6%
Finance/Treasurer	\$455,316	\$464,248	\$476,180	\$11,932	2.6%
Technology Services	\$225,054	\$228,030	\$245,452	\$17,422	7.6%
Property Assessment	\$175,240	\$180,576	\$186,368	\$5,792	3.2%
Planning & Development	\$340,279	\$344,215	\$360,434	\$16,219	4.7%
City Hall Maintenance	\$192,631	\$200,115	\$212,970	\$12,855	6.4%
Police - Operations	\$1,569,248	\$1,659,973	\$1,730,372	\$70,399	4.2%
Police - Communications	\$542,756	\$528,961	\$590,187	\$61,226	11.6%
Police- School Resource Off.	\$94,327	\$95,388	\$97,694	\$2,306	2.4%
Community Justice Center	\$248,849	\$261,415	\$273,355	\$11,940	4.6%
Fire & Emergency Services	\$1,743,642	\$1,802,141	\$1,840,860	\$38,719	2.1%
Code/Health Enforcement	\$89,483	\$86,215	\$87,871	\$1,656	1.9%
Emergency Management	\$14,929	\$6,929	\$6,929	\$0	0.0%
DPW - Streets	\$1,556,064	\$1,400,961	\$1,370,961	-\$30,000	-2.1%
DPW - Fleet Operations	\$578,401	\$593,778	\$581,154	-\$12,624	-2.1%
DPW - Building Operations	\$67,550	\$65,850	\$64,100	-\$1,750	-2.7%
Wrightsville Beach	\$4,007	\$4,007	\$4,007	\$0	0.0%
Community Fund	\$118,175	\$118,175	\$110,175	-\$8,000	-6.8%
Community Enhancements	\$29,500	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$0	0.0%
Tree Management & Board	\$37,794	\$37,426	\$39,775	\$2,349	6.3%
Conservation Commission	\$5,750	\$5,750	\$3,500	-\$2,250	-39.1%
Capital Plan Debt Service	\$705,456	\$712,434	\$680,326	-\$32,108	-4.5%
Capital Plan Annual Funding	\$558,974	\$677,570	\$875,978	\$198,408	29.3%
Other Governmental Services	\$121,214	\$161,396	\$168,761	\$7,365	4.6%
Equipment Plan	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$0	0.0%
Sprinkler Tax Credit	\$60,000	\$62,000	\$64,000	\$2,000	3.2%
Cemetery	\$65,868	\$85,726	\$85,726	\$0	0.0%
Parks	\$141,089	\$141,089	\$148,927	\$7,838	5.6%
One Taylor	\$0	\$0	\$43,200	\$43,200	
Housing Trust Fund.	\$41,000	\$41,000	\$21,000	-\$20,000	-48.8%
Senior Center	\$157,475	\$157,475	\$143,475	-\$14,000	-8.9%
Sub TOTAL CITY BUDGET	\$11,061,775	\$11,287,553	\$11,695,403	\$407,850	3.6%
<i>Library Ballot Item</i>	<i>\$308,673</i>	<i>\$308,673</i>	<i>\$316,698</i>	<i>\$8,025</i>	<i>2.6%</i>
<i>Other Ballot Items</i>	<i>\$40,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$34,725</i>	<i>\$34,725</i>	
Sub TOTAL BALLOT ITEMS	\$348,673	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$42,750	13.8%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$11,410,448	\$11,596,226	\$12,046,826	\$450,600	3.9%

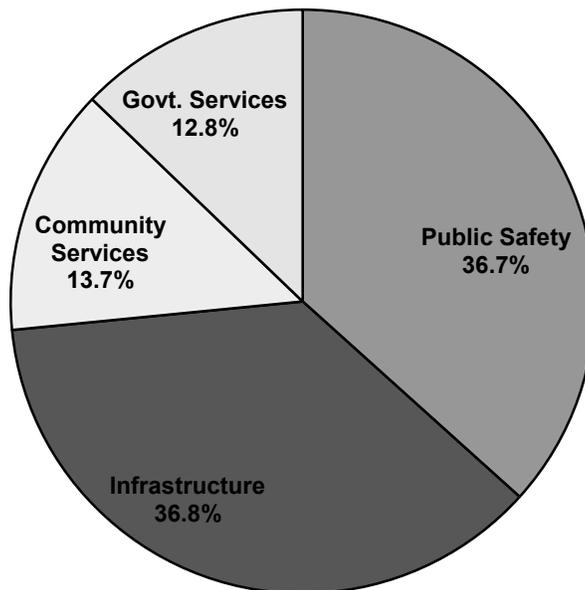
EXPENSE CATEGORIES	FY14	FY15	FY16	\$ Change	% Change
Govt. Services	\$1,462,314	\$1,491,564	\$1,543,666	\$52,102	3.5%
Planning/Dev.	\$340,279	\$344,215	\$360,434	\$16,219	4.7%
Police/Dispatch	\$2,206,331	\$2,284,322	\$2,418,253	\$133,931	5.9%
Parks/Tree/Cons.	\$188,640	\$188,272	\$196,209	\$7,937	4.2%
Fire/EMS	\$1,818,571	\$1,871,070	\$1,911,789	\$40,719	2.2%
Code Enforcement	\$89,483	\$86,215	\$87,871	\$1,656	1.9%
Cemetery	\$65,868	\$85,726	\$85,726	\$0	0.0%
Public Works	\$2,394,646	\$2,260,704	\$2,229,185	-\$31,519	-1.4%
Community/Other	\$558,738	\$612,986	\$604,291	-\$8,695	-1.4%
Equipment Plan	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$0	0.0%
Senior Center	\$157,475	\$157,475	\$143,475	-\$14,000	-8.9%
Capital Plan	\$1,264,430	\$1,390,004	\$1,556,304	\$166,300	12.0%
One Taylor	\$0	\$0	\$43,200	\$43,200	
Ballot Items	\$348,673	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$42,750	13.8%
Totals	\$11,410,448	\$11,596,226	\$12,046,826	\$450,600	3.9%



General Fund Comparison by Department FY 14, 15, 16

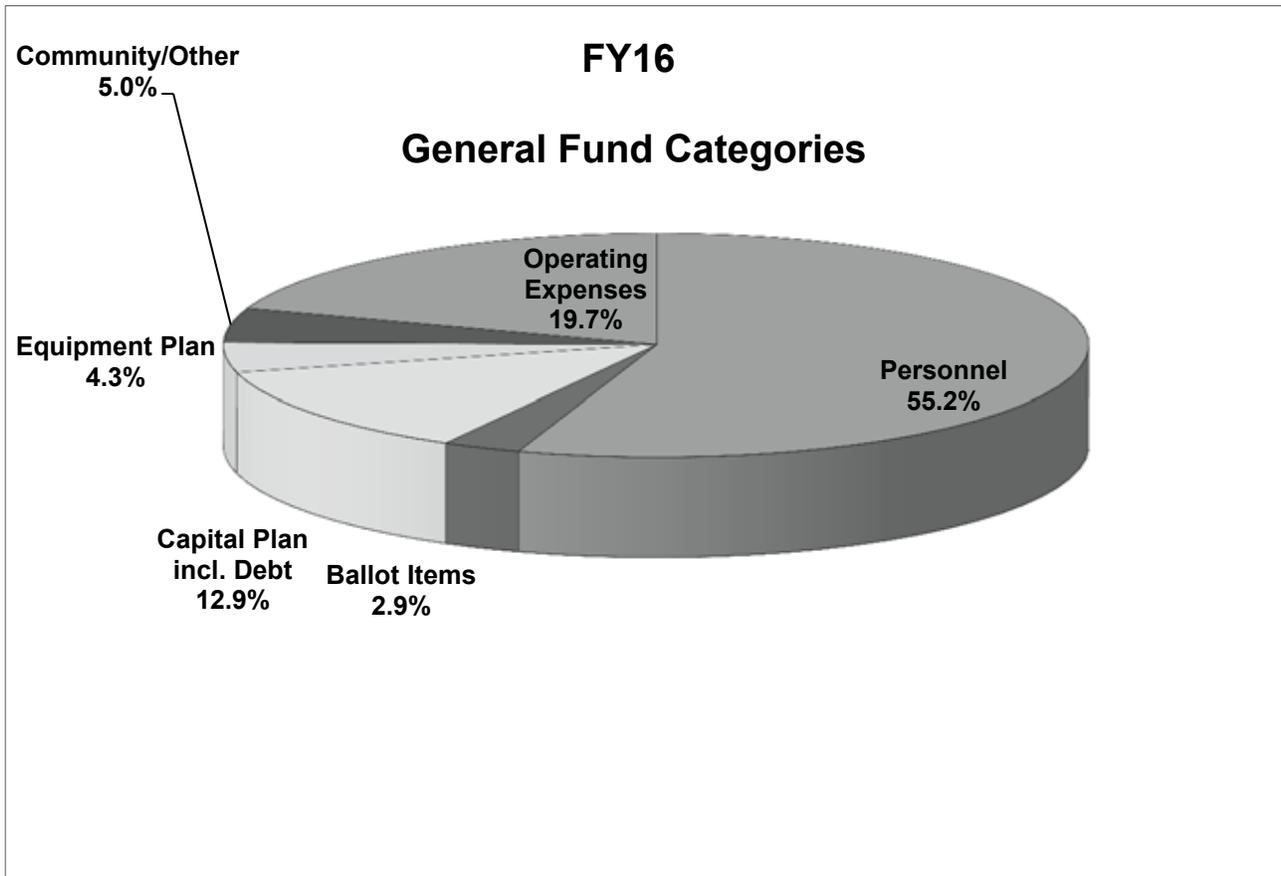


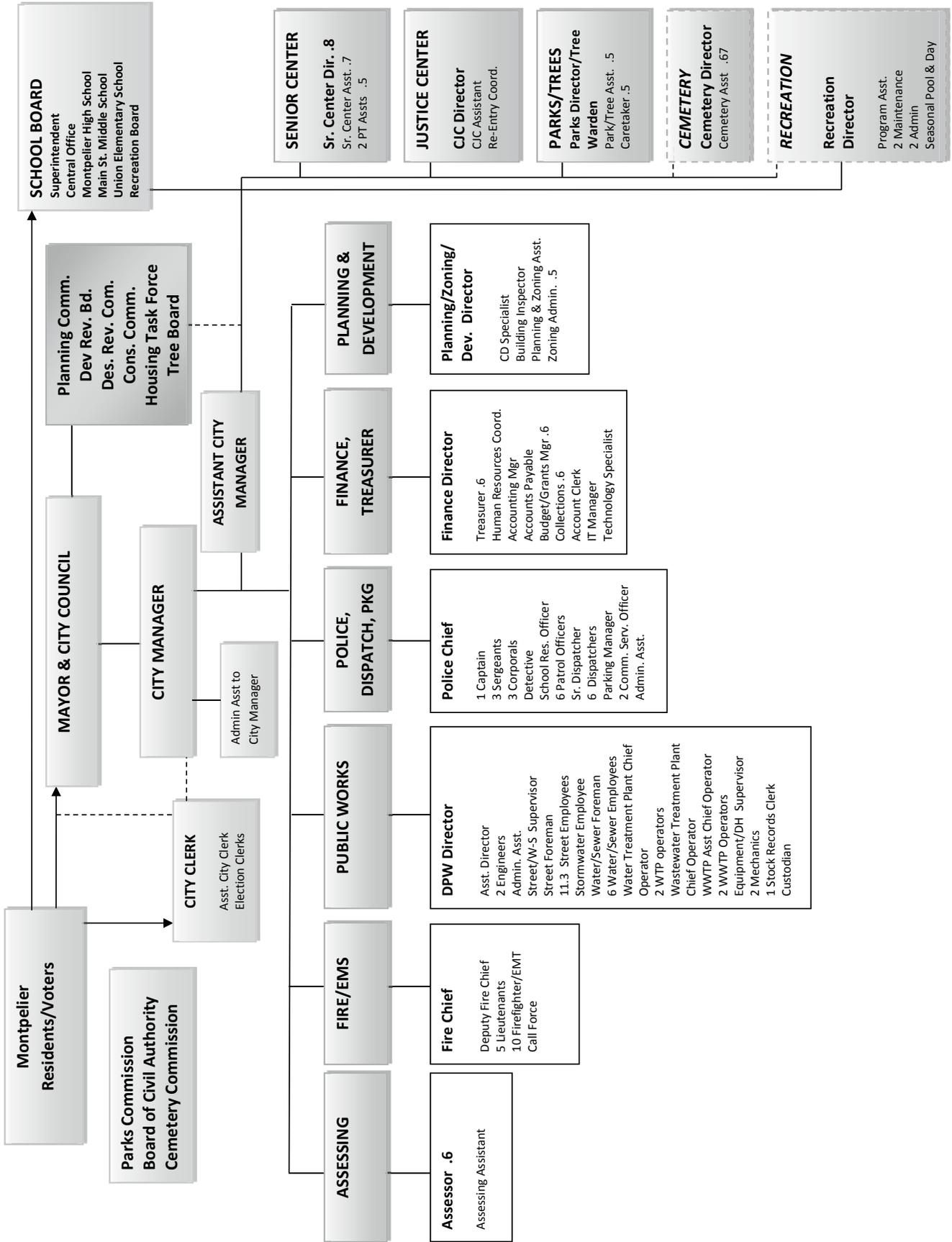
General Fund Expenses by Broad Category FY16

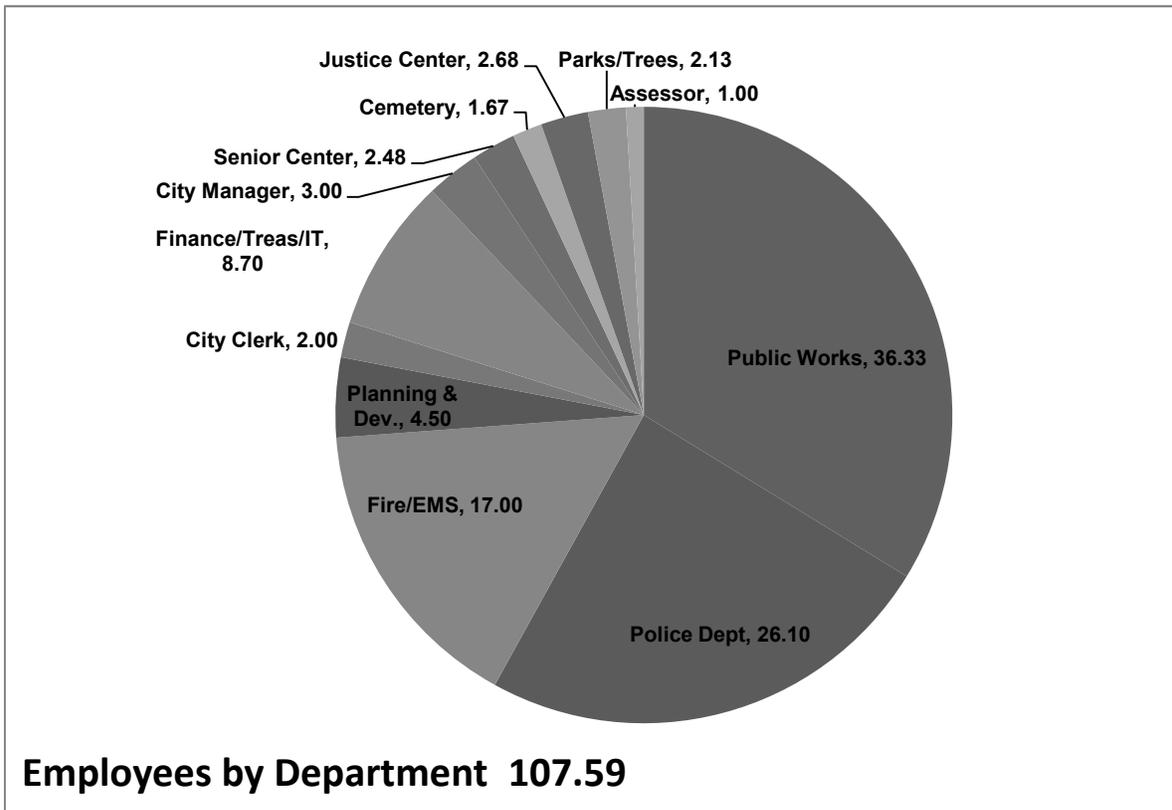
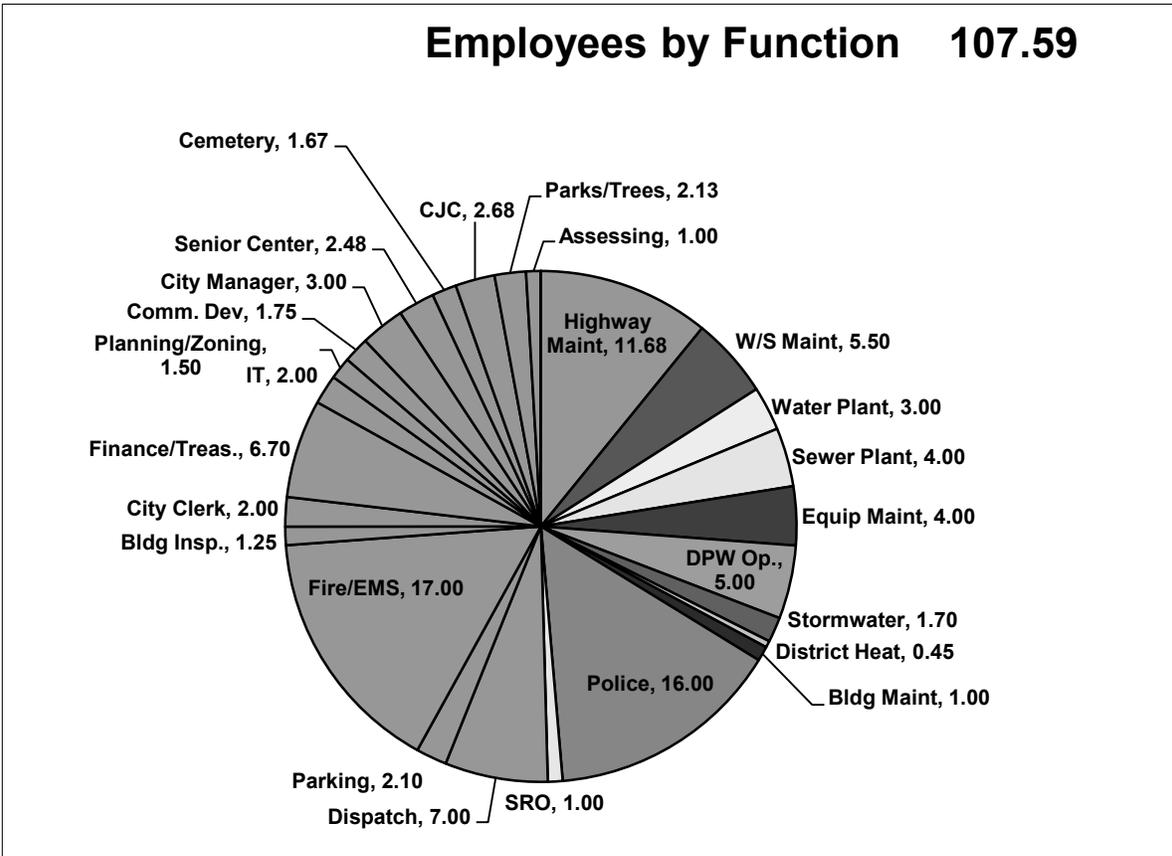


GENERAL FUND - Allocation by Category

Category	FY14	FY15	FY16	\$ Change	% Change
<i>Salaries & Wages incl. OT</i>	\$4,529,144	\$4,520,423	\$4,606,311	\$85,888	1.9%
<i>Employee Benefits incl. FICA</i>	\$1,903,170	\$1,912,664	\$2,038,170	\$125,506	6.6%
Personnel	\$6,432,314	\$6,433,087	\$6,644,481	\$211,394	3.3%
Ballot Items	\$348,673	\$308,673	\$351,423	\$42,750	13.8%
Capital Plan incl. Debt	\$1,264,430	\$1,390,004	\$1,556,304	\$166,300	12.0%
Equipment Plan	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$515,000	\$0	0.0%
Community/Other	\$558,738	\$612,986	\$604,291	-\$8,695	-1.4%
Operating Expenses	\$2,291,293	\$2,336,476	\$2,375,327	\$38,851	1.7%
General Fund Budget	\$11,410,448	\$11,596,226	\$12,046,826	\$450,600	3.9%

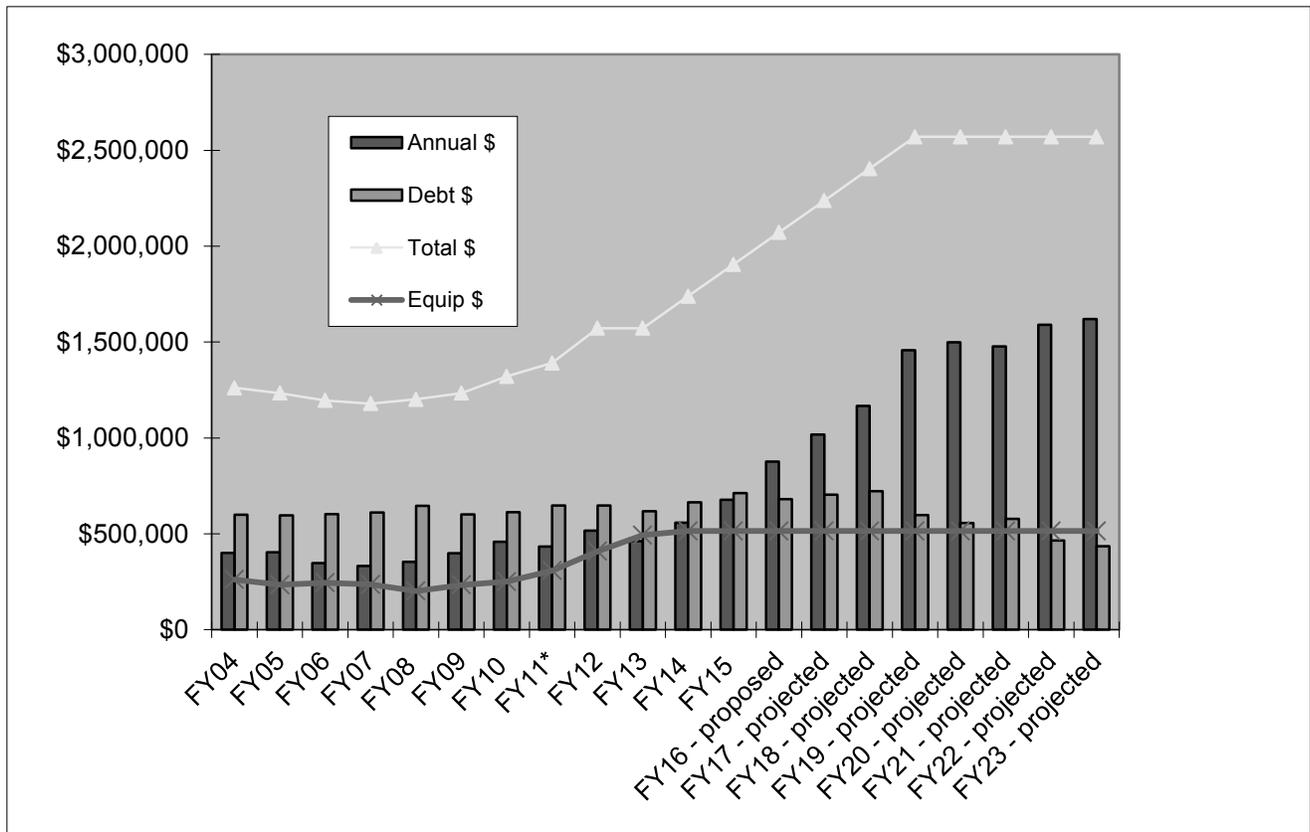






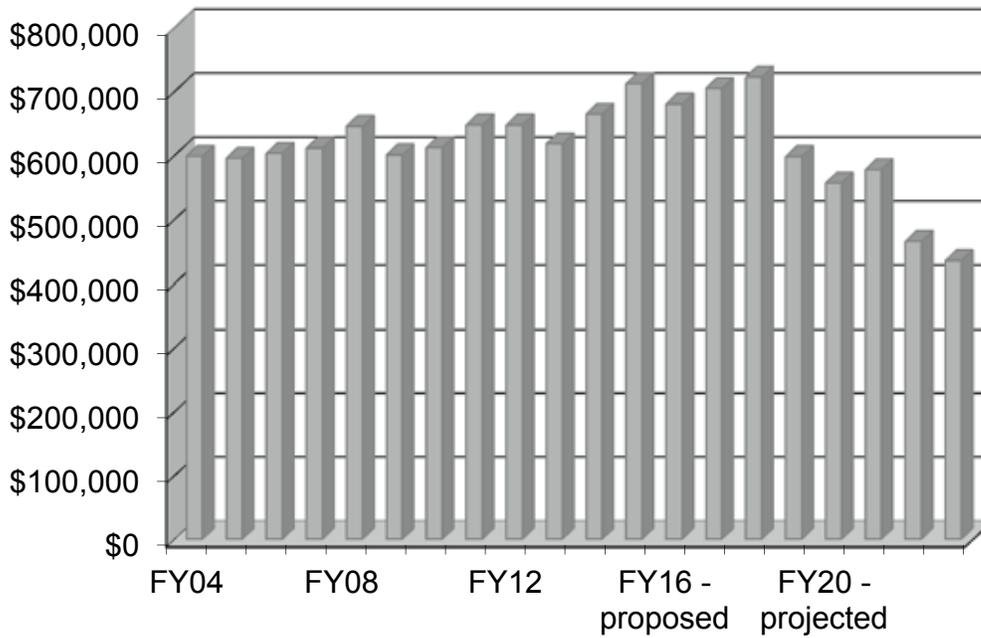
20 YEAR SUMMARY of ANNUAL and DEBT FUNDING for CAPITAL PROJECTS & EQUIPMENT
General Fund

Fiscal Year	Annual \$	Debt \$	Equip \$	Total \$	\$ Change	% Change
FY04	\$401,100	\$598,900	\$261,565	\$1,261,565		
FY05	\$404,183	\$595,817	\$234,025	\$1,234,025	-\$27,540	-2.2%
FY06	\$346,699	\$603,301	\$245,250	\$1,195,250	-\$38,775	-3.1%
FY07	\$332,196	\$611,304	\$235,854	\$1,179,354	-\$15,896	-1.3%
FY08	\$354,510	\$645,490	\$201,581	\$1,201,581	\$22,227	1.9%
FY09	\$399,251	\$600,749	\$233,735	\$1,233,735	\$32,154	2.7%
FY10	\$457,811	\$612,389	\$250,847	\$1,321,047	\$87,312	7.1%
FY11*	\$434,509	\$647,691	\$308,275	\$1,390,475	\$69,428	5.3%
FY12	\$515,849	\$647,651	\$408,904	\$1,572,404	\$181,929	13.1%
FY13	\$461,693	\$618,061	\$492,650	\$1,572,404	\$0	0.0%
FY14	\$558,974	\$664,730	\$515,000	\$1,738,704	\$166,300	10.6%
FY15	\$677,570	\$712,434	\$515,000	\$1,905,004	\$166,300	9.6%
FY16 - proposed	\$875,978	\$680,326	\$515,000	\$2,071,304	\$166,300	8.7%
FY17 - projected	\$1,017,642	\$704,962	\$515,000	\$2,237,604	\$166,300	8.0%
FY18 - projected	\$1,166,429	\$722,475	\$515,000	\$2,403,904	\$166,300	7.4%
FY19 - projected	\$1,456,965	\$598,239	\$515,000	\$2,570,204	\$166,300	6.9%
FY20 - projected	\$1,498,527	\$556,677	\$515,000	\$2,570,204	\$0	0.0%
FY21 - projected	\$1,477,164	\$578,040	\$515,000	\$2,570,204	\$0	0.0%
FY22 - projected	\$1,589,675	\$465,529	\$515,000	\$2,570,204	\$0	0.0%
FY23 - projected	\$1,619,725	\$435,479	\$515,000	\$2,570,204	\$0	0.0%

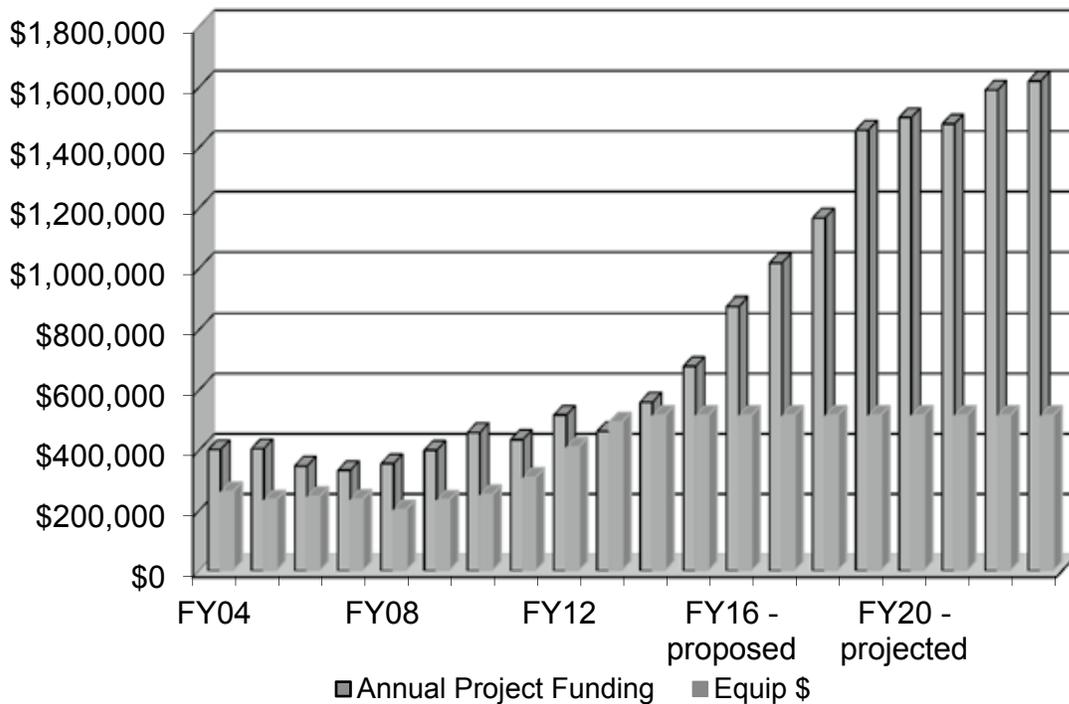


* equipment funds for parks/cemetery & lease payments included in department budgets before FY11

Scheduled Debt Payments FY04-FY23



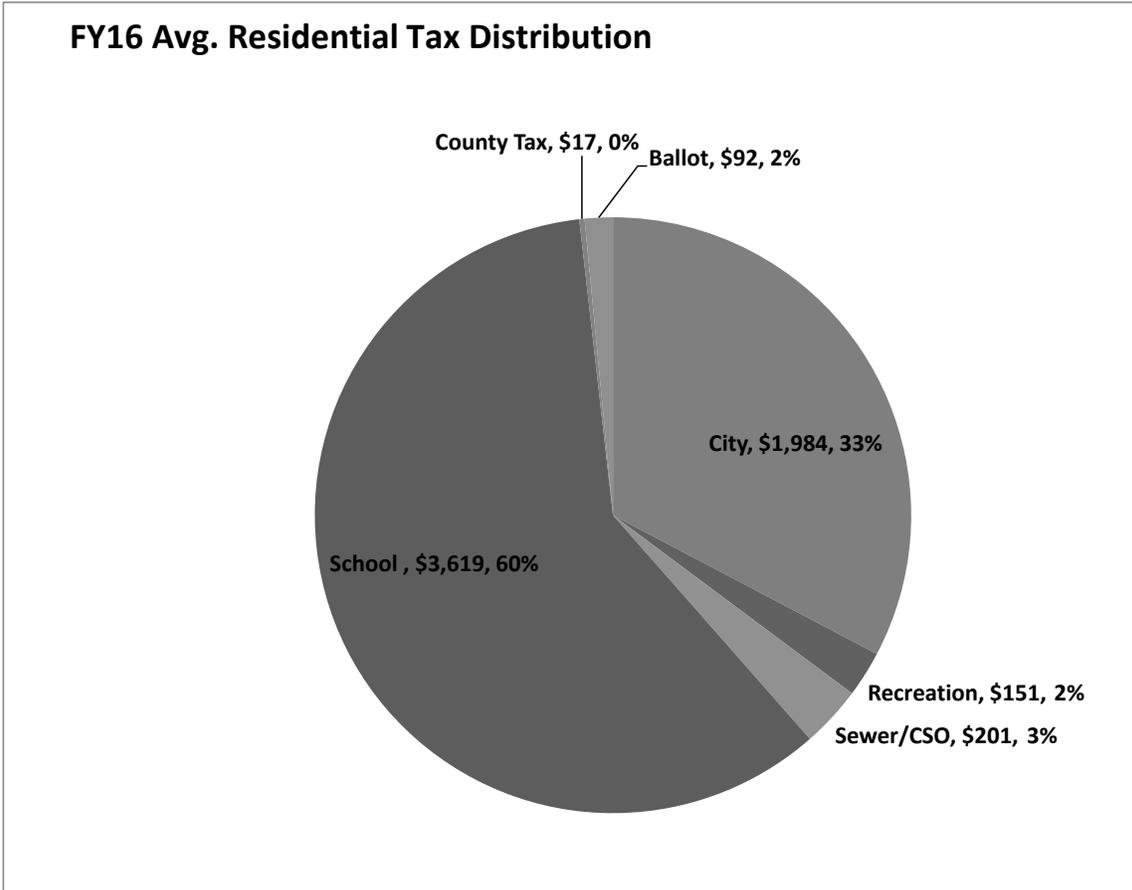
Annual Project and Equipment Funding FY04-FY23



PROJECTED TAX RATES

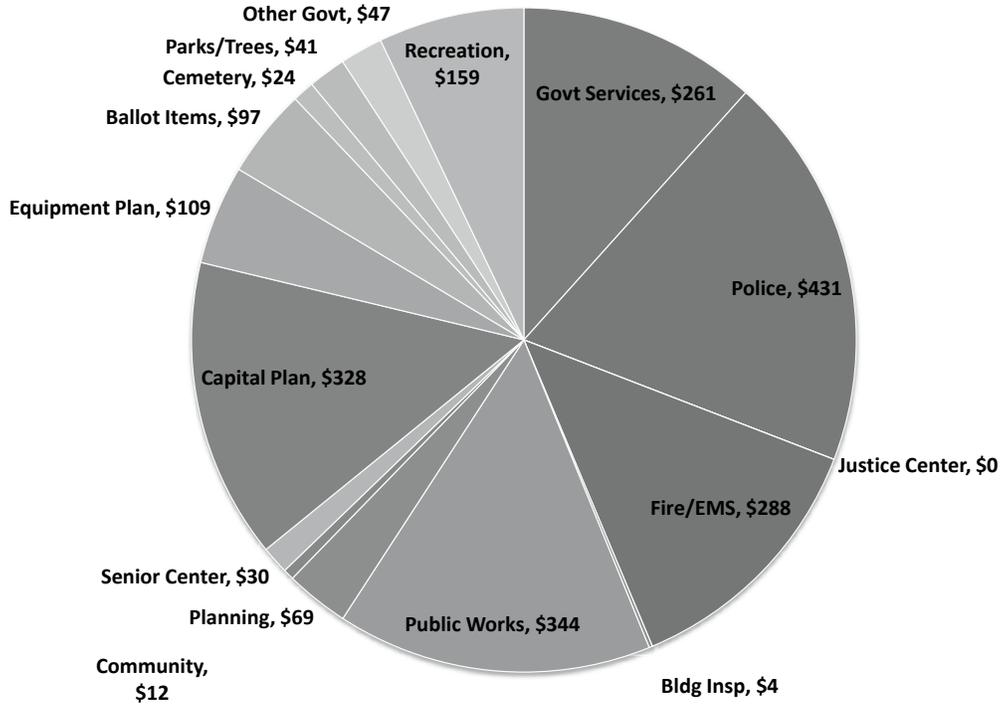
PROJECTED TAX RATES (97.07% Common Level of Appraisal)

	FY14 Taxes	FY14 Rate	FY15 Taxes	FY15 Rate	FY16 Taxes	FY16 Rate	Tax \$ Change	Rate Change	Pct. Change
MUNICIPAL									
City Budget	\$7,141,199	\$0.85	\$7,347,499	\$0.86	\$7,560,087	\$0.89	\$212,588	\$0.023	2.7%
Recreation Budget	\$575,230	\$0.07	\$575,230	\$0.07	\$575,230	\$0.07	\$0	\$0.000	-0.2%
County Tax	\$59,288	\$0.01	\$59,288	\$0.01	\$66,000	\$0.01	\$6,712	\$0.001	11.1%
Sub Total CITY	\$7,775,717	\$0.92	\$7,982,017	\$0.94	\$8,201,317	\$0.96	\$219,300	\$0.024	2.54%
Ballot Items	\$348,673	\$0.04	\$308,673	\$0.04	\$351,423	\$0.04	\$42,750	\$0.005	13.6%
TOTAL MUNICIPAL	\$8,124,390	\$0.9628	\$8,290,690	\$0.9753	\$8,552,740	\$1.0041	\$262,050	\$0.0288	3.0%
Avg Res Tax Bill	\$2,152		\$2,180	\$27.86	\$2,245	\$64.42	\$92.29	4.288%	
SCHOOL									
Residential	\$6,574,799	\$1.43	\$7,206,013	\$1.57	\$7,419,572	\$1.62	\$213,559	\$0.047	3.0%
Non-residential	\$5,195,581	\$1.45	\$5,447,352	\$1.55	\$5,566,354	\$1.58	\$119,002	\$0.034	2.2%
TOTAL SCHOOL	\$11,770,380		\$12,653,365		\$12,985,926		\$332,561		2.6%
Avg Res Tax Bill	\$3,197		\$3,515	\$318.34	\$3,619	\$104.17			
SUB-TOTAL	\$19,894,770		\$20,944,055	\$2.55	\$21,538,666	\$2.62	\$594,611	\$0.075	3.0%
Water/Sewer Benefit	\$168,767	\$0.02	\$170,020	\$0.02	\$170,360	\$0.02	\$340	\$0.000	0.0%
CSO Benefit	\$590,684	\$0.07	\$595,071	\$0.07	\$596,261	\$0.07	\$1,190	\$0.000	0.0%
TOTAL - Res.	\$20,654,221	\$2.48	\$21,709,146	\$2.64	\$22,305,288	\$2.71	\$596,142	\$0.075	2.9%
Non -Res.		\$2.50		\$2.61		\$2.68		\$0.063	2.4%
Avg. Res. Value	\$223,550								
Avg Res Total Tax Bill	\$5,550		\$5,896	\$346	\$6,065	\$169			
							One Year Change	Two Year Change	
							2.9%	\$515	9.3%



Municipal Tax Dollars: FY16 Budget + Ballot Items

Avg. Residence \$223,550 = Tax Bill \$2,245



Estimated Property Taxes - July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Using Current Grand List 2014 up .2%: \$ 851,463,300

Ballot Article	Item	Funds	Tax Rate per \$100 Value	Estimated Municipal Taxes due of various property values					Median Resident
				\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$400,000	\$500,000	
3	City Budget (includes Senior Citizens Ctr. & Washington County Tax)	\$ 7,626,087	\$ 0.8956	\$ 896	\$ 1,791	\$ 2,002	\$ 2,687	\$ 3,583	
4	School Budget - Residential Tax Rate Est. 1/22	\$ 18,062,853	\$ 1.6200	\$ 1,620	\$ 3,240	\$ 3,622	\$ 4,860	\$ 6,480	
5	Recreation Department	\$ 575,230	\$ 0.0676	\$ 68	\$ 135	\$ 151	\$ 203	\$ 270	
6	Central VT Public Safety Authority	\$ 34,725	\$ 0.0041	\$ 4	\$ 8	\$ 9	\$ 12	\$ 16	
7	Mayor Compensation (included in Article 3)	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
8	Council Compensation (included in Article 3)	\$ 7,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
9	School Commissioners Compensation (included in Article 4)	\$ 7,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Subtotal City and School Articles				\$ 2,587	\$ 5,175	\$ 5,784	\$ 7,762	\$ 10,349	
12	Kellogg-Hubbard Library	\$ 316,698	\$ 0.0372	\$ 37	\$ 74	\$ 83	\$ 112	\$ 149	
Subtotal Other Agencies' Articles				\$ 37	\$ 74	\$ 83	\$ 112	\$ 149	
TOTAL of Articles				\$ 2,624	\$ 5,249	\$ 5,867	\$ 7,873	\$ 10,498	
	Water/Sewer Benefit Charge		\$ 0.02	\$ 20	\$ 40	\$ 45	\$ 60	\$ 80	
	Sewer Separation Benefit Charge		\$ 0.07	\$ 70	\$ 140	\$ 156	\$ 210	\$ 280	
Estimated Total Taxes				\$ 2,714	\$ 5,429	\$ 6,068	\$ 8,143	\$ 10,858	

Note:
 Article 11 levys a special assessment of \$.0515 per \$100 value on properties within Montpelier's Designated Downtown not used for residential purposes

Montpelier Community Fund Recommendation FY16 Budget

Organization	Approved
Arts Grants	
Capital City Band	\$1,000
Capital City Concerts	\$1,400
Card Board Tech	\$500
Green Mountain Film Festival	\$1,000
Kellogg Hubbard Library - Poem City	\$1,000
Kids Fest	\$750
Linda Hogan	\$500
Montpelier Chamber Orchestra	\$2,000
Montpelier Community Gospel	\$750
Hannah Saterlee.	\$500
Total Arts Grants	\$9,400
Outside Agencies Grants	
American Red Cross.	\$500
Capstone	\$1,800
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$6,000
Central Vermont Community Land Trust.	\$4,500
Central Vermont Council on Aging & RSVP.	\$7,000
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	\$17,000
Circle.	\$3,000
Community Connections	\$5,000
Community Harvest	\$2,500
Everybody Wins	\$1,000
Family Center of Washington County	\$3,500
Friends of the Winooski River	\$500
Girlz/Boyz First Mentoring	\$1,500
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$800
Green Mountain Youth Symphony.	\$1,000
Home Share Now	\$1,000
Just Basics (Montpelier Home Delivery Program).	\$8,000
Lost Nation Theater	\$5,000
Friends of the North Branch Nature Center.	\$3,000
Onion River Exchange.	\$500
Our House	\$500
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$1,250
Prevent Child Abuse.	\$1,200
Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington County	\$750
T. Wood Art Gallery.	\$5,000
Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	\$500
Washington County Diversion Program	\$1,000
Washington County Youth Service Bureau-Basement Teen Center	\$19,000
Total Outside Agencies	\$102,300
Total Community Fund - Approved Funding FY16	\$111,700

City Department Reports

Public Safety & Protection

Montpelier Police Department



Personnel:

Like so many police agencies across the country, the Montpelier Police Department was tasked with delivering quality public safety services with fewer personnel. Effective July 1, 2013, the department's strength went from 17 police officers down to 16. In order to minimize this impact on the community, the department looked to strengthen its existing partnerships and collaborations with outside agencies, and build upon the department's increased reliance on evidence- and intelligence-based policing. Although the department has found itself spread thin from time to time, working hard to meet operational goals, the men and women of MPD have been creative and resourceful in carrying out their public safety mission.

A noteworthy change in the command structure of the department was the promotion of SGT Neil Martel to the rank of Captain in October 2014. This step represented the final recommendation of the Matrix study on which the department planned to act. The captain's position has already improved inter-agency efficiency, accountability, oversight of special projects, and it improved the department's continuity of operation planning.

The department's authorized staff levels for 2014 consisted of the following: 16 full-time police officers (chief, one captain, three sergeants, one detective, one school resource officer, and nine patrol officers --three of whom are corporals), one administrative assistant, 6.5 FTE Emergency Services Dispatchers, and one full-time and three part-time Community

Service Officers (Parking Division). The men and women of the MPD are focused on the core mission of providing police and public safety services to the citizens and visitors of Montpelier. In order to meet today's law enforcement challenges, the department will continue to seek and retain the right personnel--those who are qualified and motivated to be here at MPD. The MPD is committed to providing its officers and dispatchers with the necessary training and tools required to meet the present and future public safety needs of the City.

Patrol:

The department provides 24-hour police and communications services seven days a week. For safety reasons, there is a minimum of two police officers on duty during any given shift. In 2013, the department adopted a change in scheduling that has officers working four-ten hour shifts per week. This change enables the department to have critical shift overlaps during peak times and reduce the amount of overtime used when officers are on leave. In 2014, this schedule has proven to be effective in managing a significant portion of the department's overtime costs.

The department has still been able to maintain one full-time bike patrol officer given the current staffing level. It is important to note that all uniformed officers handle a full-spectrum of law enforcement services ranging from traffic safety to crisis response.

The MPD K-9 team continues to serve as an integral element for supporting both patrol duties as well as criminal investigations. In 2014, CPL Kevin Moulton and his K-9 "Jake" recovered thousands of dollars-worth of illegal narcotics and cash associated with drug trafficking. It is important to note that funding for the K-9 team was cut from the police department budget (General Fund) in order to meet the budget goals for FY 16.

School safety remains one of MPD's top priorities. The Chief continues to serve as the Vermont Chiefs of Police representative on the Vermont School Crisis Planning Team (part of the Vermont Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security). MPD and the Montpelier Public School System share in the funding of the department's School Resource Officer (SRO)--furthering the joint partnership and commitment to keep the children and faculty of Montpelier's schools safe.

Investigations:

The majority of criminal investigations are handled by patrol personnel, depending on the type of investigation and the training and experience of the case officer. For example, many of our officers have specialized training in areas such as death investigation, financial crime, child sexual abuse, and

narcotics investigations. Officers and agents from MPD, Barre City PD (BCPD), Vermont State Police (VSP), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Vermont Drug Task Force, and other area departments continue to work collectively to counter the rising crime trends--intensified by the drug addiction problem in Vermont. The prevalence of illegal firearms with the drug trade in this region is of paramount concern to our officers, and ultimately the community.

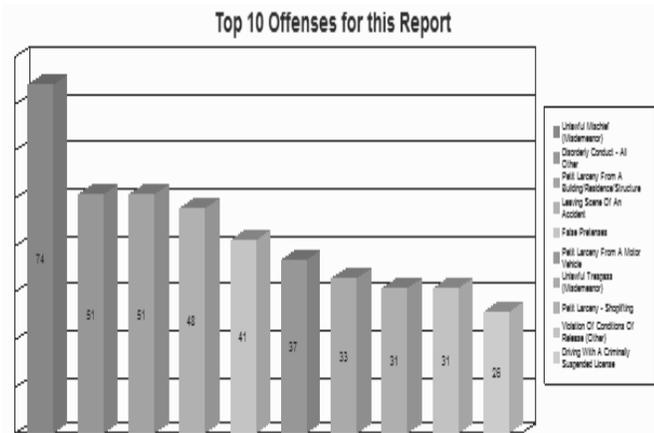
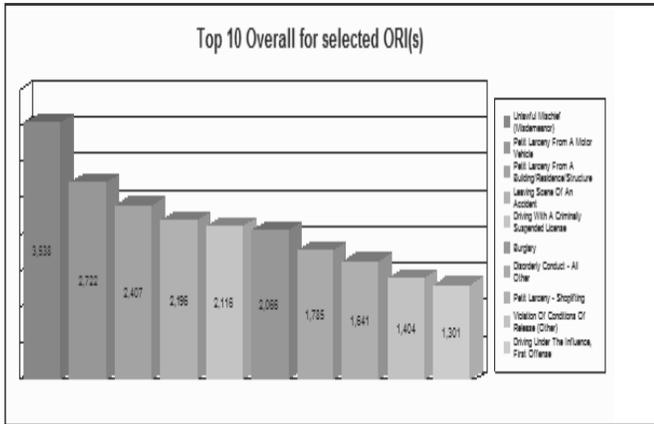
Another important function of police investigations is criminal intelligence and analysis. The department has come a long way with improving the robustness of our intelligence and analysis thanks to the cooperation of our colleagues at the local, state, and federal levels. The department also continues its strong partnership with Norwich University, which has supported law enforcement at various levels and in multiple states with its qualified staff expertise in digital forensics. Public/private cooperative ventures with vetted partners further serves as a force multiplier for the department--especially during fiscally challenging times such as these.

The department has been actively involved with the organization and support of the Washington County Special Investigative Unit (SIU). Per state statute (Brook Bennett legislation), each county needed to have an SIU, coordinated by the State's Attorney's Office. Central to Washington County's SIU is OUR House, an advocacy and support organization for the protection of children and the investigation of child sexual and other serious abuse. MPD, BCPD, VSP, Washington County State's Attorney's Office (WCSA), Vermont Department of Children and Families (DCF), and OUR House have taken lead roles in the SIU. The SIU is one part of a multi-disciplinary team (MDT) that also includes advocates from the WCSA's office, medical community, mental health community, Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services), the sexual assault crisis team (SACT), and OUR House.

Offense Summary Report:

Here is the Valcour Offense Summary Report for Montpelier from January 1, 2014 thru December 31, 2014:

(Note: the MPD's statistics are on the second graph, the top graph represents the top 10 offenses for all the Valcour agencies in Vermont.)



Offense Summary Report

From: 01/02/2014 5:29 To: 12/31/2014 14:44

ORI: VT0120200	Montpelier Police Dept	Count	% of Total Offenses
Unlawful Mischief (Misdemeanor)	74	10.83%	
Disorderly Conduct - All Other	51	7.47%	
Petit Larceny From A Building/Residence/Structure	51	7.47%	
Leaving Scene Of An Accident	48	7.03%	
False Pretenses	41	6.00%	
Petit Larceny From A Motor Vehicle	37	5.42%	
Unlawful Trespass (Misdemeanor)	33	4.83%	
Petit Larceny - Shoplifting	31	4.54%	
Violation Of Conditions Of Release (Other)	31	4.54%	
Driving With A Criminally Suspended License	26	3.81%	
Petit Larceny From Other Location	22	3.22%	

Bad Checks	20	2.93%
Burglary	20	2.93%
Domestic Assault	20	2.93%
Disorderly Conduct By Phone Or Electronic Communication	14	2.05%
Simple Assault	14	2.05%
Driving Under The Influence, First Offense	11	1.61%
Identity Theft	11	1.61%
Grand Larceny	10	1.46%
Petit Larceny Other	8	1.17%
Cruelty To Animals (Misdemeanor)	6	0.88%
Theft Of Services (Misdemeanor)	5	0.73%
Unlawful Mischief (Felony)	5	0.73%
Violation Of An Abuse Prevention Order	5	0.73%
Violation Of Conditions Of Release (Travel, Curfew, Or Contact)	5	0.73%
Driving Under The Influence; Second And Subsequent Offense	4	0.59%
Drugs - Depressant, Stimulant, And Narcotic Possession Misdemeanor	4	0.59%
Embezzlement	4	0.59%
Negligent Operation	4	0.59%
Resisting Arrest	4	0.59%
Unlawful Trespass (Felony)	4	0.59%
Aggravated Assault	3	0.44%
Driving Under The Influence; Criminal Refusal	3	0.44%
Lewd And Lascivious Conduct	3	0.44%
Minors Misrepresenting Age Or Procuring/Possession Liquor 2nd Offense Only	3	0.44%
Sexual Assault	3	0.44%
Assault And Robbery	2	0.29%
Assault On A Law Enforcement Officer (Misdemeanor)	2	0.29%
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	2	0.29%
Domestic Assault - 1st Degree Aggravated	2	0.29%

Drugs - Heroin, Possession (Misdemeanor)	2	0.29%
Interference With Access To Emergency Services	2	0.29%
Removing, Aid Or Abet In Removal, Of Merchandise Without Paying	2	0.29%
Sexual Offense Aggravated Sexual Assault Of A Child	2	0.29%
Stolen Property Receiving (Possession Of) Stolen Property (Misdemeanor)	2	0.29%
Arson - 1st Degree	1	0.15%
Assault With Bodily Fluids (Misdemeanor)	1	0.15%
Counterfeiting	1	0.15%
Disseminating Indecent Materials To Minors Outside The Presence Of A Minor	1	0.15%
Domestic Assault - 2nd Degree Aggravated	1	0.15%
Drugs - Cocaine, Sale <2.5 Gm	1	0.15%
Drugs - Ecstasy Possession Misdemeanor	1	0.15%
Drugs - Heroin, Possession 2+ Grams	1	0.15%
Drugs - Marijuana, Possession Or Cultivation -Misdemeanor	1	0.15%
Excessive Speed	1	0.15%
Explosives - Attempted Use	1	0.15%
Extortion	1	0.15%
False Personation	1	0.15%
Fireworks - Possession Of Fireworks	1	0.15%
Larceny From A Person	1	0.15%
Leaving Scene Of An Accident, With Bodily Injury Resulting	1	0.15%
Lewd And Lascivious Conduct With A Child	1	0.15%
Operation Without Consent	1	0.15%
Possessing/Making Burglar'S Tools	1	0.15%
Possession Of Child Pornography	1	0.15%
Reckless Endangerment	1	0.15%

Stalking	1	0.15%
Theft Of Services (Felony)	1	0.15%
Unlawful Restraint - 1st Degree	1	0.15%
Uttering A Forged Instrument	1	0.15%
Vulnerable Adults Financial Exploitation Of Vulnerable Adult	1	0.15%
Wire Fraud	1	0.15%

Total Offenses: 683

Facebook:

The other significant technology change for MPD in 2013 was the launch of the department's Facebook page. MPD's Facebook page reflects a contemporary approach to adding another way to communicate effectively with the community. The maintenance of the page is carried out by a small team of officers, overseen by a sergeant in order to keep the page fresh without relying on one individual. This is also just one more way the department can keep the public informed with emergency and public safety information.

Training:

Training is a critical aspect of modern policing. It is imperative that officers stay current in criminal law, juvenile law, liability issues related to policing, evidence (collection and maintenance), technology, weapons and tactics, interacting with vulnerable populations, first aid/CPR, emergency vehicle operation, critical incident management, ethics, and training on departmental policies. For the last six years, the department has instituted rigorous training requirements for all officers in high-risk areas such as use of force, mental health/crisis intervention training, legal training, and vehicle operation. This is part of the department's risk management approach to training which focuses on high-risk –low frequency incidents. The goal here is to train our officers better which helps to maintain our culture of excellence, improve our policing capacity, keeps both the officers and citizens safer, while minimizing the City's liability risks. These efforts have gained the positive attention of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT), our federal partners, and our local law enforcement peers with whom we have shared some of this training. The department does as much training internally as it can, utilizing "in house" academy certified instructors when possible. However, it is common for our officers to travel around the state or even out of state to attend certain trainings, all of which adds to the cost. Therefore we are careful in our selection of classes and assessing officer and departmental needs.

Communications (Dispatch):

The MPD Dispatch is a regional dispatch center that has two contracts, one with the Capital Police (State House), and the other with Capital Fire Mutual Aid (Capital West) which is an organization representing fire and emergency medical services covering 19 communities. The two contracts for FY 15 totaled \$181,183 in revenue. The following Vermont communities are served by the MPD Dispatch:

Montpelier, E. Montpelier, Berlin, Northfield, Roxbury, Plainfield, Cabot, Marshfield, Worcester, Middlesex, Walden, Waterbury, Duxbury, Moretown, Bolton, Waitsfield, Fayston, Calais, and Woodbury.

The department's dispatch handles well over 14,000 incidents per year. The dispatchers are quite frequently a citizen's first point of contact with public safety services, but they also field general questions as well, including after-hours calls for department of public works or simple questions such as "what time does the parade start?" Because anything can happen, either in the lobby of the station or on the other end of the phone, MPD dispatchers receive training in interacting with individuals experiencing a mental health crisis (MPD was the first PD in the state to require this police level training for dispatchers), critical incident dispatching, and all maintain CPR/first aid certifications. The dispatchers and officers must go through annual National Crime Information Center (NCIC) trainings and certifications, which is required by both the state (VCIC) and the FBI. Additionally, there are environmental standards for the dispatch center itself, which must be in compliance with federal regulations (computer use security policies, computer encryption, security screens on monitors, approved network diagrams and firewalls, etc.).

In addition to the community support and public safety mission of dispatch, they also provide clerical support to both police and parking division functions of the department. They also monitor the security cameras located in City Hall and the police station.

Dispatchers are the lifeline for our citizens and for our police officers.

Parking Division:

Parking enforcement is primarily accomplished using one full-time and three part-time Community Service Officers (CSO's). One of the CSO's duties is parking meter maintenance (we have nearly 400 meters around town) and the maintenance of five permit vending machines. Police officers also issue parking tickets and they are the ones tasked with winter ban parking enforcement and applying the "boot" onto vehicles when owners have past due parking violations. Dispatch has parking duties as well which include updating late notices, and data entry utilizing parking specific computer applications.

Certain sergeants are assigned duties related to supervision and direction of parking enforcement personnel. Because both police and dispatchers are so involved with both enforcement and the administration of the parking division, a percentage of general fund expenditures for police and communications is offset by the parking fund.

In 2013, the Montpelier City Council had established a new Parking Committee. This committee has played a critical role in guiding city staff by looking at the parking issues through the lenses of residents, businesses, state employees, public transportation, and public safety. Thanks to the hard work and focus of this committee, tangible solutions were achieved.

MISSION STATEMENT

The ultimate responsibility for peace, good order, and law enforcement rests with the community of citizens in a democratic society. The complexity of modern society dictates that police efforts must be coordinated and directed by the services of law enforcement professionals.

Therefore, the Montpelier Police Department will be devoted to providing professional and quality police services, and will strive to remain effective, efficient, and responsive to the changing needs of our community while providing a safe environment that enhances the quality of life in Montpelier.

Anthony J. Facos, *Chief of Police*

Fire and Emergency Services

Committed to Professional Excellence

The members of the Fire and Emergency Services Department work to make a difference in your life. We strive for the safest city by insuring building safety; continuing community fire prevention education; and responding effectively to problems as they occur.

When fire prevention fails, an immediate response by well trained and well equipped Firefighters/EMTs limits harm and damage. In Montpelier, our department's direct response has been decisive in keeping a number of small fires from extending into much larger incidents.

The mission of the Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department is to save lives, protect property and preserve the tax base in Montpelier at a reasonable and acceptable cost to the taxpayer. We achieve our mission by managing the following departments: Fire and EMS, Building and Health, and Emergency Management.

Fire

Our fire safety message is simple: we accomplish a safe city through a joint effort of residents and the department. Fires can occur at any time through human error or mechanical breakdown.

We avoid death, injuries and catastrophic structure fires through alarm systems, good building code compliance, and properly installed and maintained sprinkler systems which provide the most effective protection.

Emergency Medical Service

The department also provides ambulance service to the community. While there are always some acute emergencies, emergency medical care largely involves dealing with the ongoing health issues. This service allows people to live a better quality of life.

Emergency Management

When a crisis occurs like flooding, severe weather events, safety incidents, the Fire Chief coordinates the citywide Emergency Management. This function helps the City of Montpelier prepare for major incidents and reduces potential risks as well as coordinating the response efforts when an incident occurs.

Our Mission Statement

The Mission of the Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department is the preservation of the Life, Health, Property, and the Environment for its residents and businesses at a reasonable and acceptable cost. We value the faith and trust of the Community and will continually work to deserve that confidence through our Conduct and Accomplishments.

The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department shall develop expertise through innovation and progressive thinking to address change effectively and efficiently while providing fire suppression, fire prevention, building inspections, hazardous materials response, natural disaster response, multi-environmental rescues, public safety awareness programs, emergency medical care, transportation of the sick and injured, and emergency medical public education.

Commanded by the Fire Chief, this department shall be comprised of sufficient personnel and properly equipped to safely accomplish this mission. The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department shall be augmented by a Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement with surrounding communities with the common goal of saving lives and protection of property. The Montpelier Fire and Emergency Services Department members shall be physically, mentally, and technologically prepared to meet the Mission requirements and shall maintain this level of readiness through a standardized training program while continually encouraging themselves to improve personally, and professionally.

2014 Department Summary

Fire and emergency operations

The department provides the city with both Fire and Ambulance service. Personnel are dual-trained as Firefighters and as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). Our highly trained professionals maintain the department equipment, ensure personal capability through ongoing training, perform inspections, provide services to the public, present public education programs and respond to emergency incidents.

Montpelier collects additional ambulance service revenue through three contracts with surrounding towns. Ambulance service revenues and contracts provide over 25% of the department budget.

The department operates the Fire Station on Main Street, a training area located at the City Stump Dump, two pumper trucks, one tower truck, two ambulances, and two utility vehicles. Maintenance of the facilities and vehicles is a top priority of the department.

The department is active in the mutual aid systems in our region. Participating in mutual aid system allows us to operate without the expense of maintaining reserve equipment and personnel. All major fire or rescue incidents require assistance from our neighbors. In 2014 we received fire or ambulance mutual aid 38 times and provided it 56 times.

Number of Responses in 2014

FIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Type of Alarm Responded to:

Structure Fires/Alarms	170
Vehicle Fires	4
Other Fires.....	16
Power Lines	6
Vehicle Accidents (Initial Fire Response).....	86
Other Rescues.....	36
Flooding, Water Problem	13
Collapse, Structural Problem.....	2
CO Alarm Activation	39
Electrical Problems	2
Odor/Smoke Investigation	37
Leak/Hazmat.....	28
Entrapment	2

Fire Alarm Problems..... 14
 Other Emergency / Personal Assist 118
EMS Emergency Response 1051

NON EMERGENCY RESPONSES FOR SERVICE

Type of Service Requested

Burn Permits 67
 Service Calls/Other Non Emergency..... 48
Ambulance Non Emergency Transfer 335
Total 2048

Health Officer

The Fire Chief serves as the Health Officer. The assistant building inspector serves as the Deputy Health Officer. As Health Officer, there is the need to respond to complaints and proactively act to protect the community from public health threats. Areas of regular activities are rental housing, rabies and animal bites, garbage control and rats, mold complaints, lead abatement issues, carbon monoxide and smoke complaints, water supplies, septic tanks, and restaurant inspections. The Health Officer works under the authority of the Vermont Department of Health.

Emergency Management

The Fire Chief, Police Chief and Public Works Director are Montpelier’s Emergency Management Team. The City Manager provides direction to the team while the Fire Chief coordinates the emergency management. The Emergency Management Team ensures that the City prepares for serious incidents. The primary areas of concern are:

1. Evaluating the risks to the City and ensuring that City plans are kept updated;
2. Maintaining the Emergency Operations Center (EOC);
3. Verifying that personnel have necessary training and certifications;
4. Monitoring conditions in the City as needed;
5. Drills to practice plans; and
6. Reviewing mitigation efforts in the City.

Coordination of these functions will be integrated into the fire department operations.

In 2014, monitoring river and weather conditions remained a high priority. The monitoring of river gauges has provided

much needed information; especially concerning possible ice jam flooding situations. Major weather events forced the Emergency Management team to declare an emergency and opened an Emergency Operations Center once in 2014.

Contact Information

Emergencies: Dial 9-1-1

Health Officer:229-4913

Other Fire/Ambulance Business:.....229-4913

Robert A Gowans, *Fire Chief*
 rgowans@montpelier-vt.org

Central Vermont Public Safety Authority

In 2014 the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority (CVPSA) became a reality. After several years of planning for a regional authority to provide more effective and efficient police, ambulance and dispatching services, the Legislature created a legal charter to bring it about. (House Bill 892, 2014 legislative session) The proposal was signed into law by Governor Shumlin on May 20, 2014. The creation of an authority was approved by the voters of the Cities of Barre and Montpelier. Although CVPSA is a separate municipality, it is accountable to the voters of, and the City Councils of the member towns to provide them with an affordable, integrated, efficient system of public safety (fire, police, ambulance, dispatch) that protects public welfare and provides rapid response with highly qualified personnel.

The first official meeting of the CVPSA board was on August 28, 2014. Both Barre and Montpelier designated two members to the Authority Board. Tom Golonka of Montpelier was elected chair, and John Hannigan of Barre vice- chair. In subsequent meetings three “at large” members were appointed for staggered terms of one, two and three years. When their term expires successor candidates will be elected by a majority of the combined voters of Barre and Montpelier. Brief biographies of the first CVPSA Board are provided below.

Official acts taken since were as follows:

1. Montpelier was established as the CVPSA fiscal agent.
2. Membership in the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS), group A (which provides the most flexibility in opting for other group plans at a later date), for any future employees was approved. Membership would be effective January 1, 2015.
3. A plan for allocating cost of operation was adopted based on population and service calls – technically a memorandum of understanding (MOU) - allocating costs 53% to Barre and 47% to Montpelier. This MOU was approved

by both city councils; Barre on November 11, 2014, and Montpelier on November 12, 2014.

4. A budget of \$75,000 (\$40,275 from Barre City and \$34,725 from the City of Montpelier) was proposed for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. It will cover the costs of a part-time executive director, administrative support, and any related professional services. The budget was presented at two public hearings, and then voted on and approved by the board.

The CVPSA budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 will be presented to the voters on the March 2015 ballot.

The main focus of the Authority in fiscal year 2015-2016 is to develop a plan, under the direction and guidance of an Executive Director, to present to the respective City Councils to assume the responsibility of one (or more) of the functions of the current public safety system.

Tom Golonka, Chair

Tom is a Montpelier City Council Member appointed to the CVPSA board. In his professional career, Tom is a partner with Silverlake Wealth Management in Williston and Montpelier, VT. In addition to his membership on the Montpelier City Council, Mr. Golonka is on the board of the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS), a member of the board of the Central Vermont Medical Center, and a member of the Vermont Pension Investment Committee (VPIC).

Dona Bate

Dona is a Montpelier City Council Member who was appointed to the CVPSA board. Dona operates her own business, dbate Speaking; where she is a speaker, trainer and facilitator. Dona brings five years of service to the public safety committee which studied the feasibility of this regional public safety authority, and which successfully advocated for its being chartered. Dona says, "regional services will benefit both residents and employees."

Michael Smith

Michael is a Barre City Council member appointed to the CVPSA board in August of 2014. He is active in the Barre community and has served on both the Greater Barre Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Greater Barre Community Justice Center board. Michael works as a driver for the Ready To Go Program of Good News Garage based in Burlington. His two year term on the board expires in March of 2016.

John Hannigan

John works at Central Vermont Medical Center. His service on the Barre City Council, and City Budget Committee are assets the authority needs, just as much as his more than 20 years as

a call firefighter in both Barre and Montpelier. John grew up in Barre and Montpelier, which he notes are frequently called the "Twin Cities" When we join together to improve public safety and control costs, the Twin Cities are real twins," he says.

Alexandra Pastor

Alexandra is from Barre and is an "at large" member whose term expires in 2017. She uses her BA in international affairs, and MBA in public works while working in the Forestry Division for the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. She is currently a member of three Barre City committees and the Barre Partnership Board. Alexandra views regionalization of public safety as a natural response to the complex challenges facing today's central Vermont communities. By joining forces, neighboring towns can share expertise, streamline communication, and experience the efficiencies of collaboration.

Kimberly Cheney

Kim is an Attorney living in Montpelier who was elected in August 2014 as at large member of the Board for a term expiring in March, 2016. His service as Washington County State's Attorney and Vermont Attorney General brings practical public safety experience to the board. He joined the Board saying: "Regionally managed public safety can bring communities to work together for the benefit of those who serve and those who are served."

Douglas Hoyt

Douglas Hoyt was raised in Montpelier and graduated from St Michael's High School. He has since attained an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Vermont College and a Bachelor's Degree in Government from Norwich University. He is also a Graduate of the FBI National Academy. Doug has retired from active law enforcement serving as Montpelier's Chief of Police for 26 years.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

The Building Inspector's office is located in the Planning and Development Office. Chris Lumbra has been the Assistant Building Inspector since December of 2012. The Building Inspector has two primary tasks: 1) reviewing plans and providing support for construction projects in the City, and 2) inspecting current buildings. Reviewing and inspecting construction projects in the City ensures that work is performed in compliance with the building and life safety codes adopted by the City and the State of Vermont. Since 2007, the Building Department has been responsible for virtually all construction in the City. Significant permit and inspection fees which had been paid to the State are now collected by Montpelier. The Building Permit system allows us to deliver this service. Most

construction, except for minor repairs or routine maintenance, requires a building permit. In 2014, 234 building permits were processed and inspections were performed as needed to support those efforts. Building permits are valid for one year from the issue date. If construction is ongoing, permits can be renewed. If permits are renewed before the expiration date there is no additional fee. Existing buildings, especially residential rental units, are inspected to ensure proper maintenance and operation. Buildings are inspected primarily on receipt of a complaint, although there are limited inspections on a scheduled basis. Complaints are given a higher priority while scheduled inspections are conducted as resources are available. The intent of the existing building inspections is to ensure safe and healthy conditions.

Transportation & Public Utilities

Public Works Department

A total of 37 dedicated and skilled employees work for Montpelier's Public Works Department, providing essential services that: sustain infrastructure, establish safe living and working conditions, and contribute to a high quality of life for our citizens. As such, it is the largest of the City's Departments and includes eight divisions; Streets, Water & Sewer, Water Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, Equipment/Fleet Operations, Building Maintenance, District Heat and Administrative.

If you think of the City's infrastructure as providing the community's skeletal framework, you will understand that almost every project undertaken in the City touches Public Works in some way. And, the technical expertise of the department's staff is wide-ranging and a critical asset to the community.

The DPW administrative & engineering offices are located in the basement level of City Hall. The various division facilities consist of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Water Treatment Facility, and the Public Works garage located on Dog River Road which houses the street, water/wastewater and equipment divisions as well as material storage.

The administration and engineering staff designs, plans and manages the various infrastructure projects, provides technical support to the operations divisions, the City Manager's office, boards & committees, and also maintains all city owned traffic signals, street lights and facilities including buildings and grounds of municipal buildings (except schools). State mandated performance requirements such as a potable water system operator and storm water permits and other reporting processes are either managed directly or are supported by this staff.

Permits for private construction related activities taking place within a public right-of-way and utility connection permits are also processed by the engineering staff.

The Streets and Water/Waste Water Divisions maintain 55.8 miles of paved streets, approximately 25 miles of sidewalk as well as nearly 1.7 miles of shared use paths within the City limits. Responsibilities extend beyond the physical streets and sidewalks to: 16 bridges (including 2 for pedestrian use), guardrails, retaining walls, storm water systems, several miles of water and sewer mains, numerous water and wastewater pump stations, potable water storage tanks, street lights, traffic signals, street sweeping, markings and signage, maintenance of trash and recycling containers, and the care of numerous benches and flower barrels to enhance our downtown.

The Streets Division was challenged with a severe 2013 / 2014 winter season consisting of extreme freeze & thaw cycles, with rain and ice storm events and heavy snowfall amounts late in the season. As a result, roads and sidewalks suffered from significant break-ups. The Streets Division is continually tasked with ensuring that the roads and sidewalks are safe and passable while trying to keep overtime and salt usage to a minimum. The use of computerized spreader controllers on our large trucks to monitor salt usage provides the operators with the tool necessary to optimize salt use. A balanced approach to salting is important for public safety, environmental impacts, and budgetary considerations (as the price of salt has risen dramatically in the past few years). During the construction season, crews perform normal maintenance functions such as pavement markings, street sweeping, catch basin repairs. Storm water management with added emphasis on point source water quality initiatives are being implemented including catch basin inspections and cleaning coupled with an aggressive street sweeping program to reduce the amount of contaminants reaching our water ways.

The Water & Sewer Division undertakes numerous routine and on-going maintenance tasks annually, such as sanitary and storm sewer cleaning, inspecting and maintaining sewer pump stations, repair of water meters, and flushing of the water system. The 2013 / 2014 winter season included a large number of water main failures, many of which are related to the City's aging infrastructure. Operational changes to the water treatment and supply systems designed to reduce undue stress on older mains have proven to be helpful in minimizing failures. These changes along with the recent water leak repairs have resulted in the lowest nighttime flows since the water plant was constructed in 2000. With IT & management support from the Equipment Division Supervisor and City Engineer, the Water & Sewer Division now performs maintenance and op-

erations of the District Heat system. The crew is also tasked with water distribution and sewer collection customer service, thawing and repairing hydrants as well as the removal of snow to keep them accessible.

The Equipment Division repairs and maintains the City's fleet, including vehicles owned by the Public Works, Police, Fire, Green Mount Cemetery, Parks, Recreation and School Departments. The condition, reliability and age of the fleet are a testament to these employees and their ability to keep our vehicles operational. They utilize the services of a stock records clerk for computer program data input of repairs and maintenance to assist with preventative maintenance scheduling. Fuel is provided by agreement with regional agencies such as the Sheriff's Department. This division also manages and provides maintenance support for communication systems such as the SCADA network monitoring controls and alarms related to critical pumps which expanded recently to include operational control for the City's portion of the District Heat system. Mechanics provide much needed assistance to the Wastewater Treatment plant staff with welding, pump and motor repair and other tasks, satisfying needs that otherwise could not be met internally. The Division is also responsible for the buildings and grounds at the DPW facility on Dog River Road. The *Manager Plus* program is used by this division to expand facilities management and for work order tracking to the Streets, Water/Sewer divisions, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Efforts to apply the program to the Water Treatment Plant have also begun, providing scheduled maintenance task notification, work order implementation and inventory tracking.

An average of 1 million gallons of high-quality drinking water per day is distributed to Montpelier and Berlin customers via the Water Treatment Facility. Employees continuously monitor water quality through laboratory analysis, use trends, and source protection inspections and staff regularly performs preventative maintenance to the processing equipment to extend the life of all of the systems. This Division also fulfills State reporting requirements, prepares the Consumer Confidence Report every spring, and takes care of facility and grounds maintenance. Water Quality Reports are archived on the City's Water & Sewer web page for easy reference. With the recent changes of the Public Waters rules allowing recreational use of Berlin Pond, our crews have continued to update and use our source protection plan to safeguard our water supply against potential pollutants that could affect the quality of the drinking water.

Almost 2 million gallons of wastewater is received at the Wastewater Treatment Facility daily. As a water resource recovery facility, the processed effluent quality frequently exceeds state required minimum standards ensuring our river systems and the Lake Champlain basin remain as clean as possible. Seep-

age and leachate receiving, laboratory work, sludge pressing and de-watering, and phosphorus control are all managed by DPW staff, plus maintaining accurate and timely reporting to the State. We hired a consultant to perform a preliminary review of the facility and to obtain cost estimates on upgrades that must be performed to meet the upcoming Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for phosphorous for the facility. The draft report was received in February 2014 and provides recommendations for various changes in Phosphorus limits, depending on the final ruling from the regulatory agency.

The DPW's responsibilities shift throughout the year to accommodate and respond to New England's changing seasons and challenges. Snow removal is an obvious example, but other examples include: collaboration with Police & Fire Departments to provide flood monitoring through DPW's River Watch/Ice Jam Prevention program & other Emergency Management support; fall leaf collection; infrastructure repair and heavy construction such as the many summer/fall paving and utility projects, support for parades and other civic events.

The District Heating system represents another seasonal shift of staff responsibilities. This entails spring and fall conversion from the State of Vermont Central Heat Plant to our own City Hall boilers for domestic hot water, and annual valve operations and flushing of the system.

With the increased funding for the Capital Improvement Maintenance Plan, we continue to make progress to improve overall conditions of the City's streets and sidewalks. Because of the high level of technical expertise of our staff, we are often able to use our own crews to prepare streets for rehabilitation, including subsurface drainage, sidewalk reconstruction, and utility structure rehabilitation. This helps to contain project costs while improving controls of the quality of work undertaken – important considerations in the effort to achieve a "steady state" system while working within tight budget constraints. During the 2014 construction season (April – November), noteworthy projects completed were:

- ✓ 2.2 miles of street paving, rehabilitation or reconstruction projects consisting of 4,752 tons of hot mix asphalt applied to: Greenock / Dyer Avenues, Judson Drive, Freedom Drive, sections of Barre and Main Streets, Putnam St., Witt Place, Emmons St., a section of Woodrow / Heaton Streets, Gould Hill Rd., and Baldwin St..
- ✓ Sidewalks reconstructed on Baldwin St., Emmons St. and along Woodrow Ave.
- ✓ Completion of the Barre Street culvert replacement damaged during tropical storm "Irene"
- ✓ Slope stabilization and retaining wall replacement along Cherry Ave.

- ✓ Final completion of the District Heat system including testing, and start-up processes
- ✓ Reconstruction of 1,600 feet of the failing River St. sewer main which transmits a large portion of waste water from the Barre-Montpelier Rd. district and hospital hill area of Berlin
- ✓ Assisted with the ADA related sidewalk improvement at the Elm St / Court St intersection (VTrans Managed project)
- ✓ Reconstructed 150 feet of gravity sewer main on Baldwin St.
- ✓ Replaced 130 feet of water main on Guernsey Ave.
- ✓ Supported and assisted VTrans with the Granite Street bridge painting & rehabilitation project
- ✓ Rebuilt several pumps and made other significant maintenance upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant
- ✓ Made significant SCADA system improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant

Over the winter months, the administrative staff assists with budget planning and prepares for the construction and paving projects for the upcoming construction season which will include additional slope stability/ retaining wall work and water system replacement such as on Gaylord Dr.

The Building Maintenance staff person has overseen various upgrades occurring at City Hall in addition to more routine responsibilities. Maintaining clean and sanitary conditions for both staff and the public represents an ongoing challenge, particularly due to the seven-day-a-week plus evening use that often occurs. City staff plus contractual labor is needed in order to maintain the facilities, which include the Police Station, City offices, the Teen Center, the auditorium, and meetings rooms used by staff, community groups, and a resident theatre.

We would like to thank and wish well the following employees in their retirement after many years of quality service to the City:

- ✓ George Richardson: 35 years in the Water / Sewer Division;
- ✓ Mike Bilodeau: 29 years in Streets & Water / Sewer Divisions;
- ✓ Les Smith: 13 years in the Streets Division.

We also extend best wishes to our former director of Public Works, Todd Law, in his new position with the Vermont Agency of Transportation. During 8 years as Director, Todd accomplished many significant improvements: securing grants for storm water management improvements, archiving systems for

our invaluable records, modernizing our survey and plotting (printing) equipment to support our engineering team, and the reorganization of the Street and Water/Sewer Divisions inclusive of establishing cross training opportunities to improve efficiency.

We are fortunate to have knowledgeable, dedicated employees supporting the Public Works Department's mission and goals who provide exemplary service to the public. The personnel of this department respond to snow storms, water and sewer breaks, operating system alarms, natural disasters; they provide mapping and engineering guidance, oversee consultant and contractor projects, collaborate with State and Federal officials and other City departments and assist citizen committees, external organizations, private property owners, and developers. All of this - and more - is done for the residents and customers of the City of Montpelier. I am proud, pleased and honored to work with all of our employees and to serve with them to provide the very best possible services.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call the Public Works Office at 223-9508.

Thomas J. McArdle, *Acting Director*

Water Fund

It is the responsibility of the Department of Public Works – Water Division to maintain a consistent and adequate flow of water to the city from the city's water source at Berlin Pond. Raw water is transmitted via pipeline to the Water Filtration Facility for reduction or elimination of possible contaminants. The Water Treatment Plant was completed in fiscal year 2001.

A combination of user fees and water benefit charges fund the Water Division. Water Division staff maintain hydrants for fire protection, construct water lines, maintain control valves and gates, flush hydrants annually, keep daily records on water quality and consumption, repair leaks and mains, operate the water treatment facility, oversee land management of the city's property in Berlin and support all systems associated with providing potable water to our customers. There are more than 3,000 water meters in the City of Montpelier (includes some Town of Berlin users) and each meter is read quarterly.

The Montpelier City Council, sitting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners, determines water rates. Water rates are reviewed annually in the spring. **The current quarterly rates are as follows: \$7.73 per 1,000 for the first 50,000 gallons, \$8.21 per 1,000 for the next 200,000 gallons, \$13.32 per 1,000 for over 250,000 gallons and a fixed charge for all accounts for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$39.50. A water benefit charge of \$.01 per \$100 of property value is dedicated to the repayment of bonded indebtedness.**

Annual water usage decreased more than 10 percent over the last seven years. This conservation of water use by city residents and businesses is producing shortfalls in revenue for the Water Fund. The City Council's Water and Sewer Rate Committee continues to work on restructuring the water and sewer rates to establish an adequate and equitable billing system for customers using a logical methodology in the calculation of the proposed rates' components. Customers will be billed for non-variable costs using their assigned equivalent residential use (ERU). Meter readings will establish actual usage amounts that will be the basis for billing for variable costs. The implementation of the new rate structure has been delayed from its original July 1, 2014 date due to the need to match water meter customers with their property's city assessor records. A period of public outreach will be scheduled before restructuring the water rate billing process.

From 2005-2010 the Water Fund accumulated a deficit due to high fixed costs (debt) and a reduction in billable usage due to conservation. In the 2011-2014 fiscal years, the Water Fund reduced the prior years' deficit by a total of \$184,000. In the past two years, the cost of water line breaks has limited the Water Fund's ability to improve the Water Fund's financial position. Recent improvements to equipment have been made to reduce the number of water line breaks which should allow the fund to make significant progress on retiring the previous years' deficit.

The Water Fund's proposed fiscal year 2016 budget can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org>. For budget questions, please contact the Finance Department at 223-9520. If you have a concerns or questions about your quarterly water bill, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 223-9500 Option 2.

Sandra J. Gallup, *Finance Director*

Sewer Fund

The primary responsibility of the Department of Public Works – Sewer Division is to collect and treat sewage from the City of Montpelier and part of the Town of Berlin. A combination of user fees and sewer benefit charges fund the Sewer Division.

The Sewer Division maintains sanitary sewer collection mains and pumping stations, installs new service connections and repairs clogged or broken sewer lines in Montpelier. This division is also responsible for the maintenance and operation of the Waste Water Treatment Plant, which has undergone major upgrades to become a regional treatment facility for septage and leachate treatment. The upgrades are in response to the required state and federal environmental standards which improve the quality of life in Montpelier and the State of Ver-

mont. In the coming years, the Department of Public Works will focus on additional operations and maintenance of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) to include the stormwater maintenance component of the wastewater discharge permit.

The Montpelier City Council, sitting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners, determines sewer rates. Sewer rates are reviewed annually in the spring. **Quarterly sewer rates are as follows: \$8.72 per 1,000 gallons of water used and a fixed charge for all accounts for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$41.00.** Utility rates may be adjusted annually due to increases in maintenance, chemical, fuel, electricity costs and debt payment. New stormwater management requirements also add operating costs in the Sewer Fund. A small rate increase of 2.5% is being considered for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015.

A **sewer benefit charge** of \$.01 per \$100 of property value is dedicated to the repayment of bonded indebtedness. A **sewer separation benefit charge** of \$.07 per \$100 of property value is dedicated to pay off debt and project costs associated with the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) separations. The objective of these projects is to divert storm water from going into sanitary sewer lines reducing a major source of potential pollution for our City's waterways. These sewer benefit charges are expected to remain the same for FY16 which begins July 1, 2015.

Information about the proposed FY16 Sewer Fund Budget can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org>. For budget questions, please contact the Finance Department at 223-9520. If you have a concern or question about your quarterly sewer bill, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 223-9500, Option 2.

Sandra J. Gallup, *Finance Director*

District Heat Fund

In partnership with the State of Vermont, District Heat Montpelier provides local renewable energy to downtown Montpelier. The construction of the distribution system was completed in FY14 and a mini-system operated last winter season providing energy to a small group of customers using the City Hall boilers. The State's Heat Plant was completed in the spring of 2014 and the full system started commercial operation on October 1, 2014. Under full operations, District Heat Montpelier provides energy to 20 buildings in downtown Montpelier.

In July 2014, the City Council established the District Heat Montpelier capacity rate at \$4.84 per MBTUH and the energy rate at \$8.82 per MMBTU for the 2014-2015 heating season. The District Heat Montpelier rate is made up of the capacity charge and the energy charge. The capacity charge includes the

City operating, maintenance, and repair costs related to District Heat Montpelier including the City's debt service attributable to the distribution system. The capacity charge is contractually established in the customer agreements. The energy charge includes costs related to the State of Vermont's consumption of fuels, electricity, and other products required to produce the energy distributed through the system as well as the costs associated with running the State's Heat Plant. The energy charges are established by the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services (BGS.)

District Heat Montpelier is supported by existing city staff. The Department of Public Works provides direct customer service for operations, engineering and technical support, and operation and maintenance planning and implementation. The Finance Department provides budget support, billing and auditing functions, and information technology support. The City Manager's office is ultimately responsible for the heat utility, provides policy development and system planning.

District Heat Montpelier is, by definition, a community system. As such, it is in the best interests of all stakeholders to operate and manage the system in a collaborative manner. Toward this end, the City will be convening a System Advisory Group in 2015 to help guide decisions on customer education needs, efficiency improvements, and possible system expansion.

Municipal Development

Planning and Community Development Department

It is my honor to serve the community of Montpelier as your new Planning & Community Development Director. It is my hope that over the coming years we can achieve our mission through great projects that generations of residents and visitors can be proud of. Please feel free to contact me with questions and comments as we move forward on these and other initiatives.

Mike Miller, Director of Planning & Community Development (mmiller@montpelier-vt.org)

Mission: *To serve the community by facilitating the creation and preservation of a healthy, safe, sustainable, and high quality living environment through the management of an effective, on-going planning and implementation process.*

This broad mission is carried out through several areas of responsibility:

- To protect and enhance Montpelier's natural and built environment;

- To strengthen the local economy and tax base;
- To meet housing needs of low and moderate income residents;
- To engage the whole community in planning for growth and change;
- To provide information and service to the public; and
- To be accountable to our citizens.

The Department is staffed by 3 full time employees (Director, Community Development Specialist, and the Planning & Zoning Assistant) and one part time employee (Zoning Administrator). The Department shares the Building Inspector position with the Fire Department. The Department is also fortunate to have the assistance of one VISTA volunteer who is invaluable in terms of community engagement and providing information and service to the public and many of our committees.

Planning and Community Development activities can generally be broken into four groups:

Planning (developing broad master plans or making specific plans on topics like parking, stormwater, or economic development; proposing revisions to zoning bylaws, coordinating committee and subcommittee meetings, and facilitating public input);

Regulatory programs (such as zoning administration, flood hazard regulations, and building permits);

Community development programs (managing the housing trust fund, housing preservation grant program, and business loan fund; grant writing and administration; economic development assistance, E-911 road naming coordination, community rating system for floodplains, certified local government for historic preservation); and

Special projects (one time projects like the stump dump solar energy project and development of a parking garage)

The Department works closely with the City Manager and Assistant City Manager to advance Council goals including alleviating parking pressures, creating a hospitable environment for development, becoming a nationally known bicycle and pedestrian friendly city, Net Zero Montpelier implementation, stormwater management, and supporting and promoting a vibrant downtown. The Department also provides assistance and staffing to many of our committees including Bicycle Advisory Committee, Design Review Committee, Development Review Board, Historic Preservation Committee, Montpelier Business Loan Fund, Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee, Montpelier Housing

Task Force, Montpelier Housing Trust Fund, Montpelier Loan Fund Committee, Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Planning Commission.

This department could not do all that it does without the thoughtful and hard work by its staff and the individuals who volunteer on commissions and committees, the support from local officials, and the participation of citizens and other people and departments within and outside of City Hall. Montpelier is especially fortunate to have so many highly motivated, skilled, and interested citizens willing to give of themselves, their time, and their energies to make so many things happen.

Planning

Planning Commission: The full Planning Commission is as follows:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Kim Cheney, Chair	8/13/14	8/13/16
Jon Anderson, Vice Chair	10/09/13	10/09/15
Leslie Welts	8/13/14	8/13/16
Eileen Simpson	8/13/14	8/13/16
John Adams	8/13/14	8/13/16
John Bloch	04/10/13	3/25/15
Tina Ruth	10/09/13	10/09/15

Zoning Revision: Since the Master Plan was adopted in 2010, the next major task was to revise the zoning so that it conformed to the new plan. Three years of work failed to find enough common ground to put forth a proposal so the City hired a consultant in January 2014 to help guide the process. Under Brandy Saxton's assistance the process has started to move forward but the zoning update will continue in 2015 under a Municipal Planning Grant from the State of Vermont. The maps and all of the draft ordinance work can be found on the city web site at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/380/Rezoning.html>

Stump Dump Solar Project: An initiative of MEAC, the Stump Dump Solar Project proposed using the old City dump as a location for a group-net solar project to offset City energy use. The 1 MW project was put to bid in the summer of 2014 and awarded to groSolar to begin negotiating on a Solar Service Agreement. This project will move forward to permitting and construction in 2015 with the 25 year project anticipated to save the City \$1.6M over the life of the agreement with no upfront cost to taxpayers.

Montpelier in Motion Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan: In 2014 the City followed through on its grant award in 2013 to hire a consultant to develop a Master Plan to guide investment in infrastructure over the next several years. The City contracted with Broadreach Planning and Design to complete

this project which should be complete by the end of February 2015. Already complete is the inventory report, options report and draft final report.

Greening Americas Capitals: Following an application in 2013, the City was awarded assistance through the EPA Greening Americas Capitals project. Greening America's Capitals is a project of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities between U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to help state capitals develop an innovative and implementable vision of distinctive, environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green building and green infrastructure systems. Montpelier used this opportunity to look boldly at five areas in our downtown where innovation could provide new solutions. A weeklong charrette was held in November with a final report expected in February 2015.

Floodplain Management – Community Rating System (CRS): The Planning & Zoning Assistant serves as the Floodplain Manager and CRS Coordinator.

The City of Montpelier participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and as a participating community, the City is committed to the following minimum NFIP activities:

- Issuing or denying floodplain development permits.
- Inspecting all development to assure compliance with the local floodplain ordinance.
- Maintaining records of floodplain development.
- Assisting in the preparation and revision of floodplain maps.
- Helping and assisting residents obtain information on flood hazards, floodplain map data, and flood insurance and proper construction measures.

Additionally, the City of Montpelier participates in, the NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses; (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating; and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance.

For CRS participating communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted in increments of 5% - i.e., a Class 1 community would receive a 45% discount, while a Class 9 community would receive a 5% discount. The City of Montpelier is one of three communities in Vermont – including Bennington and

Brattleboro – that participate in the CRS program. The City of Montpelier is currently a Class 9 community and therefore we receive an insurance premium discount of 5%. The CRS classes for local communities are based on 18 creditable activities, organized under four categories:

1. Public information,
2. Mapping and Regulations,
3. Flood Damage Reduction, and
4. Flood Preparedness.

Our continued participation in the Community Rating System reflects our commitment to a sound floodplain management program for the benefit of the City of Montpelier and its citizens. Higher regulatory standards, open space protection, a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and a Storm Water Master Plan including green storm water infrastructure are examples of CRS activities that could qualify the City of Montpelier as a Class 8 community (with a 10% reduction on flood insurance policies).

Floodplain information is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/community/344/Flood-Information.html> or by calling or visiting the Planning Department.

Certified Local Government (CLG) – Montpelier Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC): The Zoning Administrator use to serve as the CLG Coordinator until the position was cut to half time. Today, the city lacks a Coordinator and no longer provides staff support to the MHPC. The City of Montpelier finished Phase II of the Montpelier Historic District Amendment in 2013. The Montpelier Historic District is the largest in the state of Vermont – 563 properties. It is worth noting that in 1978 approximately 87% of the buildings and structures were contributing (i.e. historic) to the National Register of Historic Places in the Montpelier Historic District, and approximately 89% are contributing according to the most recent amendment.

The MHPC received grant funding for website and brochure materials in relation to the Phase II National Register Update. The MHPC continues to refine these materials in order to provide education and outreach to the citizens of Montpelier. Since CLG certification the City has received \$22,931 in grant funding for historic preservation.

All of the information regarding the MHD is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/department/68.html>

The MHPC is comprised of 5 community members:

- Anthony Otis, Chair – term expires 9/10/17.
- James Duggan – term expires 9/10/16.
- Eric Gilbertson – term expires 9/10/16.
- Helen Husher – term expires 9/18/16.
- Stephen Bousquet – term expires 9/18/15.

Development Review – Land Use Regulation

The Planning & Zoning Administrator provides staff support to the Development Review Board and Design Review Committee. During 2014, to date approximately 123 zoning permits were issued. Specifically, DRB approval was required for 48 of the 123 permits, 30 of these permits also required DRC approval and 76 permits were administratively approved. Approximately 3 variances were granted by the DRB. Finally, 19 dwelling units were added in 2014.

Development Review Board (DRB):

- Phil Zalinger, Chair – reappointed, term expires 7/18/15.
- Kevin O’Connell, Vice Chair – term expires 7/23/17.
- James LaMonda – term expires 8/10/17.
- Roger Cranse – reappointed, term expires 7/18/15.
- John Lindley – term expires 7/23/17.
- Dan Richardson – term expires 7/14/16.
- Joshua O’Hara – term expires 7/14/16.
- Kate McCarthy and Michael Sherman serve as alternates to the DRB; their terms expire, collectively, 9/11/15.

Design Review Committee (DRC):

- Steve Everett, Chair – term expires 9/14/17.
- Jay White – reappointed, term expires 4/11/15.
- Eric Gilbertson – term expires 9/14/17.
- Seth Mitchell – term expires 9/16/17.
- Theodore Fetter – Alternate – 10/28/15.
- Liz Pritchett - Alternate – 9/26/15.
- Elinor Bacon, Alternate – 9/16/17.

Development Review Board and Design Review Committee information is available online: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/64/Development-Review-Board.html>, <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/63/Design-Review-Committee.html>

You can view upcoming meeting agendas and watch past meetings at; <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/page/383/Meeting-Video-Archive.html>

Community Development

The Community Development Office is staffed by the Community Development Specialist and addresses a wide range of economic and community development issues. The Community Development Specialist works to further the development goals established annually by the City Council. Additionally he works closely with Montpelier Alive and local business and community leaders on projects as needed. Priority projects during 2014 are outlined below.

39, 39 ½ and 40 Barre Street: The City in partnership with the Central Vermont Community Land Trust to the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development for \$510,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the redevelopment of three properties on Barre Street. The project will renovate 19 affordable rental units, neighborhood day care, and will address health and safety issues in the building, specifically lead and asbestos remediation, as well as ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance issues. CVCLT is working to temporarily relocate tenants during construction, which is expected to commence in 2015.

46 Barre Street: 46 Barre Street received a grant from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development to conduct planning efforts around the potential acquisition of property from the Catholic Diocese of Vermont. The State awarded the City and its sub grantee CAL (Community Arts and Learning) \$15,000 toward planning, capital needs, ADA, and architectural studies. The planning work was completed in 2013 and provided the organization the critical information that allowed them to purchase the building in 2014. The building is now the home for the River Rock School, T.W. Wood Art Gallery, Monteverdi Music School and Onion River Exchange. The organization will pursue capital improvements identified in the grant as funding permits.

125 Barre Street – Another Way: The Department of Planning and Community Development in partnership with Another Way was awarded \$22,500 an application to the for \$30,000 in CDBG funding from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development to evaluate the building housing Another Way at 125 Barre Street. The funding has allowed Another Way to complete a capital needs assessment, archaeological and historic assessment and energy audits. Another Way provides peer support for the homeless and mentally ill and this planning work will help the organization evaluate and plan for their future on Barre Street.

Dickey Block: The Department continues to work with the development community and the City to evaluate potential opportunities for redevelopment of this important block of Main Street Montpelier.

Housing Task Force: In 2014 the Housing Task Force continued to work on implementing the 2011 Barriers to Housing Report. The Task Force worked with the Central Vermont Community Land Trust to develop a proposal for the Housing Trust Fund to assist first time homebuyers with down payment assistance. The Housing Task Force will continue to work to increase housing options in Montpelier and continue to implement the changes suggested in the Barriers to Housing Report.

Housing Trust Fund: With \$80,000 in capital provided by the City of Montpelier's Housing Trust Fund, the City, in partnership with the Central Vermont Community Land Trust, created the Down Payment and Equity Building Program which matches homebuyers' down payment with assistance to buyers of up to \$10,000. The program was able to provide down payment assistance to two first time home buyers in 2014. This match helps qualified households purchase a single family house or condo. In exchange for the award, the purchasers enter into an agreement regarding the use, occupancy and transfer of the property for the first 15 years of ownership. The property must continue to be the purchasers' primary residence and the funds must be paid back if the property is sold within the first 15 years of ownership. After the 15th year of ownership the owner will be vested and the award would then be converted to a grant and not require repayment. CVCLT has submitted an application for \$88,000 to the Housing Fund for additional work associated with the renovation project at 39 and 40 Barre Street.

The Community Development Specialist will work with CVCLT in 2015 to actively promote this program. Funds are still available. For more information, contact Community Development Specialist, Kevin Casey, at (802) 223-9507.

Housing Preservation Grant Program (HPG): The HPG loan program provides renovation loans to low and moderate income homeowners to help address code, health and safety issues, accessibility needs, weatherization needs, and overcrowding. Loans are typically provided with a 0% interest rate and with repayment deferred until the property is sold. In 2014 three HPG loans were granted, to address immediate structural, health, and safety issues. Funds are still available for qualified homeowners. For more information, see <http://www.montpeliervt.org/cda/hpg.cfm> or contact Community Development Specialist, Kevin Casey, at (802) 223-9507.

Montpelier Business Loan Fund (MBLF): This fund seeks to foster a strong and vital downtown in Montpelier

by making capital available to new enterprise developments that are unable to obtain sufficient financing through existing commercial lending institutions. The city is in the process of evaluating options to best leverage this loan fund to maximize its effectiveness.

Parking Committee: The Community Development Specialist assists the Police Chief in providing support to the Parking Committee. The Parking Committee was formed by City Council in April of 2013 to evaluate the parking needs, challenges and opportunities facing residents, commuters, and merchants in Downtown Montpelier. The Committee forwarded a number of initiatives to the City Council in 2014 including accommodating adding additional coach parking during fall tourist season, working with DPW and the police department to adjust the winter parking ban restrictions to allow overnight parking during fair weather, and a smart parking meter trial. The department of planning and community development is also investigating options for a parking structure in downtown Montpelier.

E911: The Planning and Zoning Assistant is the E911 coordinator, she works with landowners, the E911 board, phone and cable companies and the US Postal Service to determine correct E911 numbering for new building sites, as well as existing sites. The process of updating address information is ongoing. Each year the E911 Board does an audit of telephone numbers compared to address, when a 911 call is placed an address shows upon a map for emergency responders to locate the call. If the address that is displayed doesn't match a location on the map that location is flagged and the E911 coordinator is responsible for researching and correcting this information. The City had approximately 359 of these mismatches in 2013.

Many streets in Montpelier were never re-numbered to the accepted numbering system but were instead "grandfathered" with the older numbering system. There are circumstances where this older style can no longer be used because of the addition of structures or changes of use that require a previously un-numbered structure to need a number, for example. In these cases the "grandfathered" numbers have to change. The older system was just sequential numbering; odd numbers on one side and even on the other. The newer system uses distance to calculate the address number so future additions and changes do not affect the entire street.

Michael Miller, *Planning Director*

Management & Support

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Financial Management & Administrative Services

The mission of the Finance Department is to ensure that all resources of the City of Montpelier are managed and accounted for in an effective and efficient manner, that all financial records are presented in a timely, accurate and meaningful format and that all staff members work toward continuous improvement and professional service. The Finance Department oversees all of the City's financial matters. It is responsible for maintaining the daily accounting records and providing payroll, payables and billing services for the City's governmental and business activities. The Finance Department provides regular financial information to Department Heads, the City Manager, the City Council and residents. Our department prepares the annual City budget, manages human resources, prepares year-end financial statements and coordinates the annual audit. Financial records are maintained to insure compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations. The department also oversees all grant financial activities to assure proper use and reporting of grant funds.

Many reports are available on the City's web site.

Budget information can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/357.html>

Financial Reports can be found online at:

The City of Montpelier Annual Audit can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/page/286.html>

Employment Agreements can be found online at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/page/430>

Periodically Released Financial Data (Budget Reports, Warrant listings, etc.) can be found at: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/390/Financial-Documents.html>

The City of Montpelier has 22 active funds, 10 departments and 4 labor contracts/employee plans. Montpelier has \$59 million dollars invested in capital assets financed by 41 loans that total \$23 million dollars. The annual operating budgets for the City's governmental and business-type activities total \$18 million dollars. Our Chart of Accounts has over 2200 accounts which is an indication of the complexity of our financial structure.

In addition to processing the City's financial transactions, the Finance Department is responsible for the deposits and cash management for the Montpelier School System and the Recreation Department. \$56 million passes through our City bank account annually .

Our department completed a major reorganization which began in 2011 when the city treasurer position became an appointed rather than elected position. We combined the treasurer functions with the Finance Department to increase efficiencies and strengthen financial controls. After retiring as the City Clerk/Treasurer, Charlotte Hoyt returned to city employment in August, 2012 in a part-time finance position which also includes her responsibilities as the appointed city treasurer. Sharon Blatchford, our Payroll and HR Manager, oversees employee compensation and continues to work toward our goal of strengthening human resource services as recommended in the Matrix Management Study.

The department also relies on Senior Staff Accountant, Ruth Dockter and Accounting Manager, Kristine Hepburn to oversee daily financial activity and prepare financial reports. Beverlee Hill, previously the Assistant City Manager and Delinquent Tax Collector, retired in June 2012 and returned to city employment as a part-time tax collector. Loretta Bresette provides support in the Clerk's office and processes our Water and Sewer utility billing. Peggy Buldoc also works in the Clerk's office. She provides customer service along with processing our daily cash receipt transactions.

The Finance Department's Technology Division provides technology support services to all city departments. We are pleased that Seth Wood, Technology Support Technician, joined our Finance/Technology Division in May of 2014. Seth works with Fred Skeels, Information Technology & Communication Manager to maintain and safeguard the citywide computers, networks and telephone technology systems.

In the nine years that I have served as the Finance Director, the City faced many financial challenges that came with ever-increasing operating and infrastructure costs, unfunded state and federal regulations, and the extremes of Vermont's weather. The combination of limited economic/grand list growth and our relatively high property tax rates provide significant pressure to minimize increases in municipal spending. The budget for the 2016 fiscal year continues to reflect our constant efforts to limit increases in the municipal tax rate and at the same time follow the multi-year plan to fund infrastructure and capital needs based on the "Steady State" plan adopted by the City Council.

Our city staff actively pursues state and federal grants to help pay for a flood mitigation study, a multi-modal transit center, an expanded bike path, equipment replacement, infra-structure

improvements and community justice programs. In FY14, the City expended more than \$8.7 million in grant funds from 20 grants awarded from the federal and state programs. \$6 million of these grant funds were for the Montpelier District Heat project.

I appreciate the support that the Finance Department receives from the City Councilors, William Fraser, City Manager, Jessie Baker, Assistant City Manager and other members of the City's management team. Our office is located in City Hall and is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. We welcome city residents' questions, comments and concerns. If I can be of service, do not hesitate to call me at the office (262-6253) or e-mail: sgallup@montpelier-vt.org

Sandra J. Gallup, *Finance Director*

Technology Services Division

This division is a part of the Finance Department and provides support for all municipal departments with information systems, telephone and technology services. This support starts with the service and maintenance of our existing technology and continues with forecasting and implementation of upgrades to our existing technology and new applications.

This fiscal year, July 2013 through June of 2014, provided several upgrades to existing technology over several departments. The most significant were upgrades to the Waste Water and DPW Garage phone systems.

The Technology Services implemented:

- Hosted Digital Telephone and Voice Mail system for the remote locations.
- Implemented an upgrade in hardware and software for our telecommunications.
- Completed the scheduled IP phone replacements.
- Completed Implementation of the City's participation in a Fiber Communication Federal
- Grant through Sovernet Communications.

The City's Wide Area Network is routed though Fiber, Cable and Telecom providers T1 connections. This communication network between City Hall and the outlying facilities of the Senior Center, Public Works Garage, Waste Water Treatment Plant and Water Filtration Facility in Berlin is configured to enhance the secure management of the potable water and waste water transmission control systems and VPN radio communications between the garage and various remote units.

The City continues to maintain its communication link with the local and world wide community via the internet. This communication, information and research tool also provides increasing levels of risk for the City's hardware, software and

data. Our goal is to provide the City a knowledgeable, effective and adequate level of security. The City continues to maintain a sophisticated firewall, virus protection standards and a redundant daily full system backup to insure the integrity and continued performance of the network and its applications.

Fred Skeels, *Technology Services Manager*

Tax Collector

New Late Fee Rates Set By City Council

Starting with the 2015-2016 fiscal year, Montpelier City Council amended the penalty rates assessed for late payment of quarterly taxes, water and sewer. What was a flat 8% late fee, whether 1 day or 30 days late in paying your quarterly installments of taxes, water and sewer, has now by amended by City Council effective this past July 1, 2015. The new assessments will be 5% if paid within five business days of the due date. After that the additional 3% is added for a total of 8%.

Reminder: Once again, be sure to file your Vermont Homestead Declaration form HS-122 and the Vermont Property Adjustment form HI-144 by April 15, 2015 in order not to receive a late penalty from the State of Vermont. Both forms must be filed by April 15, 2015 even if you delay filing the rest of your income tax forms. You can file HS-122 and HI-144 up until October, but penalties will be assessed that may reduce the value of your Property Tax Adjustment or PREBATE as many know it by. Over 50% of Montpelier residential owners get help with their taxes, but each year we become aware of additional people who could have qualified but didn't file on time or didn't think they would qualify so didn't file.

Delinquent tax balances at the time of writing this report in January 2015 are as follows:

2010-2011 - \$188.96

2011-2012 - \$165.42

2012-2013 - \$852.45

2013-2014 - \$44,602.46

2014-2015 - \$125,876.04

(current year, August and November installments)

2010-2011 through 2012-2013 reflect two properties which have probate issues. While we will eventually be able to collect all the taxes, it may take years to resolve the probate issues.

We bill delinquencies monthly and work with the taxpayer and their financing institution.

We have just notified 10 residents that if they don't set up a payment plan for their excessively delinquent water and sewer bills, we will start a tax sale process the first of February. Unpaid water and sewer bills create the same automatic lien against a property as unpaid taxes do.

Please feel free to contact me either at work (802-223-9512) or at home (802 223-5310). I work part time, usually Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons during the winter. For the summer, I usually work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday morning covering vacation/lunch times. Please feel free to call me at home in the evenings or on the weekends. If I am not available at either number, leave a phone number and a suggested time to return your call.

Beverlee Pembroke Hill, *Tax Collector*

City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk's Office is responsible for the administration of all elections, city business licenses and dog licenses. The City Clerk manages the city's voter checklist, and coordinates the Boards of Civil Authority and Abatement. The office's responsibilities in regards to recording and indexing of land records and vital statistics (births, death & marriages), and generating and archiving the official records of the City Council (the Clerk serves as Secretary to the City Council), make the Clerk the caretaker of much of the recorded history of the state's Capital.

As of the 2012 Annual City Meeting, the City Clerk and Treasurer are separate entities. While the Clerk's office shares space with city Finance Department staff, responsibilities for tax collection and utility billing are no longer under the purview of the City Clerk, although clerk staff still assists in the customer service work associated with these duties. Currently, the City Clerk staffing structure consists solely of the Clerk and one Assistant Clerk, as well as temporary poll workers as needed.

For the third year in a row, the Clerk's office put forward an operating budget that was less than the previous year. In addition, we will be using the specially set aside funds for document restoration and preservation to continue the digitalization of records and information begun in 2012.

At the close of the 2014 calendar year, the City Council gave the go-ahead to a large scale scanning project which will replace the card catalog which indexes all land records prior to 1993. This new digital system will be available online, and will also provide an offsite backup that doesn't currently exist, should the Clerk's office ever be damaged or destroyed.

Also, vital records (birth, death and marriage records) will be digitized (but not be made available online for security and

privacy reasons). This will enable us to cut down counter wait time for citizens requesting copies of these documents by as much as 75%. More important, it will enable us to relocate the physical copies to a secondary City Hall secured location, and in the process open up at least another decade's worth of room in the vault in the Clerk's office. This avoids necessitating an extremely costly and disruptive expansion of the vault, while also giving us an opportunity to enhance service to members of the public.

Finally, in 2014 longtime Assistant City Clerk Crystal Chase was formally promoted to Deputy City Clerk.

In 2014, the Clerk's office recorded 70 births, 76 marriages, 88 deaths, and licensed 417 dogs.

John Odum, *City Clerk*

Assessor's Office

The Assessor's Office is responsible for maintaining current ownership information and the listing and valuation of all real property (taxable and exempt) and all taxable personal property in the City. The Grand List is prepared as of April 1 each year and filed with the City Clerk in mid-June. Building and zoning permits, property transfer tax returns, listings, surveys and field inspections are used to update assessments.

According to the latest equalization study conducted by the Property Valuation and Review Division of the Vermont Department of Taxes, Montpelier's CLA (Common Level of Appraisal), effective 1/1/2015, is 97.07 %. This means that, on average, Montpelier properties are assessed at approximately 97 % of current market value according to the State's analysis. This is about 0.85 % percent below last year's CLA and indicates that property values, in general, increased during the past year.

According to a local Broker, the number of residential real estate sales in Montpelier was up 15% as compared to 2013. The average residential sale price was up 1.6% from the 2013 average price, to \$243,865.

Work on our Parcel (Tax) Maps is ongoing. The maps are updated on an annual basis reflecting new surveys, deed research, subdivisions and changes in ownership. I encourage property owners to check the maps for accuracy. Two versions of the parcel maps are available on the Assessor's page of the City website.

Property "Record Cards" for each property in the City, as well as property sales and Grand Lists, are also available on the Assessor's page of the website.

The 2014 Grand List includes 2,911 taxable real properties and 507 personal property accounts, plus cable and exempt

properties. The final figures in the 2014 Municipal Grand List for taxable properties are as follows:

<u>Property type</u>	<u>Number of parcels</u>	<u>% of Grand List Value</u>
Residential	2,110	57.3%
Commercial	257	24.3%
Commercial Apartments	74	4.7%
Industrial	8	0.3%
Utilities- Electric	3	1.3%
Condominiums	396	7.6%
Misc- Land	63	0.6%
Cable	2	0.2%
Personal Property	507	3.7%

Total taxable property value by category:

Residential	\$490,180,600
Commercial	207,487,600
Commercial Apartments	40,471,000
Condominiums	64,469,000
Industrial	2,705,000
Utilities	11,314,300
Miscellaneous	<u>4,796,100</u>
TOTAL Real Property	\$821,423,600
Cable	1,374,400
Personal Property	<u>32,672,760</u>
TOTAL TAXABLE PROPERTY	\$855,470,760

The 2014 Grand List grew by \$4.2 million over the 2013 Grand List (about ½ of 1%), of which \$1.4 million was Real Property and \$2.8 million was Personal Property. Gains in real estate value were partially offset by the City's purchase of 3 properties involved in the 1 Taylor Street Project.

From the above, just under \$5.4 million in exemptions for Veterans Exemptions, Tax Stabilization Agreements and Current Use are deducted, resulting in a Total Municipal Grand List of \$8,501,012.90. Exemptions were down just over \$2 million as compared to 2013, largely as a result of the expiration of a significant tax stabilization agreement, resulting in a net overall increase of \$6.27 million in the Municipal Grand List.

I also assisted with a number of facilities projects during the past year including installation of sprinkler and fire alarm systems and replacement of doors at the DPW Garage/Office Building, partial roof replacement at the Cemetery Chapel/

Vault Building, roof repairs at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and replacement of several doors at City Hall.

Jane Aldrighetti, my Administrative Assistant, is in the office Monday through Friday. My position is a 60% contracted service. I am usually in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you have questions or concerns regarding the valuation of real or personal property in the City, please feel free to contact our office. Jane's telephone number is 223-9504; my number is 223-9505.

I will continue to make my best effort to maintain accuracy and fairness in property assessments in the City.

Stephen Twombly, *City Assessor*

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Everyone 50+ is welcome at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC), a place where vibrant, diverse programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, enhanced nutrition and access to aging resources. Over 850 Central Vermont seniors, including one in five seniors in Montpelier, thrive on regular participation, and hundreds more benefit from the many MSAC and community events and services that are free and open to the public in this vital gathering space.

According to the National Council on Aging, older adults who participate in senior center programs can learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease and experience measurable improvements in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional, mental, and economic well-being. Additionally, compared with their peers, senior center participants have higher levels of health, social interaction, and life satisfaction.

The mission of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center is to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being at a welcoming, flexible environment. Our core program is our diverse set of over fifty weekly classes, including movement classes, humanities classes, arts classes, and technology classes that encourage mental and physical well-being, and there are many available for working seniors' schedules.

Regular activities range from painting to dancing, living strong exercise programs to yoga, gym use to swimming, and several foreign languages. There are classes in writing, poetry, drama, music appreciation, computer skills, rug hooking, iPhone, and film series with Rick Winston. Many people play bridge, mah jongg, cribbage and scrabble. Some take advantage of discounted privileges at First in Fitness and computer training with training at Main Street Middle School. The dedicated MSAC Swingin' Over Sixty Dance Band continues to play

weekly before Tuesday lunches and welcomes new musicians of all ages. The Montpelier Ukulele group rehearses and hosts events at MSAC. Members active in the fine arts may take advantage of the facility's art gallery space in the Community Room. Proposals are always welcomed for quarterly consideration of new classes, activities, and art events, and multi-generational collaborations are encouraged.

Additionally, MSAC serves to connect older adults to vital community services that can help them stay healthy and independent. MSAC hosts a free tax clinic, inexpensive foot care and massage clinics, and serves as a gateway to community agencies. A new Resource Room provides a library of information about senior services and options. Special event programming serves to be educational and entertaining. In 2014, programming included author readings, concerts, and presentations by community groups such as the Vermont Assistive Technology Program, the Vermont Association for the Blind, and more.

The monthly Montpelier Memory Café, free and open to the public, is a social gathering where people experiencing memory loss and their care partners come together to connect and support one another in a relaxed atmosphere. Participants enjoy social time, refreshments, entertainment and other fun activities. For more information contact Liz at 229-9630 or visit sympavt.wix.com/montpeliermemorycafe.

MSAC's senior nutrition program, FEAST, is produced in partnership with Just Basics Inc., Good Taste Catering and Central Vermont Council on Aging. "FEAST at Home" is delivered to eligible seniors, Monday-Friday. "FEAST Together" is served on-site Tuesdays and Fridays at noon. "FEAST to Go" is open to the public, and available Tuesdays and Fridays noon-1pm, and offers meals sold as a fundraiser for the other two program components. Call 262-6288 to make a meal reservation or talk with the FEAST coordinator, Jessica Sanderson, about volunteer opportunities. FEAST thrives thanks to a loyal, multi-generational and ever-growing volunteer force and senior trainees of the VT Associates for Training and Development program, all supervised by Chef Justin Turcotte.

Food insecurity acutely affects many people served by the FEAST program. Seniors experience greater difficulty reconciling food needs with transportation challenges, costs of medical care, and problems of rural isolation. Findings from the Community Nutrition Program Survey show that 18% of seniors served by the FEAST program are considered at high nutritional risk, and an additional 44% are at moderate risk. FEAST provides nutritious meals, at no charge, to serve those at nutritional risk, while also offering all recipients the opportunity to contribute toward the cost of meals. Additionally, 33% of FEAST meal recipients report that they

eat most meals alone. FEAST meals help to combat the mental health implications of frequent isolation. FEAST served over 14,000 meals in FY 2014.

Trips throughout Vermont and New England are organized by member-volunteers and are facilitated by the use of our 12-passenger van. Trips are financially self-supporting, and the van is now being used for shared trips planned by MSAC and area senior centers. In Fall 2013, a group participated in a trip to Italy sponsored by Globus Tours and Milne Travel. In Fall 2014, MSAC Advisory Board members Tina Muncy and Whit Dall organized and led a walking trip in Arizona, featuring Sedona and the Grand Canyon.

MSAC serves a membership of over 850 Central Vermont seniors. 24.6% of MSAC members are between 50 and 64 years old, 42.3% are between 65 and 74 years old and the remainder are 75 or older. About 80% of members are female. 70% of our members come from Montpelier, 20% come from our five supporting towns of East Montpelier, Middlesex, Berlin, Calais, Worcester, and the remainder comes from other towns. Seniors come with diverse life experiences and from all socioeconomic backgrounds. Many locals are surprised when they learn about the breadth of affordable choices and available financial aid.

We have been increasing tax appropriations from our supporting towns, from a total of \$1049 in FY 2012, to \$2050 in FY 2013, to \$7800 in FY2014, to \$16,000 in FY2015. This has been a result of stepping up our efforts in response to the relatively new City policy regarding public funds for services provided to non-residents. Note: At the March 2015 Town Meeting Day for FY16 funding requests, we are asking seven towns (two new ones included) for a total of \$18,600. Members from outside Montpelier pay higher annual dues and class fees.

MSAC has six public computers, a multi-function Xerox machine, audio-visual equipment, a tabletop amplifier, a magnifying machine, WiFi, a piano and an electric piano available for members to use. Several volunteers, including students from the middle school, come weekly to offer drop-in assistance and training with technology. The facility's various rooms are also available for rent for private classes and functions, and on-site catering is available through our partnership with Good Taste Catering.

We are grateful for our operational and program partnerships with Central Vermont Council on Aging, Montpelier Housing Authority, Just Basics Inc., Good Taste Catering, Green Mountain Transit Agency, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of UVM, Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice, Homeshare Now, Onion River Exchange, Summit School, Monteverdi Music School, Main Street Middle School, First in Fitness, Twin City Lanes, Savoy Theater, North Branch Café, and other community groups and businesses.

Current Advisory Board: 3 Years: Lisbeth Dodd; Susan Torchia; Whitney Dall; 2 Years: Fran Krushenick; Tina Muncy, Chair; Sue Stuke, Secretary; 1 Year : Sylvia Kingsbury, Vice Chair; Jane Osgatharp; Janet Ressler. Note: Nominations for the FY16 MSAC Advisory Board will be accepted through March 10, 2015, and new member/candidates are welcomed. As a result of bylaw changes, the board is growing, and there will be six vacant seats to be filled in June.

MSAC operations are maintained by the equivalent of 2.48 full-time staff members (Lise Markus, Dan Groberg and Janna Clar) and over 150 volunteers. Volunteers are vital and contributed over 5000 hours in 2014, leading classes and activities, working with the FEAST program, doing office work and data entry, planning and helping with events, preparing the mailing of the monthly newsletter, assisting with fundraising activities, serving on the Advisory Board, and more. We are extremely grateful to all of our volunteers for their generous commitments of time and energy that keep MSAC a vibrant community center.

We are also grateful to the members, families of members, businesses, foundations, and community members who support and remember MSAC through contributions, bequests and gifts. Our staff can talk with anyone about planned giving options. We thank the entire Montpelier community for their strong support over the years. A group of community members is discussing the possibility of establishing a "Friends of MSAC" 501c3 non-profit in 2015.

Information about MSAC is available through the monthly printed newsletter, *Active Times*, biweekly e-letters, and online at www.montpelier-vt.org/msac. There is an active Facebook site. MSAC office hours are 9 am-4 pm Monday through Friday, and the main phone number is 223-2518. All are welcome at this center that plays a vital role in making Montpelier a great place to live and to age!

Montpelier Community Justice Center



Montpelier's Community Justice Center (MCJC) provides a structure for the resolution of conflict and crime at a community level and in a context of shared problem solving – an approach that is backed by research as being an effective way to settle such matters. All of the MCJC services and programs have emerged from a solid foundation of restorative

justice principles, which invoke community as a necessary and involved party in the resolution of conflict. Through the MCJC, the City of Montpelier offers readily available assistance for mediating conflict between neighbors and facilitating dialogue around divisive community issues. While the restorative justice interventions vary according to the offense and individuals circumstances, in all cases they are focused on the harm to victims and their safety and on accountability and amends making by those who offend. The MCJC also takes prevention seriously and offers classes and organizes forums about issues related to justice and conflict management.

Community members are involved in various ways with the MCJC, including serving on Restorative Justice Panels; providing a group mentoring/coaching relationship with people reentering community from incarceration; guiding MCJC direction through participation on the Citizen Advisory Boards; reaching out to crime victims; and co-facilitating classes. Overall, there were 59 people who volunteered with the MCJC in 2014¹ and gave 1774 hours of their time, valued at \$39,998.

Local and State police, the State's Attorney's office, Washington County Sheriff's Department, Vermont Department of Corrections, the Court, City departments and officials, and others refer matters to the MCJC. Individuals also self-refer. The MCJC is funded mostly by grants from the State.

Below are descriptions of some of the services offered by the MCJC, in some instances followed by feedback that speaks to the value of the service.

The MCJC has a Conflict Assistance Program. Three experienced mediators are on staff and the MCJC contracts with others, when needed. Ten groups or individuals asked us to assist them or had others ask us to assist them in resolving conflict in 2014.

The MCJC's Restorative Justice Panels, made up of trained volunteers, hold meetings for resolving offenses that focus on identifying what the person who offended can do to deepen understanding of the harm, make amends to those who need it, connect in positive ways with their community and develop strategies for not re-offending. The people who are affected by the offense are always invited to participate and supported in talking about what happened while asking for what they need. Seventy-two of these meetings were held in 2014 where 91% of the cases were successfully resolved.

"I've known what I did affected my mom and dad but getting the chance to sit in a room and talk to them about

[it] helped me realize exactly how much I affected them."

"That it isn't always about the money or damage. But it's about the people involved."

"How [my actions] affect the community members sitting in front of me as well as my immediate family—the writing assignments I did helped to provide me with insight into how my actions affected others."

"I learned not to be afraid to ask for help and that it is important to be a continued contributing member of our community"

The MCJC organizes Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) for people reentering community from prison. Three volunteers meet regularly over the course of a year with a single core member to offer fellowship, while coaching and supporting him or her to succeed in living in ways that do not cause harm to others or themselves. In 2014, the MCJC provided a COSA for each of 17 Restorative Reintegration Program participants.

In 2014 the MCJC increased conflict management skills for 12 people through delivery of two sessions of its *Insights into Conflict* class.

"The class was very helpful with thinking about communicating in a calm, gentle, peaceful manner—listening to others' point of view"

"I liked the honesty, the approach [the teachers] took on teaching us about Conflict Resolution."

"Everybody has conflicts; there are ways to take care of them without falling into trouble."

With the assistance of six volunteer facilitators, the MCJC delivered two rounds of its 10-class *Parenting with Respect* class, a class for fathers who have been incarcerated or abusive to their children. They are helped to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes to become more responsive to their children's needs.

"I loved this class. I am very happy that I now know how to be a better dad"

"It was a great experience and really opens your mind to think about your child and significant other and how to truly be there for them and change for the better in the process."

"The stages of development [was] a huge learning experience and I want to share this with others."

The MCJC organized a Mental Health Resource Summit last June due to the interest of a number of City departments to optimize their response to people with mental illness and issues related to mental health. This summit brought together more than 30 people to network with one another and to build

¹ Data in this report represents fiscal year 2014, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

on our community's capacity to be helpful in how it includes and provides assistance to some of its more vulnerable citizens. See below for a sampling of offerings made by attendees:

I/we can put organizational brochures in our resource library open to the public

I can make highly trained staff available to help de-escalate "mental health crises" in the community

(We can) teach Mental Health First Aid to groups

The MCJC would love to hear from you if you:

- Are interested in learning more about what it takes to volunteer with one of the MCJC programs
- Want to know more about restorative justice
- Think that one of our programs can be helpful to you or someone you know
- Just want to meet us and see what cool things happen here

You can find our office in the basement of City Hall wedged between the restrooms and the elevator door. You can reach us by phone at 223-9606 or email at mcjc@montpelier-vt.org.

Yvonne Byrd, *Director*

Judy Gibson, *Programs Coordinator*

Alfred Mills, *Reentry Specialist*

Montpelier Housing Authority

A Valuable Community Resource

The Montpelier Housing Authority is a local, independent government agency that has served our community for well over forty years. Our five member Board of Commissioners is appointed by the City Council with Commissioners serving staggered five-year terms. The Board employs an Executive Director and staff to oversee its operations. As a local independent agency, we are not a City department. We are funded entirely by federal funds and management fees paid by the properties that we manage. No local or state funds are received to operate our programs.

The Authority operates a wide variety of programs in its continuing effort to meet the need for affordable housing in our community. We own and manage Pioneer and Gould Apartments. We also serve as full managing agent for 58 Barre Street Apartments, Lane Shops Apartments, Cummings Street Apartments, and Prospect Place. We provide management services for two projects for Washington County Mental Health: a group home on St. Paul Street and a small apartment house on Prospect Street. In addition, we administer the Section 8 Existing Program which totals 122 vouchers. We also administer a home ownership option to

our Section 8 participants. Working with the Central Vermont Homeownership Center, this option allows Section 8 tenants to use their vouchers to help pay their mortgage and other pertinent housing expenses. To date, we have had five closings under this option. A total of 324 units of affordable housing are provided through these programs.

This past year saw a continuation of reduced federal funding for the Section 8 Voucher Program. Currently we are unable to use 20 of the 122 vouchers allotted due to severe funding cuts. While no household currently receiving housing assistance will lose their subsidy, many people in need of our help cannot be assisted until funding is restored.

Our 501(c)3 nonprofit, Capital City Housing Foundation (CCHF) renovated Heaton Woods, an affordable residential care facility. Heaton Woods is a tremendous asset to the community. Several years ago, a generous gift from the Roselli family enabled us to add five more rooms when we renovated the third floor bringing the total number of rooms to 46. The public is welcome any time to tour the facility or visit with the residents. Please call 223-1157 if you have questions.

CCHF also owns Prospect Place and is the general partner for Cummings Street Family Housing Limited Partnership and 58 Barre Street Housing Limited Partnership.

CCHF continues sponsorship of the meals site at Pioneer Apartments. This program has operated continuously since 1973. The Senior Meals Program serves weekday noon meals to the elderly and persons with disabilities, along with weekend frozen meals on Fridays for those who need them. They also provide home deliveries to our elderly/disabled in our buildings and those living near the meals site. Please call 223-6357 for more information.

The Montpelier Housing Authority is committed to paying our fair share toward city expenses. All projects owned or managed by MHA and CCHF pay full water and sewer charges, including the sewer benefit. 58 Barre Street Apartments, Cummings Street Apartments, Prospect Place, Lane Shops Apartments, 7 St. Paul Street group home and the Washington County Mental Health Prospect Street property paid a total of \$118,795.96 in property taxes to the City for the 2013-14 tax year.

Pioneer Apartments paid \$2,465.91 in sewer benefit and \$11,449.39 in PILOT. Gould paid \$481.59 in sewer benefit and \$2,000 in PILOT.

The Authority works cooperatively with city departments and other non profits, especially the Planning and Development Office and the Central Vermont Community Land Trust. We continue to work very closely with the Assistant City Manager and City Assessor on issues that arise in connection with the 58 Barre Street property. The Authority not only serves as managing agent for the housing at 58 Barre Street, but also

manages the commercial condominium comprised of the fourteen unit housing complex and the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. This includes ensuring that the bills are paid and that all the building systems are maintained, serviced and inspected as required.

The Executive Director also serves on the Montpelier Housing Task Force and the Washington County Continuum of Care.

The Authority strives to maintain a high level of service to our tenants and the Montpelier community. Please feel free to call our office at 229-9232 if we can be of service to you. You can also visit us on the City web site for more information including meeting agendas and minutes.

Jo Ann Troiano, *Executive Director*

Green Mount Cemetery

Highlights of 2014

This Years Work – We continued to maintain Green Mount, Elm Street Cemetery and the various green spaces and traffic circles for the City. Projects this past year included the renovation of landscaping at the Main/Spring Street roundabout, installation of a new flag pole at our Chapel/Vault building, installation of a rubber membrane roof for the middle roof of Chapel/Vault building, master design of a Columbarium Section and the total cleaning of the west end section which includes the Lowe Mausoleum.

Next Years Goals – We will be looking at completing the following projects: Continuation of road repairs and improvements, resetting the facade on the old winter vault, developing a restoration plan for all the leaning and fallen monuments, updating our website, continuation of monument cleaning an entire section of the cemetery.

Burial and Memorial Lots Available – There is a wide selection of lots available including family estate lots, mausoleum lots, cremation lots nestled within a woodland section. Let us know your needs and we will strive toward developing your personalized burial lot. A new area has been surveyed and is ready for use in our new section “Oak Hill” which can be seen from Interstate 89 as one heads north. We will be looking at a columbarium in the near future.

Rules and Regulations – Please, before planning any work on your family’s lot including the installation of a monument, please contact me for a copy of the Rules and Regulations.

Gift Giving – Giving to Green Mount is truly a community gift. Gifts can be specified toward a certain project or for general use. Present project needs include: Endowment Care funding, Plant Materials (trees, shrubs, perennials) Entrance Enhancements, Visitor Benches and Monument Repair. Please contact us to discuss your preferred method of presenting a

financial gift to Green Mount. Our commissioners have retained a professional advisor for this private consultation. For a confidential discussion and/or a copy of our investment policy, please contact us at 802-223-5352 or email at cemetery@montpelier-vt.org.

Tours – Walking tours can be given for individuals or for groups of up to 50 participants. These tours may be scheduled for any time with enough notice. Please call the office at 223-5352 or email your request to cemetery@montpelier-vt.org.

Thank you – to the citizens of Montpelier for your continued financial support and all of those who give us feedback throughout the year.

Questions/ Comments? Please feel free to ask any cemetery related question even if it does not directly pertain to Green Mount. You can always feel free to call me at work at 223 – 5352 or at home in the evening/weekends at 426-3754. My email is cemetery@montpelier-vt.org

This year’s Director’s advice – When decorating/landscaping your cemetery lot, one should know the answers to two main questions: 1. What are the rules for your specific cemetery; and 2. How much time will one put into maintaining the landscaping? Most Cemetery staff will not maintain personal lots without an extra charge. One needs to talk to the cemetery director and find out exactly what will be done on behalf of the cemetery maintenance crew and what is expected from the lot owner. Planting flowers in the ground next to the monument will take someone to weed/water at regular times and placing flowers in a container may cause further maintenance costs as the containers should be moved for mowing. Containers may also need additional watering. Please do not place any artificial decorations on gravesites as they are nuisance to work around, often will fall apart to rain/wind, can cause damage to mowing equipment if hit and overall detracts from the natural beauty of the cemetery.

We want to thank Daniel Barlow for his short but very valuable time on the Cemetery Commission and we welcome his replacement, Linda Berger.

Patrick Healy, *Director*

Statistics 2014

Burials – 25, (15 Cremations, 10 Casket, 3 Winter burials,)

Lots Sold – 8 full burial graves, 2 Cremation Lots

Removals – none

New Monuments installed - 11

Markers installed - 8

Monuments washed – 40 plus

Monuments repaired – 12

Flower/wreath Placement - 12

Mausoleum cleaned – Lowe

Winter Vault entombments - 8

Parks, Conservation & Recreation

Parks Commission

2014 was another productive year for our local parks in Montpelier. Balancing operations costs and capital projects is always a challenge, so we are delighted with the projects we were able to complete this year.

One project was to replace the old park pole barn/equipment shed that was built with help from Norwich Cadets for \$300 28 years ago which was leaning and in bad shape. We accepted an offer from a Yestermorrow Design Build school class to help build us a new one. The class, led by Shannon McIntyre, took lumber made from trees thinned from Montpelier parks and made a high quality timber frame replacement that, given its size, design and quality, is much better suited to meet our long term park needs. The roofing, siding and other finish work was done by a Department of Labor crew, the park caretaker and other park staff.

We were fortunate to get another group from the International Volunteers for Peace this last summer to help with general park improvements, with a focus on Blanchard Park. At Blanchard Park, the volunteers helped put in an impressive set of stone steps leading up into the park from Wilder Street. Additionally, the volunteers helped put in several new elements in a play area in the park, which required moving in over 8 tons of pea stone as a dry base to cover a wet clay area. Between the stone steps and pea stone, the volunteers, Department of Labor crew and park staff moved well over 20 tons of material by hand and wheelbarrow. Other projects completed by the group included improvements to a new handicap access trail to the outhouse at the new shelter in Hubbard Park.

To bring in the International Volunteers for Peace we need to provide housing during their stay. River Rock School was the hero this last summer, stepping up to host the International Volunteers. Without their generous help we would not have been able to take advantage of this opportunity.

Alec Ellsworth, the new parks caretaker living in Hubbard Park has been a great addition to the team. He brought a thoughtful and strong new touch to the park crew.

With patience and determination, park crews and volunteers pulled well over a thousand *invasive* barberry and honeysuckle plants from the North Branch Park this year. Some of these invasive plants, especially the honeysuckle, were very large in size and took considerable work to dig up the roots and pull out. A decade ago, removing invasive plants from the North Branch River Park seemed to be an impossible and overwhelming task.

With dedicated staff, volunteers and groups, today we are making real progress. If we are able to continue making progress for another 4 years we will likely be able remove these invasive plants that had taken over a substantial and important part of the park near the river and wetlands. These areas are starting to regrow with a return of the understory plants and bushes we would hope to see in our forest, a great relief for those of us who had observed how the invasive plants were displacing native habitat and wildlife.

Other projects to maintain the amenities in the park included work on the play area in Hubbard Park near the ball field, rebuilding of the leaning retaining walls in New Shelter area, and the replacement of four park benches. In total we have 16 miles of trails in the parks, and this year were able to work on restoration on about 3 miles.

Without volunteers, the ongoing maintenance of the park would be an impossible task, and again this year we were fortunate to have had a large number of big volunteer groups. We enjoyed the help of a substantial number of classes from our local schools, and it is very gratifying to see local students have a role in and build a relationship with Montpelier's public spaces. Some of the other groups that have provided substantial assistance to the Park this year included the International Volunteers, Youthbuild crews, a school VYCC group, Barre VO Tech, Norwich University, NECI, and Yestermorrow. We also secured a very helpful Department of Labor summer youth crew through a jobs training grant.

To cap off a successful year we sponsored the Enchanted Forest event this fall, which was another well attended and very popular park event.

Changes put in place to policies and amenities at the end of last year had a positive impact on the experience of park users this year. Dog waste stations have significantly reduced the amount of dog waste left in the park and on trails, and a newly revised Dog Code of Conduct is also posted around the park. Park visitors are also beginning to use the incident reporting form for a variety of incidents, which is an essential tool for parks management and the Parks Commission to understand what is going on in the park and if there are issues that need to be dealt with. The commission would like to thank the many volunteers who provided valuable assistance to both projects.

The Montpelier Area Mountain Bike Association (MAMBA) approached the Parks Commission to request opening some trails in Hubbard Park for biking. The commission has started to explore this question and the issues involved, and will continue the process in the coming year.

The Park Commission and Geoff want to thank both Cara Ro-bechek and Aaron Brondyke for their service to the commission. Both stepped down this year after serving more than

one term and, at different times, holding the position of Chair. Throughout her years on the commission Cara championed the parks as a space where children could explore nature, and was instrumental in bringing on board the parks caretaker. Aaron brought his expertise in land conservation to bear on the commission's work, and led the process to complete a Greenprint for Parks in Montpelier. Cara and Aaron made many important contributions to our local parks and to the commission, and we will miss their sage advice and good humor.

Citizen support for Montpelier Parks is always appreciated and donations help us leverage additional support from a variety of sources and volunteers. If you would like to contribute to the Parks or assist in any way, please contact Geoff Beyer at the Park office (223-7335) or speak with a Parks Commissioner.

For information on Montpelier's parks, including maps and natural history information, please visit the Park's web site: <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/department/81/Montpelier-Parks.html>. The Parks Commission appreciates and welcomes comments or suggestions from residents as we continue our work of protecting and improving Montpelier's park and trail system.

Commissioners can be reached by email at parks-commission@montpelier-vt.org

Park Commissioners (Elected)

Emily Boedecker, *Chair*
Lyn Munno
Bryan Pfeiffer
Kip Roberts

Conservation Commission

The Montpelier Conservation Commission (MCC) is charged with advising the City Council, the Planning Commission, and other city officials on issues concerning Montpelier's natural resources and engaging residents to protect and enhance the City's natural environment. This year the MCC helped host the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions annual summit held in Montpelier. This year's highlights follow.

Zoning Revisions

The Conservation Commission has continued to follow the on-going zoning revisions. The Conservation Commission sees a great opportunity in zoning to encourage community values outlined in the master planning process that included the input of many residents. Some of the values that came out in the master plan include focusing development in the growth center, increasing housing density where possible, and protecting strategic city natural resources. By allowing for incentives to cluster development in desired conservation areas of the city we see a valuable role in encouraging and

rewarding thoughtful development that protects city goals and values. If the zoning revisions can help implement the master plan values we believe it will provide developers clarity to encourage development and the ability to retain the natural aspects of the city.

Berlin Pond Water Quality Protection

The Commission supported a citizen movement to return Berlin Pond to full protection to reduce risks to our only source of drinking water. Berlin Pond is vulnerable to disturbance that would reduce water quality due to: 1. The shallow water depth; 2. Soft bottom sediments; and 3. The likelihood that pond visitors would increase the population of invasive plants growing in the pond. A reduction in water quality would lead to more expensive water treatment and the potential need for treatment plant upgrades. The wonderful side benefit of the rare and unique habitat that has been created by having Berlin Pond a protected place alone is a valuable natural resource worth protecting. The Commission has communicated these points and remains in favor of closing the pond to public recreation, primarily to safeguard our City's only drinking water supply since we consider clean water a critical natural resource for our community.

High School Students Continue Service on the Conservation Commission

The Commission was without a student member for most of the year, yet Isaac Mears recently joined the Commission and will be serving for the 2015 term. Past student members include Mahima Poreddy, Megan Hoyne-Wingate, Liam McSweeney, Caitlin Paterson, and Joshua Klavens. We are currently seeking one additional student representative and will be seeking new student representatives this summer. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Matt McLane, Community Based Learning faculty, at Montpelier High School at 225-8052.

Conservation Survey

The Conservation Commission partnered with the Advanced Placement Statistics Class at Montpelier High School to conduct a Conservation Survey in the city in 2013. The survey results came in during 2014 and data analysis was conducted. A set of conservation fact sheets will shortly be released highlighting some of the survey findings. Special thanks to Matt MacLean, Susan Beem, Mahima Poreddy, and Enya Hughes of Montpelier High School for their support and excellent work on the survey. The results of the survey will be posted on the Commission website.

Stormwater Management

Commission members have been working with the Friends of the Winooski River project to highlight residential stormwater management in Montpelier. The Commission supported a stormwater education grant that was awarded to the Friends, and will be assisting with outreach.

This year the Commission learned about green stormwater infrastructure where development is performed to minimize stormwater and incorporate treatment areas. This low-impact design approach is growing in popularity and being implemented across the state and region to protect water quality.

One Taylor Street (former Carr Lot)

Commission members played an active role in the initial site planning at One Taylor Street. We have a long history of work at this site and are eager to see green space, a connection to the rivers, and stormwater treatment as part of this development project. Several years ago the Commission held a design charrette for this site and the majority of Montpelier residents voted to keep at least half of the site as green space and create a park with river access. We plan to maintain our pursuit of these design objectives with this development moving forward.

VISTA

The Conservation Commission partially funded the Conservation and Parks VISTA position again this year that was held by Stephanie Olsen. The VISTA member did substantial work with numerous volunteers and groups to remove invasive species around Montpelier, and in many places plant natives to displace the invasive. Stephanie, with the help of numerous people and volunteers, literally removed thousands of invasive plants. One highlight of Stephanie's two years of work was the creation of an Invasive Species Interpretive Trail that allows visitors to learn about invasive plant identification and control. Additionally she has been deeply involved in the development of community gardens in Montpelier.

Other Topics

The Commission fields concerns about the city's natural resources from residents and brings up topics of concern to the Planning Commission and City Council. Please feel free to contact us with any questions. This year we discussed a wide range of topics that include:

- Regional forest plan;
- The change of operations at the conserved Two Rivers Center;
- Potential conservation project north of Hubbard Park;

- Riparian buffers;
- Invasive species;
- Sabin's Pasture;
- City wetland mapping; and
- MCC strategic planning.

Conservation Commission Website

<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/62/Conservation-Commission.html>

The Commission website is available for tracking meeting agenda and minutes, and provides access to reports that are part of the Commission's work.

Members

Commission members, alternates, and liaisons during all or part of the year included the following people (listed alphabetically).

- Geoff Beyer, *Staff Liaison*
- Ben Eastwood
- John Fox
- Christopher Hilke
- Isaac Mears, *Student Representative*
- Jim Murphy
- Roy Schiff, *Chair*
- Shawn White

The Conservation Commission is a group of Montpelier residents who are eager to assist the city in protecting its natural resources. The Commission meets at 7:00 pm at City Hall on the second Thursday of every month. All meetings are open to the public. For more information contact Roy Schiff at 223-7214 or roy.schiff@aya.yale.edu.

Roy Schiff, *Chair*

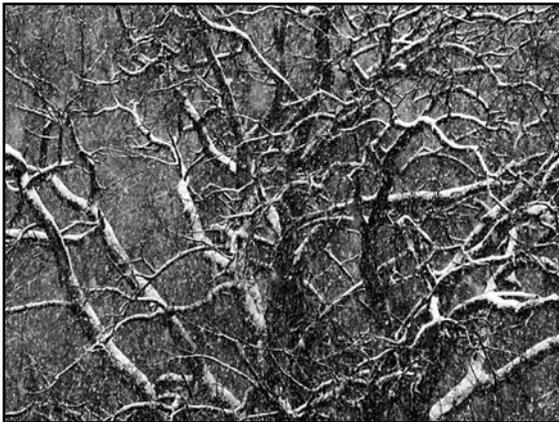
Montpelier Tree Board

Purpose of the Tree Board:

The purpose of the Tree Board is to protect the public health and welfare by improving and preserving the beauty of the city as it relates to street trees and park trees. The board administers and updates a plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, removal, or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets, and in other public areas. The large American Elm tree (left) on Court Street, the last of its kind and stature in the city, is just one example of the many fine trees we can enjoy in Montpelier.



The board meets monthly (1st Thursday) at City Hall and schedules regular workdays around the city. All are welcome to attend any of our meetings or workdays. We also have room on the Board for more members if you want to play a larger role in the City's urban forest.



Current Board Membership:

John Snell, *Co-Chair*
John Akielaszek
Jeff Schumann

Sarah Hoffmeier, *Co-Chair*
Abby Colihan
Geoff Beyer, *Tree Warden*

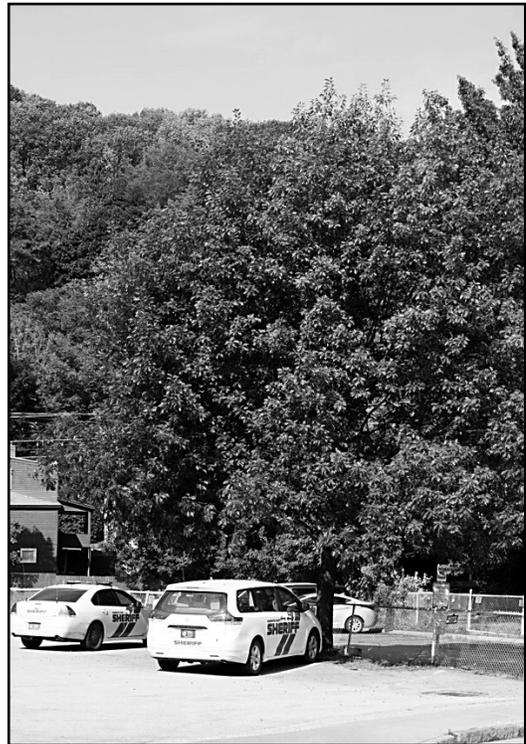
The board and a strong group of volunteers once again logged more than a thousand hours of service in 2014, from planting to weeding and watering, from meetings to completing grant applications.

We did all our work in 2014 with an \$1800 budget from the taxpayers. Unfortunately that will probably be reduced to \$800 in 2015, barely enough to plant one or two trees. Clearly we will need to continue raising funds through grants and donations and meet the bulk of our non-cash needs with volunteer labor.

We could not do our work without the very active support of the Parks Department, in particular Geoff Beyer, Stephanie Olsen and their crews.

Summary of our work for 2014

- **Tree planting:** We continue to plant trees in various locations around town using both trees purchased with our budget and grant funds as well as trees grown in our nursery. This year we replaced three trees in the downtown area that were in decline and added another six trees to the urban forest.
- **GreenUp Day celebration:** The Tree Board provided maintenance on all the downtown trees by adding compost and gypsum (to counter effects of salt) to the planting areas.
- **Arbor Day celebration:** The Tree Board helped plant a number of trees for Arbor Day along the banks of the Winooski River, part of an ongoing project to stabilize and enhance the riverbanks.
- **Tree maintenance:** We continue to expand our work maintaining our existing trees. We maintained our focus on the downtown trees, by adding compost and gypsum to the planting areas and pruning the trees as needed. Additionally weeding the planting areas was done throughout the summer.



Unfortunately many of the grates and guards on these trees are in poor condition. The cost to bring all of them up to minimum standards will be \$10,000. Additionally, many of the downtown trees do not thrive because they were planted in soil that is less than adequate. Correcting this situation is not simple.

The Red Oak tree in the parking lot at Washington Country Sheriffs offices on Elm Street is just one of many examples

around the city of what can happen when a tree is well-planted and cared for and given 18 years to grow. This was part of a successful Tree Board project funded by a small grant from the State of Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program.



- **Tree nursery:** We maintain a small nursery, The Norm Hudson Nursery, at North Branch Nature Center, which donates the land for our use. We are working hard to improve the quality of the trees raised as well as refine the species to better suit our needs. We particularly appreciate the work done by the Parks Department, led by Stephanie Olsen, to mow the nursery, remove damaged and older trees, clean up plastic tubing and assist in transplanting.
- **Pruning workshops:** The Board and the Tree Warden hosted two hands-on workshops to teach people the basics of small tree pruning. These were attended by over two dozen people some of whom have continued to volunteer with us.
- **Tree walks:** Board member John Snell led four educational tree walks around town during 2014 which were attended by more than three dozen people total. Additionally, John Akielaszek worked with students from Union Elementary School to identify and tag Ash trees around town.
- **Watering downtown trees:** Due to limited quantity of soil in the small downtown tree pits, weekly hand-watering is required. Several volunteers did the bulk of the work during the summer; as a result, and because of fairly good rainfall, most of the trees came through in excellent condition.

- **Sidewalk and street clearance pruning:** With assistance from the staff of the Parks Department, we have responded to more than a dozen situations, including several referrals from DPW, where trees overhanging sidewalks were causing problems. We are pleased to be able to provide these services to the city while also assuring the work will be done acceptably to relevant arboreal standards.
- **Protecting riverbank trees:** Predation by beavers of riverbank trees continues to be a problem, especially noticeable late last spring on the North Branch. The Board has held two workdays during which we fenced a number of trees (left) to protect them from further damage. More work remains to be done, as this is an ongoing issue.
- **Tree City USA:** Montpelier once again qualified as a Tree City USA and was honored as such by the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program. A Tree City USA must have: (1) a tree board or tree warden; (2) a tree ordinance; (3) a tree program with an annual budget of at least \$2/person; and (4) an annual Arbor Day celebration proclaiming the importance of trees in our lives.
- **Consulting:** We provide informal, free consulting to citizens, businesses and community organizations with questions about their trees. This work ranges from advice on pruning and planting to questions about tree health or possible removal. In 2014 we provided these services in ten instances.



- **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Educational Project:** Unfortunately this invasive pest now surrounds Vermont on all sides and is expected to infest the city itself within a year or two. A group of volunteers, led by Board member John Akielaszek, has continued to inventory Ash trees on a random selection of 100 private properties in the city. A projection of this data suggests more than 2700 Ash trees grow on private property in the city. John has continued to update a response plan and lead the implementation of the steps included in it. Along with Board Chair John Snell, he made a presentation to the City Manager and the City Council about the issues involved.
- **Grants:** The City, mainly through the efforts of the Geoff Beyer, Tree Warden, received grants from Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program to continue with the citywide inventory of all species as well as a smaller grant to plant a tree.
- **Inventory of all trees:** Led by Geoff Beyer, Tree Warden, work continues to complete and update an inventory of all street trees. In addition, volunteer Bob Troester created an online inventory tool for downtown trees that may be expanded to all city trees. This can be seen on the city's website.

Planning for the future:

- We will continue maintaining existing trees and planting new ones throughout the city.
- We will continue to implement the preparedness plan for the Emerald Ash Borer.
- We will continue to educate community members of all ages as to the importance of Montpelier's trees and how they can better care for those on their property.

We appreciate the continued support we have from the citizens of Montpelier as well as the City Council and city government. We could not do our work without the very generous support of the staff of the Parks Department and the cooperation of DPW.

We must, however, also point out that planting and maintaining these trees is not simple or inexpensive. A single set of tree grates and guards (left) now costs about \$1200 and has a useful life of less than ten years. Many of ours are in dire need of replacement. In addition, the way in which our trees have been planted in the downtown in the past is simply inadequate. To correct this situation will not be easy or inexpensive but, with careful planning and coordination with normal street and sidewalk maintenance and some additional city funding, we should be able to make improvements. We want to increase planting of trees throughout the city—to replace dead Elms, declining Sugar Maples and in anticipation of losing Ash trees to

the Emerald Ash Borer—but to do that we need to increase the funding available for purchasing high-quality plant materials. When trees cost upward of \$400 each, the \$800 budgeted for 2015 is simply inadequate.

As has been the case with our streets and bridges and other infrastructure, we have failed to adequately address the real needs of our urban forest for too many years now and the cumulative effects are showing all too clearly. Located as we are in the middle of the Green Mountain forest, it is easy to take our trees for granted. *The City's trees need our increased support for the years ahead.*

John Snell, Chair

Montpelier Recreation Department

As we look back on 2014, the Montpelier Recreation Department continues to develop opportunities for the citizens of Montpelier. The staff of the Recreation Department is proud of the services we provide for the community.

Dog River Field in its second season back after being restored from the flood is seeing all kinds of use. The adult softball leagues continue to grow and use additional nights and the high school soccer teams were practicing and playing games on the field once again. Ultimate Frisbee has been popular down there this past year as well. The maintenance staff continues to keep our facilities in great shape with all the use they receive from overlapping sport seasons.

We had another good summer of programs down at the Recreation field and pool area. The shelter continues to attract a lot of use in the evenings and weekends. The use of the facility continues to grow. The shelter is used for company picnics, birthday parties, school field days, school reunions and many other activities.

Our Capital Kids Summer Day Camp program enjoyed its third summer in the picnic shelter. The program continues to draw a lot of participants for this program. The shelter is larger and much cooler than being under a tent. It allows the participants to spread out when needed or fit the whole group when having lunch. We saw a little increase in our numbers again this year. The partnership with the Summer Lunch Program was once again very successful. Everybody enrolled can participate in the lunch program that is offered at camp and eligible participants can receive a free lunch to help provide a well-rounded Day Camp experience. The Vacation Break Day Camps continue to provide opportunities for participants to have some fun over their winter and spring breaks.

The Recreation Department's overall attendance increased slightly in 2014. Our day camp, swimming lessons, and tennis programs continue to see the largest amounts of participation.

Many of our special events also had an increase in participation. Fall, winter, and spring activities overall saw a modest increase over last year's participation.

The Recreation Department offered many new activities including: Youth Creative Movement, First Play Lacrosse Camp, Ultimate Frisbee Camps, Adult Creative Movement, and Learn Massage Basics. Youth Adventure Camp, Fishing Camp, Sports Camps, and many other activities continue to draw good participation. We also offered several after school classes: Fall Tennis Lessons, Young Rembrandts Drawing, and Crafty Critters were among some of the programs. Many adult programs have encouraged more adult participation in our programs as well. Programs including Ballroom and Scottish Dance, Yoga, Dodgeball, and Fitness Hooping are just a few of the adult programs we offer.

Our annual special events continue to draw a lot of community participation. Overall our special event numbers continue to grow. Special events consisted of: Father/Daughter Valentines Dance, Mother/Son Bowling, Halloween Party, Easter Egg Hunt, Touch a Truck, and the Spring Slam Basketball Tournament at the Civic Center.

The swimming pool drew over 11,000 people again this year. We continue to enjoy sponsoring many special events including Summer Barbecues, Pizza Night, Moonlight Swim, Family Fun Day, and many other special events at the pool.

Our lifeguards once again were trained by Red Cross. Audits we received from Red Cross confirmed excellent guard performance and safety standards.

Below is the Proposed FY 16 Budget for the Montpelier Recreation Department. The Recreation Appropriation will be level funded again this year. Thank you and we look forward to serving our community.

FY 16 Recreation Department Budget					
Account	Description	Budget FY 15	Proposed Budget FY 16	Difference	% Change
06-1570	Administration	295,048	285,917	-9,131	-3.09%
06-1571	Recreation Indoor	71,955	71,655	-300	-0.42%
06-1572	Recreation Outdoor	329,517	343,405	13,888	4.21%
06-1573	Swimming Pool	120,763	120,513	-250	-0.21%
06-1574	Indoor Skating	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
06 2600	Capital Improvements	0	123,300	123,300	100%
06 5001	VMERS	10,890	10,990	100	0.92%
	Totals	829,173	956,780	127,607	15.39%
FY 16 Recreation Department Revenue					
Account	Description	Budget FY15	Proposed Budget FY16	Difference	% Change
06-1000	Rec Appropriation	575,230	575,230	0	0.00%
06-2700	Season Passes - Swim Pool	19,500	19,500	0	0.00%
06-2701	Season Passes - Rec. Center	600	600	0	0.00%
06-2720	Daily Adm. Fees - Swim Pool	9,500	10,000	500	5.26%
06-2721	Daily Adm. Fees - Rec. Center	2,800	2,800	0	0.00%
06-2730	Program Fees - Swim Pool	8,000	9,000	1,000	12.50%
06-2731	Program Fees - Rec. Center	40,588	40,588	0	0.00%
06-2732	Program Fees - Outdoor Fac.	115,502	121,000	5,498	4.76%
06-2740	Concessions - Swim Pool	7,800	7,800	0	0.00%
06-2751	Rentals - Rec. Center	7,500	8,500	1,000	13.33%
06-2752	Rentals - Outdoor Fac.	8,000	8,000	0	0.00%
06-2798	Ski & Skate Sales	8,500	8,500	0	0.00%
06-2990	Miscellaneous Revenue	7,000	7,000	0	0.00%
06-5900	Rec. Fund Balance	18,653	138,262	119,609	641.23%
	Totals	829,173	956,780	127,607	15.39%

Many of our programs rely on volunteers in order to help them run smoothly. We are very fortunate to have such a high number of very qualified and experienced volunteers. The Recreation Department Staff would like to express our gratitude to all our volunteers.

Looking back over our past accomplishments, we are very proud of the opportunities we provided to the community. However, we are always seeking new ways to serving the community's needs. We hope that you will take advantage of your Recreation Department in 2015. We are here to help you find "constructive use for your leisure time".

If you know of a program you would like to see offered, know of an instructor to teach a class for us, or if you have any questions, please call us at 225-8699 or stop by our office at 55 Barre Street.

Don't forget to check us out on the web at: www.montpelier-rec.org

"Serving our community since 1945"

Arne McMullen, Director of Recreation
Jenny Bartlett, Program Coordinator/Pool Manager
Penny Downen, Administrative Assistant
Norma Maurice, Administrative Assistant
Rick Lachapelle, Maintenance Forman
Carl Nunn, Maintenance
Rick Thompson, Maintenance, ½ year

Recreation Advisory Board Members:

James Surwilo, Chair
Karlynn Koenemann
Ena Backus
Aubrey Boyles
Andrea Talentino
Sue Aldrich-School Board Representative
Tom Golonka-City Council Representative
Beth McGuire-Student Representative

North Branch Nature Center

The North Branch Nature Center (NBNC) is a private not-for-profit organization that provides natural science education to all ages in Montpelier and beyond.



NBNC is dedicated to connecting people of all ages with the natural world. The Nature Center provides a wide variety of nature programs including summer camps (scholarships available), programs for school groups, nature walks, a regular Forest Preschool series, field trips and workshops for all ages, and much more. In 2014, NBNC continued its partnership with the Union Elementary School to offer the ECO (Educating Children Outdoors) program for children in kindergarten, third and fourth grade.

The North Branch Nature Center serves as a convenient trail head for a walk on our property or a more extended hike in North Branch River Park and Hubbard Park. There is also an exhibit room with live turtles, salamanders, snakes and more. There is no admission to visit the Nature Center and trail use is free for all.

We are located on Route 12 (713 Elm Street) in Montpelier, just 2 miles north of the intersection of State and Elm Street. Our Critter Room is open Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Trails are open everyday. For more information call us at 229-6206 or visit our website at www.NorthBranchNature-Center.org.

The board and staff of the North Branch Nature Center appreciate the continued support of the City of Montpelier and its residents. We look forward to serving as a local resource for natural science education in the coming year.

Chip Darmstadt, *Executive Director*

Cross Vermont Trail Association

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

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. We are funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. With part-time staff and donated office space, we are large enough to get things done, but small enough to be cost efficient.

We work in partnership with community organizations across the state to develop and expand local trails. Already 30 miles of Cross Vermont Trail are signed and open to the public. These 30 miles are complemented by our 60 miles of “on-road” route signs that identify the best roads people can use to link together existing trail sections. Meanwhile, we continue to work towards the ultimate goal of connecting all local trails into a continuous, statewide, off-road network.

Maps and guidebook to the trail route are available free at www.crossvermont.org, or call us at 802-498-0079.

2014 was a busy year, still rebuilding from the historic floods of 2011, and also getting back into action building new sections of trail. Thanks to all the people who volunteered their time this year swinging picks and shovels to improve and expand their local trails! We are working together with interested land owners to establish right of way for many miles of new trail at locations across the state, including what will be a watershed project in the history of the Cross Vermont Trail, a new 200 foot bridge over the Winooski River in East Montpelier.

Residents of all towns through which the trail route passes are invited to get involved in the CVTA. Get better trails near where you live. Contact us at 802-498-0079 on at www.crossvermont.org.

Greg Western, *Executive Director*

P.S. We also host numerous recreational outings throughout the year. Check our website for further info on June’s Central Vermont Cycling Tour in East Montpelier, the Fall Foliage Ride in Groton, Ryegate and Newbury, and more!

Wrightsville Beach Recreation District

The summer of 2014 was a great summer and very enjoyable for everyone who came out to enjoy the beach and other recreational facilities. This was our 3rd year with the full 18 hole disc golf course that brought people from around VT to come and play. The nice weather continued all the way into August and the attendance at the beach was consistent allowing for the highest grossing year.

The WBR District also continued its popular canoeing and kayaking program along with two paddle boats, as well as improved and expanded hiking trails, the 18 hole disc golf course, hosted a weekly disc golf league, hosted a variety of day camps and community programs, held the 5th annual Wrightsville Beach Disk Golf Tournament and the 6th annual Green Mountain Water Skiers Tournament.



We also made more improvements to the access paths to the ticket booth and beach by adding a third bench for people to sit and rest.

The Board of Directors is committed to maintaining and improving the overall recreational experience for all recreation area users. This required continuing investment in the facility for maintenance, operations and capital improvements. The following figures summarize the District’s financial operations from January 1, 2014 through year’s end:

Revenue

Washington Electric	\$ 9,500
Municipal Assessments	\$ 6,683
Season’s User Fees	\$25,261
Prior year’s carryover	\$ 1,658
Sponsorships	<u>\$375</u>
Total Revenue	\$43,477

Expenditures

Personnel	\$33,996
Maintenance	\$3,052
Operating	<u>\$3,775</u>
Total Expenditures	\$40,823

Any carryover from operating revenue and expenditures that is realized in any year is used to fund the next year’s operating expenses. Since a successful beach season is contingent on the weather, it is difficult to predict what the user fees will be and whether there will be a carryover from one year to the next.

The Board thanks the member communities for their continued support of Wrightsville Beach.

- Carl Witke, *Worcester, Chair*
- Daniel Currier, *Montpelier*
- Jessica Chaves, *Montpelier*
- Bill Merrylees, *East Montpelier*
- Jane Dudley, *Middlesex*
- Collin O’Neil, *Beach Manager*

Montpelier Community Connections



Montpelier High School Student Council members participate in an overnight retreat at the Lonesome Lake hut in the White Mountains on a trip led by Community Connections Site Coordinators Drew McNaughton and Jake Petrasch in October 2014

In 2015, Community Connections begins its fourteenth year serving the children and families of Montpelier, Calais, Berlin, East Montpelier, Middlesex and Worcester. Underlying all programming is the mission to make a positive difference in the lives of the area's youth, encourage healthy behaviors, and decrease substance abuse. With prevention strategies central to this mission, Community Connections continues to deliver engaging, enriching programs during all out-of-school-time periods – when youth are most vulnerable to risk.

During the past school year, Montpelier's Community Connections afterschool and summer programming enrolled 154 Union Elementary students, 110 Main Street Middle students, and 151 students from Montpelier High School. In addition, 74 Montpelier students came to summer camps; 22 kids got off to a great start in kindergarten courtesy of a two-week Boot Camp; and over 50 came to inservice and vacation day camps. Across the towns, 1174 students were served in CC's out-of-school-time programs.

Community Connections serves a diverse population of Montpelier youth. Our programming, with its focus on healthy risk-taking, social skills development, fun, and enrichment, has offered many students chances to achieve when social, economic, or institutional barriers would otherwise inhibit out-of-school-time involvement.

A Montpelier parent wrote: "Too often in public schools if a child is not involved in team sports they miss out on the physical, social and self-esteem building benefits of participation.

Community Connections fills that void for many children in our community. Both of my boys have participated in a wide variety of CC programs: mountain biking, rock climbing, project venture, outing club, Bolton Ski/Snowboard nights, wood-working, kayaking, computer repair and maintenance, steeps and deeps, and winter camping, to name a few. I cannot think of any one program that either of my boys has participated in where they did not make new friends, learn new skills, and gain physical strength, skills or endurance, and thoroughly enjoy themselves. During the 'tween' and teen years children are looking for people to admire and respect, looking for goals to reach and thrills to seek. When my boys are enthusiastically sharing their experiences they point out that these activities and all of the mentors are "cool" for the right reasons. Most of the programs allow the children to conquer fears, achieve goals and experience the thrills that they need during these years and too often seek in dangerous ways and do these things in a safe and respectful environment."

Alex Rob, Executive Director



Photo Courtesy of Linda Hogan

Area Agencies Social Services

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice



Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice
A Century of Caring and Quality

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice (CVHHH) is a 103 year-old full service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association governed by a local voluntary Board of Directors. Serving the residents of 23 Central Vermont towns in the comfort and privacy of their own homes, CVHHH is committed to providing high quality, medically-necessary home health and hospice care to all Central Vermonters regardless of their ability to pay. The agency also promotes the general welfare of local community members with long term care and health promotion activities including flu and pneumonia vaccinations, health screenings, foot care clinics, and international travelers' health.. In addition to direct patient care, our hospice program offers comprehensive bereavement services and volunteer training.

Twelve Month Report of CVHHH Services to the City of Montpelier

January 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014 *

<u>Program</u>	<u>#of Visits</u>
Home Health Care	6,920
Hospice Care	1,027
Long Term Care	5,116
Maternal Child Health.....	83
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS.....	13,146
TOTAL PATIENTS	406
TOTAL ADMISSIONS.....	561

***Audited figures not available at the time of report submission. Preliminary figures are not expected to vary significantly.**

Town funding will help ensure CVHHH continues these services in Montpelier through 2015 and beyond. For more information contact Sandy Rousse, President/CEO, or Daniel L. Pudvah, Director of Development at 223-1878.

People's Health & Wellness Clinic

553 North Main Street Barre, VT 05641
Telephone (802) 479-1229

*Serving the Uninsured and Underinsured of
Central Vermont*

The Mission of the People's Health & Wellness Clinic is to provide primary health care and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured central Vermont residents who could not otherwise afford these services.

In Calendar Year 2014, the People's Health & Wellness Clinic provided 3004 patient interactions to 726 individual patients. 223 of these patients were new to the Clinic. We provided 797 medical visits, 529 medical consults, 602 diagnostic tests, 10 dental hygiene visits and 18 referrals to dentists for treatment. We provided 244 pharmaceutical samples, immunizations, and vouchers, and wrote hundreds more prescriptions. Our services include screening all patients for eligibility in a variety of health insurance and assistance programs. We also helped many of the 726 patients navigate the application process for a variety of programs including Medicaid, Ladies First, Medicare, Healthy Vermonters, Affordable Meds, and Central Vermont Medical Center's patient financial assistance program, and in the winter and spring completed a year-long grant project navigating people through Vermont Health Connect. Through all these efforts, we were able to successfully enroll them 397 times, many in more than one program.

In 2014, Montpelier residents came for 102 medical visits, representing 97 unduplicated patients. We provided 95 case management visits, 3 medical consults, 157 diagnostic tests (labs, x-rays, etc.) and provided prescriptions and pharmaceutical samples 56 times. We helped 62 individuals navigate the new health care system and other assistance programs and successfully enroll into health insurance and assistance programs, many in more than one. Since we began our oral health care program in July of 2013 we have had 16 dental history screenings, 3 on site hygiene treatments, and 1 referral for Montpelier residents.

Volunteer practitioners are the heart of our service model. In 2013, over 120 volunteers gave over \$179,000 worth of their time serving our patients. We also received over \$273,000 worth of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for our patients, paid for \$17,066 of diagnostic testing, and got another \$29,000 of tests donated.

2013 was our fourth year of providing special Women's Clinics, in collaboration with Central Vermont Medical Center, and funded by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure and Ladies First. Complete women's physicals, self-examination techniques, and access to free mammograms, other diagnostic tests, and in-

insurance coverage have brought comprehensive and preventive care to another group of central Vermont's uninsured residents.

We define our primary service area as all of Washington County, plus the Orange County towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown, but we do not restrict geographic access, and ended up serving people from 49 Vermont towns. While our income guidelines go up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), over 83% of our patients fall under 185% FPL (\$21,257 gross a year for an individual - \$28,694 for a couple).

2015 will continue to bring changes to Vermont's health care system, as the federal Affordable Care Act and state legislation continue to be implemented. The new Health Care Exchange, called "Vermont Health Connect" began in October 2013 and has brought many challenges to those wanting to sign up. This on-line system is supplemented by face-to-face "patient navigators," very much along the lines of what PHWC has been doing for years to assist our patients to apply for and enroll in various health insurance and assistance programs.

However, many of Vermont's current programs have disappeared, including Catamount Health Assistance Plan and Vermont Health Access Plan (VHAP). Cost-sharing for patients - premiums, co-pays, and deductibles - are currently proposed to change significantly. Dental care for adults is not covered under Exchange plans.

This has caused uncertainty and some turmoil among our patients, current policy-holders, and the public, as employees and employers are examining how they currently provide and access health coverage. We are intimately involved in the public policy discussions on how these changes will occur and impact our patients, and intend to do all we can to help our patients continue to access quality and affordable health care, both through private and public insurance coverage, and at the Clinic.

We are very grateful to have had the support of every town in central Vermont, including Montpelier, as we do our work. The level of funding doesn't come close to covering our costs, but it helps us leverage other funding from foundation and corporation grants. Donations are actively sought, and gratefully accepted. Thank you again for continuing to support the efforts of the People's Health & Wellness Clinic.

Peter Youngbaer, *Director*

Project Independence

At the present time Project Independence (PI) is serving 12 residents of Montpelier. Most of these participants come 5 days a week, with an average day being 7 hours long.



Each day, our highly trained and experienced staff care for participants with a wide range of health and emotional issues/limitations. We provide them with:

- Nursing care and physical therapy support (diabetes monitoring, vital signs, medication, etc.)
- Hygiene assistance (showers, nail care, shampoo, haircut, shaving, etc.)
- Stimulation to engage our participants physically & mentally
- Activities, entertainment & outings
- Balanced and nutritional meals (breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack)
- Support groups for family caregivers and others (with onsite respite for the loved one)
- Transportation to/from our facility, when needed

Project Independence' Work/Mission

The core of our mission is to keep our elderly, frail, mentally & physically disabled adults at home with their loved ones and independent for as long as possible. Research has shown an increase in early onset dementia related illnesses and we at PI are also seeing evidence of this. As a result of this happening, Adult Day centers are becoming an even more crucial piece of the healthcare circle.

Our services allow family members/spouses to continue working and/or time for themselves which supports their efforts to keep their loved one at home with them. Families know PI is a safe environment where their loved ones can stay while they are not at home.

For our participants themselves, coming to PI is a familiar place where they socialize, have delicious meals, experience fun activities and entertainment and get medical assistance.

Dee Rollins, *Executive Director*

The Vermont Center For Independent Living



Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with significant disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

Final numbers for our FY'14 (10/2013-9/2014) show VCIL responded to over **2,383** requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **304** individuals to help increase their independent living skills (including **12** peers who were served by the AgrAbility program and **6** peers who received specialized Benefits to Work Counseling). VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **215** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **51** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **125** individuals with information on assistive technology; **36** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **447** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60.

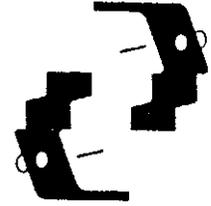
VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY '14, 54 residents of **Montpelier** received services from the following programs:

- Meals on Wheels (MOW)
(over \$6,100.00 spent on meals for residents)
- Home Access Program (HAP)
(over \$3,300 spent on home modification)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)
(3 residents on waiting list for assistive technology)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired



More than 10,500 Vermont residents are blind or visually impaired. Vision problems can complicate an individual's ability to perform daily tasks, stay mobile inside and outside the home, and enjoy leisure activities. Additionally, Vermont's rural nature makes it less likely for those with visual impairments to encounter others who face similar challenges, and thus creates feelings of isolation and a sense that they are not understood by others.

During Fiscal Year 2014, VABVI served 1,409 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont, including 29 adults and 3 students in Montpelier and 103 adults and 20 students in Washington County.

Since 1926, VABVI, a nonprofit organization, has diligently pursued our mission of enabling Vermonters with vision problems, whether blindness or impairment, to achieve and maintain independence. We are the only private agency in Vermont to offer a complete range of services to visually impaired residents – and at no cost to the client.

Services include Rehabilitation (adapting daily living tasks to allow those with low vision to live independently); Orientation and Mobility (providing white cane and guide dog instruction, allowing individuals to navigate through their home and community independently); Assistive Technology (adaptive aids allow clients to successfully perform most activities they desire); Social Networking (improving social skills and providing a support network); and Statewide Transportation (volunteer drivers provide rides to medical appointments, grocery stores and for personal visits).

VABVI has four offices statewide, located in Brattleboro, Montpelier, Rutland and South Burlington. For more information about VABVI's services, or to volunteer, please contact us at (800) 639-5861, email us at general@vabvi.org or visit us our website at www.vabvi.org. "Like" us at www.facebook.com/vabvi.org!

Sexual Assault Crisis Team

The Sexual Assault Crisis Team (SACT) is a private, non-profit organization that offers free of charge advocacy for male and female victims of sexual violence. This advocacy includes emotional support both one on one and groups, 24/7 emergency hotline, legal support, medical and hospital support, emergency overnight shelter support and shelter use for victims/survivors, their non-offending family members during the legal process including court, depositions, rape exam recovery, time before or after individual counseling sessions through private therapists, other times when victims/survivors need a private space or bed for an hour or a day. SACT also provides education around all sexual violence issues for Washington County Schools K-12 and colleges, service groups and other public organizations.



SACT is continuing to face additional demands on our resources as we attempt to provide the services needed for male and female shelter residents who are leaving behind their homes, belongings and financial resources for medical, food and restart costs. Victims and survivors not only look to us to provide food, emergency dental and/or medical assistance but also look to us for transportation funds and relocation funds including rent deposits, etc. We have also found our shelter staff are having to provide assistance to people to apply for RFA's, to fill out victim's compensation forms, aid in communicating with other needed services and using our shelter to apply for or change location information for SSI and other resource needs. SACT is working collaboratively with community partners to provide services to Washington County communities and the survivors and their families we serve. SACT is also working closely with Norwich University and the Vermont National Guard Sexual Violence Response Coordinator to ensure returning soldiers and their family members, who are struggling with sexual violence issues, are offered all of our services to facilitate their transition to civilian life.

SACT operates using paid staff and during 2013-2014 we had five volunteers and six part time stipend paid hotline staff from local communities who trained for twenty hours to provide confidential advocacy to victims by responding to hotline calls. During 2013-2014 SACT received 2002 calls for services including crisis calls for sexual assaults, requests for emotional support, hospital advocacy, criminal justice advocacy, information and referral, and requests for education and training. These calls for services were handled by both paid staff and volunteers. During fiscal year 2013-2014 SACT provided services to 179 new unduplicated and 15 return clients. SACT served survivors who suffered from a variety of abuse, including sexual assault, sexual abuse, stalking, pornography and human trafficking.

SACT provided shelter for male and female survivors of sexual violence. All the services provided by SACT including shelter are inclusive of all non-offending survivors and their non-offending family members. SACT also provided shelter for male victims of domestic/sexual violence (of which two were returning military) and for special needs victims, primarily those needing a handicapped accessible facility which allows the non-offending care provider to stay in shelter with the victim/survivor. During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, SACT provided shelter for 41 people, including 31 adult females and 3 adult males and 3 female children and 4 male children for a total of 952 bed nights. SACT remains dedicated to providing services to all survivors of sexual violence and remains committed to identifying new needs and meeting that challenge.

Circle

The ways in which Circle serves our community does not remain stagnant, and our programs and procedures must accurately reflect these changing times. By reviewing and updating current policies, we have been able to measure our growth, visualize our strengths, and determine what gaps must be addressed in order for us to continue to provide services that address the needs of victims of domestic violence. The work that is done now will have a lasting effect on the entire organization, by providing the framework and direction for the future progression of the services and work that we do. Throughout our review and updating process, Circle staff and volunteers were kept extremely busy during fiscal year 2014 providing the following services:



Staff and volunteers responded to 5,026 hot line calls, an average of 418 calls per month.

Shelter services were provided to 29 women and 21 children for a total of 2,121 bed nights, which is 795 more bed nights than last year.

Our prevention based programs in schools reached a total of 395 students in Washington County through the 50 presentations and long-term support groups held during this fiscal year.

Circle provided community presentations to 930 individuals through the 51 trainings and workshops offered to individuals and professionals in Washington County.

Advocates provided support to 106 plaintiffs during Final Relief from Abuse Hearings, and assisted 102 individuals file for temporary orders.

Court Education Program was presented to 233 individuals, and our Court Hour Program, which offers one-on-one support to plaintiffs as they prepare for their final hearings, was offered to 56 individuals.

Over 1,500 people received direct services from Circle, which are maintained by trained staff and volunteers.

Our organization continues to rely heavily on the vast support of its many dedicated volunteers; Board Members, Hotline Advocates, Group Facilitators, and Shelter Support have all contributed 6,623 hours to the work of Circle.

Our services include:

Shelter: Emergency Shelter for women and their children fleeing from domestic violence

- **Shelter Youth Program:** Available to children staying in shelter
- **Toll Free Confidential 24-Hour Hot Line (1-877-543-9498)**
- **Emergency, Civil And Criminal Court Advocacy**
- **Support Groups**
- **Prevention Education Offered To Schools Throughout Washington County**
- **Educational Presentations And Trainings:** offered to civic organizations and businesses.
- **Information And Referral:** information about domestic violence and community resources, as well as individualized advocacy and referral to social service, legal, employment, counseling, and housing options.

The Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club

Is an Important Resource to the Residents of Montpelier

How City of Montpelier funds were used:

The City of Montpelier has been supporting the need for a community teen center since the early '90's. With the City's designation of City Hall space and generous funding support, the Washington County Youth Service Bureau's Basement Teen Center has been an important community resource for local youth since 1993.

The \$20,000 requested was used to support general operating expenses at the Basement Teen Center (BTC), located in the basement of City Hall, including non-federal match for the Basement's AmeriCorps Member, however, a one-time unrestricted donation was also able to be applied to the AmeriCorps position and MCF funds were therefore applied toward

other shortfall areas to ensure the delivery of quality programming and for our Teen Coordinator. AmeriCorps members are national service volunteers that offer valuable, high quality direct service opportunities to community-based nonprofits with a primary purpose of creating opportunities that help move communities forward. The presence of an AmeriCorps Member ensures that the Basement Teen Center is appropriately staffed by **two** trained, qualified individuals during open hours of operation. AmeriCorps members serving at the Basement work from a year-long service plan that guides the development and implementation of programming and leadership opportunities for youth. The member also plays a key role in brokering community collaborations that benefit the young people the center serves. The Basement has benefitted from AmeriCorps members for 15 years. Additional staffing is covered by various grants, including the Boys & Girls Club of America, and fundraising activities. City of Montpelier funds represent approximately 18.5% of the center's annual operating budget. The following table outlines the year to date expenditures for City of Montpelier funds:

Basement Teen Center FY14 MCF Budget & Expenditures

Expenses:	BTC Budget	MCF Budget	MCF Final Expenses
WCYSB Director of Prevention Programs (Supervises operations, but not an FTE position at the BTC)	38,000	922	1293
Activities Specialist	25,714	0	0
AmeriCorps Member	12,100	6,050	1400
Teen Coordinator	2,000	0	1084
Fringe @ 18%	10,368	1,560	680
Total Salary/Fringe	67,968	8,532	4,457
Clinical Supervision	500	500	1,194
VISTA Member	3,500	0	250
Programming	5,000	2,000	6,595
Telephone	1,000	1,000	643
Membership (BGC)	1,718	1,718	1,391
Insurance	500	500	0
Supplies	500	500	29
Travel	250	250	470
Total Expenses	80,936	15,000	15,000

Program Activities:

The Bureau serves all of Washington County and provides statewide leadership and sub grants to other youth serving organizations throughout VT. The Basement Teen Center is open to all teens in Washington County; however, more than 83% of last year's regular attendees were Montpelier residents. While the Bureau requests funds from all Washington County towns to support programming, MCF dollars are restricted to the Basement Teen Center.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

The Basement Teen Center provides an important resource to youth during the peak hours of the day when juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, tobacco and sexual activity is the greatest, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Montpelier youth report many risk factors that the Basement Teen Center responds to directly. From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, the Basement has achieved the following:

Attendance:

- 203 youth were served at the BTC and 139 youth from Montpelier.
- 83% of regular attendees (attending at least 10 times) were from Montpelier (53 out of 64 regular attending youth from Montpelier).
- Average daily attendance is 13 youth.
- The BTC had 2,676 total visits (2,249 of those visits were from Montpelier youth).

Meals:

- The BTC served 293 total meals last year to 53 youth (246 of those meals were to 40 youth from Montpelier or 84% of all meals served were to Montpelier youth).
- Healthy Snacks – 2,007 total snacks served (1,689 snacks served to Montpelier youth).

Volunteers:

- 39 Volunteers gave 194 hours of service to the BTC. Volunteers include photography mentors, music mentors and special event volunteers.

Programming:

- Community Based Programs are designed to connect youth with their community. Programs include photography, gardening, the bully project, teen council, Frostival and more. 56 youth participated in community programs, 52 were from Montpelier. 35 youth participated in outdoor recreation activities including soccer, Frisbee, hiking and more (30 youth were from Montpelier).

Teen Council:

- 32 Total youth played an active role in monthly teen council meetings. Teen council is held once each month and allows young people the opportunity to voice their thoughts and provide feedback and advice on the direction of the BTC. This leadership program is at the core of all programming at the BTC (27 youth participants were from Montpelier).

Unstructured Drop-in:

- In addition to structured programming initiatives, the BTC provides a number of unstructured drop-in opportunities that youth may choose to engage in at their discretion. For example, the BTC has several guitars, a pool table, computers, board games, art supplies, cooking supplies, etc.

Community Partners:

- The BTC utilizes many local businesses to create quality programming and provide effective service delivery. The following businesses offer a range of benefits including donated or discounted products, reduced admissions, reduced or free services, instruction, volunteers, etc.:
- Hunger Mountain Coop, Capital Kitchen, VT Foodbank, Guitar Sam, Matt Hogan Photography, ORCA media, Norwich University, Woodbury Toys, Shaws, Tangletown Farm, Red Hen Baking, Montpelier Alive, Montpelier High School, National Life, VT Dept of Health, Capital Copy, VT Folklife Center.

In addition to the BTC's numerous community partnerships, other Bureau programs are a significant resource for BTC youth, including: substance abuse treatment, individual youth and family counseling, runaway and homeless services, assistance for young people who are pregnant, emergency crisis response, etc. It is not uncommon for youth being served at the BTC to also become involved in any number of additional agency resources.

Teen Coordinator:

- The teen coordinator is a position at the Basement Teen Center (BTC) that provides leadership opportunities and a staff member role for youth at the BTC. This paid position fills many roles at the BTC including, mentorship, program planning and implementation, cleaning, shopping, sets boundaries when expectations are not being met, acts as the BTC ambassador at their high school and more. The teen coordinator runs active teen councils each month where youth and staff come together to discuss recent activities, plan new programs and guide all decision making at the BTC. This position is also a great resume builder for youth that attend the BTC. All of the last four teen coordinators at the BTC have been nominated by staff and their community as our local Youth of the Year and have represented Washington County in the statewide competition each year at the statehouse. The teen coordinator ensures youth voice is represented and also provides the rest of the staff with support on pressing issues young people are facing in our community. The coordinator also serves as a mentor and role model for other youth who attend the BTC. The coordinator models the behavior expected and encourages youth to participate in all of our programs.
- One noteworthy program the teen coordinator is responsible for is 4:37, which is a planned activity that takes place at 4:37 in the afternoon, usually involves team based problem-solving challenges that intend to put youth in a stressful situation and work their way out of it together. 4:37 is one of our most popular programs.

In a Teen's Words:

Ever since first going to the Basement Teen Center as a freshman, one of the most significant aspects the space offers has been the culture. This culture is formed by independence and responsibility of the teens to take care of the space they all share. Despite being one of the younger teens in the space, I came to enjoy that independence factor where I could choose to do what I'd like in the space.

Throughout my years transitioning between high schools, I regularly visited the teen center, whether dropping in for an afternoon after school, or unwinding there on Friday after a long week. There I had the freedom to quietly practice the guitar on the couch by myself, or try to gather other teens in the space and play a card game or do an activity. When the teen center took trips, whether to basketball courts and the streets of Montpelier for photography, or taking farther day-trips for paintball in Colchester and all the way to Six Flags New England, I always tried to join the group, as it was always an exciting time with a fun group of people.

Over time, I transitioned from one of the youngest members at the teen center to one of the oldest regulars in the space. Especially over the past few weeks, I have really started to observe my influence in the Basement Teen Center. During my years in the space, the space has become much more musically inspired. When I come to the teen center, I have always tried to musically inspire other teens at the space by setting up jam sessions, drum circles, or just teaching and learning songs and rhythms. I also strive to act as a role model in the space, especially to the younger members. For example, if a younger teen is trying to start up a card or board game, I will join them and try to encourage others to join, or if a younger member forgets to wash a dish or doesn't clean up a mess, I always encourage them to take responsibility in the space we share. This way when I head off to college, the younger members will continue to exhibit my influence and take care of the space.

Not only have I had an influence on the teen center, but the teen center has had a strong impact on my character. As a freshman, I was a particularly introverted teenager, who had really yet to find his identity. However, being at the teen center over the years, the social yet stress-free environment allowed me to boost my confidence and improve my personality vastly. This change in my nature has led me to many great opportunities, such as becoming a tour guide at the Ben and Jerry's Factory in Waterbury and applying to become Youth of the Year. The teen center has also inspired passion inside me for caring for the local Montpelier community.

Though I wouldn't have realized it when I first came to the teen center four years ago, this space underneath city hall has proved to be one of the biggest influences to my life in high school. Not only has the space improved upon my temperament and character, but it has gotten me much more involved in my local community and the people around me. Hopefully I can use what I've learned at the Basement Teen Center and integrate these qualities wherever I end up in my career and in my life. ~Kyle

Kyle, age 18, is a Montpelier resident and recently concluded his many years attending the Basement Teen Center. He just began his freshman year at UVM and we are really happy for him!



Kyle getting guitars ready for Open Mic night at the BTC

Washington County Diversion Program, Inc.

The Washington County Diversion Program's (WCDP) mission is to engage community members in responding to the needs of crime victims, the community, and those who violated the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible behavior.



Diversion is a voluntary, confidential alternative to the formal court process for juvenile and adult offenders. Cases are referred by the State's Attorney to Diversion on an individual basis.

We are a local program that addresses unlawful behavior, supports victims of crime and promotes a healthy community.

We follow a balanced and restorative justice model by putting right the wrongs that have been done and addressing the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and the offender. Participation is voluntary; but requires individuals to accept responsibility for their unlawful action(s).

Court Diversion is the community alternative to court for low-level offenders in Washington County.

Our Community Restorative Panel, which is made up of volunteers, hears both adult and juvenile cases that are referred to us.

We administer the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program (YSASP), a program created by the legislature to deal with underage drinking and possession of marijuana by a minor.

We also run Washington County's Civil Driving with License Suspended (DLS) program, a program designed to help people regain their driver's license while they pay off their fines and fees.

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

Court Diversion

Diversion is a restorative alternative for individuals charged with a crime or delinquency. After police issue a citation for violating the law, the state's attorney decides whether to refer the person out of the court system to the community-based Court Diversion program. Participants must admit responsibility for their actions and develop a contract with our Community Restorative Panel volunteers through which they repair the harm caused. After successful completion, the State's Attorney dismisses the case.

In Fiscal Year 2014, WCDP had:

- 220 referrals from the State's Attorney (11% Montpelier residents)
- 72% successfully completed the program
- 89% of successful participants were not subsequently charged with committing a crime up to two years after they completed Diversion

Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program

Since 2000, Vermont Court Diversion has run a program to address civil violations of underage possession of alcohol. In 2013, the legislature expanded the program (and renamed it) to include civil violations of Vermont's under 21 years of age possession of marijuana law. Youth who violate these laws are given the option of participating in the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program. Participants in the program are required, by law, to have an alcohol and drug screening and are then given other educational, remedial, reflective and financial conditions to complete. If the participant completes the conditions the ticket is voided. Participants who fail to complete the conditions or refuse to participate in the program face a civil ticket which includes a \$300 fine and a driver's license suspension for 90 days.

In Fiscal Year 2014, WCDP's YSASP program had:

- 202 youth referred from law enforcement (14% Montpelier Residents)
- 80.5% successfully completed the program

Balanced and Restorative Justice Program (BARJ)

This program provides intensive services to youth who are charged with a delinquency, have been adjudicated delinquent or are at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system. BARJ services vary depending on each individual youth, but consist of restorative interventions that reduce and eliminate further involvement in the juvenile justice system such as: restorative panels, restitution services, risk screening, and restorative classes and skills development. This program is funded through a grant from the Department for Children and Families and serves an average of 25 youth annually.

Driving with License Suspended

The Civil DLS Diversion Program began in May 2013. The program serves Vermont drivers whose license remains suspended because of unpaid fines and fees. Upon approval of the Judicial Bureau, a participant's license will be reinstated while the individual follows a payment plan and completes community service and/or an educational program. This program is an unfunded mandate from the state.

In Fiscal Year 2014, WCDP's DLS program had:

- 68 individuals reached out for information about the program
- 25 individuals had their licenses reinstated through the program
- 13 other individuals were referred to a fine re-payment program run by the Vermont Judicial Bureau that also leads to a reinstated license

Is Diversion Effective?

Yes! Over 80% of the individuals referred to Court Diversion complete successfully. The majority who complete the Diversion Program do not re-offend. In Washington County, the recidivism rate for folks who have been through Diversion is 11% (89% do not re-offend). Diversion collects more than 95% of the restitution due to victims. And, Diversion is cost effective to taxpayers because it takes less time and less money to process a case than through the court system.

Community Engagement

Our Community Restorative Panel is made up of community members who generously give of their time and energy to help make our restorative justice model work. In Fiscal Year 2014 we held approximately 48 Community Restorative Panels, which

represent over 500 hours of volunteer time. We also held two in-service trainings for volunteers during FY14.

We appreciate the consistent support the residents of Montpelier have provided to us over the years. We continue to need -- and deeply appreciate -- that assistance!

Capstone Community Action



Since 1965, Capstone Community Action (formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council) has served low-income residents of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties and nine communities in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland Counties. We help people build better lives for themselves, their families and their communities. This year, Capstone Community Action served 18,815 people in 9,237 Vermont households through Head Start and Early Head Start, business development, financial education, food shelves and nutrition resources, housing counseling, tax preparation, teen parent education, emergency heating assistance, home weatherization, workforce training, healthcare navigation, ongoing disaster relief, and more.

Programs and services accessed by 372 Montpelier households representing 630 individuals this past year included:

- 273 individuals in 147 households accessed nutritious meals and/or meal equivalents at the food shelf.
- 34 households with 79 family members were able to keep heating their homes with help from our Crisis & Supplemental fuel programs as well as other utility costs.
- 40 individuals in 15 households worked with housing counselors to find and retain affordable, safe, secure housing.
- 1 household continued to receive case management services related to ongoing disaster recovery from Spring 2011 and Tropical Storm Irene flooding, as well as referrals to other community resources to address critical needs.
- 5 people and 2 households used our Low Income Taxpayer Clinic to resolve IRS controversies and learn about their rights and responsibilities as taxpayers.

- 4 children were in Head Start and Early Head Start programs that supported 6 additional family members.
- 2 households received emergency furnace repairs and 1 household furnace was replaced at no charge, making them warmer and more energy efficient for residents.
- 59 households were weatherized at no charge, making them warmer and more energy efficient for 76 residents, including 53 seniors and 2 residents with disabilities.
- 5 people found and maintained reliable transportation with support from the Capstone Transportation Project, including car purchases.
- 50 people attended classes or met one-on-one with a financial counselor to be better able to manage and grow family finances.
- 29 entrepreneurs received counseling and technical assistance on starting or growing a business.
- 8 women received training, counseling and technical assistance from the Vermont Women's Business Center to pursue dreams of business ownership.
- 7 people saved towards an asset that will provide long-term economic security. With savings, homes were purchased; businesses were capitalized and people enrolled in higher education or training.
- 1 childcare provider received nutrition education and was reimbursed for the cost of serving nutritious meals and snacks to the 4 children in their care.
- 8 people received information and assistance for signing up for Vermont Health Connect.
- 2 people participated in an intensive 13-week workforce training program for the food service sector.

Capstone thanks the residents of Montpelier for their generous support this year!

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education in Montpelier

~Local Partnerships in Learning~



Central Vermont Adult Basic Education (CVABE) is a community-based nonprofit organization serving the basic education and literacy needs of Montpelier adults and teens for forty-nine years.

CVABE serves as central Vermont's resource for free, individualized academic tutoring for individuals (ages 16-90+) in:

- basic reading, writing and math literacy
- English language skills for immigrants and refugees
- college and employment readiness skills
- GED (General Equivalency Diploma) and high school diploma preparation and assessment

CVABE has six welcoming learning centers located throughout the organization's tri-county service region, including **our Montpelier Learning Center, located at 100 State St., Suite 3, in the Capital Plaza.** We collaborate with schools, libraries, employers, and a great number of other community resources to make our unique service locally accessible. Our welcome extends to everyone.

Last year alone, 51 residents of Montpelier enrolled in CVABE's free programs. Teachers instruct students one-to-one and/or in small groups. Each student has a personalized education plan to address his/her learning goals. These goals might include: getting or improving one's job, earning a high school credential, helping one's children with homework, budgeting and paying bills, reading important information, obtaining a driving license, preparing for college, gaining citizenship, and more. ***As parents gain literacy, their children are twice as likely to grow up literate themselves.***

In recent years, CVABE has provided free instruction to 500-600 people annually in its overall service area of Washington, Orange and Lamoille Counties. ***Nearly all students are low income.*** Over 100 community volunteers, including 20 volunteers from Montpelier, work with CVABE's professional staff to meet the large need for these services while keeping overhead low.

We are deeply appreciative of Montpelier's voter-approved ***past*** support. This year, your level support of \$6,000 is again ***critical*** to CVABE's free, local education services. Only a portion of CVABE's budget is comprised of state and federal support. ***Funding is needed each year from the private sector and from the towns and cities we serve, or we could not help many of the neighbors who need education for a better life.***

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

CVABE's Montpelier Learning Center

100 State Street, Suite 3
Montpelier, VT 05602
(802) 223-3403
www.cvabe.org

Central Vermont Council on Aging

Central Vermont Council on Aging is a private, nonprofit organization that is dedicated to the mission of supporting elders and family caregivers in leading self-determined, healthy, interdependent, meaningful and dignified lives in their homes and communities.

For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters aged 60 and over to remain independent for as long as possible. We connect the elders in our communities to the network of benefit programs and services that they need to thrive. All services are made available to our clients at no charge without regard to health, income or resources.

Some of the options we make available include:

- **Senior HelpLine** – (800) 642-5119 – has the answers to hundreds of common questions from elders, families and caregivers
- **Information & Assistance** staff counsel elders and families on the many available benefit programs and services, such as 3SquaresVT, seasonal fuel assistance, and more
- **Case Managers** work with clients in their homes to assess needs and develop, implement and coordinate individualized long-term care plans
- **Nutrition Services** oversees the menu development for home-delivered and community meals and provides the largest source of funding for the 14 meal sites that prepare and deliver these meals
- **State Health Insurance Program** (SHIP) provides personalized Medicare counseling, group training, and enrollment assistance for Medicare Part D plans
- **Family Caregiver Support** promotes the well-being of the family members who help to make it possible for seniors to remain in their home

In the past year, we have touched the lives of thousands of elders throughout Central Vermont, including an estimated **741** in your town. Wanda Craig is the Case Manager dedicated to serving the seniors in Montpelier and worked directly with **201** families in the past year.

All of us at CVCOA extend our gratitude to the residents of Montpelier for their ongoing commitment to the health, independence, and dignity of those who have contributed to making the Central Vermont communities what they are today.

RSVP FOR CENTRAL VERMONT AND NORTHEAST KINGDOM AND VOLUNTEER CENTER

RSVP is a nationwide program for individuals to help meet community needs through meaningful use of their skills and knowledge in volunteer service to private non-profit organizations. RSVP and serves the Counties of Washington, Lamoille, Orleans, Caledonia, Essex and Orange.

RSVP

During the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014, RSVP was able to involve **52** residents of Montpelier as RSVP volunteers. Those residents gave **2,124** hours of service to **13** organizations within the boundaries, or serving, the City of Montpelier. Organizations and services such as health clinics, food distribution centers, blood drawings, library service, RSVP Bone Builders, tax preparation and many, many more were enhanced by the participation of RSVP volunteers.

RSVP members also have played an important role in services that may affect Montpelier residents but don't involve Montpelier volunteers. Services such as food banks, hospitals, flood recovery and museums are examples of those.

If one uses the State average wage, it means that RSVP volunteers donated the equivalent of \$ 45,600 worth of services to Montpelier area residents and organizations. This is proof that volunteers are valuable to our communities.

The Advisory Council, staff and the participants at RSVP are thankful for the support received from the City of Montpelier. Anyone wishing to know more about us should call 828-4770, stop in to see us at our donated office space in Woodridge Nursing Home in Berlin, or visit our website at www.volunteervt.com.

J. Guy Isabelle, *Director*

FAMILY CENTER OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

...serving families in Montpelier

The Family Center of Washington County fosters the positive growth and development of young children and their families. The Family Center's array of services includes: infant, toddler and preschool child care, play groups for children from birth to five, parent education and outreach activities – for mothers and fathers, training for child care providers, assistance to parents in finding and paying for child care, and planning and coordinating the Central Vermont Building Bright Futures Council's region-wide programs for parents as first teachers of their children.



Among the 837 individuals in Montpelier who benefited from the Family Center's programs and services from July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 were:

- * **131** who consulted our **Child Care** and other **Resource and Referral services**, receiving assistance in finding suitable child care to meet their needs, answering questions related to child care and child development, and receiving information about other community resources available to them.
- * **101 families** who received **assistance paying for child care**.
- * **29 licensed and registered child care providers** and other support agencies who consulted our **Provider Support services**, and received monthly newsletters and training on a wide variety of topics through home visits, conferences and workshops. Two of these providers received intensive mentoring at their child care program.
- * **115 children and 99 adults** who participated in our **Play groups**. Play groups are free, open to all families with children birth to five, and have no eligibility requirements. Children have a chance to play with others in a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment. Parents talk to other parents, draw upon each other for support, learn new skills from Playgroup Facilitators and get information about community resources.
- * **6 adults and 10 children** who participated in **Parent Education Workshops** and related activities for children.

- * **42 children** who attended our 4 STARS **Early Childhood Education** program.
- * **126 children and parents** who attended our community events.
- * **118 individuals** who were served by one of our specialized **Home Visiting** services, providing parent and family education and support.
- * **45 community members or child care professionals** who planned local and regional **Building Bright Futures Council** activities.
- * **10 children** who received **transportation assistance** through our bus.
- * **5 individuals** who received employment training in our **Family Works** program or received **Reach Up Job Coaching**.

We are grateful for the support shown by the voters of Montpelier. For more information about any of our programs, please contact:

Lee S. Lauber, *Executive Director*,
262-3292, Ext. 118,
e-mail: familycenter@fcwcv.org,
web: www.fcwcv.org.

"...fostering the positive growth and development of young children and their families."

HOME SHARE NOW

Home Share Now has been facilitating and mediating shared housing in central Vermont since 2003 and Montpelier was its birthplace; matches are traditionally between people who need affordable housing and the elderly who want to age safely at home. Instead of market rent, services are performed by vetted home seekers in exchange for housing; some matches involve a monthly contribution to household expenses like utilities.

For example, 86 year old Carolyn opens the spare bedroom in her home to 27 year old Sara who is having trouble keeping afloat of school loans. In exchange for housing, Sara provides Carolyn with an overnight presence, companionship, shared meals, and \$100/month towards utilities.

Home Share Now is the *only* organization doing this work in Orange, Washington, and Lamoille counties and in some adjacent towns in Caledonia, Orleans, and Windsor counties.

Last year 640 people consider home sharing as a strategy to meet their needs. For those who decide that home sharing

is not a good fit for them, do not find a suitable match in the program, or who require additional services, Home Share Now serves as a referral organization.

Additional outcomes and stories can be found in Home Share Now's FY14 Annual Report, available by request or online (<http://www.homesharenow.org/about>).

- Intakes: 505
- Enrollments: 184
- Intakes from Montpelier: 51
- Enrollments from Montpelier: 16 (8 home seekers, 8 home providers)
- Matched: 82
- Matched in Montpelier and provided ongoing support: 15
- Outreach events: 79

The term "enrollment" above means a person is interviewed, completes a background check, and provides personal/landlord/employment references. Home Share Now made 27% more matches in FY14 over FY13 and is anticipated to exceed 100 people in matches in FY15.

Outcomes of home sharing are many, here is a brief sample:

- 70% of our participants were low income last year;
- Home Share Now helped divert nursing home eligible home providers with a potential savings up to \$228,993;
- Home Share Now saved home seekers \$81,780 in rental expenses last year;
- 100% of matched reported they were satisfied with Home Share Now's services.

Home Share Now's successes were made possible on a budget of \$195,000:

- 23% Foundations, Corporations, and Community Organizations
- 65% VT Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living
- 2% Municipal Appropriations
- 6% Individual Donations
- 4% Participant Fees

Thank you to the City of Montpelier for its ongoing support. For more information, visit www.homesharenow.org or call 802-479-8544.

Community Services

Montpelier Food Pantry

- Total number of households served per month (unduplicated): 134
- Total number of people served per month (unduplicated): 300
- Total number of meals served per month: 6,000
- Total number of meals served annually: 72,000
- Montpelier Residents Served: ~70%
- Other Towns Served by MFP ~20% (Berlin, Middlesex, East Montpelier, Calais, Adamant, Worcester)
- Homeless and 'One Time Only' Participants: ~10%



FEAST (Senior Citizen and Adults with Disabilities Meal Program)

FEAST at Home (formerly Meals on Wheels)

- Total number of unduplicated participants: 56*
- Total number of meals provided: 10,000

FEAST Together (congregate, on-site two days a week)

- Total number of 60 years and older participants (unduplicated): 1,604** (1,054 Montpelier; 550 other towns/states)
- Total number of meals served: 4,000
- Montpelier Residents Served: 66%**
- Other Towns (States) Served: 34%**

***FEAST at Home** participation numbers vary greatly due to hospitalization, death, long term care, etc. We average ~ 27 participants per week.

** **FEAST Together** duplicated participant numbers indicate Montpelier residents ~ 85% and other towns/states ~15%. In our first year, we had many one time or infrequent participants but 85% of our duplicate participants are Montpelier residents. We also note that seven 60+ yrs FEAST volunteers (who are considered participants) are from outside of Montpelier.

It should also be noted that federal guidelines require that a senior center offering meal service, provide a congregate meal to any participating senior 60 years or over regardless of state or town of residency.

Green Mountain Transit Agency

Who We Are

GMTA is the public transportation provider for the northwest and central regions of Vermont, offering a variety of services to the communities in which we serve. GMTA is proud to offer traditional public transportation services like commuter, deviated fixed routes and demand response shuttles to densely populated municipalities, while providing individualized services such as shopping and health care shuttles, Medicaid, Elderly and Disabled services to both urban and rural locations.



Our Services

Individual Special Service Transportation

GMTA provides essential medical and non-medical transportation service to those who qualify for Medicaid, Elderly and Disabled, non-Medicaid medical, human service and/or critical care funds. We offer individual coordinated services for those who qualify and who are in need of scheduled rides through GMTA volunteer drivers, special shuttle service or general public routes.

For FY14, 244 City of Montpelier individual residents were provided ongoing special transportation service, totaling 14,133 trips and 53,488 total miles driven. Special services offered direct access to:

- Medical treatment
- Prescription and Shopping
- Meal site programs
- Social and Daily services
- VT Association of the Blind
- Central VT Substance Abuse
- Reach Up
- Washington County Mental Health

General Public Transportation

For FY14, GMTA ridership for general public transportation in all regions served totaled 368,523. General public transportation for the City of Montpelier is available through a variety of services including local commuter, deviated fixed routes, demand response shuttles and regional commuter service to Chittenden, Lamoille and Caledonia counties.

GMTA provides direct or connecting service to the City of Montpelier through the following general public transportation routes:

Route	Ridership
Montpelier Link Express	130,370
City Commuter	45,350
City Mid Day	28,284
Us 2 Commuter	23,021
*Montpelier Circulator	22,021
Waterbury Commuter	11,062
Route 100 Commuter	12,608
Montpelier Hospital Hill	21,562
Plainfield Health Center Shuttle	624
Northfield Commuter	5,743
Snowcap Commuter	471
Capital Shuttle	5,746

***Montpelier Circulator Service Snapshot**

The Montpelier Circulator service began operating in July of 2011 and continues to display remarkable growth over its short life span. As more residents learn to adapt alternative transportation choices into their daily routine, it will play an increasingly integral part in the City’s growth and individual well-being.

The Service

The design of the Montpelier Circulator route and schedule was a collaborative effort between GMTA staff, Montpelier residents, and City officials. The Circulator is a fare free route that runs Monday through Saturday, along two distinct loops in Montpelier and offers a flexible deviation option up to ½ mile for those who cannot access the bus along the fixed route. Request for route deviations can be made when boarding or by calling GMTA at 223-7287 at least one hour in advance.

Ridership Trends

Ridership on the Circulator has been growing steadily since the route’s inception. The data below shows FY14 ridership by month, demonstrating a 1.6% increase in ridership from 21,679 in FY13.

FY14 Ridership by Month

July	1,907
Aug.	1,661
Sept.	1,669
Oct.	2,269
Nov.	1,829
Dec.	1,762
Jan.	1,908
Feb.	1,399
March.	2,097
April.	2,167
May	1,814
June	1,539
FY14	22,021

Performance Metrics

GMTA reports ridership and costs to the State as part of its annual statewide review of transit services, with two specific metrics considered along with the above ridership numbers; boardings per hour and cost per passenger. In FY14, the route saw 9.23 boardings per hour, more than doubling the State’s FY13 “acceptable” number of 4.63 boardings per hour. The cost per passenger decreases as ridership grows, down to \$8.79 per ride for FY14, which was almost half the State’s FY13 “acceptable” cost per passenger.

GMTA Local Heroes

Volunteer Driver Program

In addition to shuttle vehicles, GMTA uses an extensive network of Volunteer Drivers to provide coordinated and caring rides throughout our rural service area. Volunteer Drivers are essential in providing cost effective and community driven services, and are the foundation of our special services. Drivers are reimbursed for the miles they drive and provide services under the management of GMTA.

If you are interested in becoming a GMTA Volunteer Driver, please contact us at 802-223-7287 or info@gmtaride.org.

Thank You

Thank you to the City of Montpelier voters and officials for your continued support of GMTA’s public transportation service and for your commitment to efficient transportation solutions.

Information

Please feel free to contact us with questions or to request additional information on GMTA services at 802.223.7287 or info@gmtaride.org. For service and route info, please go to www.gmtaride.org.

Community Development



Montpelier Alive

Supporting the unique spirit of Montpelier since 1999



Vision: Montpelier is a vibrant community center with a thriving downtown and unique sense of place.

Mission: To achieve our vision, Montpelier Alive will:

- Collaborate with Montpelier businesses, civic and governmental organizations and the wider community to enhance the city's position as a preferred location for business.
- Focus on keeping Montpelier an accessible and pedestrian-friendly working downtown with aesthetically pleasing streetscapes and design.
- Support compact, land-efficient development that enhances the city's environment and preserves its historic character and unique sense of place.
- Develop Montpelier as a center for social, cultural, retail and culinary experience

Accreditation

Montpelier Alive has received accreditation from the National Main Street Center® for the 3rd year in a row in June 2014 for our excellent work in the field of downtown revitalization. The Designated Downtown qualifies projects within the district for benefits such as tax credit incentives, tax stabilization and grant funding opportunities. Montpelier Alive is a member of the Vermont Downtowns Program which is coordinated at the state level through the Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

2014 National Recognition

- Parade Magazine: 16 Best Main Streets in America
- Huffington Post Travel Magazine: 15 of New England's Most Picturesque Towns
- Smithsonian: Top 20 Small Towns to Visit in 2014
- Outside Magazine: 16 Best Towns to Live In
- The Culture Trip: Top 10 Most Beautiful Towns in Vermont

Downtown Improvement District

A boost in streetscape and promotions efforts came via funding from the new Downtown Improvement District. We were granted \$41,000 for the following projects:

- Flower plantings summer 2014: 80 barrels
- Benches summer 2014: 13 new benches to replace and add to stock
- Holiday decorations 2014: Additions to the new snowflake centerpiece, wreaths and garland on light poles and Rialto Bridge and Holiday Tree
- Montpelier Branding 2014: Rebranding of Montpelier Alive and the City of Montpelier, including new event logos and promotional downtown logos
- Arts Grants – Provided financial support to four arts initiatives including the Green Mountain Film Festival, Spice on Snow Music Festival organized by The Summit School, Union Elementary 70th Anniversary Celebration and a new event, the Vermont Vintage Trailer Conference

Downtown Business Activity

Montpelier Alive continues to support the Montpelier Business Association (MBA), communicating their issues with City staff and coordinating retail promotions like Moonlight Madness, Sidewalk Sales and Customer Appreciation Day. We recently worked to update the Bag-That-Bag promotion, reducing the use of plastic bags in our community.

The MBA meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:30 in City Hall and all are welcome.

Marketing

Now that the rebranding process is complete, Montpelier Alive is working on new promotional materials including brochures, videos and other communication pieces to promote all our City has to offer.

The Promotions Committee is working to rebuild the Montpelier Alive website, and continues to write and distribute press releases and PSAs to print, radio, TV and online outlets. ORCA Media has recorded and broadcast many of our programs.

The MBA continued cooperative advertising. The following outlets have donated considerable space to Montpelier: WDEV, The Point, The Time Argus, The Bridge, Seven Days, Vermont Tourism Department and the Boston Herald, among others.

Events

In addition to everything mentioned above, Montpelier Alive hosts the following events to bring people into downtown Montpelier:

- Montpelier Art Walk – Now held quarterly and each has a theme: February is chocolate, May is maple, September is cheese, and December is cookies and baked goods.
- Green Up Day – 300 volunteers, plus corporate organizers.
- Brown Bag 2014 Concert Series – Expanded programming to 10 weeks of free music.
- July 3rd Festival – Brought back old parade route and fireworks location. Also honored local Veterans.
- 15th Anniversary Party – Montpelier Alive hosted a celebration to honor our local community that has supported us for 15 years!
- Women in Business Networking Event – Bringing together 49 women, representing more than 20 businesses in Montpelier, to share ideas, challenges and talk about the future of Montpelier's business community.
- Arts Fest – Montpelier Alive partnered with local art organizations to host Montpelier's first Arts Fest, featuring local artists in many diverse downtown locations .
- Holiday Events – Including Santa, cookie decorating and more.
- New Year's Eve – Brought back events, fireworks and celebration to our downtown.



Streetscape and Design

The Design Committee worked hard on a new exciting project, the Rialto Bridge Parklet. In addition, the committee purchased 13 new benches with DID funds. A total of 25 benches were put out throughout our downtown and put to great use this spring, summer and fall. We increased our flower barrels to 80, all planted and cared for by the committee with help from the Central Vermont Montessori School.



Citizen Participation

Montpelier Alive is able to do our work thanks to the donation of time from many dedicated volunteers throughout the year. We have a volunteer corps of approximately 500 community members that volunteer more than 450 hours combined. Our July 3rd celebration alone requires 110 volunteers.

Committee Composition

All committees welcome new and returning members, as well as able volunteers. If interested, contact either a committee chair or the Montpelier Alive office.

- Design Committee is tasked with maintaining the look and feel of downtown Montpelier, to include capital improvements, streetscape and public art projects.
- Economic Development Committee is tasked with monitoring the economic health of downtown by supporting and promoting the marketplace as well as working on recruitment and retention issues.
- Organization Committee is working to sustain and build new and existing community partnerships to help increase participation and support through volunteerism and fundraising.
- Promotions Committee is tasked with promoting downtown Montpelier as a destination by creating and promoting cultural programming, creating and distributing marketing materials, and maintaining the image of Montpelier.

From the Director

I am honored to be the new director of Montpelier Alive. Everyone at Montpelier Alive values our partnership with the City of Montpelier. The full support of the City and its staff, who contribute expertise, time, and in-kind support, makes our work possible. We are proud of the work we have accomplished this year and are ever grateful for the generosity that the City and its residents give to support our organization and community.

Ashley Witzemberger, *Executive Director*

Green Up Day

As always, Green Up Day was a wonderful spring day in Montpelier!

Many community members signed up to take part in the official day on Saturday, May 3rd at the Farmer's Market, tidying up around downtown and in the residential and park areas of Montpelier. It proved to be another great weather day for it, and we had over 300 volunteers turn out. Thanks to all the downtown businesses that offered coupons for free goodies to all our helpers.

We'd like to thank Casella Waste Management Systems, Hunger Mountain Coop, Subway, Public Works, and Green Up Vermont for assisting us this year.

The 2014 Green Up activities were organized by Pinky Clark, Linn Syz and the volunteers of Montpelier Alive.



Downtown Improvement District

The Downtown Improvement District dollars have had a great impact on our downtown again this year. Although we are already half way through the fiscal year we remain uncertain about the total amount of DID funds that will be available this year. Thus far, we have proceeded cautiously, assuming that we may not receive any of the \$34,000 in PILOT funds that we anticipated this year.

To date, we have expended \$16,000 in DID funds as follows: \$10,000 in holiday lights and decorations and \$6,000 in Community Arts Grants.

In November, we were able to fund four projects through the Community Arts Grant process. We received twenty-five submissions to our RFP and were amazed by the creativity and quality proposals received. Montpelier Alive assembled a committee of six people to review and choose which projects would be funded. It was a challenging process due to the many deserving proposals we received. In the end, we funded four proj-

ects that we felt would have a great impact on our downtown and created a balance between new and existing projects:

1. Spice on Snow Music Festival – The Summit School (\$1,750)
2. Union Elementary 75th Anniversary Lantern Project & Parade (\$750)
3. 48 Hour Film Slam -- Green Mountain Film Festival (\$1,750)
4. The Vermont Vintage Trailer Conference (\$1,750)

The Spice on Snow Music Festival happened this past weekend and brought and estimated 1200 people from all over New England to our downtown, garnered great press in print and television and illustrated how lucky we are to have The Summit School of Traditional Music in the Montpelier community.

The remaining projects have not yet happened. All grant recipients are required to submit a follow up report to enable us to measure the total impact of DID dollars. For the proposals that we were not able to fund, we have offered to assist in the form of promotion or to write letters of support when seeking funding from alternate sources.

Downtown Montpelier was twinkling during the holiday season with new decorations. Again, Montpelier Alive formed a holiday decorations committee that worked together to choose the layout of decorations. On State, East State and Main Streets, garland and wreaths dressed up the light poles, additional snowflakes were added to the display over the intersection of State and Main and a beautiful holiday tree brought cheer in front of City Center.

In addition to decorations, we built in dollars for installation and dismantling and of the decorations. We would like to thank Treeworks LTD. for donating part of their labor costs to this project leaving more money for decorations. We would also like to thank the Montpelier Fire Department for installing the new snowflakes over State and Main. The committee has a plan for adding to the decorations over the next few years to extend down State and Main Streets. We have had terrific feedback from the community, downtown businesses and visitors about the look of the Capital City over the holidays.

Montpelier Alive continues to speak to our community, including those property owners that pay onto the fund, to get input on how their dollars are being used and how they would like to see the funds used going forward.

In the event that we receive confirmation from the Manager's office regarding the loss of PILOT for this fiscal year, Montpelier Alive plans to bring an adjusted budget to City Council for approval.

Downtown Improvement District Funds — History Report

FY14: First Year			
Sources of Funds:			
7/11/2013	Property Taxes	DID Property Taxes	\$40,262.37
2/28/2014	State of VT-PILOT	"Excess" PILOT Funds	\$6,714.00
Total Sources of Funds			\$46,976.37
Uses of Funds:			
8/21/2013	Montpelier Alive	\$3000 for Plantings + \$5000 for Holiday Decorations	\$8,000.00
2/5/2014	Green Mountain Film Festival	Banners for Film Festival	\$2,000.00
2/19/2014	Summit School	Traditional Music Festival	\$3,500.00
3/6/2014	Megan Schultz	Montpelier Park in the Street event	\$13,996.00
4/10/2014	Montpelier Alive	Downtown Benchs	\$5,000.00
6/30/2014	Montpelier Alive	Downtown Plantings	\$2,402.50
Total Uses of Funds			\$34,898.50
Balance FY14 Funds - June 30 2014			\$12,077.87

FY15: Second Year through Jan 22, 2015			
Sources of Funds:			
7/5/2014	Property Taxes	DID Property Taxes	\$40,195.31
Total Sources of Funds			\$40,195.31
Uses of Funds:			
8/7/2014	Montpelier Alive	1st Installation FY15 Funding: Holiday Lights \$10,000, Community Arts Grants \$6,000 Unspent funds as of Jan 22nd \$14,000	\$30,000.00
10/1/2014	Montpelier Alive	Branding	\$10,000.00
Total Uses of Funds			\$40,000.00
Balance FY15 Funds			\$195.31

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that is owned by its member municipalities and directed by a 13-member Board of Directors comprised of municipal officials from across the state elected by the membership.



VLCT’s mission is to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, along with 134 other municipal entities, including villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions and fire districts.

Vermonters use local government services – including highways, police, fire, recreation, libraries, sewer, and water – on a daily basis. In large part, volunteer elected and appointed municipal officials lead these local governments.

VLCT provides the following services to its member cities and towns, so that they may provide their citizens with quality services at affordable costs:

- Legal, consulting, and education services. In the past year, VLCT’s Municipal Assistance Center (MAC) responded to nearly 3,500 inquiries for assistance from municipal officials. MAC also conducted 18 workshops that attracted more than 1,250 people. For example, our workshop on how to comply with the new Open Meeting Law changes and the Public Records Act drew more than 140 attendees. Additionally, we conducted 10 on-site workshops held at municipal offices on a wide range of topics, and we provided 26 municipalities with legal review of ordinances and policies, financial assistance, and other specialized consulting services. We produced new materials to help members comply with the Open Meeting Law and revised our Town Officers Handbook. These and all of our publications may be purchased or accessed free of charge on our website at our Resource Library. The Library also contains nearly 1,000 other electronic documents, including technical papers, model polices, and newsletter articles that are currently accessible to the general public. MAC has also retained the services of professionals in municipal finance, administration, and policing to provide consulting advice to towns.

- Advocacy representation before the state and national governments to ensure that municipalities have the resources and authority they need to serve their citizens. VLCT is a leader in the education property tax debate, enhancing local voter authority in governance decisions, municipal efforts to clean up our lakes and rivers, and securing revenues for town highway and bridge maintenance programs. Municipalities will face significant challenges in the 2015 legislature as limited financial resources at the national and state level continue to force more demand for services to the local level. We also provide a Weekly Legislative Report that details legislative issues affecting municipal government. It is available to all free-of-charge on the VLCT website.
- Purchasing opportunities to provide needed services at the lowest cost. Examples include municipal unemployment, property, casualty and workers' compensation insurance coverage for town operations. The **VLCT Employee Resource and Benefit (VERB) Trust** continues to assist towns navigate their way to Vermont Health Connect and to help municipalities not in the exchange to secure health insurance through the marketplace. The substantial municipal damages resulting from recent weather events makes the value of **VLCT Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF)** to all our members quite clear, as members benefit from the broad coverage, excellent re-insurance, and prompt service and claims payments. Our two Trusts are responsible in 2014 for \$24 million in municipal tax dollars spent for insurance and risk management services.

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including its audited financial statements, visit the VLCT website at www.vlct.org.

Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation



In early 2014, CVEDC, GMEDC, and Capstone were awarded a second CDBG-DR Grant of \$1.5 Million for businesses in the Washington and Windsor County regions for 'unmet needs' from Tropical Storm Irene. CVEDC has been working to bring assistance to additional affected businesses in our region including Barre. We are partnering with Capstone and Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation (GMEDC) to administer the grants and to date we have awarded almost 40 businesses that include manufacturers, service providers, restaurants, farms, health/dental clinics and property

owners of commercial buildings. If a business still has 'unmet needs' from Tropical Storm Irene, please contact Sam Andersen, Central Vermont Economic Development Corp., 802-223-4654, or cvedcevp@sover.net for businesses located in Washington County and the towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown.

Workforce development is a top priority for CVEDC. CVEDC initiated the first Workforce Investment Board and helped to restructure the organization into the Central Vermont Workforce Development Board. We continue to participate both on the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee. CVEDC is very committed to two of the initiatives as we co-host with Voc-Rehab on the Annual Job Fair and we conduct the Annual Business Survey. The past year's Fair was the 5th Annual Job Fair held on April 3, 2014. Approximately, 863 job seekers attended the event. In the past five years we have seen over 2,500 Vermonters from over 52 communities attend our event. There were job seekers from every municipality in Washington County as well as from the first three abutting communities in Orange County.

CVEDC continues to focus on 'Retention and Expansion' of our existing businesses. To accomplish this goal, staff conducts an active Business Contact & Visitation Program.

Establishing a working relationship with the Central Vermont business community is paramount. Staff not only gathers information regarding specific challenges and issues for the business but also relays the suite of tools available from the State of Vermont and other program partners such as USDA Rural Development, the Small Business Administration, as well as our regional partners. CVEDC maintains a strong relationship with the Department of Economic Development as well as other Divisions of State government. CVEDC implements a coordinated response to business needs, leveraging all the available economic development tools. CVEDC is actively engaged with over 20 municipal and regional organizations and committees. We work closely with the local development corporations in our region to bring coordinated assistance to business projects.

The Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) provides a suite of programs and services that include; promoting our region to those businesses considering relocation to Vermont, and working on improving the infrastructure necessary for economic growth in Vermont. CVEDC has and will continue to work in partnership with all the Central Vermont municipalities, and community stakeholders to advance those initiatives identified by the City of Montpelier as important to their residents and the economic well-being of the community. In addition, the issues of workforce development, telecommunications and housing remain top priorities for CVEDC.

CVEDC continues our Revolving Loan Fund for Telecommunications Infrastructure projects. The original initiative, funded by USDA Rural Development, was extended and additional funds were granted so that the service can continue to be brought to un-served or under-served municipalities in our region. To date, the initiative has brought high-speed wireless internet to several hundred residents/businesses in our outlying rural communities. This initiative was the first of its kind conducted by a regional development corporation in partnership with a wireless service provider.

CVEDC also continues to administer USDA RBEG/RBOG grants in our region. We have secured funds for a number of small businesses to assist with either marketing initiatives and /or product development. The businesses are from a variety of industry sectors including value-added agri-business, alternative energy, and digital/web services.

In June, 2014, CVEDC held its annual business seminar. The event hosted over a hundred business people at Norwich University. This year Matt Dunne and Matt Bucy spoke on the topic, The Big Push –Bringing Creative energy to Economic Development. Matt Bucy spoke on his many renovation projects in White River Junction and how they are helping WRJ in becoming a creative economy hub. Matt Dunne of Google discussed how he brings technology and entrepreneurs together in our rural communities.

The Small Business Development Center is co-located in CVEDC offices and continues to provide the City of Montpelier residents with information and assistance regarding starting a new business or providing assistance to an existing business with marketing, financing and other issues. In addition, the 'How to Start Your Own Business' seminars are offered both on line and in person to all Central Vermont residents.

We greatly appreciate the support given to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation by the City of Montpelier and we look forward to continuing and strengthening our relationship in the future. Your financial support is critical so that we may continue or work on the issues of economic vitality for the Central Vermont region. We are always available to meet with Town Select Boards, Councils, and special committees on economic development and vitality issues.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission



The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission has been providing planning and development assistance to communities since 1967 through its experienced and knowledgeable staff. CVRPC is governed by appointed

representatives from each municipality in the region.

The Commission provides assistance on municipal plan and bylaw updates, and this year continued its focus on town planning and consultations with local officials. The Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) continued to evaluate the regional inter-modal transportation needs and make recommendations on projects that should be included in the State Transportation Agency's 5 year capital program. CVRPC also continued its work on the development of local hazard mitigation plans, population and housing growth, and river and stream assessments to support transportation and water quality improvements. The Commission has also been actively involved in assisting towns with the development or updates of LEOP's (Local Emergency Operations Plans). The Commission's work continued this year with providing assistance to towns on flood issues from Tropical Storm Irene and subsequent storms. Assessment and mapping services were provided to those towns impacted, and work is ongoing as it relates to procuring grant funds for repairs to local infrastructure. CVRPC continued its work with towns on assessing green infrastructure barriers and developing language for town plans and bylaws, as well as finalizing the draft Forest Stewardship Plan. CVRPC is updating the Regional Plan with its "Plan Central Vermont" outreach effort to involve members and residents in the work of building a sustainable and engaged region.

This year, the Commission supported the efforts of the City through administration of the Wrightsville Beach Recreation District, assistance with the local emergency operations plan and the local hazard mitigation plan, providing for an enhanced consultation with the City's planning staff to review the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance, review of Act 250 projects, bike and pedestrian path development, Master Plan updates, traffic counts, and development of storm water data.

The Commission also sponsors regional planning programs, provides a forum for inter-municipal cooperation, and participates in state regulatory proceedings for projects that have impact across municipal boundaries. Significant staff time this year was spent working with municipalities on mapping and analysis of current bylaws to understand how they influence future development patterns. CVRPC can also provide model bylaws and assist municipalities with the administration of grants.

Thank you for your continued support for local and regional planning. Please call us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, recreation, mapping, or data needs. For more information, you can reach us at (802) 229-0389, or visit our website www.centralvtplanning.org and [Find us on Facebook!](#)

Susan M. Sinclair, *Executive Director*
Tina Ruth, *Commissioner*

Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District



CVSWMD is made up of 18 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. Mia Moore represents Montpelier on the CVSWMD Board of Supervisors. Dona Bate is the alternate.

In FY14, CVSWMD provided \$17,827 in School Zero Waste and Walbridge Reuse Grants, \$18,987 in Municipal Assistance Grants, and \$3,709 in Green Up Day Grants to member municipalities. Main Street Middle School received a \$200 School Zero Waste Grant to purchase software to reduce paper use.

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

- Residential Composting: CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soilsaver composting units and kitchen compost buckets at cost to district residents.
- Business Composting: CVSWMD has 83 participating businesses and institutions throughout Central Vermont, which, combined, diverted an estimated 1,245 tons of food scraps to composting facilities in FY14.
- School Composting (part of our School Zero Waste Program): All 25 public schools in the district participate in this program. Over the course of the 2013-2014 school year, our schools diverted an estimated 249,150 pounds (or 124.575 tons) of high quality food scraps.
 - ~ Union Elementary School has diverted 7.45 tons of food scraps in FY14 alone!
 - ~ Main Street Middle School has diverted 3.25 tons of food scraps.
 - ~ Montpelier High School has diverted 4.45 tons of food scraps from the landfill in FY2014
- Special Collections: In 2014, nine events were held, in which CVSWMD collected household hazardous waste, paint, batteries and fluorescent bulbs.
 - ~ In Montpelier, 124 households participated in our annual household hazardous waste collection.
 - ~ 441 visitors to our Additional Recyclables Collection Center came from Montpelier.
- Web Site: CVSWMD posts useful information about what can be recycled, how to dispose of hazardous waste, and about our goal to move toward Zero Waste, including the "A to Z Guide," new Paint Care guidelines, dates and times of our special collections, and strategies for achieving a Zero Waste household.

For more information go to www.cvswwmd.org or contact us at 802-229-9383 or comments@cvswwmd.org

ECFiber

Montpelier is a member of the East Central Vermont Community Fiber-Optic Network (ECFiber), a joint venture of 24 municipalities. Its goal is to make sure that every household and business in these towns has assured, high-speed access to the internet.

For many Montpelier homes and businesses, high-speed internet is becoming a near necessity for safety, education, health, entertainment, services and more. Montpelier homes and businesses could access the internet in 2014 through various technologies including cable, DSL, regular phone dial up, and satellite. Fiber optic is accepted worldwide as by far the fastest and less interruptible internet connection today and going forward for at least decades.

ECFiber is the only fiber-optic-only internet vender in Vermont and the second municipally owned internet vendor in the state. Internet experts residing locally founded it to ensure that our towns will have the best possible internet access at a very competitive price. It is particularly dedicated to providing high-speed internet in geographic areas that for-profit vendors may bypass or charge premium access fees for.

John Bloch (john@bugleg.com) and Rob Chapman (rob@orcamedia.net) serve as delegate and alternate to the ECFiber board on behalf of Montpelier. The board oversees a small and highly expert executive team, all area residents, to manage the entity's business.

ECFiber has yet to extend it services to Montpelier. Montpelier's geographical location (away from the other ECFiber towns) remains the primary obstacle to service to the city but the delegates will continue to work with ECFiber to establish a timeline for Montpelier service.

ECFiber funds its growth by private loans and does not depend on member municipalities for any cash or subsidies. The main form of fundraising continues to be investment financing through the sale of promissory notes to (mainly) local investors, who invested \$1.5 million in 2014. As a result, ECFiber has now raised over \$6.3 million in total, most of which is going into the construction of additional route miles and connection of customers along those routes. Growth in 2014 was generally consistent with plans. The year 2014 was milestone year because it gained its 1,000th customer and successfully raised funds for sustained expansion going into 2015.

Those wishing to promote ECFiber expansion in Montpelier, wanting to learn more about their options for internet access, or wishing to invest in ECFiber are encouraged to contact the

Montpelier delegates. ECFiber Governing Board meetings occur monthly at the Vermont Law School in South Royalton and are open to the public. More information is available at www.ecfiber.net.

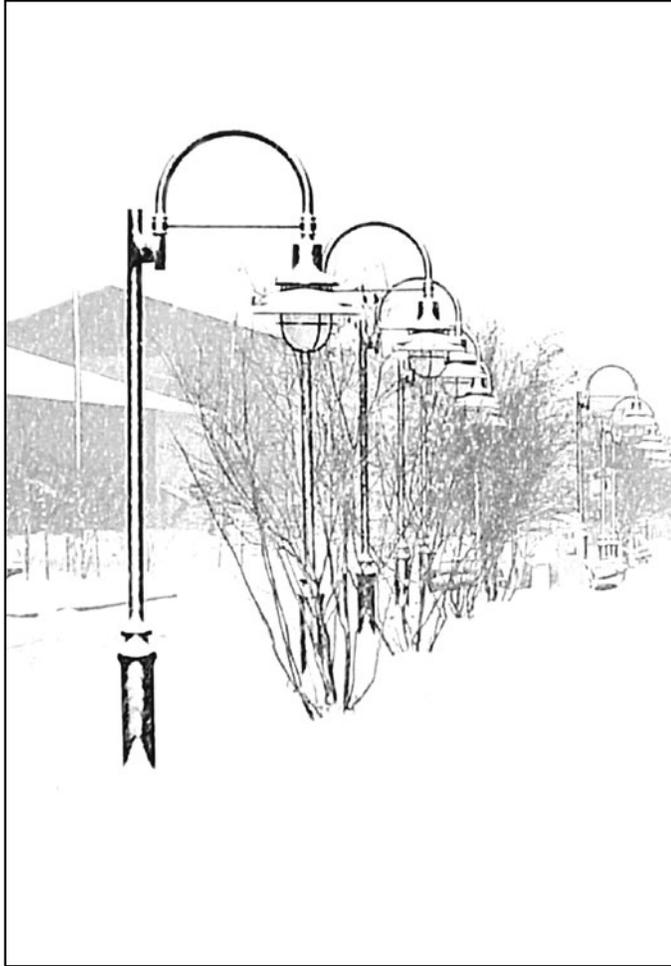


Photo Courtesy of Linda Hogan

Culture and The Arts

T.W. Wood Gallery & Arts Center

The T. W. Wood Gallery: A Museum of American Art, located at 46 Barre Street, provides the City with professional care of its own treasured art collection, and is a destination for art lovers, artists and tourists. The Gallery's Collection was established in 1895 as a gift to the people of Montpelier by its native son and nationally renowned artist Thomas Waterman Wood (1823-1903).

The past year has been a busy one for the Gallery, with a focus on completing the purchase of the former St. Michael's School with our partners in The Center for Arts and Learning (CAL). Several generous donations contributed to further digital documentation and organization of the Collection. A new gallery space currently exhibits examples of T. W. Wood's genre works and fine copies of European Masters.

Our improved infrastructure will enable us to rotate our core Collection exhibits with more ease, and we continue to create additional display areas for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) collection as well as contemporary exhibits. Classroom space is available for a variety of uses and we look forward to community participation in future classes, lectures, intimate theater, musical presentations, and other special events. We will continue to work with local venues such as the Statehouse and City Hall for additional public exhibits from the Collection.

With ownership of the building, a major goal for coming years will be a Capital Campaign to improve accessibility, energy efficiency, and building aesthetics. As we move into this next phase, we encourage all to visit our new home, re-visit or discover a new work from the extensive Collection, and to contribute thoughts on this important part of Montpelier's culture and history.

Having a permanent home at last will provide us with proper storage, care, and exposure of this irreplaceable Collection. In addition, we are dedicated to providing display and performance space for the vibrant visual, musical, and performing arts community. The City's ongoing support of its T.W. Wood Gallery is deeply appreciated.

We welcome visitors during Gallery hours Tuesday - Friday, 12-4 p.m. (we hope to expand hours in 2015) and by appointment. More information about the Gallery can be found at our website, twwoodgallery.org, and on Facebook.

William Pelton, *Acting Executive Director*

Kellogg-Hubbard Library



The Kellogg-Hubbard Library is a nonprofit, independent corporation that serves Montpelier and several smaller Central Vermont communities as a free public library and an important cultural resource. The library's beautiful granite building is a major landmark in our Capital City. Founded in 1894, the library is open 55 hours and six days per week, and high patron use has made it one of the busiest public libraries in the state. In addition to having one of the largest book collections, we borrow more items for our patrons through interlibrary loans than all but one other library. In terms of number of items our patrons borrow and how many visits they make, we are second only to the public library in Burlington.

In addition to lending books, DVDs, CDs and magazines, we provide diverse programs for both children and adults. Last year we ran 591 programs, with a total attendance of 10,653. Aside from our programs and materials to borrow, the library itself is a destination for residents of all ages. Our Outreach program brings books and story times to area preschools and daycares, provides books for borrowing at satellite lending sites, and delivers books and other materials to homebound patrons.

We have upgraded our technical services over the past couple of years, and they continue to grow in popularity. The fiber optic line installed in 2013 has improved performance for those who use library computers and those who bring their own laptop and use our free wi-fi. In warm weather, we even have patrons using the wi-fi out on our lawn and benches. Patrons who have a KHL card don't even have to come to the library, though. They can download e-books from any location with their library card. We now send email reminders a couple of days before items are due—which has been a very popular service. And, back in the library now, we offer video conferencing services.

Given our location in the heart of the city, it is no surprise the Montpelier residents are the heaviest library users in our service area. During the first eleven months of 2014, Montpelier adults, children and business owners checked out 112,244 items (more than the neighboring towns combined).

The library has an active and very strong Board of Trustees. Councilman Thierry Guerlain and Rachel Muse are Montpelier representatives appointed by the City Council; Thierry is also President of the KHL Board of Trustees. The other Montpelier representatives currently on the Board and appointed by the Board are: Amy Cunningham, Steve Gold, Tanya More-

house, Steve Norton, Lorraine Pilon and Wayne Fawbush. During 2014, the Board hired Tom McKone to serve as Library Director (a nonprofit leader, as one Board member put it), and he hired Joy Worland, formerly the Director of the Joslin Memorial Library in Waitsfield, as the Head of Library Services. As regulars know, we have experienced, friendly, and helpful staff to serve our patrons. As we enter the new year, Tom and Joy are scheduling feedback sessions to give community members the chance to share their concerns, ideas and suggestions—both short- and long-term—about library services and the KHL's role in the community.

The library's current operating budget is \$876,000, which is down from \$978,000 just four years ago. This year the Board is asking City taxpayers for \$316,698, a 2.6% increase since the last time we asked for additional funding. (The request for the past two years was \$308,673.) The 2.6% increase is the change in the cost of living over the past two years, and the Board believes that increase is important for maintaining the current level of services. Through fundraising, donations, grants and earnings on the library's endowment, the Board has kept the City's contribution to 36% of the operating budget. The library appreciates the City's strong support and looks forward to continuing to provide the best service possible to all.

Tom McKone, *Director*



Photo Courtesy of Linda Hogan

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY

Profit & Loss

July 2013 through June 2014

Jul '13 - Jun 14

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Annual Endowment Distribution	210,349.00
City Income	
City of Montpelier	308,673.00
Town of Calais	27,950.00
Town of East Montpelier	36,775.00
Town of Middlesex	26,800.00
Town of Worcester	17,525.00
Total City Income	417,723.00
Total Development	170,918.59
Fines	36,235.86
Misc. Income	2,896.10
Non-Resident Fees	14,665.00
Total Restricted Income	16,264.88
Total Income	869,052.43
Expense	
Total 6000. Adult Library Services	234,908.32
Total 6010. Children's & Outreach Srv	130,808.37
Total 6020. Library Director & AL Collections	151,194.92
Total 6030. Head of Library Services	2,974.72
Total 6120. Programs	30,524.92
Total 6130. Technology	7,416.41
Total 6140. Nonprofit Administration	155,334.12
Total 6200. Occupancy Costs	126,423.74
9000. Depreciation Expense	69,506.53
9001. Miscellaneous Expense	982.62
Total Expense	910,074.67
Net Ordinary Income	-41,022.24
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Bank Interest Income	37.45
Endowment gifts	20,222.65
Investment Income	
Endowment distrib to operations	-210,349.00
Incr(decr) - Interest Checking	201.17
Incr(decr) Int & Div KHL Main	138,667.23
Invest Mgmt - KHL Main	-17,729.55
Net Mkt G/L (Realized) KHL Main	163,144.72
Net Mkt G/L (Unrealized) KHL	194,601.14
Total Investment Income	268,535.71
Total Other Income	288,795.81
Net Other Income	288,795.81
Net Income	247,773.57

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY
Balance Sheet
 As of June 30, 2014

	<u>Jun 30, 14</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
NSB Checking	54,055.65
NSB Money Market	50,868.59
Petty Cash	411.00
VSECU Savings	<u>25.03</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>105,360.27</u>
Total Current Assets	105,360.27
Fixed Assets	
Accumulated Depreciation	-1,008,215.50
Building Costs	28,388.09
Building costs - CC	2,586,003.05
Furn. & Equip. - CC	88,082.03
Furn. & Equip. - Freeman	27,196.11
Furniture & Equipment	<u>49,119.77</u>
Total Fixed Assets	1,770,573.55
Other Assets	
Bonds Market Value KHL Main	224,369.24
Bonds Market Value KHL Main 2	1,819,356.93
Money Mkt Value KHL Main	29,462.10
Money Mkt Value KHL Main2	50,235.38
Stocks Market Value KHL Main 2	<u>2,440,299.16</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>4,563,722.81</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>6,439,656.63</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	<u>17,770.89</u>
Total Accounts Payable	17,770.89
Other Current Liabilities	
Accrued Vacation	5,793.77
Accrued Wages	8,854.60
BCBS WH	566.42
Dental WH	79.12
Unearned Grant Income	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>17,293.91</u>
Total Current Liabilities	35,064.80
Long Term Liabilities	
Accrued Compensated Absences	<u>27,339.37</u>
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>27,339.37</u>
Total Liabilities	62,404.17
Equity	
Permanently Restricted	408,025.84
Unrestricted - Board Designated	3,869,010.05
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,852,443.00
Net Income	<u>247,773.57</u>
Total Equity	<u>6,377,252.46</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>6,439,656.63</u></u>

Lost Nation Theater

“LNT produces work of outstanding quality that has a real impact on the communities they serve. Their dedication to their craft and to bringing local stories to life is a rare gift and one that should be cherished.”

– Sonia Rae, Director of Artist & Community Programs, Vermont Arts Council & Montpelier Resident



In 2014, Lost Nation Theater won “Best of New England” Award from Yankee Magazine and celebrated its 26th Season at City Hall Arts Center!

The Main Stage season began in April with *Our Town*, which featured live music & sound effects. LNT partnered with photographer Linda Hogan, The Vermont Historical Society and CVABE to create an Our Town Photo Contest focused on images of one’s hometown (winners: Melissa Culp, John Snell, Chris Diego & Jeffrey Farber); as well as an *Our Town Poetry Contest* (in collaboration with Poem City) in which winners said/read their poems inspired by thoughts on their hometown before performances of *Our Town*. Those winners include: Sandra Erickson, Newton Baker, Geoff Hewitt, Peter Clark, Susan Reid, Whitney Dall, and Melissa Melamed.

The rest of the season featured modern contemporary musical *The Last Five Years*, the nostalgic & sassy musical *Blues in the Night*, the premier of a new collection of Christopher Durang comic shorts entitled *Durang Bang*, - and for the first time in LNT’s history: rotating rep with the hilarious *The 39 Steps* and *Comedy of Errors*.

LNT also assisted several other theater groups and theater artists to produce their own original work at City Hall Arts Center including “*Hick in the Hood-A Vermont Boy in West Oakland*”; Ellis Jacobson’s “*Adapted from Samuel Beckett*,” (with Fred Wilber) and Margot Lasher’s “*Intake*” directed by Joanne Greenberg and produced by Liz Snell. The theater also produced, with CIRCLE, a successful production of *The Vagina Monologues* featuring post-show talks and education sessions.

Thanks in part to a contribution from the taxpayers of Montpelier, Lost Nation Theater continued to grow its education & outreach programs in 2014:

- 8 different Camps and/or Classes serving 170 students age 6-76
 - ~ **\$6,732 in cash scholarship assistance** distributed
 - ~ Additionally, LNT “bartered” skills with parents or more experienced/older students to further defray costs for families.

~ The highlight of these programs were the productions of *Peter Pan Jr* and *RED!*, which served 50 aspiring actor-singers and technicians age 9-19, guided by 12 professional artists. These expanded production camps enjoyed 7 sold out performances.

- 20 Head Start Arts Workshops in puppetry, theater & dance serving approximately 300 children age 3-10, plus their teaching staff
- 1 middle & high school Two-Week Residency, serving approximately 60 students, their teachers and families funded by the Vermont Arts Council
- 7 middle/high school students and “special needs” community members received mentoring internships (at no cost to them & which helped 3 non-traditional students get their HS diplomas)
- 5 special school matinees (with pre/post shows discussions with cast and crew and some interactive workshops) – including MPSS, MSMS, & UES (for free) were conducted
- LNT’s production of *Our Town* provided acting and technical roles for 11 students (age 10-19)

In other outreach work...

- LNT hosted a cultural exchange event with “Fabrica” – a music-theater group from Egypt comprised of high school and college students & their teachers who have dreams of building their own community-based performance space.
- Our special “senior matinees” of main-stage shows (with tickets just \$5 for those 65+) were more popular than ever.
- LNT presented over a dozen visual artists in its lobby gallery and in the City Hall Arts Center gallery
- 10 other performance groups & musicians were presented by LNT at City Hall Arts Center. These efforts by LNT provided over \$20,000 worth of support to those artists/events.

Thanks to the community and to the support of the City of Montpelier, LNT continued to produce a wealth of performance, education, and outreach programs – bringing acclaimed artists from across the country to Vermont as well as providing opportunities for Vermont’s own stellar theater professionals.

The Background:

LNT is one of the state’s “original” year-round professional theater companies.

Artistic Director Kim Bent founded Lost Nation Theater in 1977 in Bristol, Vermont.

In residence at City Hall Arts Center since 1989, LNT helped transform the Hall into a vital gathering center for theater, music, dances, and community events. LNT's work now includes musicals, a host of education and professional training programs, and many partnerships with social service and other arts organizations. In 1989, LNT's annual budget was under \$20,000. In 2014 its cash budget was approximately \$260,000 (our matching in-kind budget is more). LNT's annual economic contribution is approximately one million dollars. LNT donates more than \$35,000 in goods and services each year to the community.

The Programs

PERFORMANCES! — *Over 120 each year -- featuring the best Vermont and "Imported" professionals*

- Six Mainstage Shows
- *WinterFest!*
- *An Edgar Allan Poe & Fiends Halloween*
- *It's a Wonderful Life*-Radio Play
- Cabarets
- Theater For Kids By Kids shows

EDUCATION! — *Opportunities for all ages and Experience Levels*

- *Youth Theater Classes & Camps* — summer & winter-break day camps for ages 6-21; winter/spring skill development classes – includes technical and performance
- Professional Theater Training Program—bridging academic & professional worlds
- *HeadStart Arts Program*—funded by the VAC & LNT, put artists into headstart classrooms in Central Vermont once a week for two months
- *Will on Wheels & other Workshop Programs*—for elementary through college-level students
- *Master Classes* in specific skills (like stage-combat, acting techniques, directing) for a wide variety of ages and proficiency levels
- Mentorships, Individual Learning Plans, Community Based Learning and Independent Studies

OUTREACH! — *A Professional Theater Rooted in Community*

- Benefit Performances
- Ticket Donations to non-profit arts, human service, education & other organizations

- Facility Management of City Hall Auditorium Arts Center, making possible such events as: *Hunger Mountain Coop's Food Fair and assisting groups such as Dave Keller's Annual New Year's Eve Bash, Green Mountain Youth Orchestra, Washington County Mental Health, Montpelier Alive, NECI, CV Land Trust*, with their events
- Mini-Performances to Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, Adult Day Cares, and Low-Income Children's Day Care programs
- Custodians of City Hall Auditorium
- Consultation, Referral, & Technical Support Services for area schools and others
- Accessibility Initiatives — with Adult Basic Education, VCIL, Heaton Woods, VSA, Headstart, and many more; plus ASL-interpreted and Audio-Described Performances, large-print programs, assisted listening systems, and reserved seating for those with physical challenges.
- Vermont Foodbank Partnership — standard discount on admission to anyone who brings a non-perishable food item for the Foodbank when they attend Lost Nation Theater.

2013 LNT Staff

Kim Bent and Kathleen Keenan –*Producing Artistic Directors*

Casey Covey – *Technical Director/CHAC Facilities Manager*

Kris Weir – *Production Stage Manager*

Dona Bate – *Outreach Development & Bookkeeping*

Wendy Stephens – *Master Electrician & Social Media*

2014 LNT Board of Directors & Advisors

Warren Kitzmiller – *VP*

Bronwyn Fryer – *Secretary*

Rob Chapman – *Treasurer*

Kathleen McDonald, Carolyn Wesley, Amy Willis

Dona Bate, Joan Black, John Fricke, Linda Henzel, Sue

Killoran, Betty Lord, Eric Michaels, Maura O'Brien, Doug &

Sonja Gruhn, Brian Prendergast, Anthony Otis, Tim Tavcar,

Alan Weiss, Ron Wild, Sue Zeller

Volunteer Staff:

Hank Babcock–*Asst. Technical Director*

Amanda & Sarah Menard–*Management & Marketing*

Pat Babcock – *Office Assistant*

Lauren Aradi and Pat Keenan – *Executive Assistants*

Louise & Ray Menard – *Concessions*

Mitch Osiecki – *Volunteer Coordinator*

Wes Parker, North Branch Tech Services – *IT Advisor*

City Hall Arts Center

In 2014, City Hall Auditorium Arts Center was host to some 30 events (plus some small meetings) over 230 days. And some of these days held multiple events!

These events were diverse occurrences; ranging from rummage sales, annual meetings, craft fairs, Hunger Mountain's Health & Wellness Fair, education workshops, and city meetings, to Winterfest, LNT productions, and Dave Keller's 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Bash, then back again to hosting the Capitol City Winter Farmer's Market. Of course, twice a year the Hall hosts Voting!

Lost Nation Theater is the facility manager for City Hall Arts Center. What does that mean?

It means helping renters plan their use of the Hall, opening the Hall and then securing it; determining what kind of technical support (lighting, staging, tables, additional electricity) they will need, and arranging for qualified support staff when necessary; and even hanging the banners on the building that advertise events or community projects like Blood Drives.

– It also means the Theater is in charge of maintaining the Hall for all users: changing light bulbs, washing the woodwork, small repairs to the plaster, tile floor, chairs and risers, cleaning the bathroom and making sure supplies are stocked, etc. Sometimes these duties are much larger, such as assisting the City with a massive energy-efficiency improvement project.

In 2014, Lost Nation Theater donated over \$7500 worth of technical support and services to other users of City Hall Arts Center (in addition to those groups presented by LNT). The Theater also continues to make improvements to the Hall to make it as easy as possible for any user of the Hall to create an intimate environment, different areas in which to have "break-out" meetings, or to host 100 vendors at a time.

Over the years, LNT has invested over \$120,000 in City Hall Arts Center.



On the Mainstage, *Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors*, Oct. 2014, photo: Jeb Wallace Brodeur, The Times Argus



Opening Production of 2014 Mainstage season in April, *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder, photo: Wendy Stephens



Mainstage Comedy: *The 39 Steps*, Oct. 2014, photo: Robert Eddy, First Light Studios



Summer on the Mainstage: *Durang Bang* (with Montpelier residents Bob Nuner and Maura O'Brien), photo: Robert Eddy, *First Light Studios*



Summer on the Mainstage: *Blues in the Night* - a musical revue, photo: Robert Eddy, *First Light Studios*



Theater FOR Kids BY Kids: *Peter Pan Jr.* - August 2014, photo: Wendy Stephens

Capital City Band

The Capital City Band had another successful summer season providing ten free concerts on the State House lawn that were attended by enthusiastic audiences. In addition to playing our regularly scheduled State House lawn concerts, we were pleased to be invited by the City to play a concert on the State House steps for the Independence Day celebration. The Band also plays in the Independence Day parade, however, due to inclement weather the parade was cancelled this year. At the end of the summer season of concerts, we play an additional concert at one of the local nursing homes. This year we played at the Berlin Health and Rehab.

The Band plays a variety of marches, show tunes, popular numbers, old-time favorites and other selections. The total number of Band participants this summer was 57. The band is open to all band instrument players who like to play. For more information, call 223-7069.

Carolyn Silsby, *Manager*



The Last Five Years - a musical by Jason Robert Brown, May 2014, photo: Wendy Stephens



Theater FOR Kids BY Kids: *RED! The Long Journey Home* - original version of *Little Red Riding Hood*, photo: Kris Weir

Tax Exempt Parcels

Property Owner	Exempt Value	Payment in Lieu of Taxes as of 1/2015	Property Owner	Exempt Value	Payment in Lieu of Taxes as of 1/2015
American Legion 21 Main Street	341,500	--	Roman Catholic Diocese of VT Rectory/Church, 16 Barre St	3,528,000	--
Brown Johnson Post #792 (VFW) 1 Pioneer Center	374,900	--	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 115 Northfield St.	398,100	--
Beth Jacob Synagogue Harrison Avenue	235,100	--	Social Security Building School Street	643,700	--
Bethany Church Main Street	1,814,600	--	Trinity Methodist Church of Montpelier, VT Inc. Main Street	1,252,400	--
Capitol City Housing Foundation Heaton Woods	2,394,500	--	Unitarian Church Main Street	793,900	--
Cemeteries: Elm Street	76,900	--	US Post Office State Street	4,818,500	--
Green Mount	453,000	--	VT Center for Independent Living 11 East State Street	575,600	--
Roman Catholic	99,900	--	Vermont College of Fine Arts 7 properties College St, West St.	6,916,000	--
Central VT Solid Waste Management District 137 Barre Street	259,800	--	Vermont Humanities Council 11 Loomis Street	561,000	--
Christ Church – Episcopal State Street	2,577,800	--	VT Institute of Natural Science 713 Elm Street	299,800	--
Family Center of Washington County 285 Sherwood Drive	1,430,100	--	VT Program for Quality in Health Care Inc.	296,200	--
Lighthouse Christian Church 34 School Street	484,000	--	Vermont, State of 39 properties	116,127,900	184,000.00 703,165.00
First Church of Christ 145 State Street	429,800	--	State St., Baldwin St., Gov. Aiken Ave, Green Mt. Dr., Stone Cutters Way, Taylor St., Terrace St.		
Fisher, OM Home 149 Main Street	1,122,000	--	Washington, County of 3 properties	1,956,000	--
Kellogg Hubbard Library 135 Main Street	1,950,200	--	State Street, Elm Street		
Montpelier, City of 3 school properties	11,692,600	--	Washington County Mental Health	421,400	--
Montpelier, City of 16 properties	13,032,000	--	90 & 157 Barre Sts		
Montpelier Elderly Housing Project 155 Main Street	2,739,900	11,449.39			
120 Northfield Street	535,100	2,750.00			
Resurrection Baptist Church 144 Elm St, 2 properties	512,100	--			

Calendar Year 2014 Compensation

Employee	Department/Office	2014 Wage
Aldrighetti, Jane	Assessor's Office	\$54,814
Alexander, Nancy	Elections	\$307
Amaral, Michelle	Police	\$43,234
Armantrout, Michael	Police	\$36,944
Bagg, Scott	Police	\$4,480
Baker, Burtis	Public Works	\$40,456
Baker, Jessie	Assistant City Manager	\$72,501
Barlow Casey, Donna	Public Works	\$6,924
Bate, Dona	City Council	\$1,000
Bean, Chad	Police	\$64,673
Beyer, Geoffrey	Parks Director	\$60,717
Bilodeau, Michael	Public Works	\$15,752
Blatchford, Sharon	Finance	\$64,001
Blodgett, Zachary	Public Works	\$44,286
Blouin, Tyson	Public Works	\$18,720
Bolduc, Marguerite	Finance	\$47,346
Bookmyer-Baker, Christine	Planning	\$32,765
Bousquet, Jeffrey	Public Works	\$46,022
Bresette, Loretta	Finance	\$47,396
Bresette, Nicholas	Fire	\$68,543
Brown, Audra	Planning	\$52,144
Brunell, David	Parks	\$24,164
Byrd, S. Yvonne	Community Justice Ctr Director	\$62,639
Cahill, Gregory	Public Works	\$8,227
Casey, Kevin	Planning	\$54,453
Charron, Paul	Fire	\$68,114
Chase, Crystal	Assistant City Clerk	\$45,794
Chase, Eric	Public Works	\$5,596
Christman, Kenneth	Fire	\$57,937
Clar, Janna	Senior Center Director	\$47,387
Clark, Mary Alice	Police	\$10,898
Cleveland, Richard	Police	\$103,782
Cochran, Wade	Police	\$88,551
Conneman, Thomas	Police	\$61,516
Cowens, Nathan	Public Works	\$53,829
Cox, Christopher	Public Works	\$51,410
Daniels, Nicholas	It	\$10,897
Day, Suzanne	Elections	\$438
Deyo, Craig	Public Works	\$29,473
Dockter, Ruth	Finance	\$44,955
Drake, Adam	Public Works	\$43,262
Edgerly Walsh, Jessica	City Council	\$1,200
Eggleston, Leon	Fire	\$77,752
Elliott, Kyle	Public Works	\$1,375
Ellis, Frank	Public Works	\$64,859
Ellsworth, Alec	Parks	\$15,840
Facos, Anthony John	Police Chief	\$82,254
Farnham, Michael	Public Works	\$53,349

Employee	Department/Office	2014 Wage
Fischer, Robert	Public Works	\$72,593
Fraser, William	City Manager	\$103,323
Gallup, Sandra	Finance Director	\$72,486
George, Bonnie	Police	\$47,986
Gibson, Judith	Community Justice Center	\$53,348
Gidney, Jane	Elections	\$555
Golonka, Thomas	City Council	\$1,200
Gowans, Robert	Fire Chief	\$78,016
Gray, Christopher	Public Works	\$41,429
Groberg, Daniel	Senior Center	\$21,910
Halpin, Sophie	Parks	\$1,264
Healy, Patrick	Cemetery Director	\$65,634
Hepburn, Kristine	Finance	\$55,537
Hill, Beverlee P	Delinquent Tax Collector	\$32,772
Hoagland, Devin	Public Works	\$50,625
Hollar, John	Mayor	\$3,000
Hood, George	Public Works	\$54,866
Hooper, Timothy	City Council	\$200
Hoyt, Charlotte	City Treasurer	\$40,255
Huntsman, William	Fire	\$94
Huoppi, Dana	Fire	\$81,831
Jasman, Douglas	Fire	\$63,936
Jennings, William	Police	\$76,046
Kachajian, David	Police	\$73,601
King, Annette	Police	\$64,032
Knisley, Matthew	Police	\$69,351
Koenemann, Dona	Elections	\$157
Ladd, Eric	Public Works	\$74,166
Lamson, Matthew	Public Works	\$49,458
Larrabee, Jacob	Fire	\$65,963
Larson, Cynthia	Elections	\$157
Lavallee, Michelle	Police	\$42,134
Law, Todd	Public Works Director	\$90,123
Lee, Richard	Public Works	\$50,956
Lewis, Jeremy	Public Works	\$47,647
Luce, Peter	Public Works	\$47,654
Lucenti, Salvatore	Elections	\$33
Lumbra, Christopher	Asst. Building Inspector	\$53,998
Macdonald, Jean	Elections	\$150
Mackey, Virginia	Public Works	\$47,474
Macura, Joshua	Police	\$66,149
Marineau, Andrew	Fire	\$52,168
Markus, Lise	Senior Center	\$22,938
Marold, Glen	Fire	\$56,849
Martel, Neil	Police Captain	\$88,720
Mcardle, Thomas	Asst. Public Works Director	\$69,713
Mccool, Carrie	Police	\$44,996
Mercadante, Michael	Public Works	\$39,237
Michaud, Benjamin	Police	\$52,837
Miller, Michael	Planning & Community Dev Director	\$42,774
Mills, Alfred	Community Justice Center	\$31,768
Moody, Mark	Police	\$951

Employee	Department/Office	2014 Wage	Employee	Department/Office	2014 Wage
Morse, Chad	Fire	\$63,247	Ruggles, Donald	Fire	\$19
Motyka, Kurt	Public Works	\$65,781	Savard, Sandra	Police	\$15,743
Moulton, Kevin	Police	\$85,429	Shangraw, John	Public Works	\$6,533
Naikus, Vytas	Public Works	\$45,807	Sharp, James	Senior Center	\$6,259
Neilson, Hannah	Police	\$5,102	Shaw, Richard	Police	\$9,387
Nichols, Johanna	Senior Center	\$3,920	Skeels, Frederick	It Manager	\$57,605
Nolan, Stephen	Police	\$66,171	Smith, Arielle	Public Works	\$9,733
Nordenson, Eric	Police	\$85,740	Smith, Leslie	Public Works	\$50,908
Odum, John	City Clerk	\$57,597	Snetsinger, Robert	Public Works	\$4,501
Olson, Sharon	Police	\$55,628	Swenson, Sandra	Police	\$12,363
Papineau, Michael	Public Works	\$58,221	Taylor, Samuel	Fire	\$32,226
Pearson, Jeffrey	Police	\$63,206	Terry, Christine	Elections	\$85
Pelletier, Charles	Police	\$14,435	Thereault, Galen	Fire	\$52,479
Perry, Daniel	Public Works	\$64,277	Thompson, Robert	Public Works	\$9,762
Persons, Albert	Public Works	\$48,814	Thurston, Peter	Fire	\$44,710
Philbrick, Michael	Police	\$60,300	Thurston, Richard	Fire	\$390
Pitonyak, Sandra June	City Manager's Office	\$52,274	Timian, Jacob	Fire	\$11,136
Potter, Michael	Public Works	\$52,954	Truhan, Christopher	Police	\$69,451
Potvin, Peter	Public Works	\$22,318	Turcotte, Justin	City Council	\$1,000
Powers, Scott	Public Works	\$51,241	Tuttle, Brian	Public Works	\$67,498
Provencher, Todd	Public Works	\$39,899	Utton, Michael	Public Works	\$67,264
Purcell White, Kathryn	Police	\$51,584	Watson, Anne	City Council	\$1,200
Quinn, James	Deputy Fire Chief	\$67,590	Weiss, Alan	City Council	\$200
Redmond, Justin	Fire	\$50,486	Wilson, Geoffrey	Public Works	\$68,337
Redmond, Pauline	Elections	\$85	Wood, Seth	It/Finance	\$26,133
Richardson, George	Public Works	\$31,802	Yaeger, Joseph	Public Works	\$19,987
Ruggles, Daniel	Fire	\$50,457			

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Fothergill Segale & Valley, CPAs, Montpelier, Vermont conducted an audit of the financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. They performed their audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. **The following Management's Discussion and Analysis is an important part of our Financial Statements and the audit report.**

The Management's Discussion and Analysis for the Year Ended June 30, 2014 is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Montpelier, Vermont's basic financial statements. It contains sections that include Financial Highlights, Net Position, Capital Assets and Debt Administration as well as Economic Factors. Copies of the full Audit Report, with all the Exhibits and Notes to the Financial Statements are available at the Finance Department at City Hall, located at 39 Main Street in Montpelier. The Audit Report is also available on the City's web site at <http://www.montpelier-vt.org//page/286.html>. If you have questions or comments regarding this financial report, please call or email Sandra Gallup, City Finance Director at (802)262-6253, sgallup@montpelier-vt.org.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the City of Montpelier, Vermont's basic financial statements. The City's basic financial statements include three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

Financial Highlights

Government-Wide Statements

The total net position of the governmental activities increased by \$3,240,308 or 16.33 percent and the total net position of the business-type activities increased by \$3,291,959 or 13.81 percent. The City's total net position increased by \$6,532,267 or 15%, as a result of this year's operations. This increase is the result of a large amount of investment in land and construction in progress funded by capital grants.

Total revenue for all the City's programs increased from \$19,530,937 in 2013 to \$26,777,769 in 2014, which is a 37% increase from the previous year. The cost of all of the City's programs increased from \$16,935,220 cost in fiscal year 2013 to \$20,245,502 in fiscal year 2014 which is 19.5 percent higher than the previous year. The revenue and expense increases are primarily due to a rise in capital grant activities, most notably, the District Heat and Transit Center projects. Capital grants and contributions revenue are very high at \$8,725,949 (an increase of \$6,526,331 over the previous year) and District Heat expenses increased by \$2,469,445 over the previous year.

Fund Statements

During fiscal year 2014, the General Fund reported a net decrease in the fund balance of \$336,776. This was primarily due to a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund equal to the beginning of the year equipment reserves of \$360,563. The transfer was done for the purpose of consolidating all capital project activity into one fund.

The General Fund balances totaled \$1,330,773 as of June 30, 2014. The fund balances that are nonspendable, restricted, committed and assigned totaled \$507,990 as of June 30, 2014, which is a decrease of \$446,482, mostly due to the transfer of equipment reserves noted above. These fund balances are either nonspendable or have spending constraints placed on the purposes for which they can be used. This leaves an unassigned fund balance of \$822,783 which is \$109,706 higher than the prior year's unassigned fund balance.

The Community Development Fund ended the year with a restricted and committed fund balance of \$512,642, which was \$35,715 higher than the prior year fund balance of \$476,927. This fund balance is reserved by various sources for Community Development programs and activities.

The Capital Projects Fund ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,816,130 which was \$209,441 lower than the prior year fund balance of \$2,025,571. Excluding the transfer of equipment reserves from the General Fund of \$360,563 (see above) the Capital Projects fund balance decreased by \$570,004 which is mainly the result of \$538,799 of grant funds which were spent but not recognized as revenue because they were not collected within sixty (60) days after year-end. \$1,426,142 of the fund balance are restricted by bonding constraints and impact fee ordinances, \$969,285 are committed for various capital improvement projects (including \$250,000 unidentified), leaving an unassigned fund deficit of (\$579,297).

Other nonmajor governmental funds ended the year with a fund balance of \$1,054,965, which was \$90,785 higher than the prior year fund balance of \$964,180. \$481,430 of these funds are Non-Expendable by Trust Agreements. \$546,114 of these funds are restricted and committed by donations and permanent funds. The unassigned deficit of \$161,812 is a result of interfund loans payable in the Montpelier Senior Citizens fund which will be paid back with future operations revenue.

The Water Fund ended the year with a net position of \$9,011,993 which was \$79,802 more than the prior year balance of \$8,932,191. Of the total net position balance, \$9,490,971 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an unrestricted deficit of \$478,978 to be recovered in future periods. This unrestricted deficit is \$10,190 more than the \$468,788 unrestricted deficit as of June 30, 2013. An unexpected major water line repair limited the Water Fund's ability

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

to reduce its unrestricted deficit in fiscal year 2014. \$297,500 of the unrestricted deficit is debt related to the refinancing of the unfunded pension liability. Principal repayments on this debt are not due until November, 2017.

The Sewer Fund ended the year with a net position of \$11,924,327, which was \$239,709 higher than the prior year balance of \$11,684,618. Of the total net position balance, \$11,503,082 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an unrestricted net position balance of \$421,245, which is \$302,713 higher than the previous year.

The Parking Fund ended the year with net position of \$290,851, which was \$23,709 lower than the prior year balance of \$314,560. Of the total net position balance, \$325,865 is invested in property and equipment and \$2,417 is restricted for various projects. This leaves a deficit of \$37,431 to be recovered in future periods. Included in this deficit is \$192,500 in debt related to the refinancing of the unfunded pension liability. Principal repayments on this debt are not due until November, 2017.

The District Heat Fund ended the year with net position of \$5,903,151, which was \$2,996,157 higher than the prior year balance of \$2,906,994. Of the total net position balance, \$6,039,542 is invested in property and equipment. This leaves an operating deficit of \$136,391 to be recovered in future periods.

Using This Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (Exhibits A and B) provide information about the activities of the City as a whole and present a longer-term view of the City's finances. Fund financial statements start on Exhibit C. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the City's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the City's most significant funds.

Reporting the City as a Whole

Our analysis of the City as a whole begins on Exhibit A. One of the most important questions asked about the City's finances is, "Is the City as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the City as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the City's net position and changes in them. You can think of the City's net position - the difference between assets and liabilities - as one way to measure the City's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the City's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the City's property tax base and the condition of the City's roads, to assess the overall health of the City.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, we divide the City into two kinds of activities:

Governmental activities - Most of the City's basic services are reported here, including the police, fire, public works, and parks departments, and general administration. Property taxes, franchise fees, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Business-type activities - The City charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides. The City's water, sewer, parking and district heat activities are reported here.

Reporting the City's Most Significant Funds

Our analysis of the City's major funds begins on Exhibit C. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds - not the City as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law and by bond covenants. However, the City Council establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

(like grants received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development). The City's two kinds of funds - governmental and proprietary - use different accounting approaches.

Governmental funds - Most of the City's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the City's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the City's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds on the exhibits that follow each financial statement. The City's main governmental fund is the General Fund. The Community Development Fund, the Capital Projects Fund and Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds are included in the governmental funds financial statements and schedules.

Proprietary funds - When the City charges customers for the services it provides - whether to outside customers or to other units of the City - these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the City's enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) are the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds. The City has four proprietary funds; the Water Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Parking Fund and the District Heat Fund.

Our analysis below separately considers the operations of governmental and business-type activities as well as the City as a whole.

The City as a Whole

The City's combined net position increased by \$6,532,267 from a year ago - increasing from \$43,682,358 to \$50,214,625. Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the City's governmental and business-type activities. Fiscal year 2013 was restated due to a transfer of debt.

Table 1
Net Position

	June 30, 2014			June 30, 2013 - Restated		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
Current and other assets	\$ 7,262,628	\$ 5,913,119	\$ 13,175,747	\$ 7,316,724	\$ 1,008,662	\$ 8,325,386
Capital assets	25,589,108	43,712,589	69,301,697	21,788,552	39,541,908	61,330,460
Total assets	32,851,736	49,625,708	82,477,444	29,105,276	40,550,570	69,655,846
Long term liabilities	8,825,780	17,176,667	26,002,447	8,328,442	15,313,159	23,641,601
Other liabilities	941,653	5,318,719	6,260,372	932,839	1,399,048	2,331,887
Total liabilities	9,767,433	22,495,386	32,262,819	9,261,281	16,712,207	25,973,488
Net position:						
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	21,400,960	27,359,460	48,760,420	18,239,963	24,217,899	42,457,862
Restricted	2,493,337	2,417	2,495,754	2,426,160	2,417	2,428,577
Unrestricted	(809,994)	(231,555)	(1,041,549)	(822,128)	(381,953)	(1,204,081)
Total net position	\$ 23,084,303	\$ 27,130,322	\$ 50,214,625	\$ 19,843,995	\$ 23,838,363	\$ 43,682,358

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
 Management's Discussion and Analysis
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

Table 2
 Change in Net Position

	June 30, 2014			June 30, 2013		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
REVENUES:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 1,033,881	\$ 7,092,526	\$ 8,126,407	\$ 970,495	\$ 6,742,163	\$ 7,712,658
Operating grants and contributions	932,205	0	932,205	949,812	0	949,812
Capital grants and contributions	2,889,871	5,836,078	8,725,949	380,452	1,819,166	2,199,618
General Revenues:						
Property taxes, penalties and interest	7,735,975	0	7,735,975	7,537,608	0	7,537,608
Payment in lieu of taxes	954,271	0	954,271	940,841	0	940,841
Unrestricted investment earnings	112,618	25,523	138,141	110,293	0	110,293
Gain (loss) on sale of capital assets	13,549	12,000	25,549	(4,995)	0	(4,995)
Other revenues	132,452	0	132,452	76,727	0	76,727
Contributions to permanent endowments	6,820	0	6,820	8,375	0	8,375
Total revenues	13,811,642	12,966,127	26,777,769	10,969,608	8,561,329	19,530,937
PROGRAM EXPENSES:						
General government	1,662,130	0	1,662,130	1,607,457	0	1,607,457
Public safety	4,536,745	0	4,536,745	4,455,692	0	4,455,692
Public works	2,799,404	0	2,799,404	2,525,163	0	2,525,163
Culture and recreation	1,107,516	0	1,107,516	1,045,957	0	1,045,957
Community development	35,462	0	35,462	9,089	0	9,089
Cemetery	188,685	0	188,685	188,072	0	188,072
Interest on long-term debt	251,392	0	251,392	239,077	0	239,077
Water	0	2,416,290	2,416,290	0	2,338,067	2,338,067
Sewer	0	3,513,938	3,513,938	0	3,295,906	3,295,906
Parking	0	757,637	757,637	0	723,882	723,882
District Heat	0	2,976,303	2,976,303	0	506,858	506,858
Total program expenses	10,581,334	9,664,168	20,245,502	10,070,507	6,864,713	16,935,220
Excess before special item and transfers	3,230,308	3,301,959	6,532,267	899,101	1,696,616	2,595,717
Transfers	10,000	(10,000)	0	10,000	(10,000)	0
Increase (decrease) in net position	\$ 3,240,308	\$ 3,291,959	\$ 6,532,267	\$ 909,101	\$ 1,686,616	\$ 2,595,717

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time to be a useful indicator of a government's financial position.

The total net position of the City's governmental activities increased \$3,240,308 or 16.5%. This increase is the result of capital grants totaling \$2,369,268 for the Transit Center, flood related damages and street improvements.

The total net position of the business-type activities increased by \$3,291,959 or 13.69%. This increase is primarily due to District Heat activity.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

Governmental Activities

The City's tax rate increased from \$0.8823 to \$0.8882 per \$100 of assessed value (up .7%) from fiscal year 2013 to fiscal year 2014.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the City's eight largest programs - general government, public safety, public works, culture and recreation, community development, water, sewer, parking and district heat - as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenue generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the City's taxpayers by each of these functions.

	June 30, 2014				June 30, 2013			
	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities	
	Total Cost of Services	Net Revenues (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Revenues (Cost) of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net (Cost) of Services
General government	\$ 1,662,130	\$ (1,306,014)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,607,457	\$ (1,226,051)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Public safety	4,536,745	(3,437,896)	0	0	4,455,692	(3,426,841)	0	0
Public works	2,799,404	187,915	0	0	2,525,163	(1,992,362)	0	0
Culture and recreation	1,107,516	(721,797)	0	0	1,045,957	(717,230)	0	0
Community development	35,462	(35,462)	0	0	9,089	(9,089)	0	0
Water	0	0	2,416,290	60,552	0	0	2,338,067	98,301
Sewer	0	0	3,513,938	221,436	0	0	3,295,906	255,211
Parking	0	0	757,637	(13,709)	0	0	723,882	34,538
District Heat	0	0	2,976,303	2,996,157	0	0	506,858	1,308,566
All others	440,077	(412,123)	0	0	427,149	(398,175)	0	0
Totals	\$ 10,581,334	\$ (5,725,377)	\$ 9,664,168	\$ 3,264,436	\$ 10,070,507	\$ (7,769,748)	\$ 6,864,713	\$ 1,696,616

The City's Funds

As the City completed the year, its governmental funds (as presented in the Balance Sheet on Exhibit C) reported a combined fund balance of \$4,714,510 which is \$419,717 lower than last year's total of \$5,134,227. Included in this year's total change in fund balance is a decrease of \$336,776 in the City's General Fund; an increase of \$35,715 in the Community Development Fund; a decrease of \$209,441 in the Capital Projects Fund and an increase of \$90,785 in Other Governmental Funds. Because the decrease in the General Fund is due to a transfer to the Capital Projects fund the overall decrease in the City's fund balance is mainly due to \$538,799 of Capital Project fund grant funds which were spent but not recognized as revenue because they were not collected within sixty (60) days after year-end.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

When comparing budget to actual net change in fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2014, there is an unfavorable variance of \$336,776 (as presented in Exhibit F). Operating revenues less operating expenditures are favorable by \$59,539. Transfers to other funds are unfavorable by \$396,315 due to a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund of \$360,563 (beginning of year equipment reserves), \$19,858 Cemetery transfer missed when budgeting and \$17,762 in additional impact fees transferred to Parks.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

Revenue is \$257,998 more than budgeted. Although there are many variances in many revenue line items, overall, this additional revenue is grant funds of \$232,670 received for public safety equipment and \$18,011 for reimbursement of legal fees related to a public works project. Other significant favorable variances in revenue are \$40,262 in unbudgeted downtown improvement taxes, \$29,195 local payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT), \$14,574 police fines and forfeitures and \$19,685 miscellaneous revenue. Unfavorable variances in revenue are \$17,960 property taxes, \$14,908 building permits, \$11,806 recording documents, \$9,649 transfer from Community Development Fund for administrative fees, \$20,810 transfer from District Heat Fund for salary expense allocations and \$28,068 interest income.

Expenditures are over budget by \$198,459. Similar to revenue, a significant amount of the unbudgeted expenditures is related to equipment purchased with federal grant funds (\$159,969). Some of the significant unbudgeted expenditures are; \$67,544 City legal services (offset by \$18,011 reimbursement noted above), \$36,197 City Hall building maintenance (heating fuel and electric), \$99,418 police salaries, \$10,671 emergency management equipment rental, \$48,494 DPW salaries and overtime, \$15,667 DPW vehicle/equipment maintenance and \$37,301 outside agencies downtown improvement expenditures (offset by downtown improvement taxes noted above). Savings of health insurance across departments of \$132,524, Clerk office supplies \$8,232, salaries in Planning Department of \$18,784, Fire EMS professional services of \$16,004, DPW salt \$53,154, DPW concrete \$19,388 and DPW bridge maintenance \$19,347 help offset these overages in expenditures.

As noted above, employee health insurance costs are lower than anticipated and \$119,700 in funds are set aside (committed) for possible, future health reimbursement arrangement overages.

The unassigned fund balance increased from \$713,077 on June 30, 2013 to \$822,783 on June 30, 2014. This \$109,706 increase is mainly due to the decrease in nonspendable items such as inventories, note receivables and prepaid expenses. The City of Montpelier's Fund Balance Policy sets a long-term goal of an Unassigned Fund Balance that is 15% of budgeted General Fund Expenditures.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At June 30, 2014, the City has \$69,301,697 compared to \$61,330,460 at June 30, 2013 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including police, fire, and department of public works equipment, buildings, park facilities, roads, bridges, water, sewer, district heat lines. (See Table 4 below) This amount represents a net increase (including additions and deductions) of \$7,971,237 over last year. This increase is related to the District Heat construction in progress and many other improvements to facilities, infrastructure and equipment.

**Table 4
Capital Assets at Year-End
(Net of Depreciation)**

	June 30, 2014			June 30, 2013		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total Primary Government
Land	\$ 2,762,937	\$ 250,672	\$ 3,013,609	\$ 742,050	\$ 250,672	\$ 992,722
Capital improvements and equipment	20,880,738	33,676,143	54,556,881	19,879,395	34,576,537	54,455,932
Construction in progress	1,945,433	9,785,774	11,731,207	1,167,107	4,714,699	5,881,806
Totals	\$ 25,589,108	\$ 43,712,589	\$ 69,301,697	\$ 21,788,552	\$ 39,541,908	\$ 61,330,460

CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

This year's capital asset additions are:

Exchange E-mail Server	\$	13,409
Police-Motorola Portable Radios		68,328
Police-Digital Repeater & Radio System		107,456
Police-2013 Chevy Impala		22,536
Generator-CIP		64,676
DPW-2013 MT6 Sidewalk Plow w/Sander		120,350
DPW-2014 Morbark M12R Trailer Mounted Chipper		28,800
DPW-2014 Int'l 7400 SFA 4x2 Truck		74,698
DPW-2014 Tenco Plow Pkg		57,535
DPW-Air Sweeper & 2013 Int'l 4300 Truck		196,150
DPW Generator Lean-to -CIP		3,793
DPW-Equipment Storage Bldg-Insulation & Roofing		64,600
DPW-Garage/Offices-Doors, Fire Alarm & Sprinklers		69,233
City Hall-Bell Tower Improvements		19,486
Cemetery -Roofing on Chapel		15,753
Land -15 Acres 16-18-20 Main Street		169,992
Land- .44 Acres 10 Main Street		447,935
Land- One Taylor Street		1,402,960
Infrastructure-Streets		564,956
Infrastructure-Sidewalks		272,415
Infrastructure-Storm Drain -State Street		100,803
Infrastructure-Flood & Slide Marvin St Project		61,900
Infrastructure-Winooski Flood Prevention Work		2,931
Infrastructure-Flood Repairs-Barre Street Culvert-CIP		570,315
Infrastructure-Retaining Walls		52,565
Infrastructure-CV Bike Path-CIP		223,602
Infrastructure-Carr Lot-CIP		158,622
Water-2 vehicles 50%		23,483
Water -Metrotech Correlator		16,195
Water -Pump #1 & #4 Repairs		20,684
Water System Improvements -In Progress		94,495
Sewer-2 vehicles 50%		23,483
Sewer -Penn Valley Pump & Switches		22,440
Sewer -River St Line - In Progress		560,489
District Heat Project-In Progress		4,596,541
	\$	<u>10,313,609</u>

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

Long Term - Debt

At June 30, 2014, the City has \$23,564,221 in bonds and notes outstanding versus \$23,246,619 on June 30, 2013 - an increase of \$317,602 - as shown in Table 5.

**Table 5
Outstanding Debt at Year-End**

	Balance at		Balance at	
	June 30, 2013	Additions	Reductions	June 30, 2014
Notes, capital leases and bonds payable:				
Governmental activities	\$ 8,243,627	\$ 1,110,000	\$ 861,136	\$ 8,492,491
Proprietary Funds	15,002,992	3,192,189	1,123,451	17,071,730
Totals	\$ 23,246,619	\$ 4,302,189	\$ 1,984,587	\$ 25,564,221

New debt in Governmental activities resulted from loans for the City's multi-modal transit center project (\$400,000) and street improvements (\$710,000). New debt in Proprietary Funds was for the District Heat project (\$314,940) and sewer line improvements (\$670,000).

In the current fiscal year, previous bond debt with a balance due of \$207,249 at July 1, 2013 for the District Heat project that was recorded in the government-wide financial statements was transferred to the District Heat Proprietary Fund and is shown as a reduction in Governmental activities and as an addition in Proprietary Funds in Table 5 above.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The City's elected and appointed officials consider economic factors and the community's priorities when setting the fiscal year 2015 budget, property tax rates, and fees that will be charged for the business-type activities.

Economic factors considered include the unemployment in the City, which stood at 4% (August 2013) compared with 5.3% (August 2012). Also considered was the Consumer Price Index percent change over one year (August 2012-August 2013) which was 2%. Montpelier's estimated household income in 2012 was \$59,255 which is higher than the Vermont average of \$52,977. Montpelier's estimated median house or condo value in 2012 was \$209,362 which is lower than the Vermont average of \$216,900. The City's population is 7,787 with slight decreases over the past few years.

In recent years, the City of Montpelier's budgets contained no appreciable annual revenue growth or increase in taxable property. Annually, costs rise and demands for services remain. The combination of a slow-growing economy, little growth in the grand list and Montpelier's relatively high property tax rates, has resulted in a council goal to produce budgets with tax rate increases at or below inflation. The 2015 municipal budget provides for an increase equivalent to the change in the consumer price index, with all additional revenues dedicated to infrastructure investments.

The City met the budgeting fiscal challenges by keeping General Fund personnel unchanged from the year before. The City Council is in the second year of a multiyear capital plan to rebuild and maintain the city's infrastructure. The FY15 municipal budget requires a 1.3 cent tax rate increase which, at 1.3% is less than the 2% inflation rate for 2013. The municipal tax rate for fiscal year 2015 is \$0.9767 per \$100 of property value.

**CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

Looking ahead, the City is partnering with federal and state agencies to study flood mitigation measures to alleviate the threat of damages due to ice-jam flooding of the Winooski River in the downtown area. The installation of flood gauges significantly improves the City's ability to monitor the river water levels. A new flood mitigation project, which was completed in March of 2012, reduces the risk of ice-jam flooding. The City also is moving ahead with two other grant-funded projects; a new transit center on Taylor Street and a bike path through the city.

In addition to balancing and controlling the municipal budget, taxes and services, the City Council has identified the goals of being a bike and pedestrian friendly city and becoming the first "net zero capital city".

As for the City's business-type activities, Water and sewer rates increased very slightly effective July 1, 2014. The combination of users' water conservation and the lack of growth in numbers of users provide challenges to the Water and Sewer Funds. The Water and Sewer Rate Committee continues to work on a new rate structure to assure annual revenues will be generated to cover all costs and eliminate previous years' deficits in the Water Fund. The 2014-15 heating season is the first full year of complete operation for the City's District Heat utility which partners with state's bio-mass heating plant. Parking fees were increased substantially in early 2014, to secure financial stability for the Parking Fund and to provide funding for alternative transportation initiatives.

Current quarterly water rates are as follows: \$7.73 per 1,000 for the first 50,000 gallons, \$8.21 per 1,000 for the next 200,000 gallons, \$13.32 per 1,000 for over \$250,000 gallons and a fixed charge for all accounts for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$39.50.

Current quarterly sewer rates are as follows: \$8.72 per 1,000 gallons of water used and a fixed charge for all for meter reading, billing and other administrative service costs of \$41.00.

Contacting the City's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the City's finances and to show the City's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the City Finance Office at the City of Montpelier, 39 Main Street, Suite 6, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Other Financial Information

**Statement of Taxes (School and City), Sewer Benefit,
Sewer Separation (CSO) Benefit Charges Raised for Fiscal Year
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014**

Taxes & Charges Billed

Real Estate/Personal Property	\$19,789,045
Sewer/ CSO Benefit Charges	\$731,310
Delinquent Taxes - Total	
As of June 30, 2013	\$122,481
TOTAL TAXES/CHARGES	\$20,642,836

Accounted For As Follows:

Collections/Adjustments/Abatements	\$20,469,299
Delinquent as of June 30, 2014	\$155,537
TOTAL TAXES/CHARGES	\$20,624,836

**ANNUAL CITY MEETING
CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
MARCH 4, 2014**

ARTICLE 1 (Candidates)

POSITION	TERM	CANDIDATES	VOTES	RESULT
Mayor	2 years	John H. Hollar	1525	ELECTED
		Gwendolyn Hallsmith	782	
Green Mount Cemetery Commissioner	5 years	Charles E. Wiley	1939	ELECTED
Park Commissioner	5 years	Bryan M. Pfeiffer	1398	ELECTED
		Bill Johnson	677	
School Commissioner	3 years	Carol Paquette	1516	ELECTED
		Kenneth Jones	1365	
Council Person District 1	2 years	Dona Bate	401	ELECTED
		Andy Hooper	357	
Council Person District 2	2 years	Page S. Guertin	315	ELECTED
		Thierry Guerlain	441	
		Ivan Shadis	69	
Council Person District 3	2 years	Justin Turcotte	394	ELECTED
		Dan Jones	278	

ARTICLE 2. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,406,787 for the payment of debts and current expenses of the City for carrying out any of the purposes of the Charter, plus payment of all state and county taxes and obligations imposed upon the City by law to finance the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1752 **NO: 574**

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$17,985,069 necessary for the support of the public school system for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Local budget of \$17,374,491 plus grant budget of \$610,578, for a total school budget of \$17,985,069) (Requested by the School Board)

YES: 1130 **NO: 1211**

ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$575,230 for the support of the Recreation Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Requested by the School Board)

YES: 1859 **NO: 537**

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,000 as compensation to the Mayor for services for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1876 **NO: 525**

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,200 (\$1,200 each) as compensation to the Council Members for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1902 **NO: 488**

ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$7,300 (Chair \$1,300; others \$1,000 each) as compensation to the School Commissioners for their services for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Requested by the School Board)

YES: 1736 **NO: 630**

ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters authorize the Board of School Commissioners to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2014 in a reserve (restricted) fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Commissioners for the purpose of operating the school? (Requested by the School Board)

YES: 1722 **NO: 619**

ARTICLE 9. Shall the City of Montpelier adopt as its charter the “Comprehensive Revised Charter of the City of Montpelier”, as approved by the City Council on January 23, 2014, an official copy of which is maintained in the ballot booth and is on file in the office of the City Clerk? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1588 **NO: 621**

ARTICLE 10. Shall the voters authorize the City to exempt alternate energy sources from real and personal property taxation in accord with Title 32 V.S.A. § 3845 first effective for the April 1, 2014 tax year? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1561 **NO: 764**

ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters authorize the City levy a special assessment of \$0.0515 per \$100 of appraisal value on properties within Montpelier’s Designated Downtown not used entirely for residential purposes? The assessment shall be apportioned according to the listed value of such properties except that the assessment for any property also used for residential purposes shall be reduced by the proportion that heated residential floor space bears to heated floor space for such property. Funds raised by the assessment shall be used to improve the downtown streetscape and to market the downtown. (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1517 **NO: 804**

ARTICLE 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$308,673 to be used by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (This amount is in addition to the \$40,790 for the library bond payment included in the City General Fund Budget, ARTICLE 2) (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1888 **NO: 517**

ARTICLE 13. Shall the voters of the City of Montpelier adopt the Central Vermont Public Safety Authority Charter? (Requested by the City Council)

YES: 1634 **NO: 549**

ARTICLE 14. WHEREAS the establishment of a Public Bank in Vermont will help towns reduce the local tax burden by offering low cost bonds for public works and a depository for their accounts with competitive interest,

WHEREAS a Public Bank that makes loans and investments in Vermont’s people and our economy will help create jobs, income, and economic security for all Vermonters,

We call on the state legislature to consider the creation of a Public Bank for Vermont that enhances the work of the Vermont Economic Development Authority, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, the Vermont Housing Finance Agency, the Municipal Bond Bank, the Vermont chartered community banks and credit unions by accepting deposits from the state and municipal governments and making loan programs available for students, homeowners, municipalities and enterprises to make Vermont economically stable, self-reliant, and successful.

YES: 1629 **NO: 697**

April Special City Meeting Results

ARTICLE 1. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$17,891,803 necessary for the support of the public school system for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015? (Local budget of \$17,281,225 plus grant budget of \$610,578, for a total school budget of \$17,891,803) (Requested by the School Board)

YES: 914 **NO: 565**

**ANNUAL CITY MEETING
CITY OF MONTPELIER, VERMONT
MARCH 5, 2013**

In light of printing errors in the 2013 Annual Report, we are reprinting the 2013 City Meeting ballot results for City officers.

ARTICLE 1 (Candidates)

POSITION	TERM	CANDIDATES	VOTES	RESULT
Green Mount Cemetery	5 years	Meri Nielsen	1861	ELECTED
Park Commissioner	5 years	Cara Robeck	1760	ELECTED
School Commissioner	3 years	Sue Aldrich	1674	ELECTED
		Michelle Braun	1500	ELECTED
		Lowell Vanderlip	1559	ELECTED
Council Person District 1	2 years	Tom Golonka	575	ELECTED
Council Person District 2	2 years	Anne Watson	678	ELECTED
Council Person District 3	2 years	Zack Hughes	70	
		Steven Cook	109	
		Jessica Edgerly Walsh	295	ELECTED
		Ron Wild	146	



Photo Courtesy of Sandy Pitonyak

School Superintendent's Report

It is an exciting time to be a part of education in the State of Vermont, and particularly in Montpelier Public Schools. As I reflect on my tenure as Superintendent of Schools in the Capital City, I continue to be impressed by the adults and the students in this District. Our students demonstrate a remarkable commitment to their own educational growth whether in Kindergarten or Twelfth Grade; simply put, it is inspirational. Further, they are accompanied on their educational journeys by a student-centered and mission-driven faculty and staff in every one of our buildings. From Union Elementary School to Main Street Middle School, to Montpelier High School, every adult seeks to connect with each and every learner that crosses our paths.

This year we made an effort to contain costs, expand opportunities for our students, and think about education differently. One of the ways we are working to contain costs is by addressing the needs of our buildings, funded through the bond. To date, we have spent a little over \$2 million of the \$2.3 million bond that was approved. Some of the highlights thus far:

New roofs were installed on each of the three school buildings.

Improvements and upgrades were made to the heating controls at Union Elementary School, making it possible to partner with the City of Montpelier's District Heating program. As a result, the building is approximately 10% more efficient during the winter season.

All three buildings made improvements to exterior and interior doors, leading to more comprehensive security, energy efficiency, accessibility and function.

Bathrooms were renovated at Main Street Middle School and Union Elementary School. In particular, they were reconfigured to address functional deficiencies, including more energy-efficient water conservation fixtures.

The parking lot at Main Street Middle School (Franklin Street) was repaved and the one at Montpelier High School was renovated. The renovation included better circulation, safety, and drainage, as well as improvements to landscaping and lighting.

The athletic field bleachers at Montpelier High School were removed and replaced to provide safe, accessible, durable seating at the high school's main athletic field.

When we think about expanding opportunities for students, we begin to think thoughtfully about measuring student growth, not simply reporting test scores. With that in mind, and in keeping with Vermont's Act 77, we are leading the way in the state working to personalize learning for each student. From the early portfolio pioneers at Main Street Middle School to the district leaders presenting at the League of Innovative

Schools, we are charting a course in Montpelier Public Schools that is being recognized both state-wide and beyond. We believe that critical to a student's success are the relationships that s/he builds while a learner. From those relationships comes a personalized approach that engages students with adults, instead of the adults simply delivering information to them.

Finally, we are tasked with thinking about education differently in Montpelier Public Schools. Whether we are collaborating with our neighbors in surrounding supervisory unions, building efficiencies into existing systems due to sustained leadership, or exploring new revenue streams by inviting international students, Montpelier Public Schools does not settle for the status quo. We have been visited by the Great Schools Partnership, recognized by Edutopia (The George Lucas Educational Foundation), and featured on National Public Radio. In short, we are looking ahead for more ways to engage our students in the learning that will shape the people they will become as they enter the 21st Century professional world.

The students of Montpelier Public Schools remain the sole focus of our work. Every single adult in this District is focused on the goal for all students that they "will be capable, motivated contributors to their local, national, and world communities." We continue to grow as professionals to meet the needs of a diverse group of young people. As life-long learners ourselves, we model this mission-driven expectation for our students. Please come to visit our schools and see first hand what we are proud of and the ways that we are improving the educational experience for the children of this community. Thank you for all the ways that you support our work. I am honored to serve this community as Superintendent of Schools.

~Dr. Brian G. Ricca, *Superintendent*



Photo Courtesy of Linda Hogan

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PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES
ONLY

District: **Montpelier**
County: **Washington**

T129
Montpelier

Statutory calculation.
See note at bottom of
page.

Recommended homestead
rate from Tax
Commissioner. See note at
bottom of page.

9,459	1.00
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Expenditures

		FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$16,153,790	\$17,359,522	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-	2.
3.	minus Act 144 Expenditures, to be excluded from Education Spending (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-	3.
4.	Locally adopted or warned budget	\$16,153,790	\$17,359,522	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	4.
5.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-	5.
6.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-	6.
7.	Total Budget	\$16,153,790	\$17,359,522	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	7.
8.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	8.
9.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	9.

Revenues

10.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$3,669,163	\$3,504,642	\$3,479,380	\$3,313,525	10.
11.	plus Capital debt aid for eligible projects pre-existing Act 60	-	-	-	-	11.
12.	minus All Act 144 revenues, including local Act 144 tax revenues (Manchester & West Windsor only)	-	-	-	-	12.
13.	Offsetting revenues	\$3,669,163	\$3,504,642	\$3,479,380	\$3,313,525	13.

14.	Education Spending	\$12,484,627	\$13,854,880	\$14,412,423	\$14,749,328	14.
15.	Equalized Pupils (Act 130 count is by school district)	975.39	997.09	987.95	992.33	15.

		\$12,799.63	\$13,895.32	\$14,588.21	\$14,863.33	
16.	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$12,799.63	\$13,895.32	\$14,588.21	\$14,863.33	16.
17.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$312.86	\$351.13	\$459.23	\$446	17.
18.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual	\$34.92	\$49.09	\$56.43	\$58	18.
19.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed	-	-	-	-	19.
20.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils	-	-	-	-	20.
21.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period	-	-	-	-	21.
22.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition	NA	-	-	-	22.
23.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools	-	-	-	-	23.
24.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015	NA	NA	NA	-	24.
25.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	-	-	-	25.
26.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment	\$12,800	\$13,895	\$14,588	\$14,863	26.
27.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%) (\$14,863 / \$9,459)	146.734%	151.845%	157.116%	157.134%	27.

Prorating the local tax rate

28.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate to be prorated (157.134% x \$1,000)	\$1,3059	\$1,4273	\$1,5397	\$1,5713	28.
29.	Percent of Montpelier equalized pupils not in a union school district	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	29.
30.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (100.00% x \$1.57)	\$1,3059	\$1,4273	\$1,5397	\$1,5713	30.
31.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	99.62%	99.51%	97.92%	97.07%	31.
32.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$1,5713 / 97.07%)	\$1,3109	\$1,4343	\$1,5724	\$1,6187	32.

If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.

33.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated (157.134% x 1.94%)	2.64%	2.73%	3.05%	3.05%	33.
34.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (100.00% x 3.05%)	2.64%	2.73%	3.05%	3.05%	34.
35.	Percent of equalized pupils at union 1	-	-	-	-	35.
36.		-	-	-	-	36.

- Following current statute, the base education amount is calculated to be \$9,459. The Tax Commissioner has recommended base tax rates of \$1.00 and \$1.535. The administration also has stated that tax rates could be lower than the recommendations if statewide education spending is held down.
- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
- The base income percentage cap is 1.94%.

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Comparative Data for Cost-Effectiveness, FY2016 Report
16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2)(K)

School: Union Elementary School
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports".
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2014 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Elementary school, enrollment ≥ 300
(31 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)
6 out of 31

	School Level Data	Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu/Tchr Ratio	Stu/Admin Ratio	Total/Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Middlebury ID #4 School	PK-6	457	34.90	2.30	13.09	198.70	15.17
	Molly Stark School	PK-5	463	24.50	2.00	18.90	231.50	12.25
	Essex Elementary School	PK-2	473	33.60	1.00	14.08	473.00	33.60
	Union Elementary School	PK-5	522	38.27	1.00	13.64	522.00	38.27
	Mallets Bay School	PK-5	526	30.90	2.00	17.02	263.00	15.45
	Swanton Schools	PK-6	581	56.50	2.00	10.28	290.50	28.25
<-Larger	Rutland Intermediate School	3-6	622	58.00	3.00	10.72	207.33	19.33
	Averaged SCHOOL cohort data		425.10	31.93	1.51	13.31	281.84	21.16

School: Main Street Middle School
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports".
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2014 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Middle School
(25 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)
21 out of 25

	School Level Data	Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu/Tchr Ratio	Stu/Admin Ratio	Total/Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Harwood Union Middle UHS #19	7-8	135	15.39	0.44	8.77	306.82	34.98
	Woodstock Union Middle School	7-8	137	14.90	1.00	9.19	137.00	14.90
	Winooski Middle School	6-8	153	18.90	0.86	8.10	177.91	21.98
	Main Street Middle School	6-8	192	21.04	1.00	9.13	192.00	21.04
	Bellows Falls Middle School	5-8	239	23.90	2.00	10.00	119.50	11.95
	Lamolle Union Middle School #18	7-8	245	27.80	2.00	8.81	122.50	13.90
	Brattleboro Area Middle School #6	7-8	255	31.90	2.00	7.99	127.50	15.95
<-Larger	Averaged SCHOOL cohort data		309.16	29.18	1.73	10.60	178.91	16.89

School: Montpelier High School
S.U.: Montpelier S.D.

A list of schools and school districts in each cohort may be found on the DOE website under "School Data and Reports".
<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/>

FY2014 School Level Data

Cohort Description: Middle School
(27 schools in cohort)

Cohort Rank by Enrollment (1 is largest)
24 out of 27

	School Level Data	Grades Offered	Enrollment	Total Teachers	Total Administrators	Stu/Tchr Ratio	Stu/Admin Ratio	Total/Admin Ratio
Smaller ->	Twin Valley Joint Contract High School	9-12	156	20.15	2.00	7.74	78.00	10.08
	Winooski High School	9-12	203	25.45	1.65	7.98	123.03	15.42
	Peoples Academy	9-12	249	25.27	1.00	9.85	249.00	25.27
	Montpelier High School	9-12	283	32.10	1.00	8.82	283.00	32.10
	Bellows Falls Academy HS, Fairfax	9-12	329	27.34	1.00	12.03	329.00	27.34
	Bellows Falls UHS #27	9-12	341	37.01	2.50	9.21	136.40	14.80
	Lake Region UHS #24	9-12	346	29.37	2.00	11.78	173.00	14.69
<-Larger	Averaged SCHOOL cohort data		638.26	56.11	2.94	11.37	217.29	19.10

School District: Montpelier
LEA ID: T129

Special education expenditures vary substantially from district to district and year to year. Therefore, they have been excluded from these figures.

The portion of current expenditures made by supervisory unions on behalf of districts varies greatly. These data include district assessments to SUs. Including assessments to SUs makes districts more comparable to each other.

FY2013 School District Data

Cohort Description: K-12 school district
(33 school districts in cohort)

	School district data (local, union, or joint district)	Grades offered in School District	Student FTE enrolled in school district	Current expenditure per student FTE EXCLUDING special education costs	Cohort Rank by FTE (1 is largest) 8 out of 33
Smaller ->	Winooski ID	PK-12	752.46	\$15,286	
	Fairfax	PK-12	843.12	\$10,926	
	Morristown	PK-12	848.17	\$11,916	
	Montpelier	PK-12	993.11	\$12,182	
	Springfield	PK-12	1,359.83	\$13,963	
	Hartford	PK-12	1,543.80	\$11,391	
<-Larger	Milton	PK-12	1,602.61	\$10,943	
	Averaged SCHOOL DISTRICT cohort data		804.5	\$12,969	

Current expenditures are an effort to calculate an amount per FTE spent by a district on students enrolled in that district. This figure excludes tuitions and assessments paid to other providers, construction and equipment costs, debt service, adult education, and community services.

FY2015 School District Data

	LEA ID	School District	School district tax rate			Total municipal tax rate, K-12 consisting of prorated member district rates		
			Sch Dist	Sch Dist	Sch Dist	MUN	MUN	MUN
			Equalized Pupils	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Equalized Homestead Ed tax rate	Common Level of Appraisal	Actual Homestead Ed tax rate
Smaller ->	T071	Fairfax	PK-12	756.87	11,979.78	1.2644	95.29%	1.3269
	T132	Morristown	PK-12	779.57	13,019.42	1.3742	102.64%	1.3389
	T249	Winooski ID	PK-12	895.50	12,736.40	1.3443	101.11%	1.3295
	T129	Montpelier	PK-12	987.95	14,588.21	1.5397	97.92%	1.5724
	T193	Springfield	PK-12	1,342.55	16,134.49	1.7029	109.88%	1.5498
	T093	Hartford	PK-12	1,499.00	14,206.81	1.4995	102.58%	1.4618
<-Larger	T126	Milton	PK-12	1,639.70	13,455.22	1.4202	105.87%	1.3415

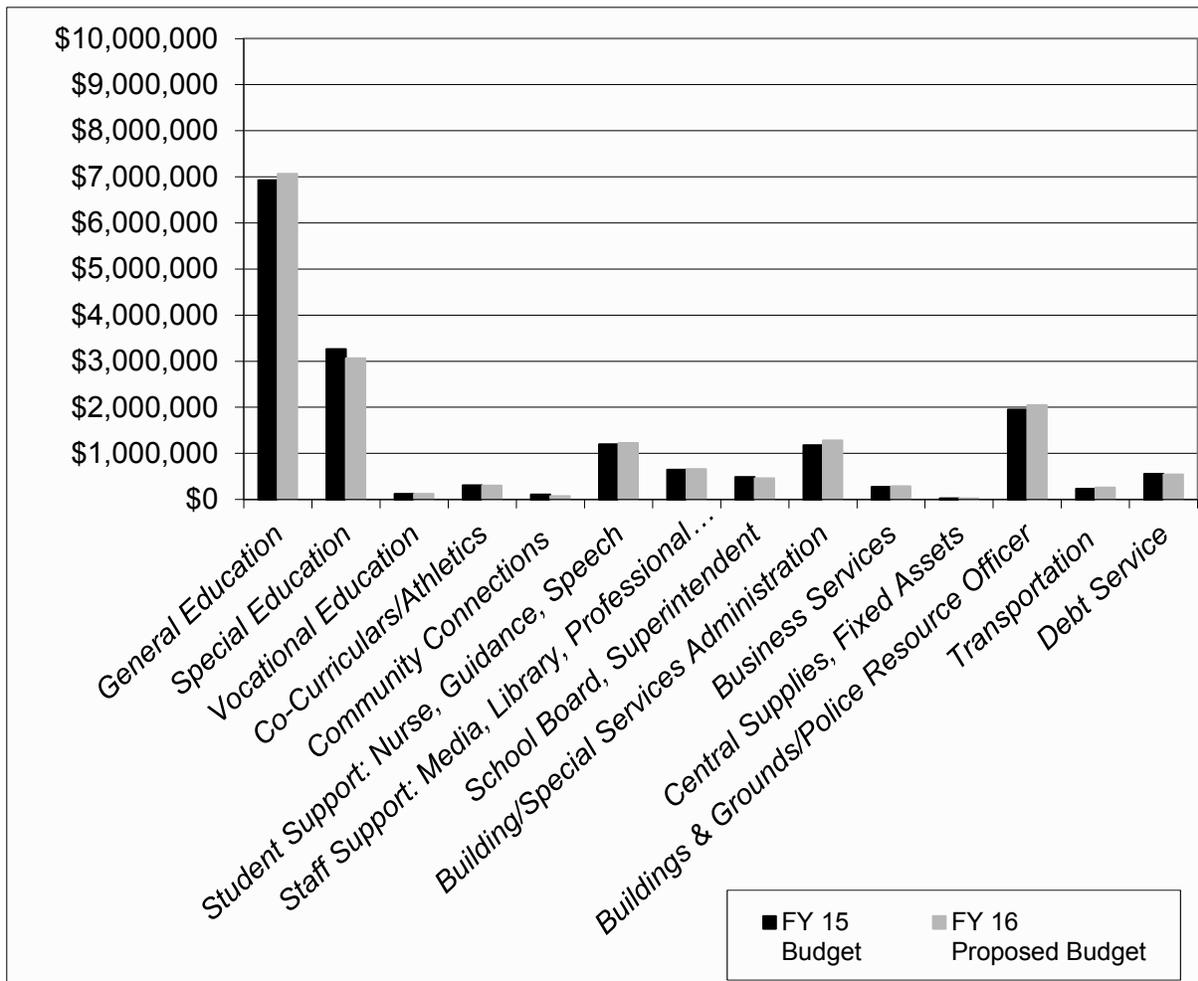
The Legislature has required the Department of Education to provide this information per the following statute:

16 V.S.A. § 165(a)(2) The school, at least annually, reports student performance results to community members in a format selected by the school board. ... The school report shall include:

(K) data provided by the commissioner which enable a comparison with other schools, or school districts if school level data are not available, for cost-effectiveness. The commissioner shall establish which data are to be included pursuant to this subdivision and, notwithstanding that the other elements of the report are to be presented in a format selected by the school board, shall develop a common format to be used by each school in presenting the data to community members. The commissioner shall provide the most recent data available to each school no later than October 1 of each year. Data to be presented may include student-to-teacher ratio, administrator-to-student ratio, and cost per pupil.

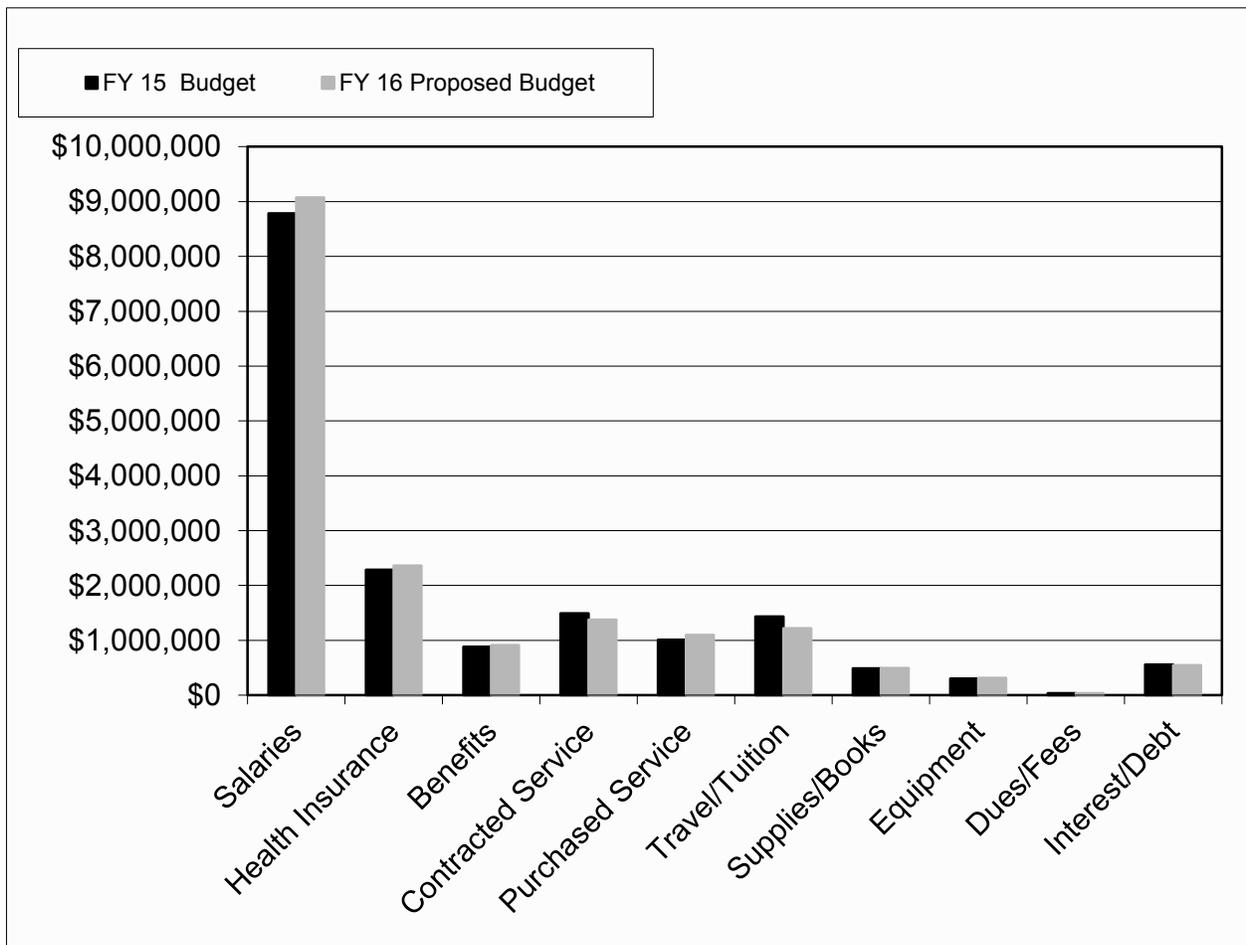
Budget Overview FY16 - Program Analysis

Program	FY 15 Budget	FY 16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
General Education	\$6,930,339	\$7,067,352	\$137,013	1.98%
Special Education	3,265,190	3,065,220	-199,970	-6.12%
Vocational Education	121,671	119,506	-2,165	-1.78%
Co-Curriculars/Athletics	305,795	303,196	-2,599	-0.85%
Community Connections	108,750	72,500	-36,250	-33.33%
Student Support: Nurse, Guidance, Speech	1,195,962	1,227,567	31,605	2.64%
Staff Support: Media, Library, Professional Development	648,182	662,207	14,025	2.16%
School Board, Superintendent	485,698	462,182	-23,516	-4.84%
Building/Special Services Administration	1,176,160	1,283,874	107,714	9.16%
Business Services	276,872	286,014	9,142	3.30%
Central Supplies, Fixed Assets	27,950	27,800	-150	-0.54%
Buildings & Grounds/Police Resource Officer	1,950,606	2,049,292	98,686	5.06%
Transportation	232,050	257,483	25,433	10.96%
Debt Service	556,000	544,684	-11,316	-2.04%
Total General Fund	\$17,281,225	\$17,428,877	\$147,652	0.85%
Total Grant Funds	\$610,578	\$633,976	\$23,398	3.83%
Total General Fund & Grant Funds	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	\$171,050	0.96%



Category Analysis Budget FY16

Category	FY 15 Budget	FY 16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/Decrease	Percent Increase/Decrease
Salaries	\$8,785,822	\$9,073,593	\$287,771	3.28%
Health Insurance	2,284,550	2,361,597	77,047	3.37%
Benefits	881,014	911,324	30,310	3.44%
Contracted Service	1,494,251	1,375,954	-118,297	-7.92%
Purchased Service	1,012,600	1,098,250	85,650	8.46%
Travel/Tuition	1,433,683	1,220,450	-213,233	-14.87%
Supplies/Books	489,925	492,836	2,911	0.59%
Equipment	304,675	312,570	7,895	2.59%
Dues/Fees	38,705	37,619	-1,086	-2.81%
Interest/Debt	556,000	544,684	-11,316	-2.04%
Total General Fund	\$17,281,225	\$17,428,877	\$147,652	0.85%
Total Grant Funds	\$610,578	\$633,976	\$23,398	3.83%
Total General Fund & Grant Funds	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	\$171,050	0.96%



Budget Summary FY16

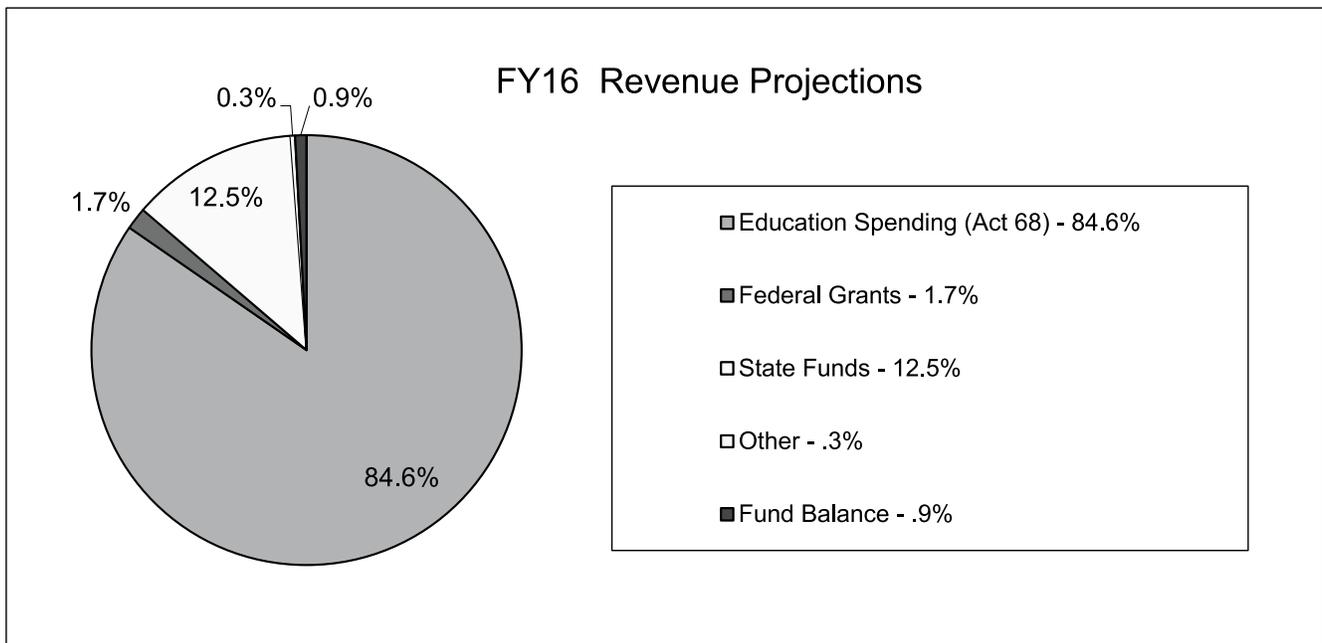
Program	FY15 Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/ Decrease	Percent Increase/ Decrease
General Fund	699,162	639,638	-59,524	-8.51%
Community Based Learning	155,953	162,090	6,137	3.94%
Art	242,333	246,653	4,320	1.78%
Driver Education	85,411	80,253	-5,158	-6.04%
English (7-12)	344,907	304,376	-40,531	-11.75%
Foreign Language	340,162	373,835	33,673	9.90%
Family and Consumer Science	80,373	83,302	2,929	3.64%
Tech Education	93,472	97,450	3,978	4.26%
Math	299,541	287,014	-12,527	-4.18%
Music	261,829	311,188	49,359	18.85%
Science	347,195	362,558	15,363	4.42%
Social Studies	261,989	270,641	8,652	3.30%
Physical Education	331,244	332,667	1,423	0.43%
Health	35,846	36,706	860	2.40%
Literacy	9,820	10,370	550	5.60%
Kindergarten	371,103	372,561	1,458	0.39%
Grade 1	364,907	387,469	22,562	6.18%
Grade 2	350,880	340,193	-10,687	-3.05%
Grade 3	278,658	313,763	35,105	12.60%
Grade 4	311,316	292,420	-18,896	-6.07%
Grade 5	218,330	330,707	112,377	51.47%
Grade 6	313,128	238,582	-74,546	-23.81%
UES Science	19,600	24,600	5,000	25.51%
Computer Technology	237,997	230,096	-7,901	-3.32%
ELL	155,659	150,672	-4,987	-3.20%
Regular Education Support	199,037	195,729	-3,308	-1.66%
Team Summit (Grades 7 & 8)	164,668	170,091	5,423	3.29%
Team Sirius (Grades 7 & 8)	310,773	321,622	10,849	3.49%
SOAR Program	45,046	90,106	45,060	100.03%
Dual Enrollment MHS	0	10,000	10,000	100.00%
Special Education Tuition/Travel	822,940	570,664	-252,276	-30.66%
Idea B - Special Education	39,300	30,556	-8,744	-22.25%
Special Education	1,419,566	1,600,767	181,201	12.76%
Special Education IA's	983,384	863,233	-120,151	-12.22%
Vocational Education	121,671	119,506	-2,165	-1.78%
Co-Curriculars/Athletics	305,795	303,196	-2,599	-0.85%
Community Connections	108,750	72,500	-36,250	-33.33%
Guidance	408,995	445,248	36,253	8.86%
Student Assistance Program	38,417	36,193	-2,224	-5.79%

Budget Summary FY16

Program	FY15 Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget	Dollar Increase/ Decrease	Percent Increase/ Decrease
Student Records	86,772	81,730	-5,042	-5.81%
Nurses	201,469	209,716	8,247	4.09%
Physical Therapy	40,000	34,800	-5,200	-13.00%
Occupational Therapy	30,000	35,200	5,200	17.33%
Social Work General Fund	37,895	39,174	1,279	3.38%
Social Workers/Evaluations/Psychologist	110,916	104,946	-5,970	-5.38%
Speech/Language	230,598	228,860	-1,738	-0.75%
Graduation/Assemblies	10,900	11,700	800	7.34%
Curriculum Coordinator	58,366	61,059	2,693	4.61%
Professional Development/Inservice	50,000	68,999	18,999	38.00%
Library	274,647	268,453	-6,194	-2.26%
Media	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Technology	263,169	261,696	-1,473	-0.56%
School Board	12,888	13,088	200	1.55%
Legal	66,359	30,000	-36,359	-54.79%
Audit	15,170	15,700	530	3.49%
Insurance	92,892	92,892	0	0.00%
Superintendent's Office	298,389	310,502	12,113	4.06%
Principal's Office	970,551	1,056,944	86,393	8.90%
Special Education Administration	205,609	226,930	21,321	10.37%
Business Services	276,872	286,014	9,142	3.30%
Fixed Asset	950	800	-150	-15.79%
Central Supplies	27,000	27,000	0	0.00%
Buildings & Grounds	1,869,390	1,966,035	96,645	5.17%
Crossing Guards/School Safety	36,639	37,005	366	1.00%
Police Resource Officer	44,577	46,252	1,675	3.76%
Special Ed Transportation	73,224	93,893	20,669	28.23%
Transportation	158,826	163,590	4,764	3.00%
Debt Service	556,000	544,684	-11,316	-2.04%
TOTAL LOCAL BUDGET	\$17,281,225	\$17,428,877	\$147,652	0.85%
Other Grant Funds	\$610,578	\$633,976	\$23,398	3.83%
TOTAL BUDGET & Grant Funds	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	\$171,050	0.96%

Revenue Projections FY16

Revenue	FY15 Revenue	FY16 Proposed	Difference	Explanation
Education Spending (Act 68 definition)	14,412,423	14,749,328	336,905	Amount from state to fund education spending.
Special Ed Intensive	1,351,624	1,424,549	72,925	State special education funding estimated at 56% for reimbursement of costs exceeding grants.
Special Ed Block Grant	360,162	365,809	5,647	State provides sum of money based on enrollment and core special ed staffing.
Special Ed Extraordinary	586,017	315,194	(270,823)	State provides sum of money for extraordinary costs.
IDEA B Grant	288,723	289,879	1,156	Reflects actual Federal Grant amount for current year.
Tuition	14,500	32,000	17,500	Tuition estimate from other LEA's and private sources.
Rentals	21,000	15,500	(5,500)	Income received for use of facilities.
Vocational Transportation	12,051	12,410	359	State reimbursement for transportation expenses.
Driver Education	6,474	7,000	526	State reimbursement for driver education expenses.
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	-	Miscellaneous revenue and donations received.
Transportation Aid	44,930	57,208	12,278	State reimbursement for K-12 transportation expenses reimbursed at 40.145%
Interest	9,500	8,000	(1,500)	Anticipated interest earned.
Balance Forward	171,821	150,000	(21,821)	Fund Balance to reduce taxes
Total General Fund	\$17,281,225	\$17,428,877	\$147,652	0.85%
Other Grant Funds	\$610,578	\$633,976	\$23,398	3.83%
Total General & Grant Funds	\$17,891,803	\$18,062,853	\$171,050	0.96%



Salaries for 2014 -- Montpelier School District

Salaries include all School and Recreation Department employees. These include substitute teachers and instructional assistants, other temporary employees, and Recreation Department summer camp and pool employees.

Susan R. Abrams	\$68,364	Andrea J. Brassard	280	Gregory J. Conk	32,896
Clarissa S. Adams	53,996	Anne M. Witten Braun	1,000	Carrie S. Cook	53,289
Ellen L. Adams	8,610	Jenna L. Bravakis	40,522	Elizabeth M. Cookson	14,115
Sarah R. Adelman	200	Theodore C. Bressor	1,000	Shelby L. Copans	2,160
Rachel L. Aldrich	42,162	Margaret E. Brigham	20,977	Robin Cornell	400
Suzanne Kennedy Aldrich	1,300	Matthew D. Brittenham-Jones	23,210	Alison A. Covie	1,739
Ronald L. Allen	51,315	Samuel E. Bromley	41,267	Bailey A. Cummings	1,074
Thomas L. Allen	49,095	Kevin M. Brown	19,159	Julie E. Curran	4,321
Scott R. Appel	17,314	Emery H. Brush	677	Kyle L. Cushman	240
Garrett B. Arnold	3,400	Cindy P. Bubrouski	24,089	Suzanne J. Da Via	57,897
Pamela J. Arnold	103,530	Geraldine Bucci	1,350	Alicia E. Danyew	2,937
Barbara J. Austin-Hutchins	70,408	William H. Bugbee	10,314	Christopher F. Davis	1,760
Karen L. Lussier Babin	9,280	Adam D. Bunting	98,455	Gabriele A. Davis	65,469
Michael R. Baginski	65,969	Janet G. Burke	20,977	Laura A. Delcore	24,541
Mevladin Bahonjic	1,739	Lisa D. Burns	250	Christine E. DeLeo	80
Elizabeth A. Bailey	41,341	Ainsley M. Burroughs	80	Ty P. Delphia	874
Shellie Bailey	14,817	Anthony H. Bushway	19,007	Paula L. Despault	8,092
Shannon M. Baker	31,002	Cathleen Butterfield-Heitmann	60,493	Amariah Z. DiGiovanni	1,106
Toren H. Ballard	3,008	Jo-Ann L. Buzzi	40,027	Monica M. DiGiovanni	5,200
John D. Balzanelli	30,729	Esther M. Byam	13,367	Stephanie J. DiLena	60,242
Hannah E. Barden	6,282	Brian A. Cain	2,131	Linda S. Dostie	47,979
Scott J. Barker	17,043	Lilli B. Cain	990	Patricia Dow Collier	67,134
Jenny L. Bartlett	36,789	Rebecca E. Cardone	32,309	Penny L. Downen	30,391
William T. Basa	2,079	Phillip B. Carr	15,730	Matthew R. Dowling	4,181
John H. Bate	25,500	Frank S. Casavant	3,756	Ashley T. Dubois	42,277
Heather A. Bates	54,417	Thomas D. Cate	23,351	Heidi E. Duffel	638
Ashley M. Beach	48,616	Louis A. Cecere III	360	Janice W. Dunn	863
Jennifer C. Bean	1,000	Matthew D. Cecere	520	Laura M. Dunwoody	5,793
Kathryn C. Beaulieu	600	Toni L. Ceckler	68,064	Jeffrey A. Duplessis	10,636
Linda C. Beaupre	72,089	Katherine A. Chabot	43,591	Sharyn E. Duplessis	21,887
Andrew J. Becker	3,883	Lauren P. Chabot	50,923	Jane S. Edwards	18,085
Susan N. Beem	36,961	Courtney L. Chadburn	2,079	Trees-ah Elder	40,163
Valerie W. Belanger	44,087	Jo-Anne H. Chaloux	42,627	Sophia T. Eldridge	1,833
Nolan R. Benoit	1,040	Nancy F. Chase	39,656	Irene M. Facciolo	6,000
Josee C. Bevington	31,855	Myles G. Chater	55,024	Sylvia A. Fagin	51,553
Timothy M. Bianchi	1,826	Theresa M. Chenail	160	Audrey Famette	20,935
Ana Bikic	1,085	Alison L. Cheroff	1,480	Erica B. Farnham	32,752
Zephyr Cerulli Billingsley	34,495	Karen S. Chesser	1,400	Margaret C. Fawcett	4,280
Irene M. Bishay	1,371	Aldo M. Ciampi, Jr.	2,087	Sheila Fenoff-Willett	3,174
Jennifer L. Blacklock	10,663	Pinky Clark	11,711	Joyce G. Ferris	20,909
Carrie E. Blodgett	46,480	Sheila Cleary	5,843	Paulette Fiorentino-Robinson	45,460
Darryl F. Bloom	46	Catherine H. Clements	54,210	Mikayla E. Flynn	1,773
Paul C. Boffa	3,320	Jill A. Closter	46,480	Spencer R. Forest	4,480
Kimberly J. Bolduc	880	J. Peter Cobb	2,399	Jason A. Foster	2,348
Brenda L. Bolio	61,317	Dena T. Cody	54,896	Nicholas Foster	2,739
Charlotte M. Brace	1,717	Judy U. Colombo	1,840	Pamela J. Foster	24,735
Rhonda M. Brace	46,078	Mary K. Commins	640	Julia G. Francis	280

Madison C. Francis	673	Mary Hoyne	18,576	Ashley B. Magoon	3,259
Suzanne M. Francke	19,316	Danielle M. Huston	3,560	Patricia M. Magoon	67,269
Anne O. Fraser	20,207	Jeffrey W. Jarrad	54,217	Aidan J. Mallett	1,448
Olivia A. Fraser	2,880	Juliana M. Jennings	120	Dennis Maranville	4,131
Lisa A. Fredette	8,520	Marie L. Jennings	39,842	Sarah E. Marcus	920
Vanessa H. Freeman	47,879	Lucas P. Johnson	8,682	Adena B. Martin	250
Megan E. Fuller	1,031	Kenneth C. Jones	1,000	Carly P. Martin	124
Laura H. Furber	1,638	Mark W. Joy	2,938	Michael S. Martin	91,350
Brian J. Gallagher	51,940	Elisabeth W. Kahn	13,840	Norma L. Maurice	30,841
Debra S. Garrett	36,489	Joan M. Kahn	80	Robert C. Maurice	36,640
Hannah R. Geier	41,341	Kristina L. Kane	45,581	Kerrin A. McCadden	53,731
John G. Gerdel	3,695	Todd A. Keller	45,617	James B. McCarthy	2,360
Paula E. Gervia	61,273	Windy L. Kelley	56,495	Seth W. McCoy	14,919
Donna M. Gibbs	16,557	Garrett J. Kelty	2,409	Marita C. McDonald-Frey	44,860
Christine Gibson-Davis	11,632	Mia A. Kennedy	9,113	Wendy J. McGuiggan	44,981
Michael D. Gibson-Davis	3,328	Theresa G. Kennedy	120	Brendan N. McLane	47,337
Theresa A. Giffin	68,538	Kimberly J. Kidney	16,825	Heather J. McLane	19,238
Julia HC Gilbert	560	Amy L. Kimball	57,673	Matthew B. McLane	53,912
Sherrill Piken Gilbert	2,480	Kenric A. Kite	2,055	Martin F. McMahan III	5,800
Jason M. Gingold	1,273	John Klimenok, Jr.	400	Arne T. McMullen	60,422
Anne E. Giroux	55,130	Sarah E. Knauss	53,952	Kaitlyn E. McMullen	209
Morgan H. Glines	3,406	Susan E. Koch	58,792	Mehgan M. McMullen	452
Hilary L. Goldblatt	47,779	Karlynn C. Koenemann	18,830	Seth T. McMullen	3,083
Alice R. Goltz	3,703	Diana B. Koliander-Hart	10,786	Marianne McNamara	17,137
Diana C. Goodell	26,852	Kirk D. Kreitz	45,921	Nancy L. Mears	49,799
Glen R. Goodell	3,616	Colleen F. Kresco	8,916	Stephen A. Mears	46,497
Linda L. Goodell	49,794	Lisa M. Labounty	1,946	Sarah E. Mele	25,758
Holly K. Gordon	766	Megan T. LaCasse	1,000	Mary Mello	67,689
Margaret L. Gordon	530	Richard T. Lachapelle	55,951	Hope A. Metcalf	9,711
Eleanor M. Gowans	4,824	William G. Laidlaw	55,899	Heather J. Michaud	48,011
Corinne M. Gretch	17,564	George B. Laramore, Jr.	1,009	Julie J. Michaud	21,349
Haley C. Grey	2,328	Ryan J. Larson	2,585	Jason P. Miles	58,894
Kelly A. Grey	18,329	Russell C. Leete	39,382	Daniel M. Miller-Arsenault	55,835
Lauren E. Griffin	160	Daniel J. LeFebvre	45,139	Teresa B. Milne	19,683
Gary M. Griffith	64,589	Emily E. LeFebvre	42,922	Judy A. Milstein	543
Christopher L. Guros	46,876	Ann M. Limoge	1,529	Susan M. Monmaney	50,951
Sarah G. Guyette	18,501	Kayla M. Link	1,833	Paige M. Montague	4,470
Sarah A. Halpine	57,823	Matthew P. Link	47,017	Josue A. Montalvan-Hoyes	121
Elizabeth K. Hammond	45,815	Morgan E. Lloyd	46,859	Carlos E. Montero	23,047
Magali R. Harper	1,160	Jo-Ann Lowell	4,084	Elizabeth A. Moody	52,916
Michelle E. Harper	17,680	Bryan E. Lucas	10,720	Peter T. Morande	880
Sheyla Harper	1,301	Christopher M. Luce	34,662	Linda J. Moreno	5,481
Maria B. Harries	3,708	Christine M. Lukas	14,216	Michael A. Morgenbesser	3,200
Richard A. Hayward	320	Mary K. Lundeen	92,365	Robin C. Morissette	40,977
Clarke T. Haywood	80	Nicole I. Lussier	67	Zachary A. Morrill	1,865
Christopher Hennessey	91,350	Michelle Y. Lynch	440	Julie Morton	27,464
Debra A. Hickey	52,497	Gwendolyn W. Lyons	160	Melissa A. Muller-Moore	16,205
Laban C. Hill	840	Linda C. MacDonald	40,331	Cynthia A. Murphy	42,777
Muriel R. Hoerres	80	Whitney W. Machnik	59,764	Henry O. Murray	21,533
Cynthia C. Hooker	39,048	Bianca Magiera	704	Andrea H. Myotte	59,992

Carole J. Naquin	2,160	Eli S. Rosenberg	56,317	Jerry E. Tillotson	53,775
Ann L. Nelson	72,616	Cynthia E. Rossi	103,530	Isabel R. Tomasi	334
John L. Nelson-Miles	24,427	Daniel E. Rowe	39	Phillip R. Tomasi	14,249
Judith M. Nolan	11,459	Dorothy J. Rowe	33,483	Pamela A. Towne	58,839
Timothy J. Noonan	2,360	Kaitlyn E. Roy	3,544	Ryan T. Tran	792
Salih Numanovic	18,792	Marijke Russo	58,621	Shannon Triplett	600
Carlyle M. Nunn	35,382	Thomas J. Sabo, Jr.	34,343	Kathleen Tumulty	325
Cailin L. O'Hara	52,396	Berenice Sarafzade	3,567	Nancy C. Vachon	7,267
Carol Paquette	1,000	Jeffrey Sarpong	2,038	Linda R. Valente	320
Austin C. Parker	2,640	Guillermo R. Sarriera	240	Thomas H. Van Meter	3,960
Christine E. Parker	18,025	Geoffrey C. Sather	65,101	Lowell J. VanDerlip	1,000
Joshua L. Parker	36,672	Colleen R. Schmitt	2,789	Lindsay M. Vanoli	11,868
Melissa M. Parker	52,276	Donald A. Schneider	600	George Vassiliadis	30,957
Maria W. Parr	2,114	Tuller M. Schricker	353	Amia C. Cervantes Vazquez	1,522
Ariel N. Pascoe	8,805	D. Andrew Scott	53,297	Doris C. Viens	37,338
Carol K. Pavek	331	Kimberly A. Scott	47,879	Jennifer Wall Howard	70,297
Brooke Pearson	52,090	Ellen C. Selkowitz	67,314	Heather A. Walpole	3,139
Nijha M. Peloquin	528	Linda M. Senecal	14,950	Sophia K. Warner	2,157
Elizabeth A. Perreault	6,018	Anju Sharma	80	Noah G. Warnke	80
Christine L. Perron	4,650	Madeline A. Sharrow	6,560	Ian T. Watkins	3,335
Pascale Philibert	20,613	Reuben S. Sherman	6,200	Anne E. Watson	50,945
Charles S. Phillips	1,000	Marianne Signorino	58,618	Barbara L. Watson	1,653
Katrina K. Phillips	21,733	Sequana A. Skye	620	Bonnie J. Watson	41
Susan L. Picking	2,800	Lara B. Slesar	52,276	Brian R. Watson	361
Doris E. Pierce	560	Andra A. Smith	6,918	Peggy A. Watson	7,157
Melissa J. Pierce	53,775	Jessica G. Smith	5,053	Wendy C. Watson	2,360
Sharon L. Pine	49,136	Suzanne D. Smith	9,710	Peter G. Watt	19,442
Michelle Pitzner	15,171	Mary Ellen Solon	15,950	Nancy A. Webb	16,721
Stephanie R. Podesta	200	Sarah Squier	61,251	Scott R. Weigand	3,881
Dakota W. Powers	9,323	Samuel F. Staab	2,929	Robert L. Welch	9,166
Kenzie J. Provencher	2,729	Paula M. Stafford	6,669	Patricia M. Welsh	26,906
Corey C. Pulsifer	23,640	Jeffrey T. Stein	6,800	Meagan K. Whalen	2,999
Colleen K. Purcell	44,215	Susan Steinhurst	4,103	Kathleen J. Wheeler	640
Shelby P. Quinn	43,420	Juliet A. Stephens	11,978	Benjamin C. White	32,500
Dillon J. Raftery	1,080	Alexandra E. Stetter	26	Justin C. White	6,760
David R. Rapacz	43,135	Jean B. Stetter	18,516	Jennifer L. Williams	3,300
Dorothy A. Redmond	21,000	Minda G. Stridsberg	2,714	Mollie E. Wills	80
Mary C. Redmond	62,529	Elizabeth A. Strobell	25,658	Meghan H. Wingate	1,200
Mary Catharine R. Reed	50,078	Nathalie C. Sugarman	35,981	Oliver F. Wood	1,307
Erica I. Reich	2,920	Kimberly E. Surwilo	3,495	Thomas K. Wood	74,820
Emmanuel O. Riby-Williams	47,761	Carol R. Sweeney	400	April J. Wortman	3,350
Brian G. Ricca	109,772	Elizabeth J. Swenson	21,241	Diana M. Wright	4,823
Sadie E. Richer	10,112	Scott A. Tassej	4,404	Emily A. Wrigley	46,581
Robin L. Ricker-Lumsden	23,426	Donald H. Taylor III	54,096	Christina L. Young	14,618
Carolyn S. Roberge	58,419	Cheryl Ann Tetreault	6,668	Virginia Q. Zahner	28,476
Jeffrey W. Robie	1,910	Joy E. Thomas	39,804	Ivy Zeller	16,376
Norman E. Robinson	1,826	Peggy A. Thompson	23,049	Kerri B. Zurowski	42,922
Karen Rodis	39,531	Richard E. Thompson, Jr.	31,967	Timothy W. Zurowski	4,704
Susan E. Romans	440	Molly JC Thoms	1,080		
Cullen R. Rose	1,441	Diana M. Tierney	21,166		

**MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
AUDIT REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014**

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FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY

Certified Public Accountants



John E. (Jeff) Fothergill, CPA
Michael L. Segale, CPA
Sheila R. Valley, CPA
Teresa H. Kajenski, CPA
Donald J. Murray, CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of School Directors
Montpelier Public School System
Montpelier, Vermont

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Montpelier Public School System as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Montpelier Public School System, as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the respective budget comparison for the General Fund and the Recreation Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-10 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements on schedules 1 and 2 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 7, 2014, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Fothergill Segale & Valley, CPAs

FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY, CPAs
Montpelier, Vermont
Vermont Public Accountancy License #110

November 7, 2014

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Our discussion and analysis of Montpelier Public School System's financial performance provides an overview of the School System's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. A comparative analysis of government-wide data is presented. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School System's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements, which begin on Exhibit A.

Financial Highlights

- The School System's net position increased by \$523,416 in fiscal year 2014, compared to a decrease of \$228,569 in the prior year.
- The cost of all of the School System's programs was \$19,047,623 this year compared to \$18,592,951 last year, an increase of \$454,672, or 2.4%.
- The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$302,134 this year. The total fund balance for the General Fund was \$1,120,076 as of June 30, 2014. \$171,821 is assigned for fiscal year 2015 and the remainder of \$948,255 is assigned for future revenues after fiscal year 2015.
- The Recreation Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$14,016 this year. The fund balance of the Recreation Fund as of June 30, 2014 was \$244,133, \$18,653 is assigned for fiscal year 2015 and \$225,480 is assigned for future recreation fund expenditures.
- The Grants Fund had a zero year end fund balance because revenues are recognized as expenditures are incurred.
- The Capital Projects Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$1,275,879 this year. The fund balance of \$1,203,359 as of June 30, 2014 is restricted for capital improvements.
- The Nonmajor Funds reported a combined net fund deficit of \$7,984. The fund balance (deficit) decreased \$11,276 during fiscal year 2014.

Using This Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the School System as a whole and present a longer-term view of the School System's finances. Fund financial statements provide another level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the School System's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the School System's most significant funds. All other non-major funds are presented in total in a single column. The remaining statement provides financial information about activities for which the School System acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside the government.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Reporting the School System as a Whole

The financial statements of the School System as a whole are included on Exhibit A and B. One of the most important questions asked about the School System's finances is, "Is the School System as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about the School System as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenue and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School System's net position and changes in net position. You can think of the School System's net position – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the School System's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the School System's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the School System's property tax base and the condition of the School System's capital assets, to assess the overall health of the School System.

All of the School System's basic services are governmental activities. They include regular and special education for Kindergarten through 12th grade, support services, administrative services, transportation, food services, interest on long-term debt and other activities. Act 68 state aid, property taxes, and state grants finance most of these activities.

Reporting the School System's Most Significant Funds

The financial statements of the School System's governmental funds are reflected on Exhibit C – Exhibit F. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the School System as a whole. The School System establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money (like grants received from the State of Vermont Agency of Education). The School System's major funds are the General Fund, Recreation Fund and Grants Fund.

Governmental Funds

All of the School System's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School System's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the School System's programs. We describe the differences between governmental activities and governmental funds in Exhibits C and E that are included in the financial statements.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

The School System as Agent

The School System is the fiscal agent for funds held for various school related activities. The School System's fiduciary activities include Agency Funds and Private Purpose Trust Funds and are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and Changes in Fiduciary Net Position on Exhibit G and Exhibit H. We exclude these activities from the other financial statements because the School System cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The School System is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

The School System as a Whole

The perspective of the Statement of Net Position is of the School System as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the School System's net position for 2014 and 2013.

Table 1 - Net Position

	2014	2013	Change
Current and other assets	\$ 3,897,761	\$ 2,331,095	\$ 1,566,666
Capital assets	8,739,864	7,857,477	882,387
Total assets	<u>12,637,625</u>	<u>10,188,572</u>	<u>2,449,053</u>
Long-term liabilities	5,906,170	3,970,618	1,935,552
Other liabilities	1,381,834	1,391,749	(9,915)
Total liabilities	<u>7,288,004</u>	<u>5,362,367</u>	<u>1,925,637</u>
Net position:			
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	5,647,831	5,470,256	177,575
Unrestricted	(298,210)	(644,051)	345,841
Total net position	<u>\$ 5,349,621</u>	<u>\$ 4,826,205</u>	<u>\$ 523,416</u>

The unrestricted net position balance is negative due to the bond which was taken out to fund the retirement plan lump sum payment during 2009. The School System does not own any assets related to this debt. The increase in the net amount invested in capital assets is due to the increase in capital assets purchased during the year and the reduction of prior year long term debt. The increase in the unrestricted net position is due to a combination of additional revenues and expenditures being less than expected.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Table 2 reflects the change in net position for the fiscal years 2014 and 2013.

	Table 2 - Change in Net Position		
	2014	2013	Change
REVENUES			
Program revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 618,270	\$ 644,114	\$ (25,844)
Operating grants and contributions	4,557,530	4,649,062	(91,532)
General revenues:			
Act 68 State Aid	13,772,086	12,484,627	1,287,459
Property taxes	575,230	575,230	0
Other general revenues	47,923	20,034	27,889
Total revenues	<u>19,571,039</u>	<u>18,373,067</u>	<u>1,197,972</u>
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Instruction	6,385,663	6,384,961	702
Special education	3,324,564	3,383,724	(59,160)
Vocational	115,177	110,418	4,759
Co-curricular/ community connections	263,194	282,835	(19,641)
Community connections	145,000	0	145,000
Support services - student	1,212,449	1,167,019	45,430
Support services - staff	698,035	707,206	(9,171)
School Board/Superintendent's office	439,531	427,386	12,145
Building administration	1,110,888	1,048,348	62,540
Business office	285,112	258,946	26,166
Building maintenance	1,937,136	1,948,128	(10,992)
Transportation	270,615	233,907	36,708
Food service	461,632	449,434	12,198
Recreation programs	831,747	794,371	37,376
Grant programs	553,872	534,942	18,930
Interest on long-term debt	262,608	203,326	59,282
On behalf payments	750,400	658,000	92,400
Total program expenses	<u>19,047,623</u>	<u>18,592,951</u>	<u>454,672</u>
Extraordinary items, net	<u>0</u>	<u>(8,685)</u>	<u>8,685</u>
Increase (decrease) in net position	<u>\$ 523,416</u>	<u>\$ (228,569)</u>	<u>\$ 751,985</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Revenues increased by \$1,197,972, or 6.5%. Program expenses increased by \$454,672, or 2.4%. The Act 68 State increase of \$1,287,459 corresponds to increase made in the budget for fiscal year 2015. The Community Connections program was added in fiscal year 2014. On behalf payments represent the amount of the retirement benefits paid by the State of Vermont for the teachers and is offset by additional revenue. Additional interest expense was incurred due to the new bond that was received the beginning of fiscal year 2014.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the School System's largest programs as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenue generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the School System's taxpayers by each of these functions.

Table 3

	Total Cost of Services	Net (Revenue)/ Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net (Revenue)/ Cost of Services
	2014	2014	2013	2013
Instruction	\$ 6,385,663	\$ 6,243,940	\$ 6,384,961	\$ 5,938,732
Special education	3,324,564	523,550	3,383,724	519,915
Support services - student	1,212,449	1,212,449	1,167,019	1,167,019
Building maintenance	1,937,136	1,884,929	1,948,128	1,897,149
Building administration	1,110,888	1,110,888	1,048,348	1,048,348
All others	5,076,923	2,896,067	4,660,771	2,728,612
Totals	<u>\$ 19,047,623</u>	<u>\$ 13,871,823</u>	<u>\$ 18,592,951</u>	<u>\$ 13,299,775</u>

The School System's Funds

- The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$302,134 this year compared to a decrease of \$261,067 in the prior year. The increase in fund balance for fiscal year 2014 was \$302,134 better than what was budgeted. The total fund balance for the General Fund was \$1,120,076 as of June 30, 2014. \$171,821 is assigned for fiscal year 2015 and the remainder of \$948,255 is assigned for future revenues after fiscal year 2015.
- The Recreation Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$14,016 this year compared to an increase of \$47,983 in the prior year. The fund balance of the Recreation Fund as of June 30, 2014 was \$244,133, \$18,653 is assigned for fiscal year 2015 and \$225,480 is assigned for future recreation fund expenditures.
- The Grants Fund had a zero year end fund balance because revenues are recognized as expenditures are incurred. During fiscal year 2014, revenues of \$553,872 were offset by expenditures of the same amount.
- The Capital Projects Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$1,275,879 this year compared to a decrease of increase of \$72,520 in the prior year. This fund is being used to account for various capital improvements that were approved by the voters and is being funded by bond proceeds. The fund balance of \$1,203,359 as of June 30, 2014 is restricted for this purpose.
- The Nonmajor Funds reported a combined net fund deficit of \$7,984. The fund balance (deficit) decreased \$11,276 during fiscal year 2014 compared to a net decrease of \$94,242 in fiscal year 2013.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The General Fund had an increase in fund balance of \$302,134 which was \$302,134 better than what was budgeted. Exhibit F-1 shows the budgetary information on the General Fund. The following are the major variances:

	Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
Revenues			
State special education reimbursements	\$ 2,402,431	\$ 2,517,573	\$ 115,142
Title I	290,499	33,726	(256,773)
Tuition regular	72,500	18,267	(54,233)
Expenditures			
Instruction	6,470,612	6,185,061	285,551
Special education	3,375,604	3,319,017	56,587
Support services - students	1,240,749	1,135,312	105,437
Transfer to early education program	139,685	202,908	(63,223)

State special education expenditures and reimbursements are difficult to budget. Therefore, there are always differences between actual and budget related to special education. For fiscal year 2014, the net difference was a favorable variance of \$171,729. This amount is almost all related to additional reimbursement that was made available at the end of the fiscal year by the State of Vermont because Montpelier had a large amount of extraordinary special education expenditures. The Title I revenue unfavorable variance was offset by less expenditures which are combined into the instruction expenditure line. These variances occurred because the Title I program revenues and expenditures were budgeted in the General Fund but then the actual activity was accounted for in the Grants Fund, based on recommendations by the State of Vermont. The favorable variance in the Support services – students is due to reductions in many different areas under this function, but the largest reductions were for less physical therapy and occupational therapy expenditures. The additional transfer to the early education program resulted due to a greater need in the program than expected when the budget was approved.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At June 30, 2014, the School System had \$8,739,864 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including school buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, and vehicles. (See Table 4 below) This amount represents a net increase (including additions less depreciation of \$882,387) compared to last year.

Table 4 - Capital Assets at Year-End
(Net of Accumulated Depreciation)

	2014	2013	Change
Land improvements	\$ 908,970	\$ 854,971	\$ 53,999
Buildings and improvements	7,106,156	6,525,572	580,584
Machinery and equipment	418,545	395,396	23,149
Vehicles	53,344	9,018	44,326
Construction in progress	252,849	72,520	180,329
Totals	<u>\$ 8,739,864</u>	<u>\$ 7,857,477</u>	<u>\$ 882,387</u>

This year's additions were:

Computer equipment	\$ 114,151
Union School District Heat	640,903
Union School doors and frames	55,211
Union School other improvements	24,832
Main Street School parking lot	19,400
Main Street doors and frames	50,795
Main Street other improvements	39,763
Montpelier High School bleachers	91,050
Montpelier High School other improvements	46,237
Plow truck - recreation	54,565
Construction in progress	180,329
Total additions	<u>\$ 1,317,236</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2014, the School System had \$5,765,392 in bonds and leases outstanding versus \$3,784,701 on June 30, 2013 – an increase of \$1,980,691 – as shown in Table 5.

Table 5
Outstanding Debt at Year-End

	2014	2013	Increase (Decrease)
Vermont Municipal Bond - MHS, MSMS Renovations	\$ 560,000	\$ 700,000	\$ (140,000)
Vermont Municipal Bond - 2009 various renovations	1,120,000	1,195,000	(75,000)
Vermont Municipal Bond - VMERS lump sum	1,470,000	1,470,000	0
Vermont Municipal Bond - 2014 various renovations	2,300,000	0	2,300,000
Capital Leases - various equipment and improvements	315,392	419,701	(104,309)
Totals	<u>\$ 5,765,392</u>	<u>\$ 3,784,701</u>	<u>\$ 1,980,691</u>

During fiscal year 2014, the School System received bond proceeds of \$2,300,000 to be used for various improvements. Payments of \$215,000 were made on bonds and \$104,309 on leases.

Current Issues

Enrollment in the Montpelier School System was 939 for the 2014-15 school year compared to 958 in the prior year. Under the formula employed by the State of Vermont to determine the local tax rate, enrollment poses a significant budgeting challenge. Because costs associated with the basic infrastructure of the school (utilities, maintenance, transportation, administration) are not reduced at all by a reduction in student population (capped by the State in its funding formula at 3.5%), it is very difficult to produce a budget that doesn't have a significant increase in per pupil spending. The community's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) was 99.5% for fiscal year 2013. This means that property values in Montpelier are close to 100% of fair market value.

The School System has responded to budget challenges by reducing professional and support staff positions in those grades with lower enrollment. The School System is also continuing to focus on improving facilities, with a special focus on heating needs and energy efficiency.

Contacting the School System's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers and creditors with a general overview of the School System's finances, and to reflect the School System's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions about this report or additional financial information needs should be directed to Cynthia Rossi, Business Manager, or Brian Ricca, Superintendent, Montpelier Public School System, 5 High School Drive, Unit 1, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT A

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

JUNE 30, 2014

	Governmental Activities	
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 2,434,472	
Cash - restricted	1,229,872	
Accounts receivable - State	206,196	
Accounts receivable - other	16,684	
Inventory	10,537	
Construction in progress	252,849	
Capital assets - depreciable, net of accumulated depreciation of \$6,865,616	<u>8,487,015</u>	
Total assets		12,637,625
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	69,801	
Construction payable	26,513	
Accrued salary and benefits	1,012,855	
Deferred revenue - grants	229,008	
Accrued interest	43,657	
Leases payable due in one year	114,799	
Bonds payable due in one year	330,000	
Termination benefit payable due in one year	35,592	
Compensated absences	105,186	
Leases payable due after one year	200,593	
Bonds payable due after one year	<u>5,120,000</u>	
Total liabilities		<u>7,288,004</u>
NET POSITION		
Unrestricted	(298,210)	
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	<u>5,647,831</u>	
Total net position		<u>\$ 5,349,621</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT B

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Charge for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position in Net Position Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Instruction	\$ 6,385,663	\$ 18,267	\$ 123,456	\$ (6,243,940)
Special education	3,324,564	0	2,801,014	(523,550)
Vocational	115,177	0	95,817	(19,360)
Co-curricular/community connections	408,194	0	0	(408,194)
Support services - students	1,212,449	0	0	(1,212,449)
Support services - staff	698,035	0	0	(698,035)
School Board/Superintendent's office	439,531	0	0	(439,531)
Building administration	1,110,888	0	0	(1,110,888)
Business office	285,112	0	0	(285,112)
Building maintenance	1,937,136	52,207	0	(1,884,929)
Transportation	270,615	0	41,598	(229,017)
Food service	461,632	295,483	155,255	(10,894)
Recreation programs	831,747	252,313	36,118	(543,316)
Grant programs	553,872	0	553,872	0
Interest on long term debt	262,608	0	0	(262,608)
On behalf payments	750,400	0	750,400	0
Total governmental activities	\$ 19,047,623	\$ 618,270	\$ 4,557,530	(13,871,823)
General Revenues:				
				13,772,086
				575,230
				8,096
				12,695
				27,132
				<u>14,395,239</u>
				523,416
				<u>4,826,205</u>
				<u>\$ 5,349,621</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT C

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
AND RECONCILIATION TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2014

	Major Funds				Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	Recreation Fund	Grants Fund	Capital Projects Fund		
ASSETS						
Cash	\$ 2,424,882	\$ 7,912	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,678	\$ 2,434,472
Cash - restricted	0	0	0	1,229,872	0	1,229,872
Accounts receivable - State	185,934	6,989	3,130	0	10,143	206,196
Accounts receivable - other	8,259	2,586	0	0	5,839	16,684
Inventory	0	0	0	0	10,537	10,537
Due from other funds	20,918	271,611	212,524	0	0	505,053
Total assets	\$ 2,639,993	\$ 289,098	\$ 215,654	\$ 1,229,872	\$ 28,197	\$ 4,402,814
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES						
LIABILITIES						
Accounts payable	\$ 56,177	\$ 11,421	\$ 2,203	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 69,801
Construction payable	0	0	0	26,513	0	26,513
Accrued salary and benefits	969,921	33,544	4,521	0	4,869	1,012,855
Deferred revenue	9,684	0	208,930	0	10,394	229,008
Due to other funds	484,135	0	0	0	20,918	505,053
Total liabilities	1,519,917	44,965	215,654	26,513	36,181	1,843,230
FUND BALANCES						
Nonspendable - inventory	0	0	0	0	10,537	10,537
Restricted - capital projects	0	0	0	1,203,359	0	1,203,359
Assigned for future years revenues	948,255	225,480	0	0	0	1,173,735
Assigned for fiscal year 2015	171,821	18,653	0	0	0	190,474
Unassigned	0	0	0	0	(18,521)	(18,521)
Total fund balances	1,120,076	244,133	0	1,203,359	(7,984)	2,559,584
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 2,639,993	\$ 289,098	\$ 215,654	\$ 1,229,872	\$ 28,197	\$ 4,402,814
RECONCILIATION TO STATEMENT OF NET POSITION						
Total fund balances of all Governmental Funds						\$ 2,559,584
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds. The cost of the assets is \$15,605,480, and the accumulated depreciation is \$6,865,616						8,739,864
Long-term liabilities and accrued interest, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. These liabilities at year end consist of:						
Bonds payable					5,450,000	
Leases payable					315,392	
Termination benefit payable					35,592	
Accrued compensated absences					105,186	
Accrued interest					43,657	(5,949,827)
TOTAL NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES (EXHIBIT A)						\$ 5,349,621

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT D

	Major Funds				Other	Total
	General Fund	Recreation Fund	Grants Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Governmental Funds	
REVENUES						
Act 68 State Aid	\$ 13,772,086	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,772,086
Property taxes	0	575,230	0	0	0	575,230
Intergovernmental - State	2,663,743	0	65,170	0	83,233	2,812,146
Intergovernmental - Federal	317,167	0	333,406	0	152,997	803,570
Medicaid	0	0	130,810	0	0	130,810
Investment earnings	7,933	40	0	0	123	8,096
Tuition	18,267	0	0	0	0	18,267
Program fees	0	252,313	0	0	288,302	540,615
Other revenue, private grants	79,339	36,118	24,486	0	7,181	147,124
On-behalf payments	750,400	0	0	0	0	750,400
Total revenues	17,608,935	863,701	553,872	0	531,836	19,558,344
EXPENDITURES						
Current Expenditures						
Instruction	6,185,061	0	0	0	176,768	6,361,829
Special education	3,319,017	0	0	0	0	3,319,017
Vocational	115,177	0	0	0	0	115,177
Co-curricular/community connections	408,194	0	0	0	0	408,194
Support services - students	1,135,312	0	0	0	80,665	1,215,977
Support services - staff	665,575	0	0	0	0	665,575
School Board/Superintendent's office	476,857	0	0	0	0	476,857
Building administration	1,110,888	0	0	0	0	1,110,888
Business office	283,871	0	0	0	0	283,871
Building maintenance	1,611,238	0	0	0	0	1,611,238
Transportation	244,165	0	0	0	26,450	270,615
Food service	0	0	0	0	454,970	454,970
Recreation programs	0	796,825	0	0	0	796,825
Grant programs	0	0	553,872	0	0	553,872
On-behalf payments	750,400	0	0	0	0	750,400
Debt service						
Interest - capital leases	18,211	0	0	0	0	18,211
Principal - capital leases	104,309	0	0	0	0	104,309
Interest - bonds	222,068	10,990	0	0	7,167	240,225
Principal - bonds	215,000	0	0	0	0	215,000
Capital outlays	238,550	41,870	0	1,024,121	0	1,304,541
Total expenditures	17,103,893	849,685	553,872	1,024,121	746,020	20,277,591
EXCESS REVENUES (EXPENDITURES)	505,042	14,016	0	(1,024,121)	(214,184)	(719,247)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Bond proceeds	0	0	0	2,300,000	0	2,300,000
Transfers from (to) other funds	(202,908)	0	0	0	202,908	0
Total other financing sources (uses)	(202,908)	0	0	2,300,000	202,908	2,300,000
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	302,134	14,016	0	1,275,879	(11,276)	1,580,753
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - JULY 1, 2013	817,942	230,117	0	(72,520)	3,292	978,831
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - JUNE 30, 2014	\$ 1,120,076	\$ 244,133	\$ 0	\$ 1,203,359	\$ (7,984)	\$ 2,559,584

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT E

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT
OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT)
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

TOTAL NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT) - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS \$ 1,580,753

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities
are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However,
in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their
estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which
capital outlays of \$1,317,236 exceeds depreciation expense of \$434,849. 882,387

Repayment of bond and notes principal is an expenditure in the
governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities
in the statement of net position. 319,309

Some of the capital assets acquired this year were financed with
long-term debt. The amount financed is reported in the governmental
funds as an other financing source. On the other hand, the loan proceeds
are not revenue in the statement of activities, but rather constitute
long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. (2,300,000)

In the statement of activities, termination benefits and compensated absences are
measured by the amounts incurred during the year. In the governmental funds,
however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial
resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). This year, termination benefits
and compensated absences paid exceeded the amounts earned by \$45,139. 45,139

Interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities differs from the amount
reported in the governmental funds because interest is recognized as an expenditure
in the funds when it is due, and thus requires the use of current financial resources.
In the statement of activities, however, interest expense is recognized as the
interest accrues, regardless of when it is due. The increase in interest reported
in the statement of activities is because accrued interest on bonds and notes
payable increased by \$4,172. (4,172)

CHANGE IN NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES \$ 523,416

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES
 IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET - GENERAL FUND
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Act 68 State Aid	\$ 13,772,086	\$ 13,772,086	\$ 0
Intergovernmental - State			
State Transportation Aid	41,654	41,598	(56)
Special education - mainstream block grant	339,141	342,413	3,272
Special education - intensive reimbursement	1,457,289	1,573,175	115,886
Special education - extraordinary reimbursement	606,001	515,610	(90,391)
Special education - state placed students	0	86,375	86,375
Drivers education	7,050	8,755	1,705
Vocational	96,734	95,817	(917)
Intergovernmental - Federal			
IDEIA B	278,462	283,441	4,979
Title I	290,499	33,726	(256,773)
Tuition - regular	72,500	18,267	(54,233)
Investment earnings	9,000	7,933	(1,067)
E-rate communications reimbursement	0	25,428	25,428
Rental income	14,500	15,264	764
Energy rebate	0	36,943	36,943
Other revenue	2,000	1,704	(296)
Total revenues	<u>16,986,916</u>	<u>16,858,535</u>	<u>(128,381)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Current Expenditures			
Instruction	6,470,612	6,185,061	285,551
Special education	3,375,604	3,319,017	56,587
Vocational	133,850	115,177	18,673
Co-curricular/community connections	461,202	408,194	53,008
Support services - students	1,240,749	1,135,312	105,437
Support services - staff	662,445	665,575	(3,130)
School Board/ Superintendent's office	496,909	476,857	20,052
Building administration	1,139,543	1,110,888	28,655
Business office	283,297	283,871	(574)
Building maintenance	1,571,702	1,611,238	(39,536)
Transportation	213,300	244,165	(30,865)
Debt Service			
Interest - capital leases	18,211	18,211	0
Principal - capital leases	104,309	104,309	0
Interest - bonds	212,518	222,068	(9,550)
Principal - bonds	215,000	215,000	0
Capital Outlays	247,980	238,550	9,430
Total expenditures	<u>16,847,231</u>	<u>16,353,493</u>	<u>493,738</u>
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>139,685</u>	<u>505,042</u>	<u>365,357</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers to other funds	(139,685)	(202,908)	(63,223)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(139,685)</u>	<u>(202,908)</u>	<u>(63,223)</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>302,134</u>	<u>\$ 302,134</u>
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2013		<u>817,942</u>	
FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2014		<u>\$ 1,120,076</u>	

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES
 IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET - RECREATION FUND

EXHIBIT F-2

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	Original and Final Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Property taxes	\$ 575,230	\$ 575,230	\$ 0
Season passes	20,100	27,129	7,029
Daily fees	12,300	16,647	4,347
Program fees	154,218	199,766	45,548
Concessions	7,800	8,771	971
Rental income	15,000	27,879	12,879
Ski and Skate sale	9,000	6,739	(2,261)
Other revenue	7,000	1,540	(5,460)
Total revenues	800,648	863,701	63,053
EXPENDITURES			
Current Expenditures			
Administration	287,933	284,102	3,831
Indoor - rec center	75,341	78,269	(2,928)
Outdoor - fields	323,374	321,818	1,556
Swimming pool	120,763	111,636	9,127
Indoor skating	1,000	1,000	0
Debt Service			
Interest - VMERS bond payment	10,890	10,990	(100)
Capital Outlays	0	41,870	(41,870)
Total expenditures	819,301	849,685	(30,384)
EXCESS REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	\$ (18,653)	14,016	\$ 32,669
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2013		230,117	
FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2014		\$ 244,133	

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT G

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

JUNE 30, 2014

	<u>Private Purpose Trust Funds</u>	<u>Agency Funds</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 218,602	\$ 76,713
Investments	<u>81,878</u>	<u>0</u>
Total assets	300,480	76,713
LIABILITIES		
Due to student organizations	<u>0</u>	<u>76,713</u>
NET POSITION		
Held in Trust for Individuals and Organizations	<u>\$ 300,480</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

EXHIBIT H

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	<u>Private Purpose Trust Funds</u>
ADDITIONS	
Contributions and bequests	<u>\$ 68,587</u>
Investment earnings:	
Interest and dividends	3,155
Unrealized gain on investments	<u>8,511</u>
Net investment income	<u>11,666</u>
Total additions	<u>80,253</u>
DEDUCTIONS	
Scholarships	<u>59,427</u>
Total deductions	<u>59,427</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	20,826
NET POSITION - JULY 1, 2013	<u>279,654</u>
NET POSITION - JUNE 30, 2014	<u>\$ 300,480</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

The Montpelier Public School System is a department of the City of Montpelier, Vermont authorized by Title VI of the City Charter. The School System operates under its separately elected Board of School Commissioners who appoints a Superintendent, and provides education services for kindergarten through 12th grade in the City of Montpelier. The School System also manages the Recreation Department. The Recreation Department is responsible for general recreation activities in the City.

The School System, for financial reporting purposes, includes all of the funds relevant to the operations of the Montpelier Public School System. The financial statements presented herein do not include agencies which have been formed under applicable state laws or separate and distinct units of government apart from the Montpelier Public School System.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The School System's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is primarily responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (including Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the School System are discussed below.

Reporting Entity

The School System's basic financial statements include the accounts of all School operations. The criteria for including organizations as component units within the School District's reporting entity are set forth in GASB 14 as amended by GASB 39, and Section 2100 of GASB's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards. Based on the criteria, the School System has no component units.

Basis of Presentation

The School System's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the School System as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the School System's major funds).

Basic Financial Statements – Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School System as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. All the activities of the School System are governmental in nature and none are considered business-type activities.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

The Statement of Net Position presents all of the School System's activities on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The School System's net position is reported in three parts – invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. The School System first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities for which both restricted and unrestricted resources are available.

The Statement of Activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the School System's governmental functions. The functions are also supported by general government revenue (Act 68 State Aid, property taxes and other local revenue). The Statement of Activities reduces gross expenditures (including depreciation) by related program revenue, consisting of operating grants and contributions. Program revenue must be directly associated with the governmental function (regular education, special education, etc.). Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants.

The net costs (by governmental function) are normally covered by general revenue (assessments, interest income, etc.).

This government-wide focus is more on the sustainability of the School System as an entity and the change in the School System's net position resulting from the current year's activities.

Basic Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements

The financial statements of the School System are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue and expenditures/expenses. The various funds are reported by major funds within the financial statements. The School System has two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

The emphasis in fund financial statements is on the major funds in either the governmental activities categories. GASBs No. 34 and No. 37 set forth minimum criteria (percentage of the assets, liabilities, revenues or expenditures of either fund category or the governmental and enterprise funds combined) for the determination of major funds. The General Fund, Recreation Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Grants Fund are shown as major governmental funds of the School System. All other funds are Nonmajor and are combined in a single column in each of the respective fund financial statements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of the governmental funds' measurement (in the fund statements) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. The School System reports on the following governmental funds:

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

General Fund is the main operating fund of the School System. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Recreation Fund is used to account for the activities of the Recreation Department.

Grants Fund is used to account for the various activities funded with Federal, State and Local grants.

Capital Projects Fund is used to account for the capital improvements financed with bond proceeds.

Other Governmental Funds are used to account for activities related to food service and the early education program.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to report assets held in a trustee or agency capacity for others and therefore are not available to support School System programs. The reporting focus is on net position and changes in net position and is reported using accounting principles similar to proprietary funds.

The School System's fiduciary funds are presented in the fiduciary fund financial statements by type (private purpose and agency). Since by definition these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party (other local governments, private parties, etc.) and cannot be used to address activities or obligations of the government, these funds are not incorporated into the government-wide statements. The School System's agency fund accounts for various student-managed activities.

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenue or expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time the liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the School System gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Basis of Accounting (Continued)

The governmental funds financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenue is recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The School System considers all revenues reported in governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year end, or shortly thereafter. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exception to this general rule is that principal and interest on general obligation long-term debt, if any, is recognized when due.

General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the School funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the School's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by general revenues. Expenditure driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and other grant requirements have been met.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The School System has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and cash with fiscal agent. Additionally, each fund's equity in the School System's investment pool is treated as a cash equivalent because the funds can deposit or effectively withdraw cash at any time without prior notice or penalty.

Investments

Investments are stated at fair value (quoted market price or the best available estimate).

Inventory

Inventories are determined by physical count and are valued at cost. Inventory represents food and supplies in the Food Service Fund.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$5,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. The School System does not capitalize its library books because they are considered a collection. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Land improvements	15 – 50 years
Buildings and improvements	15 – 50 years
Machinery and equipment	5 – 20 years
Vehicles	5 – 15 years

Accrued Compensated Absences

Government-Wide Financial Statements – All vested or accumulated vacation leave is reported as a liability and an expense on the government-wide financial statements.

Fund Financial Statements - Vested or accumulated vacation leave that has matured is reported as an expenditure and a fund liability of the governmental fund that will pay it. Amounts of vested or accumulated vacation leave that are not expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources are not reported as a liability in the fund financial statements and no expenditure is reported for these accounts.

Net Position

The statement of net position includes four components: assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. Net position represents the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position. Net resources invested in capital assets are reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets and deferred inflows of resources attributable to either capital asset acquisition, construction or improvement. This amount is then increased by any deferred outflows of resources attributable to capital asset acquisition, construction, or improvement (to arrive at net investment in capital assets). Net position is reported as restricted when there are legal limitations imposed on its use by legislation or external restrictions by creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fund Balances

GASB Statement 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" defines fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government's fund balance more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

Nonspendable fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that cannot be spent due to their form (e.g. inventories and prepaids) or funds that legally or contractually must be maintained intact.

Restricted fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is mandated for a specific purpose by external parties, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation (e.g. federal and state grants, bondholders, trust and trustee accounts).

Committed fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is set aside for a specific purpose by the School Board. Formal action must be taken prior to the end of the fiscal year (e.g. capital projects, compensated absences). The same formal action must be taken to remove or change the limitations placed on the funds.

Assigned fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that is set aside with the intent to be used for a specific purpose by the School Board or body or official that has been given the authority to assign funds (e.g. encumbrances, subsequent budgets). Assigned funds cannot cause a deficit in unassigned fund balance.

Unassigned fund balances - Indicates the portion of fund equity that has not been classified in the previous four categories. All funds in this category are considered spendable resources. This category provides the resources necessary to meet unexpected expenditures and revenue shortfalls.

The School Board establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of a resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the School Board through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purposes (such as the purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service or other purposes).

When an expenditure is incurred that would qualify for payment with either restricted or unrestricted funds, it will be paid from restricted funds.

When an expenditure is incurred that qualifies for payment from either of the three unrestricted fund balance categories, it will be applied in the following order:

1. Committed
2. Assigned
3. Unassigned

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The School follows these procedures in establishing the General Fund and the Recreation Fund budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- The School Superintendent submits to the School Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and special revenues.
- Public hearings are conducted at locations throughout the City to obtain taxpayer comments. The proposed budget is required to be distributed to the legal voters of the City at least 10 days before the public hearing.
- The School Board then reviews the School budget and adopts it with or without change.
- The School Superintendent may at any time transfer an unencumbered balance or portion thereof between budget lines. Transfers over \$500 are included in quarterly financial reports to the Board. Expenditures over \$5,000 not planned for in the budget are submitted to the Board for prior approval. The Board approves a prioritized list of capital expenditures.

The Grants Fund is not legally required to adopt a budget.

Interfund Activities

Interfund activities are reported as either loans, services provided, reimbursements or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures. Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund activities are treated as transfers.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

On Behalf Payments

On behalf payments are contributions made by the State of Vermont to the State Teachers' Retirement System on behalf of the School System's teaching employees. The General Fund budget does not include on behalf payments as a revenue or expense.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School System's deposits may not be returned to it. The following is a breakdown of the School System's bank deposits at June 30, 2014.

FDIC - Insured	\$ 503,760
Uninsured - Collateralized	<u>3,789,906</u>
Total bank balance at June 30, 2014	<u>\$ 4,293,666</u>

Investments – Trust Fund

The fair value of the investments at June 30, 2014 was \$81,878, which consisted of a cash money market account of \$7,705, and mutual funds of \$74,173. The Mutual Funds are balanced funds that include approximately 75% in Domestic and Foreign Equities, approximately 20% in Domestic and Foreign Bonds and about 5% in cash. These allocations change as the markets change. The fair value is based on quoted market prices.

The School System has an investment policy related to these investments. The policy allows for the investments in mutual funds that are either equity, balanced or fixed income that have a track record of at least ten years and net assets of at least \$500 million. Investment income for fiscal year included interest and dividends of \$3,155 and unrealized gains of \$8,511.

NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2014, consisted of accounts (rents and services) and intergovernmental grants and services. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of State programs and the current year guarantee of federal funds.

NOTE 4 - INTERFUND RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

The School System has combined the cash resources of its governmental funds for accounting and reporting purposes. That portion of the pooled cash balance is reported in the specific fund as an interfund balance. Interfund balances at June 30, 2014 are as follows:

	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
General Fund	\$ 20,918	\$484,135
Recreation Fund	271,611	0
Grants Fund	212,524	0
Nonmajor funds		
Early Education Program	0	382
Food Service Fund	0	20,536
	<u>\$ 505,053</u>	<u>\$505,053</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS

The summary of capital assets as of June 30, 2014 is as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2013	Reclassifications and Additions	Depreciation	Balance June 30, 2014
Capital assets not depreciated:				
Construction in progress	\$ 72,520	\$ 180,329	\$ 0	\$ 252,849
Capital assets depreciated:				
Land improvements	1,154,210	110,453	0	1,264,663
Building & improvements	12,044,572	857,738	0	12,902,310
Machinery and equipment	955,566	114,151	0	1,069,717
Vehicles	61,376	54,565	0	115,941
Total capital assets depreciated	14,215,724	1,136,907	0	15,352,631
Accumulated depreciation:				
Land improvements	299,239	0	56,454	355,693
Building & improvements	5,519,000	0	277,154	5,796,154
Machinery and equipment	560,170	0	91,002	651,172
Vehicles	52,358	0	10,239	62,597
Total accumulated depreciation	6,430,767	0	434,849	6,865,616
Total capital assets	\$ 7,857,477	\$ 1,317,236	\$ (434,849)	\$ 8,739,864

Depreciation was charged to building maintenance (\$336,376), food services (\$6,662), recreation programs (\$29,970), support services – staff (\$32,460), instruction (\$23,834) and special education (\$5,547).

This year’s major additions included Union School District heat project of \$640,903, computer equipment of \$114,151, Union School improvements of \$80,043, Main Street School improvements of \$109,958, Montpelier High School improvements of \$137,287, other projects in progress of \$180,329 and a truck for the Recreation Fund of \$54,565.

NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES

Compensated absences

The School System has agreed to permit support staff, custodians and administrators to accumulate earned but unused vacation days up to different limits based on longevity. Employees are not eligible to be paid for unused sick days upon termination. The liability as of June 30, 2014 was \$105,186 compared to \$106,204 as of June 30, 2013. None of the year end balance will be paid from current financial resources.

Termination benefit

In prior years, teachers who elected to take early retirement were eligible for a termination benefit that was paid over various terms. During fiscal year 2014, payments of \$13,092 plus Social security were made bringing the balance as of June 30, 2014 to \$-0-.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES (continued)

Termination agreement

On January 16, 2013, the Board of School Directors signed an employment separation and release agreement, which requires the School System to pay amounts to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on behalf of the former employee, to be financed over three years. During fiscal year 2014, \$31,028 was paid. The balance as of June 30, 2014 is \$35,592.

Bonds and Capital Leases payable

The following is a summary of bonds and capital leases payable at June 30, 2014:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Due in One Year</u>
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between 4.85% and 5.4% paid semi-annually on 6/1 and 12/1, principal of \$140,000 due December 1st until 2017, for High School and Middle School renovations.	\$ 560,000	\$ 140,000
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between 1.9% and 4.65% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal of \$75,000 due on November 15th until 2027 and \$70,000 due in 2028, for various renovations at all three schools.	1,120,000	75,000
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest of 6.5% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal payments that start at \$10,000 on November 15, 2017 and increase up to \$221,000 in 2032, used to fund the retirement plan lump sum payment.	1,470,000	0
Bond payable with Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, interest between .444% and 4.644% paid semi-annually on 5/15 and 11/15, principal of \$115,000 due on November 15th until 2033, for various renovations to all three schools.	2,300,000	115,000
Capital lease with Sun Trust, interest at 4.29%, annual principal and interest payments that range from \$94,250 to \$111,600 through July 1, 2015 with a final payment of \$43,647 due on July 1, 2016, used to finance energy efficiency building improvements.	245,095	97,966
Capital lease with Sun Trust, interest at 4.49%, annual principal and interest payments that range from \$17,000 to \$44,417 through July 1, 2016, used to finance energy efficiency building improvements and computer equipment.	<u>70,297</u>	<u>16,833</u>
Total bonds and leases payable	<u>\$ 5,765,392</u>	<u>\$ 444,799</u>

The interest paid on bonds totaled \$240,225 and the interest paid on leases totaled \$18,211 during fiscal year 2014.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM DEBT AND LIABILITIES (Continued)

Bonds and leases payable will mature approximately as follows:

	Bond Principal	Bond Interest	Bond Total	Lease Principal	Lease Interest	Lease Total
2015	\$ 330,000	\$ 244,159	\$ 574,159	\$ 114,799	\$ 13,701	\$ 128,500
2016	330,000	232,843	562,843	132,869	8,731	141,600
2017	330,000	220,964	550,964	67,724	2,965	70,689
2018	335,000	112,955	447,955	0	0	0
2019	206,000	100,649	306,649	0	0	0
2020-2024	1,145,000	858,071	2,003,071	0	0	0
2025-2029	1,455,000	600,141	2,055,141	0	0	0
2030-2034	1,319,000	276,822	1,595,822	0	0	0
	<u>\$ 5,450,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,646,604</u>	<u>\$ 8,096,604</u>	<u>\$ 315,392</u>	<u>\$ 25,397</u>	<u>\$ 340,789</u>

Changes of long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2014 were:

	Balance June 30, 2013	Increases	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2014	Due in One Year
Bonds payable	\$ 3,365,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ (215,000)	\$ 5,450,000	\$ 330,000
Capital leases	419,701	0	(104,309)	315,392	114,799
Compensated absences	106,204	18,595	(19,613)	105,186	0
Termination benefits	79,713	0	(44,121)	35,592	35,592
Total	<u>\$ 3,970,618</u>	<u>\$ 2,318,595</u>	<u>\$ (383,043)</u>	<u>\$ 5,906,170</u>	<u>\$ 480,391</u>

NOTE 7 - RECONCILIATION OF EXHIBIT D TO EXHIBIT F-1

Amounts recorded in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Compared to Budget – General Fund (Exhibit F-1) are reported on the basis budgeted by the School System. Amounts recorded in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances (Exhibit D) for the General Fund were adjusted for on behalf payments (see Note 8) as follows:

	Revenues	Expenditures
Exhibit D	\$ 17,608,935	\$ 17,103,893
On behalf payments	(750,400)	(750,400)
Exhibit F-1	<u>\$ 16,858,535</u>	<u>\$ 16,353,493</u>

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 8 - PENSION AND RETIREMENT PLANS

Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System

The teachers employed by the School System are covered by the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System which is a single employer retirement system. Vermont State statutes provide the authority under which benefit provisions and the State's obligation to contribute are established. Required contributions to the System are made by the State of Vermont based upon a valuation report prepared by the System's actuary.

The contribution amount made by the State on behalf of the participants in the State Teachers' Retirement System is \$750,400.

All teachers become members of the retirement system upon employment. Teachers who became members before July 1, 1990 are Group A members. All other teachers are Group C members. Members who have Group A coverage are required to contribute at a rate of 5.5% of earnable compensation and members in Group C are required to contribute at a rate of 5.0% of earnable compensation. Vesting in both groups occurs upon reaching five years of creditable service. Of the School System's total payroll of \$9,670,799, \$6,565,204 was covered under the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System.

The State of Vermont issues an audited Financial Report that includes financial statements and required disclosures. This report may be obtained by writing the State Auditor of Accounts, 132 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS)

The Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS) is a cost sharing multiple employer plan administered by a Board of Trustees. The VMERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost of living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members who are municipal employees other than teachers and licensed professional education support staff, and their beneficiaries.

Until December 31, 2004, the Montpelier Public School System contributed to the City of Montpelier Retirement Plan (CMRP), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the City of Montpelier. CMRP provided retirement, disability benefits, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The Charter of the City of Montpelier assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the City Council. Effective January 1, 2005, the City joined the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System.

Vermont Statutes Annotated established VMERS and its benefit level. The Board of Trustees establishes contribution rates based on advice of actuaries. Vermont municipalities, including school districts, may voluntarily participate in the plan. There are four levels of contributions and benefits in VMERS called Group A, B, C and D. The School System participates in Group B and Group C. For Group B, employee contributions are 4.625% of gross pay and employer contributions are 5.125% of gross pay. For Group C, employee contributions are 9.50% of gross pay and employer contributions are 6.75% of gross pay. VMERS issues a publicly available financial report which may be obtained from the Vermont State Treasurer's Office, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 8 - PENSION AND RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)

The School System's contributions to VMERS for the years ended June 30, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were , \$81,002, \$73,408, and \$70,379 respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year. Total covered payroll for fiscal year 2014 was \$1,509,240 out of a total payroll of \$9,670,799.

NOTE 9 - DEFERRED REVENUE

The deferred revenue at June 30, 2014 consisted of:

General Fund	
Title 1-A	<u>\$ 9,684</u>
Grants Fund	
Act 230/ BEST grant	1,439
Act 176	8,689
Redducs grant	1,389
Rowland grant	26,444
Title IIA	9,292
Health Info Nurse	401
MHS Schools of Success	1,117
MS Green grant	294
VSBIT Wellness	5,480
Innovative Schools MHS	1,764
Flexible Pathways - MHS	1,269
Fit and healthy grant	3,000
Gardens grant	476
America's promise grant	447
Standards board	724
Medicaid EPSDT	23,872
Medicaid IEP	122,833
Total Grants Fund	<u>208,930</u>
Nonmajor Funds	
Early education program	185
Food Service student accounts	10,209
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>10,394</u>
 Total deferred revenue	 <u><u>\$ 229,008</u></u>

NOTE 10 - INTERFUND TRANSFERS

During the year, one transfer occurred between funds. The operating transfer was made in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2014 consisted of \$202,908 from the General Fund to the Early Education Program.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 11 – CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS

The School System participates in a number of federally and state assisted grant programs, principal of which are the ESEA Title I Compensatory Education, Child Nutrition, Education of the Handicapped, Early Education and Special Education programs. The programs are subject to program compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The audits of these programs for or including the year ended June 30, 2014, have not yet been completed. Accordingly, the School System's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at some future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time although the School System expects such amounts, if any to be immaterial.

The School System entered into a contract with Honeywell Building Solutions (Honeywell) in March 2007 to service and monitor energy efficient improvements that were made to its school buildings. The contract called for an annual service cost that started at \$34,664 for the first six months and increased to \$70,368 for the following year and then increased by 3% per year. The service agreement was connected to an energy guarantee that required Honeywell to provide an energy cost avoidance report on an annual basis. This report was used to determine if there were actual energy savings to the School System and required Honeywell to reimburse the School System if savings were not produced. During fiscal year 2013, the original agreement was terminated and a new agreement was signed. The new agreement is in effect from April 15, 2013 through June 30, 2014 for a price of \$40,000 and no longer includes an energy savings guarantee. The related expenditure in fiscal year 2014 for the agreement was \$40,000. In addition, the School System received a reimbursement from Honeywell of \$36,943 during fiscal year 2014 related to the last year under the original agreement.

In March of 2013, the Voters approved a \$2,300,000 bond for energy, efficiency and safety improvements in all three schools. The bond was issued in July of 2013. As of June 30, 2014, most of the projects had been started and some were completed. The Capital Projects Fund is being used to account for the improvements being paid from this bond. As of June 30, 2014, approximately \$1.1 million had been spent out of the \$2.3 million bond.

In May of 2013, The School System entered into a contract for transportation services for fiscal year 2014-2016 with the option to extend through fiscal year 2018. The contract calls for minimum payments that range from \$207,100 for fiscal year 2014 to \$230,833 for fiscal year 2018 that cover regular, vocational and special education related transportation. Athletics and co-curricular transportation is an additional charge based on set prices as outlined in the contract. The School System can terminate the contract with a 60 day notice if the budget does not pass. The amount expended in fiscal year 2014 was \$244,165. The additional amount was due to transportation needs related to special education.

NOTE 12 – FUND DEFICIT

The Food Service Fund reported a deficit of \$7,984 as of June 30, 2014. Management is working on a plan to eliminate this deficit.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2014

NOTE 13 - EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS

For the year ended June 30, 2014, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the Recreation Fund by \$30,384. The expenditures were financed with excess program revenues.

NOTE 14 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The School System covers its significant risks of loss, which are identified with the assistance of insurance agents, by commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage or settlement amounts exceeding insurance coverage for the current or three (3) prior years.

In addition, Montpelier Public School System is a member of Vermont School Boards Association Insurance Trust, Inc. (VSBIT) Medical Benefits Program. VSBIT is a non-profit corporation formed in 1978 to provide insurance and risk management programs for Vermont school districts and is owned by the participating districts. To provide health insurance coverage, VSBIT has established a self-funded fully insured program in conjunction with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. A portion of member contributions is used to purchase reinsurance and to fund a reserve required by the reinsurance. Contributions in excess of claims requirements, reserve fund requirements, reinsurance and administrative costs are returned to participants. The pooling agreement does not permit the pool to make additional assessments to its members.

NOTE 15 – CONCENTRATION OF REVENUE

The School System receives approximately 78% of its General Fund revenue from Act 68 State Aid. The amount of Act 68 State Aid received by the School System is equal to the budgeted expenditures approved by the voters less expected other revenues for the year. Act 68 State Aid is funded with statewide property taxes. The State determines a different education property tax rate for homestead and non-homestead properties based on statewide information. The tax rate on homesteads in Montpelier is adjusted based on the amount of Act 68 State Aid in relation to the number of students in Montpelier. The tax rate for non-homestead property in Montpelier is not impacted by the amount of Montpelier's Act 68 State Aid. The State uses a common level of appraisal to equalize property values between communities.

In addition to Act 68 State Aid, the School System receives grants from the State of Vermont for special education, transportation and other programs.

NOTE 16 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through November 7, 2014, the date which the financial statements were available for issue.

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
 ALL NONMAJOR FUNDS
 JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE 1

	Special Revenue Funds		
	Early Education Program	Food Service Fund	Total Nonmajor Funds
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 0	\$ 1,678	\$ 1,678
Due from State	1,004	9,139	10,143
Accounts receivable - other	0	5,839	5,839
Inventory	0	10,537	10,537
Total assets	\$ 1,004	\$ 27,193	\$ 28,197
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities			
Accrued payroll	\$ 437	\$ 4,432	\$ 4,869
Deferred revenue	185	10,209	10,394
Due to other funds	382	20,536	20,918
Total liabilities	1,004	35,177	36,181
Fund Balances (Deficit)			
Nonspendable - inventory	0	10,537	10,537
Unassigned - food service	0	(18,521)	(18,521)
Total fund balances (deficit)	0	(7,984)	(7,984)
Total liabilities and fund balances (deficit)	\$ 1,004	\$ 27,193	\$ 28,197

MONTPELIER PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

SCHEDULE 2

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)
ALL NONMAJOR FUNDS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	Special Revenue Funds		Total Nonmajor Funds
	Early Education Program	Food Service Fund	
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental - Federal	\$ 4,423	\$ 148,574	\$ 152,997
Intergovernmental - State	76,552	6,681	83,233
Fees for service	0	288,302	288,302
Interest on investments	0	123	123
Miscellaneous	0	7,181	7,181
Total revenues	<u>80,975</u>	<u>450,861</u>	<u>531,836</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
Instruction	176,768	0	176,768
Support services - students	80,665	0	80,665
Transportation	26,450	0	26,450
Food service	0	454,970	454,970
Debt Service			
Interest - bonds	0	7,167	7,167
Total expenditures	<u>283,883</u>	<u>462,137</u>	<u>746,020</u>
EXCESS EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUES	<u>(202,908)</u>	<u>(11,276)</u>	<u>(214,184)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Operating transfers in (out)	202,908	0	202,908
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>202,908</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>202,908</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	0	(11,276)	(11,276)
FUND BALANCE - JULY 1, 2013	<u>0</u>	<u>3,292</u>	<u>3,292</u>
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT) - JUNE 30, 2014	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ (7,984)</u>	<u>\$ (7,984)</u>

City of Montpelier vermont

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The following firms are proud to serve the capital city community. They are pleased to help bring this important Annual Report to your attention.

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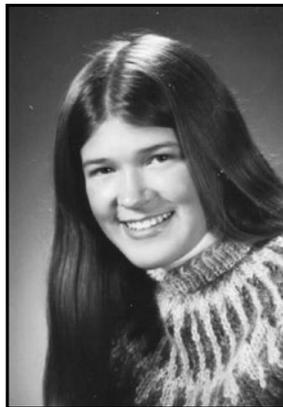
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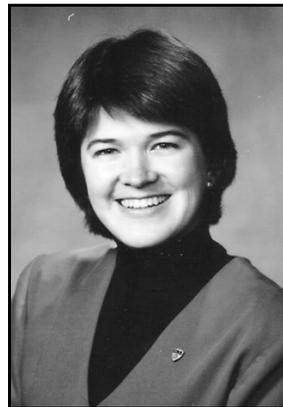
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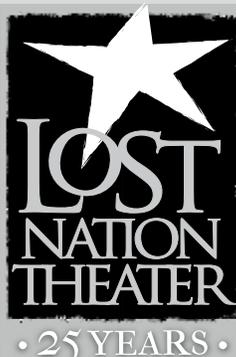
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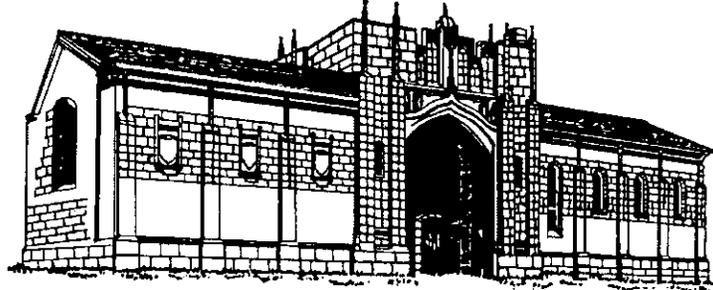
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***For an Information Packet or Consultation Appointment
Contact: Director Patrick Healy at 223-5352 or
Email at Cemetery@montpelier-vt.org***

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Dona Bate 229-9464

Council Member, District 1

Tom Golonka 223-3657

Council Member, District 1

Thierry Guerlain 229-5686

Council Member, District 2

Anne Watson 595-1734

Council Member, District 2

Jessica Edgerly Walsh 371-7556

Council Member, District 3

Justin Turcotte 223-6012

Council Member, District 3

City Hall:

39 Main Street

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday

City Manager, *William Fraser* 223-9502

wfraser@montpelier-vt.org

Assistant City Manager, *Jessie Baker* 262-6250

jbaker@montpelier-vt.org

Delinquent Tax Collector, *Beverlee Hill* 223-9512

bhill@montpelier-vt.org

City Clerk, *John Odum* 262-6263

jodum@montpelier-vt.org

City Assessor, *Stephen Twombly* 223-9505

stwombly@montpelier-vt.org

Zoning Administrator, *Dina Bookmyer-Baker* 262-6270

dbookmyer-baker@montpelier-vt.org

Asst. Building Inspector, *Chris Lumbra* 262-6170

clumbra@montpelier-vt.org

Public Works Department 223-9508

Thomas McArdle, *Acting Director*

tmcardle@montpelier-vt.org

Planning & Development 223-9506

Michael Miller, *Director*

mmiller@montpelier-vt.org

Health Officer, *Robert Gowans* 229-4913

Finance Director, *Sandra Gallup* 262-6253

sgallup@montpelier-vt.org

Emergency Management System 229-4913

Robert Gowans, *Coordinator*

Green Mount Cemetery 223-5352

Patrick Healy, *Director*

cemetery@montpelier-vt.org

Hubbard Park 223-7335

Geoffrey Beyer, *Director*

gbeyer@montpelier-vt.org

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

58 Barre Street

Janna Clar, *Director* 223-2518

jclar@montpelier-vt.org

Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency 911

Montpelier Police Dept. (Non-emergency).. 223-3445

Anthony Facos, *Police Chief*

afacos@montpelier-vt.org

Montpelier Fire Department and

Ambulance Service (Non-emergency)..... 229-4913

Robert Gowans, *Fire Chief*

rgowans@montpelier-vt.org

Other Departments:

Montpelier School Department

5 High School Drive

Brian Ricca, *Superintendent* 223-9796

brian@mpsvt.org

Montpelier Recreation Dept

55 Barre Street 223-5141

Arne McMullen, *Director*

arne@mpsvt.org

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Regular City Meetings

CITY COUNCIL

Meetings held second and fourth

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meetings held first and third

Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall

All City Council, Development

Review Board & Planning

Commission meetings are

televised on Channel 17.

Public Notices published every

Monday and Thursday in the

Times Argus and are also located

on the City's website:

www.montpelier-vt.org

SCHOOL BOARD

Meetings held first and third

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Montpelier High School Library

School Board meetings are televised

on Channel 16.

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Montpelier City Council – 2014



(Left to right): City Manager William Fraser, Council Member Justin Turcotte, Council Member Thierry Guerlain, Council Member Jessica Edgerly Walsh, Mayor John Hollar, Council Member Tom Golonka, Council Member Anne Watson, Council Member Dona Bate, Assistant City Manager Jessie Baker.

Montpelier School Board – 2014



(Left to right): School Board Member Charles Phillips, Superintendent Brian Ricca, School Board Chair Sue Aldrich, School Board Member Lowell vanDerlip, School Board Member Ken Jones, School Board Member Jennifer Cahill Bean, School Board Member Michele Braun, School Board Member Carol Paquette.