

ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TOWN OF

CHESTER, VERMONT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 2017

In Memory of

M142

SGT. Mark Phelps





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BREAKDOWN OF GRAND LIST

Total Education Listed Value	\$417,502,640
Total Listed Value of Real Estate for Taxation	\$443,587,100
Total Listed Value of Nonresidential Real Estate for Schools	\$225,380,640
Total Listed Value of Homestead Real Estate for Schools	\$192,122,000
Cable Company	\$923,500
Veterans Exemptions (18 x's \$40,000)	\$720,000
Current Use Exempt Amount (183 Properties)	\$22,288,000

There are 4 Properties that are 5 year voted exemptions and 50 properties that are tax exempt per Vermont law.

ANNUAL GRAND LIST INCREASE

2012	4,177,428
2013	4,172,950
2014	4,164,907
2015	4,204,923
2016	4,174,366
2017	4,175,026

COMPARATIVE TAX RATE TABLE

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Homestead School Tax Rate	\$1.2262	\$1.2611	\$1.3228	\$1.3898	\$1.2365
Nonresidential School Tax Rate	1.2781	1.3248	1.3823	1.4753	1.3530
Municipal Tax Rate	.7012	.6934	.6900	.6359	.5976

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>		<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
MODERATOR		CTSD DIRECTORS	
William E. Dakin, Jr.	2018	Marilyn Mahusky	2018
		Alison DesLauriers	2019
TOWN CLERK		Heather Chase, appointed	2018
Deborah J. Aldrich	2018		
		CAES DIRECTORS	
SELECTBOARD		Marilyn Mahusky	2018
Ben Whalen	2018	Michael Studin	2019
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas, Chair	2020	Dan CesLauriers	2020
Heather Chase	2018	Gary King	2019
Dan Cote	2019		
Lee Gustafson	2018	GMUHS DIRECTORS	
		Deb Brown	2018
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS		Alison DesLauriers	2019
Shirley A. Barrett	2018	Jeff Hance	2019
Erron J. Carey	2019	Erin Lamson	2020
Sandar K. Walker	2020		
		GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED	
TOWN GRAND JUROR		SCHOOL DISTRICT	
	2018	Allison DesLauriers	2019
		Erin Lamson	2019
TOWN TREASURER		Marilyn Mahusky	2020
Deborah J. Aldrich	2020	Tonia Fleming	2020
		Jeff Hance	2021
AGENT TO DEFEND SUITS		Deb Brown	2021
	2018		
		JUSTICES OF THE PEACE	
TRUSTEES OF WHITING LIBRARY		Kenneth D. Barrett	
Mariette Bock	2019	Patricia G. Benelli	
David A. Lord	2019	Patricia Budnick	
Jessica Buchanan	2020	Robert Crawford	
Kathy Pellett	2020	Ruth Douglas	
John Holme	2018	Tom Elgan	
Charlene Huyler - resigned	2018	Cheryl LeClair	
Carrie King	2018	Bruce Parks	
Stephanie Whitney Payne	2018	Colleen Truax	
		Heather Chase	
		Susan Kibbe	

OFFICERS APPOINTED

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>		<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER		PLANNING COMMISSION:	
Chief of Police	March, 2018	Naomi Johnson, Chair	March, 2018
		Cheryl Lipton	March, 2021
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD		Claudio Veliz	March, 2019
Amy O'Neil, Vice Chairman	June, 2018	Barre Pinske	March, 2020
Carla Westine, Chairman	June, 2018	Tim Roper	March, 2020
Don Robinson (Deceased)	June, 2018		
Harry Goodell	June, 2019	POUND KEEPER:	
Philip Perlah	June, 2019	Chief of Police, Richard Cloud	March, 2018
Ken Barrett, Alternate	June, 2018		
Mark Curran, Alternate	June, 2018	REGIONAL PLANNING REP:	
Frank Bidwell, Alternate	June, 2019	Thomas Bock	March, 2018
		Derek Suursoo alternate	March, 2018
CEMETERY SEXTON			
Jeffrey Sheldon	March, 2018	ROAD COMMISSIONER:	
		Town Manager, David Pisha	March, 2018
CLERK TO SELECTMEN			
Ben Whalen	March, 2018	SECRETARY TO SELECTMEN:	
		Julie Hance	March, 2018
SEVCA			
Kathy Poston	October, 2020	BOARD OF WASTEWATER DISPOSAL	
		Board of Selectmen	
SENIOR SOLUTIONS - COUNCIL			
ON AGING		SOLID WASTE DISTRICT REP:	
Linda Stowell	March, 2018	Derek Suursoo	March, 2018
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT			
Town Manager, David Pisha	March, 2018	TOWN MANAGER:	
		David Pisha	Dec. 2019
FENCE VIEWERS:			
Frank E. Balch	March, 2018	TOWN SERVICE OFFICER:	
J. Leon Spaulding	March, 2018	David Pisha	March, 2018
Tony Weinberger	March, 2018		
		TRANSPORT. ADVISORY COUNCIL REP.	
FIRE WARDEN:		Arne Jonynas	March, 2018
Jeffrey Holden	June, 2019		
		TREE WARDEN:	
FIRST CONSTABLE:		Joseph Epler	March, 2018
Jeffrey Holden	March, 2018		
		WATER COMMISSIONERS:	
GREEN UP DAY CHAIRMAN		Board of Selectmen	
Frank Kelley	March, 2018		
		WEIGHER OF COAL	
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES AND WOOD		Tony Weinberger	March, 2018
AND WOOD			
Tony Weinberger	March, 2018	ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	
		Michael Normyle	March, 2018

APPOINTED BY TOWN MANAGER

Police Chief - Richard H. Cloud
Fire Chief - Matthew S. Wilson
Ambulance Coordinator - Daniel J. Cook
Public Works Director - Graham D. Kennedy
Water/Sewer Superintendent - Jeffery C. Holden
Recreation Director - Matthew McCarthy

APPOINTED BY STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Officer - Leslie Thorsen (term expires: 03-18)

ELECTED BY DIRECTORS OF TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION

Superintendent of Schools – Meg Powden

OFFICERS' SALARIES

	2016	2017
TOWN MANAGER		
David Pisha	\$ 78,838.32	\$ 81,902.05
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER		
Deborah J. Aldrich	\$ 52,725.38	\$ 54,497.20
SELECTMEN		
Heather Chase	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
John DeBenedetti, Chairman	\$ 1,500.00	\$
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Dan Cote		\$ 1,500.00
Ben Whalen	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
A. Lee Gustafson		\$ 1,500.00
LISTERS		
Wanda C. Purdy	\$ 13,260.90	\$ 14,149.73
Sarah Purdy	\$ 5,180.00	\$ 4,571.10
Valerie Pantorno	\$	\$ 465.75
HEALTH OFFICER		
Leslie Thorsen	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

REPORT FROM THE SELECTBOARD

The year 2017 was a busy one in Chester. Projects were happening and plans were taking shape for future initiatives.

The sidewalks along Main Street and down Grafton Street were finished. This stretch of sidewalks were in need of repair and many people have made positive comments on them now that they are finished.

The water project is close to being completed. The new water tank is operational and the connecting link to the water main is done. Over 3,000 feet of main line are also finished. Due to savings in the overall project, a new water line was installed on Coach Road, a new line was completed to the sewer plant and in 2018 new electronic controls will be installed at the Jeffery Well House. In addition, a number of fire hydrants were replaced.

The entire water project is being financed with a loan that carries a negative 1 ½% rate. This means the Town's water users will not have to pay back \$800,000 of the \$4,000,000 that it cost; just because of the negative interest rate.

Chester was fortunate to receive a grant to create a Master Plan for the Village Center. The public was involved throughout the process and many good ideas were formulated with the help of everyone's input. The concepts put forth were meant to improve Chester while keeping true to the Town's character. One idea that should come to fruition in 2018 is the creation of a Pocket Park at the end of School Street. It is envisioned that an area will be created at the end of the street with benches so that people can relax and view the river. The bridge that currently exists will allow people to cross over to a small area of Town property that leads all the way down to the river. This side will be cleared of brush with additional seating being provided.

A Wayfinding Plan is an initiative that started with the staff but ultimately fit within the ideas of the Master Plan committee. This idea was to create new signage that will direct citizens as well as visitors around Chester. It will also identify areas to include shopping areas and historic venues.

Currently at Town Hall are examples of what the signs might look like. Everyone is invited to look them over and give input about what you may, or may not like, about them.

The Selectboard has also taken the position that Economic Development should be undertaken as a community project with a more positive approach, rather than just a wait and see attitude.

To that end, the Zoning regulations will be completely reviewed by a consultant. The last time there was a major look at these rules was in the 1970's; nearly 40 years ago. The idea is to bring Chester's zoning bylaws into conformity with modern planning and zoning thinking. Once again, public input during this process will be encouraged.

So what does the future hold?

Additional sidewalks from Depot Street all the way to Town Hall will be planned now that a grant has been awarded. This grant pays for 80% of this project. When complete, these sidewalks will provide a vital link with the similar work that was just finished in 2017 with the new sidewalks on Main Street.

Town Hall will see renovations taking place as well. New slates on the roof and extensive work on the second floor that will include a new ceiling, plaster repair & wall paint and acoustical panels should make the facility much more attractive and useful to the many people and groups that now use it.

As always, the Selectboard meets every first and third Wednesday evening of the month. We encourage all to attend and participate in our local democratic process. We need and value citizen input to help shape our agenda and future for the town. If you can't make the meetings, please feel free to drop us a line with comments and/or suggestions.

Arne Jonynas
Chair, Chester Selectboard

Selectboard Visioning

&

Steering Committee

Results Handbook

VISION TOPICS

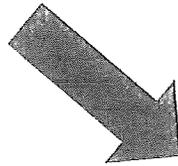
MASTER PLAN

TOWN MANAGEMENT

- 1 Maintain and Improve the Town' Infrastructure
- 2 Maintain Safety for all citizens and visitors; Improve where necessary
- 3 Add Directional and Informational Signage
- 4 Maintain Municipal Service Levels
- 5 Keep Zoning Regulations up to Date
- 6 Control Speeding

MASTER PLAN STATEMENT

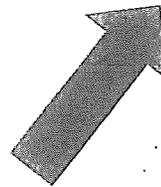
- 1 Provide safe and convenient travel through Chester Village for all modes of travel, for the enhancement of the communities' objectives



QUALITY OF LIFE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

- 1 Preserve Chester's Historic Assets and Leverage Them



MASTER PLAN STATEMENT

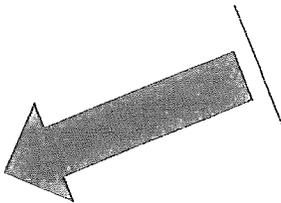
- 1 Preserve, protect and enhance the exceptional historic resources and rich character of Chester Village—recognizing its history and culture as defining elements of the community's identity

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1 Increase the number of Public Events throughout the Year
- 2 Maintain Chester's population and Encourage Others to Move Here
- 3 Encourage more Family Rental Units
- 4 Find ways to Support Local Business
- 5 Market Chester so new Businesses will move here
- 6 Encourage more Senior Citizen Housing Units
- 7 Develop Economic Development Strategies

MASTER PLAN STATEMENT

- 1 Support businesses that cater to a diverse market through policies which build consensus and which strengthens community efforts to enhance the overall experience within Chester Village. These policies should improve both the economic viability and visibility of local business
- 2 Land Use and Community Design should reflect the unique qualities found within Chester Village incorporating both continuity and connectivity

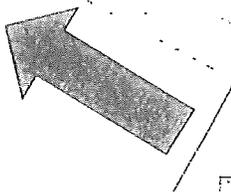


RECREATION & THE ARTS

- 1 Create Micro-Parks Throughout the Community
- 2 Investigate a Bike Path to the High School
- 3 Investigate a sidewalk on Church Street
- 4 Develop Recreation/Social Activities for All Ages

MASTER PLAN STATEMENT

- 1 Celebrate the arts, architecture and culture as integral facts of community life that are present and visible throughout Chester Village.
- 2 Maintain, expand and connect recreational opportunities within and from Chester Village, thereby improving the quality of life



MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS 2017 UPDATES

TOWN MANAGEMENT

Maintain and Improve the Town's infrastructure:

- Chester has added a new water tank and supporting pipe upgrades.
- Fire Hydrants are being replaced
- Coach Road water line extension has been completed
- New controls at the Jeffrey Well have been replaced
- Water line to the Sewer Plant is being replaced
- The Town has rebuilt 1800 linear feet of sidewalks in the Village Center area
- A large culvert was replaced on Amsden Hill Road
- A 300 foot section of Route 35 has been completed replaced to include underdrain
- Three large culverts in Potash were replaced with box culverts
- The handicap access ramp was replaced at Town Hall
- A feasibility study was completed for the new Emergency Services Building and Town Garage

Maintain Safety for all citizens and visitors; improve where necessary

- The Police Department is at full staffing level
- The Fire Department continues to train and upgrade its capabilities
- The Ambulance Department has worked out an arrangement with Ludlow that increases the response capabilities for both towns

Add Directional and Informational Signage

- A local architect is creating a signage design
- SE Group has been contracted to create a Wayfinding Plan for the placement of the signage

Maintain Municipal Service Levels

- Staffing and equipment are at planned levels; historic service is being maintained throughout Chester

Keep Zoning Regulations up to Date

- A zoning audit was recently approved by the Board; the purpose is to review the current UDBs and provide guidance to modernizing them where it is appropriate
- Training for the Planning Commission and Development Review Board has begun and will continue

Control Speeding

- New radar signs have been installed

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS

2018 PLANS

TOWN MANAGEMENT

- Purchase of a compaction roller. This idea has been discussed in the past. Many road maintenance professionals believe this piece of equipment is essential for a properly finished road.
- Popple Dungeon culvert replaced in 2019
- Funding for the remaining 900 feet of Route 35 has been applied for and will be constructed if awarded
- Funding for the replacement and upgrade of the sidewalks along Depot Street has been applied for and will be constructed if awarded
- The double culvert on Whitmore Brook Road will be replaced
- The Board to continue discussions regarding the possibility of building a new Town Garage/Emergency Services building
- Investigate the connection of the Information Booth onto the municipal sewer system

- Construction and implementation of high priority signage

- Funding through a Municipal Planning Grant will be used to re-write the zoning regulations pending results of the “audit”

- The budget will be planned around the idea to keep the level of service where they are now
- Investigate the creation of a wellness program for employees

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS 2017 UPDATES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Preserve Chester's historic assets and leverage them

Preserve, protect and enhance the exceptional historic resources and rich character of Chester Village -- recognizing its history and culture as defining elements of the community's identity.

- An extensive renovation of the library was just completed. Savings in that budget allowed for the installation of a new furnace and central air unit.
- A buried fuel tank was removed from the property
- The water intake pipe that feeds the sprinkler system was replaced
- The windows at the Central School/Chester Academy Building are being refinished with funding through a Historic Preservation Grant.
- The language for the Historic Marker at the Central School/Chester Academy Building has been agreed upon
- Title to the Yosemite Fire House is being completed
- The ramp at the Town Hall building has been replaced and upgraded
- An informal Historic Preservation committee was formed to serve in an advisory capacity to the Town Manager's office.
- The Hearse House renovations were completed with the installation of an access ramp

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS 2018 PLANS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

- A schedule for the maintenance of the historic town buildings will be created and feed the budget
- Once the title is settled on Yosemite Fire House, initial work can be scheduled to begin the restoration process
- The window repair work at the Central School/Chester Academy Building will be completed
- Painting of the exterior of the Central School/Chester Academy Building will be completed
- The Historic Marker at the Central School/Chester Academy Building will be installed on the property
- During the zoning re-write, discussion should take place regarding the potential creation of Historic Preservation Districts
- Hold a design competition for the design and development of the extension of Brookside Cemetery and the hiking trail
- Apply for a USDA grant for the renovations – exterior than interior – of Town Hall

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS 2017 UPDATE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Increase the number of public events during the year

Maintain Chester's population and encourage others to move here

Encourage more Family Rental units

Find ways to support local business

Market Chester so new business will want to move here

Encourage more senior citizen housing units

Develop Economic Development strategies

Support businesses that cater to a diverse market through policies and consensus

Land Use and community design should reflect the unique qualities found within Chester Village incorporating both continuity and connectivity

- The Board has approved the creation of a Wayfinding Plan
- The Board has approved the hiring of a consultant to perform a zoning audit of the current UDBs
- A monthly meeting of community organizations has been established
- The town took over the operation of the Information Booth
- The Canopy Plan Grant was awarded and a consultant has been hired to begin the work
- Chester brochures created by the CEDC have been provided to the railroad for inclusion with the dinner trains

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS

2018 PLANS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Investigate the connection of the Information Booth onto the municipal sewer system
- Maintenance of the Information Booth should be included as an expense within the budget
- Annual payment of the SRDC contribution to be included as part of the budget including a potential increase
- Hold a design competition for the design and development of the extension of Brookside Cemetery and the hiking trail
- Village Center Master Plan is due to be updated in July, 2018
- During the zoning re-write, discussion should take place regarding the potential creation of Historic Preservation Districts
- Assist with enhancing the Music Series in town
- The Canopy Management Plan for the Village Center are will be completed
- To implement the first phase of the Canopy Management Plan, an Arbor Day event will be organized for the community
- A planting plan for the Pinnacle Recreation area will be developed
- Continued work with the Green Mountain Railroad
- The Zoning Department needs to be restructured to allow more working hours for the Zoning Administrator. In conjunction with this, the current assistant position will have increased ours to help with the coordination of the Planning Commission and DRB.
- Review creative ways to use the Economic Development Fund to benefit Chester. Examples to include tax stabilization methods as well as interest free loans
- Establish an informal, advisory committee to work with the Town Manager's Office and SRDC in promoting Chester and key properties. This include event creation.
- Increase Chester's social media presence
- Potentially create a video advertising Chester (similar to Windsor)

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS 2017 UPDATE

RECREATION & THE ARTS

Create micro-parks throughout the community

Investigate a sidewalk on Church Street

Investigate a bike path to the high school

Develop recreation/social activities for all ages

Celebrate the arts, architecture and culture as integral facts of community life that are present and visible throughout Chester Village

Maintain, expand and connect recreational opportunities within and from Chester Village thereby improving the quality of life

- A scoping study was completed for a potential bike path to the High School
- The town is working with the New England Forestry Foundation on the acquisition of 1,811 acres of unspoiled forest
- The town acquired Rainbow Rock

MASTER PLAN & VISION TOPICS

2018 PLANS

RECREATION & THE ARTS

- An additional 9 baskets will be added to the Frisbee Golf Course
- A planting plan for the Pinnacle Recreation area will be developed
- A scoping study will be performed to determine if a walking path can be installed on Church Street
- The parking at Cobleigh Field will be expanded with the addition of an e-charging station
- The Recreation Director will expand the programs for older adults
- Develop a micro park on town property on Route 11 East
- Develop a micro park at the end of School Street with improved water access on both sides of the swinging bridge
- Continue working with New England Forestry Foundation on the purchase and use of the Tomasso property
- Hold a design competition for the design and development of the extension of Brookside Cemetery and the hiking trail

MANAGER'S REPORT 2017

My report this year centers on the budget. The Board has taken some new directions this year that I would like to highlight. Looking at it without some background information can make understanding it difficult.

First and foremost is the smaller surplus amounts in both the General Fund and Public Works. Both of these have a significant effect on the final outcome of the budget. The reason is that any surplus that remains at the end of one year is carried into the coming year to reduce the amount needed to be collected in taxes. A smaller surplus means a larger potential amount that will be necessary to collect in taxes.

In 2017 the General Fund surplus was \$21,571. This compares to the prior year's surplus of \$114,763; or a difference of \$93,192 less that could be applied to the 2018 budget. Public Works had a surplus in 2017 of \$68,315 compared to \$139,504 the year before. This meant that there was \$71,189 less to be applied to the 2018 budget. Those two items alone accounted for a difference of \$164,381 less to be carried forward into 2018. Please note this smaller surplus being carried forward is approximately the amount that taxes need to be increased.

But the Selectboard was very keen to go through the budget and review each item to make sure they could find whatever savings might be possible. At the same time, they were hopeful that they could start some new initiatives to make Chester better in the future.

Starting with the General Government section you will see that Sandri has offered \$15,000 for a small strip of land behind their facility. This revenue is highlighted in yellow.

On the expense side, you will see that benefits have been allocated to Administration rather than being lumped together as was the case in the past. In fact, each department will now have these items shown as part of their budget.

Farther down the page, Historic Maintenance will be getting an extra amount set aside in the budget. Maintaining Town assets is important to the Board. Town Hall will see significant renovations in the coming year. These improvements should be noticeable to the many people and groups that use the building.

On the third page, benefits are shown in the Lister's area as well as Planning. In the Insurance and Deductions area, those same benefits are gone for the most part since they now reside in each department. The payment to Springfield Regional Development is also included in the budget. In the past this was a Voted Article. But the Board wanted to take a more pro-active role in economic development. To that end, new directional signage is being created and the Town's zoning plan will be rewritten in 2018. And along with a new zoning plan will be training for the Planning Commission so they can do their job even better.

In the Public Safety area, there are basically minor changes except of course the transfer of benefits to each department. One notable exception is that the \$20,000 transfer from the Fire Department to the Water Department has been stopped now that the Water Department is in better financial health.

Public Works also has the employee benefits moved to their budget otherwise this budget is also similar to last year.

The Parks & Recreation Division has some changes that you should note. In the Recreation budget, extra money has been set aside to maintain the Disc Golf course. Fence repair around the pool and baseball fields has also been budgeted. New equipment to meet State standards is also included.

The Capital & Bond plans include new equipment for improved dirt road maintenance and a new sidewalk plow will be purchased. The sidewalk plow was refurbished several years ago, but it has reached the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced.

But with these changes, the Board still made cuts. These came in a variety of areas. They moved the signage package and the zoning changes out of the budget; these will now be paid for by the Economic Development fund.

They reduced equipment and supply items in Public Works since their review showed the budgeted amount had not been used in the past several years. Likewise, a review of the Cemetery budget brought similar reductions.

The Selectboard has worked very hard on this budget. They started with a Visioning Process which allowed them to discuss where they saw Chester going in the future and hence to begin to plan for it starting now. When the first draft of the budget was presented they went to work to cut back on the amount of any tax increase that would be required; and they achieved that goal. Over \$100,000 was pared from that initial budget.

I believe the budget contained in this report has been well thought out and deserves your support.

The Selectboard, at the urging of the Town's outside auditors, approved a change in the Town's accounting procedures. Chester went from a Cash based accounting system to an Accrual system. This is the system most organizations use today. Some of the reports may look different than in the past. Basically a cash based system accounts for income and expenses just like the term says; on a cash basis. Taxes are only accounted for when they are actually received; expenses are only accounted for when they are actually paid.

In accrual accounting, when the tax bills are sent in July, it is assumed the full amount will be collected and so is shown as a revenue. Likewise when an item is ordered, it is also assumed that the Town will pay for it, so the amount of the anticipated invoice is immediately shown as an expense. The item in question may not be received for 2 months and not paid for another month. In cash accounting, the time of payment would be when the expense would go on the books. In accrual accounting, as soon as it is ordered, the expense is shown. This feature can aid in purchasing decisions since what has been ordered is shown as an expense and there is nothing that is not completely up to date.

But in this first year, trying to compare an accrual system with a cash system may seem confusing. By next year, the accrual system will have been in place long enough that this comparison should work itself out.

In closing let me say how much Chester will miss Officer Mark Phelps. He was well known and well thought of in Chester. He led an active life and was a major asset in the police department; his passing has affected all of us.

David Pisha
Town Manager

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PLAN

1/22/2018

Revenues

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Beginning Balance	\$76,507.71	\$2,453.79	\$6,345.42	\$32,797.1
General Fund Transfer In	\$350,000.00	\$355,000.00	\$360,000.00	\$360,000.0
Public Works Transfer In	\$22,462.46	\$56,866.87	\$58,131.55	\$104,353.1
Interest	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50
Library Trustees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Grant Fund Contribution	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Andover Contribution	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.0
Total Funds	\$449,505.17	\$414,855.66	\$425,011.97	\$497,686.1

Expenditures

Public Works	\$125,000.00	\$130,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$140,000.0
Other Public Works	\$45,500.00	\$69,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Sidewalks	\$35,000.00	\$0.00		
Signage	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.0
Emergency Equip	\$34,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.0
Police	\$48,000.00	\$0.00	\$52,000.00	\$54,000.0
Recreation/Cemetery	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.0
Operating Facilities	\$35,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.0
Landscape/Trees	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.0
Route 35 Repair Part II	\$60,000.00			
Bond Plan Transfer	\$36,051.38	\$147,910.24	\$146,214.09	\$194,393.1
Total Expenses	\$447,051.38	\$408,510.24	\$392,214.09	\$447,393.1
Carry-Forward	\$2,453.79	\$6,345.42	\$32,797.88	\$50,292.1

Purchases by Year of Acquisition and Type of Payment

Public Works	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck
Other PW	Excavator Loan 47.5K	Excavator Loan 46.6K Pick-Up Truck \$22.5K		
Sidewalks				
Emergency Equip	Air Paks Pump Refurbish Rescue Truck	Air Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks
Police	Cruiser		Cruiser	Cruiser
Sewer Plant				
Recreation	Pocket Park on School St			
Operating Facilities	Library Renovation 20K Town Hall	General Maintenance	Town Hall Renovation	Town Hall Renovation

The latest version of the Capital Plan which is shown above. The Capital Plan takes a long-term look into the future and schedules the purchase of large equipment and other infrastructure projects, like sidewalks, during each year. Costs are projected to aid in planning since many of the items are costly and looking in the future helps minimize the ups and downs in spending that could otherwise happen.

Most items are purchased for cash, however there are some exceptions when a particular purchase is so large, it would have an effect on the tax rate. In that case, the item has been leased or a loan has been taken out over a three year period. Loan and lease payments has been included in the Capital Plan.

The Bond Plan is similar to the Capital Plan in that it also looks into the future and schedules various projects and equipment for purchase. The Bond Plan is used for larger purchases. The Town has the option of delaying the repayment of principal for up to three years. It can also choose the number of years the bond is issued. These two features allows the repayments to be smoothed out so the tax rate is not unduly affected in any given year.

2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$50,292.66	\$112,617.09	\$193,316.00	\$304,656.00	\$407,978.05
\$340,000.00	\$340,000.00	\$340,000.00	\$340,000.00	\$340,000.00
\$140,895.09	\$138,296.02	\$103,105.96	\$100,804.21	\$51,059.36
\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$485.00
\$531,722.75	\$591,448.11	\$636,956.96	\$745,995.21	\$799,572.41

\$145,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$160,000.00	\$165,000.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
			\$0.00	\$0.00
\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00
\$56,000.00	\$0.00	\$58,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$62,000.00
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00
\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
\$159,105.66	\$189,132.11	\$60,300.96	\$59,017.16	\$56,970.38
\$419,105.66	\$398,132.11	\$332,300.96	\$338,017.16	\$342,970.38
\$112,617.09	\$193,316.00	\$304,656.00	\$407,978.05	\$456,602.03

Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck	Dump Truck
Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks	Air Paks
liser		Cruiser	Cruiser	Cruiser
			Plant Upgrade	Plant Upgrade
wn Hall Renovation	Town Hall Renovation	Town Hall Renovation	Town Hall Renovation	Town Hall Renovation

The individual items and projects to be either purchased outright or acquired by the use of loans and leases are shown under the Capital Plan financial chart. The items to be purchased with bond proceeds are shown under the Bond Plan.

There is a very important point to take note of regarding the Bond Plan. While the plans are separate, they are still coordinated. This year the Town plans to transfer \$350,000 into the Capital Plan. Now that a Bond Plan has been added, a portion of that amount is then transferred to the Bond Plan. There is NOT additional money raised from taxes to fund the Bond Plan. The two plans share the same transfer.

The Water & Sewer departments and Public Works also transfer money into the Bond Plan. The amounts they transfer is equal to each department's share of the overall cost of the items they have requested.

Use of the Bond Plan further helps smooth out the cash-flow. The president of the Vermont Bond Bank has said he wished more Vermont towns would take advantage of this type of financing. He cautioned they should only do it if they have a long-term plan for the use of the money and how it will be paid back. I believe that Chester's Capital Plan and Bond Plan both fit his vision for their use.

BOND PLAN

1/22/2018

Revenues	2018	2019	2020	2021
General Fund Transfer	\$36,051.38	\$147,910.24	\$146,214.09	\$194,393.79
Public Works Transfer	\$22,462.46	\$58,866.87	\$58,131.55	\$104,343.57
Sewer Transfer	\$10,231.70	\$21,478.05	\$21,165.32	\$20,813.00
Water Transfer	\$13,703.32	\$13,531.18	\$13,334.14	\$13,112.20
Total Revenues	\$82,448.86	\$241,786.34	\$238,845.10	\$332,662.56
Expenses				
Bond Bank Series 1				
Capital Items	\$19,245.01	\$58,572.86	\$57,670.75	\$56,704.04
Paving	\$15,686.93	\$47,743.71	\$47,008.39	\$46,220.41
Land Purchase	\$23,756.07	\$72,302.43	\$71,188.86	\$69,995.56
Bond Bank Series 1 Annual Payment	\$58,688.01	\$178,619.00	\$175,868.00	\$172,920.01
Bond Bank Series 3				
Capital Items	\$3,239.92	\$38,298.78	\$38,108.54	\$37,873.99
Popple Dungeon/ Rte 35	\$4,961.16	\$4,961.16	\$4,961.16	\$51,961.16
Bond Bank Series 3 Annual Payment	\$8,201.08	\$43,259.94	\$43,069.70	\$89,835.15
Fire Dept Pumper	\$13,745.40	\$13,745.40	\$13,745.40	\$63,745.40
Series 2 & Pumper Annual Payments	\$21,946.48	\$57,005.34	\$56,815.10	\$153,580.55
Bond Bank Series 4				
Compaction Roller	\$979.76	\$3,327.48	\$3,327.48	\$3,327.48
Sidewalk Plow	\$834.61	\$2,834.52	\$2,834.52	\$2,834.52
Trailer/Park	\$79.83	\$271.13	\$271.13	\$271.43
Bond Bank Series 4 Annual Payment	\$1,814.37	\$6,162.00	\$6,162.00	\$6,162.00
Total Payments	\$82,448.86	\$241,786.34	\$238,845.10	\$332,662.56

2016 BOND PLAN

SERIES ONE

Cemetery	Mower	\$8,500.00 Replacement
Recreation	Pool	\$45,400.00 Replace Pool Deck Covering
Fire	Hose	\$40,000.00 Current Hose no longer Age Compliant
	Air Paks	\$18,500.00 Standard Replacement Cycle
	Washer/Dryer	\$11,000.00 Safety Compliance
	Thermal Camera	\$15,000.00 Replacement
Sewer	Pump Station	\$70,000.00 Upgrade Aging Pump Station
	Pick-Up Truck	\$30,000.00 Replacement
Water	New Hydrants	\$31,500.00 Replacement Based on Condition Assessment
Public Works	Paving	\$220,000.00 Based on Condition Assessment
	Land Purchase	\$324,000.00 Land Purchase for Water Tank
Series One Total		\$813,900.00

2018 PROPOSED BOND PLAN

Public Works	Compaction Roller	\$110,000.00 Third Phase of Proper Dirt Road Maintenance
	Sidewalk Plow	\$115,000.00 Replacement of Old Equipment
	Hazmat Trailer	\$11,000.00 New Item
Parks & Recreation	School Street Pocket Park	\$25,000.00 Master Plan Proposal
Total		\$261,000.00

2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
\$159,105.66	\$189,132.11	\$60,300.96	\$59,017.66	\$56,970.38
\$140,895.09	\$138,206.92	\$103,105.96	\$100,804.21	\$51,059.36
\$20,423.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$12,866.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$333,290.38	\$327,339.03	\$163,406.92	\$159,821.87	\$108,029.74
\$41,233.07	\$40,414.25			
\$33,609.76	\$32,942.33			
\$50,898.17	\$49,887.42			
\$125,741.00	\$123,244.00			
\$37,609.75	\$37,317.32			
\$51,123.33	\$50,216.93	\$49,222.68	\$48,150.43	
\$88,733.08	\$87,534.25	\$49,222.68	\$48,150.43	
\$62,654.30	\$61,513.12	\$60,300.96	\$59,017.66	\$56,970.38
\$151,387.38	\$149,047.37	\$109,523.64	\$107,168.09	\$56,970.38
\$30,327.48	\$29,725.74	\$29,096.97	\$28,433.04	\$27,572.05
\$25,834.52	\$25,321.92	\$24,786.31	\$24,220.74	\$23,487.31
\$2,471.13	\$2,422.10	\$2,370.86	\$2,316.77	\$2,246.61
\$56,162.00	\$55,047.66	\$53,883.28	\$52,653.78	\$51,059.36
\$333,290.38	\$327,339.03	\$163,406.92	\$159,821.87	\$108,029.74

2017 BOND PLAN

SERIES THREE

Recreation	Pool/Pumps	\$25,000.00	Replacement of Aging Equipment
Public Works	Tractor/Leaf Blower	\$110,000.00	Part of Clean Water Act Upgrade
Town Hall	ADA Ramp	\$50,000.00	Replace Aging Ramp
Series Two Total		\$185,000.00	

Fire Department Bond

Fire	Pumper	\$500,000.00	Replace Aging Equipment
Total		\$500,000.00	

Public Works Bond

Public Works	Rte 35/P Dungeon Culvert	\$235,000.00	Repair and Replacement
Total		\$235,000.00	

Since Chester has been awarded a grant to complete additional sidewalk paving, there will be additional borrowing in the future to fund this work.

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
DECEMBER 30, 2017**

General Fund

	Actual
REVENUES	
Taxes	\$7,542,696.12
Delinquent Tax Allocation	\$27,548.17
Licenses/Fees	\$9,877.60
General Government	\$43,130.16
Public Safety	\$277,377.37
Public Works	\$412,508.66
Culture & Recreation	\$26,722.00
Other Income	\$74,758.93
TOTAL REVENUES	\$8,414,619.01
EXPENDITURES	
Selectboard/Manager	\$102,899.70
Administration	\$476,102.74
Listers	\$27,384.39
Taxes	\$3,932.62
Planning	\$37,828.91
Insurance	\$203,671.61
Police	\$635,938.65
Fire	\$161,473.75
Ambulance	\$176,203.00
Communications	\$40,003.92
Highway	\$1,242,840.78
Solid Waste	\$25,125.00
Health & Welfare	\$1,076.50
Recreation Programs	\$85,039.80
Parks & Cemeteries	\$76,410.96
Library	\$91,714.40
Town Hall	\$40,696.42
Revitalization	\$11,689.56
Recreation Facilities	\$34,695.59
Capital Expenditures	\$330,000.00
County Tax	\$26,362.00
Voted Articles	\$51,032.50
CTSD Assessment	\$4,442,608.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,324,731.62
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	\$89,887.39
Public Works Surplus	(\$68,315.69)
General Fund Surplus	\$21,571.70

BUDGET SUMMARY**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$306,900.00	\$334,050.00	
Expenses		
\$1,310,847.50	\$1,034,978.50	
Net		
<u>(\$1,003,947.50)</u>	<u>(\$700,928.50)</u>	

PUBLIC SAFETY

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$172,600.00	\$194,100.00	
Expenses		
\$798,365.00	\$938,672.08	
Net		
<u>(\$625,765.00)</u>	<u>(\$744,572.08)</u>	

PUBLIC WORKS

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$379,532.00	\$321,303.69	
Expenses		
\$1,119,840.78	\$1,254,669.80	
Net		
<u>(740,308.78)</u>	<u>(933,366.11)</u>	

CAPITAL & TRANSFERS

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$0.00	\$0.00	
Expenses		
\$330,000.00	\$350,000.00	
Net		
<u>(\$330,000.00)</u>	<u>(\$350,000.00)</u>	

CULTURE & RECREATION

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$28,395.00	\$28,970.00	
Expenses		
\$296,663.20	\$350,913.64	
Net		
<u>(\$268,268.20)</u>	<u>(\$321,943.64)</u>	

GRANTS

Revenues		
20017	2018	
\$0.00	\$0.00	
Expenses		
\$46,675.00	\$42,500.00	
Net		
<u>(\$46,675.00)</u>	<u>(\$42,500.00)</u>	

HEALTH, OTHER & VOTED ARTICLES

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$62,500.00	\$62,500.00	
Expenses		
\$38,801.00	\$29,301.00	
Net		
\$23,699.00	\$33,199.00	

SUMMARY OF CONTINUING OPERATIONS

Revenues		
2017	2018	
\$949,927.00	\$940,923.69	
Expenditures		
\$3,941,192.48	\$4,001,035.02	
---- Net Before Surplus or Deficit----		
<u>(\$2,991,265.48)</u>	<u>(\$3,060,111.33)</u>	
Surplus/Deficit		
\$114,763.37	\$21,571.70	
Pre Surplus Total		
<u>(\$2,991,265.48)</u>	<u>(\$3,060,111.33)</u>	
To Be Collected		
<u>(\$2,876,502.11)</u>	<u>(\$3,038,539.63)</u>	
Difference		
\$29,976.44	\$162,037.52	

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S OFFICE REPORT

The Town Clerk/Treasurer's Office had another busy year in 2017. We made significant progress with the project of putting our land records into our computerized record system. Land records are scanned and indexed from 2003 to the present. Birth records are scanned and indexed from 2006 to present, marriage records from 2014 to present and death records from 2009 to present. All surveys, on file, have been scanned and indexed into our computerized records system and creating, organizing and cataloging a map room, on the Second Floor of Town Hall was also done in 2017. These projects will continue to be updated in 2018. The project of organizing and cataloging documents in the basement is ongoing.

This year with our restoration money we had three books restored: Cemetery Records, Volume 4, 1936-1960; Town Records, Volume 4; Village Meetings, 1907-1967.

There will be three elections in 2018. Town Meeting is March 5th at 6:00 p.m., Town and School Voting is March 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; State Primary Election is August 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and State General Election is November 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All voting takes place at the Town Hall, Second Floor. In 2016 Secretary of State Jim Condos announced the launch of VT's new Elections Management System/My Voter Page. By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- Check registration status;
- View information on upcoming elections;
- Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- View a sample ballot;
- Request and track an absentee ballot;
- and much more.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>

Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

In May 2017, the Vermont Legislature passed a bill that will change the laws pertaining to how people can obtain vital records, which include death and birth certificates. Act 46 was passed to help ensure the safety of Vermonter's information, and to help protect against identity theft. These changes will go into effect July 1, 2018.

The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 46 in May 2017, which significantly changes the state laws that govern vital records –namely, birth and death certificates. The new law and rules will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates, provide better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the entire statewide system for creation, storage and tracking of birth and death certificates. Act 46 will impact anyone who seeks a copy of a Vermont birth or death certificate.

The changes go into effect on July 1, 2018.

The most notable changes are:

- Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.
- An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.
- Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.
- Access to noncertified copies (previously called “informational” copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.

- Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

For text of Act 46, go to

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/ACTS/ACT046/ACT046%20As%20Enacted.pdf>

All dogs must be registered by April 1, 2018. The costs are as follows: Neutered/Spayed = \$9.00, Non Neutered/Spayed = \$13.00. After April 1: Neutered/Spayed = \$11.00, Non Neutered/Spayed = \$17.00. There will be a Rabies Clinic on Saturday, March 10, from 10:30 to 12:00, at the Chester Highway Garage. Dog licenses will be available at the Rabies Clinic.

Some of the things that are available at the Town Clerk's Office are: Dog Licenses, which are due by April 1st, Motor Vehicle Renewals, accompanied by the renewal form that you receive from the State and we can do the current month and two previous months, Fish & Game Licenses, which are now computerized, Springfield Recycling Center tickets, Civil Marriage Licenses and Voter Registration. Our office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. However, staff is available outside of these hours if prior arrangements are made.

Property taxes will be due September 17, 2018 and Water/Sewer billing is done quarterly.

In 2017 we lost a very important part of our family. Sergeant Mark Phelps passed away in December of 2017. We all miss you very much.

If you have any questions please give us a call at the Town Office. (875-2173)

I would like to thank our Office Staff, Amie O'Brien, Assistant Town Clerk; Cil Mathews, Bookkeeper; Julie Hance, Administrative Assistant and David Pisha, Town Manager, Highway and Water/Sewer Departments, Police Department and Fire and Ambulance Services and the citizens of Chester for your dedication and hard work to the Town of Chester.

Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk/Treasurer

LISTERS REPORT

There are several things that should be noted in the Listers office this year. Last March the voters of the Town of Chester voted to do away with the Listers office as a voted position and go with hiring an assessor as many towns have seen a drop off in people interested in running for local positions. Since we didn't get any replies for an assessor the Town has hired Valerie Pantorno from Jamaica, part time, who has 10 years experience as a Lister. She will be working with Wanda covering all aspects of the Listers job.

The State of Vermont through the Department of Transportation has money to update and make our town-wide maps more accessible to people on-line. Meetings have begun to bring local officials up to date on this process.

Starting in July of 2018, the Town will be starting another town-wide reappraisal. The changes in the economy and the improvement in the market which shows up in our common level of assessment indicates that it is time we adjusted values for our properties. This process will take 2 years and will be complete for the 2020 grand list. The same people, but not the same company, that did the Towns 2008 reappraisal will be doing the work and postcards will be sent out when the process starts to let people know when the appraisers will be in their neighborhood. If anyone has questions about this process, please contact the Listers office and we will be happy to talk with you.

So, 2018 will be a busy year for the Listers. We still have to get our regular work done for putting out the 2018 grand list, getting ready for the start of the townwide reappraisal and helping with any mapping issues that arise from the mapping project with the State of Vermont.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wanda C Purdy

Valerie Pantorno

Zoning Department

The Zoning Administrator's (ZA) position remains a part time role here in Chester, with office hours on Tuesday from 8am – 5pm. I am often available other times of the week by appointment or via email at michael.normyle@chestervt.gov. The Ladies in the Town Hall also know how to contact me as needed. The ZA has a very unique role working with the applicants, the Development Review Board and the Planning Commission.

As a reminder, all public hearings are open to the public. It was good to see new faces come to a few of these public hearings, and we encourage more attendance. Hopefully this will confirm that there are checks and balances in place to ensure the public's welfare is being considered and balanced against development.

Unfortunately I continue to be surprised by the number of folks who are under the impression that permits are not needed for a variety of things. Whether this confusion starts with sellers of property, Realtors or whatever other possible sources; it is always best to ask me for verification. I am here to assist you all! We believe the approved Amendments to the Unified Development By-Laws (UDBs) were a positive step moving forward. We need and encourage more citizen input however, as there were more than a few interesting ideas that were brought up in the 12th hour that will have to be reviewed in the next set of revisions.

Coordination with the Planning Commission as they work on the new Town Plan continues to be a very interesting process, and we once again encourage more of *your input!*

A few quick notes on the activity in 2017 There were 35 building permits, including 4 new homes and numerous additions to existing homes. In addition there was 3 boundary line adjustment, 10 Conditional Use applications (100% increase) and 8 minor sub-divisions.

Enforcement The Select board and Town Manager have fully supported these efforts, and this office has spent more time this year reviewing properties and documenting good and bad examples of sign, lights setback conditions, etc. The process has been slower than expected, yet I want to assure you that we are working on violations.

The agendas for upcoming meetings, along with the Development Review Board decisions are being posted on the new Chester web site for your information. You may also review the current Unified Development By-Laws via the new www.chestervt.gov. In my absence from the office, the various forms may be picked up Monday through Friday from 8am -4pm.

Thank you also to Cathy Hasbrouck, who is an excellent note taker, proof reader and sounding board!!

Michael Normyle
Chester Zoning Administrator & Planning Coordinator
875-2173 michael.normyle@chestervt.gov

GENERAL GOVERNMENT**REVENUES**

Taxes		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-318-01	Railroad Taxes	\$1,900.00	\$1,105.64	\$1,200.00	\$1,900.00
1-318-02	Tax Sale Redemption	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-318-03	Land Use	\$135,000.00	\$151,561.31	\$155,000.00	\$155,000.00
1-318-06	Pilot Program	\$2,500.00	\$11,697.71	\$5,000.00	\$11,500.00
1-319-02	Penalties/Interest	\$70,000.00	\$59,390.83	\$95,000.00	\$90,000.00
		\$209,400.00	\$223,755.49	\$256,200.00	\$258,400.00
Licenses, Permits & Fees					
1-321-01	Liquor Licenses	\$1,300.00	\$1,225.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
1-321-03	Fish & Game	\$250.00	\$73.50	\$250.00	\$250.00
1-321-04	Dog Lic	\$1,500.00	\$1,222.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-321-05	Other Lic	\$1,850.00	\$470.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00
1-321-06	Rabies	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
1-321-07	Motor Vehicle	\$500.00	\$286.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
		\$6,700.00	\$3,276.50	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00
Planning & Zoning					
1-321-02	Permits	\$5,000.00	\$6,601.10	\$6,000.00	\$6,500.00
General Government					
1-341-11	Recording Fees	\$25,000.00	\$31,688.50	\$25,000.00	\$32,500.00
1-341-12	Admin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-341-17	911 House Numbers	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
1-341-19	Misc.	\$700.00	\$8,565.63	\$700.00	\$4,000.00
1-341-41	Tax Sale	\$2,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-341-51	Interest	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$650.00	\$500.00
1-341-53	Interest	\$0.00	\$2,076.03	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
1-341-61	Audit	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
01-341-70	Solar Field Rent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
	Land Sale to Sandri	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
		\$31,150.00	\$43,130.16	\$38,000.00	\$62,450.00
Total General Gov		\$252,250.00	\$276,763.25	\$306,900.00	\$334,050.00

General Government 2018

Selectboard		FT = 1			
EXPENSES		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-411-10	Selectboard	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
1-411-70	Selectboard Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$3,971.22	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-412-10	Town Manager	\$79,000.00	\$81,902.05	\$81,000.00	\$83,000.00
	Social Security	\$0.00	\$6,487.27	\$0.00	\$6,225.00
1-412-16	Mgmt Consultant	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
1-412-40	Manager Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$2,589.16	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	Totals	\$91,000.00	\$102,449.70	\$93,000.00	\$99,725.00

Administration		FT = 4			
		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-413-09	Election Expense	\$4,500.00	\$1,276.10	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
1-413-10	Election Payroll	\$1,000.00	\$635.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
1-415-10	Payroll	\$151,500.00	\$178,259.15	\$182,825.00	\$198,200.00
1-415-11	Treasurer	\$3,190.00	\$3,179.84	\$3,286.00	\$3,400.00
	Social Security	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,162.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Health Premiums	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60,684.00
	Life Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Retirement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,000.00
	Co-Insurance	\$0.00			
1-415-17	911 House Numbers	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
1-415-20	Office Supplies	\$11,000.00	\$9,316.67	\$11,500.00	\$11,000.00
1-415-22	Equipment	\$20,000.00	\$36,445.71	\$19,300.00	\$20,500.00
1-415-33	Notices	\$1,500.00	\$8,141.26	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
1-415-34	Telephone	\$5,000.00	\$5,432.40	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-415-35	Postage	\$7,000.00	\$7,506.73	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
1-415-36	State Treasurer	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1-415-40	VLCT	\$4,419.00	\$4,576.00	\$4,419.00	\$4,674.00
1-415-41	Training	\$2,000.00	\$1,350.97	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-415-55	Chamber of Comm.	\$125.00	\$145.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
1-415-56	Legal	\$10,000.00	\$24,793.69	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
1-415-57	Town Auditors	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-58	Outside Audit	\$11,000.00	\$16,850.00	\$13,000.00	\$16,850.00
1-415-59	Computer Service	\$6,000.00	\$8,231.36	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-415-60	Service Charge	\$2,000.00	\$2,477.50	\$1,750.00	\$1,500.00
1-415-62	Town Report	\$3,500.00	\$3,685.62	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
1-415-63	Record Rstrtn.	\$17,750.00	\$5,288.70	\$7,000.00	\$8,000.00
01-415-64	Website	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-415-77	Legal Environmental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-415-79	Unclassified	\$0.00	\$71.10	\$0.00	\$0.00
	NEMRC Software	\$0.00	\$19,510.63	\$17,500.00	\$0.00
	GIS Upgrade	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
	SAPA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$500.00
1-415-90	TAN Interest	\$7,500.00	\$6,749.19	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
01-415-94	Propane Tank Purch	\$9,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-415-95	Bond Anticipation	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Totals	\$289,334.00	\$351,322.62	\$325,205.00	\$418,695.00

Revitalization					
	Website Maintenance	\$0.00	\$143.10	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
	Historic Fac. Maint	\$5,500.00	\$1,740.47	\$7,500.00	\$30,000.00
	Misc Maintenance	\$0.00	\$9,805.99	\$5,000.00	\$7,500.00
	Wayfinding Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Zoning Audit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Totals	\$5,500.00	\$11,689.56	\$13,500.00	\$38,000.00

General Government 2018 (Continued)

1/22/2018

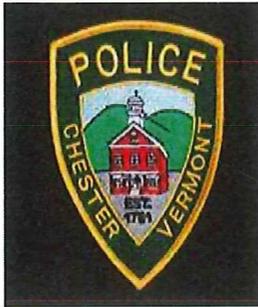
Listers		PT = 1			
		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-416-10	Salary	\$25,500.00	\$19,186.58	\$25,500.00	\$32,500.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$2,030.00
01-416-21	General Expenses	\$7,500.00	\$5,073.21	\$8,000.00	\$8,500.00
01-416-22	Training	\$2,000.00	\$270.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-416-23	Equipment	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$500.00
01-416-74	Travel	\$2,000.00	\$1,420.58	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-416-75	State Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$37,100.00	\$25,950.37	\$37,600.00	\$47,530.00

Taxes		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-417-20	Tax Billing	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-417-21	General Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-417-22	Abtment	\$0.00	\$3,020.60	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-417-24	State Appeals	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
01-417-30	Tax Sale Service	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-417-33	Advertising	\$2,500.00	\$912.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
01-417-56	Legal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$6,500.00	\$3,932.60	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00

Planning & Zoning		PT = 2			
		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-418-10	Salary	\$13,500.00	\$22,480.81	\$21,400.00	\$33,500.00
	DRB Salaries	\$2,600.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,500.00
	Planning Salaries	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$3,000.00
01-418-21	Notices	\$2,500.00	\$2,831.25	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
01-418-22	Grant Funding	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-418-23	Enforcement	\$3,500.00	\$344.47	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Supplies	\$0.00	\$139.24	\$0.00	\$200.00
01-418-38	Town Plan/Zoning	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-418-56	Legal	\$6,000.00	\$7,957.90	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
01-418-62	Printing	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-418-64	Training	\$500.00	\$210.00	\$500.00	\$3,500.00
01-416-65	Computer	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-418-66	Regional Planning Dues	\$3,942.50	\$0.00	\$3,942.50	\$3,942.50
01-418-95	SRDC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
		\$33,642.50	\$35,963.67	\$43,542.50	\$73,742.50

Insurance & Deductions		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-419-15	Social Security	\$108,500.00	\$108,130.16	\$108,500.00	\$0.00
1-419-16	Unemployment	\$2,700.00	\$2,273.99	\$2,600.00	\$0.00
1-419-17	Workers Comp	\$76,000.00	\$92,110.00	\$120,000.00	\$110,000.00
1-419-18	Medical	\$290,500.00	\$243,290.84	\$266,500.00	\$0.00
1-419-19	Life	\$2,500.00	\$2,535.29	\$3,400.00	\$0.00
1-419-20	Retirement	\$65,000.00	\$68,138.70	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
1-419-50	Property/Casualty	\$85,000.00	\$105,860.00	\$95,000.00	\$115,000.00
1-419-52	Co-Insur	\$62,500.00	\$131,949.31	\$130,140.31	\$125,786.00
		\$692,700.00	\$754,288.29	\$786,140.31	\$350,786.00

Total General Government		\$1,155,776.50	\$1,285,596.81	\$1,305,487.81	\$1,034,978.50
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Message from the Chief of Police-2017

As always, I welcome questions, comments or suggestions and look for feedback on how members of the Chester Police Department can improve the quality of life for the residents of Chester. Feel free to drop by and visit the police department during office hours.

STATISTICS :



In 2017, Chester Police Officers responded to 1179 calls for service, in which 67 cases were criminal cases. Arrests totaled 24 bookings of 24 offenders, committed a total of 67 criminal offenses. This affects a decrease of 113* calls for service; a decrease of 13 arrests compared to the previous year (2016). *With the new dispatch procedures /coding, some incidents are not case generated, therefore, a decrease of incidents would result.

Officer's investigated:



159 Agency Assists (Ambulance, Fire, other Law Enforcement Agencies, DCF), 127 Citizen Assist/Disputes, Traffic Hazard ,97 Suspicious Circumstances /Persons, 28 Motor Vehicle Disturbances, 7 Dead Bodies, 7 DUI's, 15 Fraud Complaints,13 Vandalism complaints, 68 Animal Problems, 36 Family Disturbances, and 3 Sex Offenses,(this is only a partial listing of calls for Services.)

TICKETS/WARNINGS /TRAFFIC CONTROL:

308 Vermont Civil Violation Complaints (VCVC) issued violations such as, 15 Driving License Suspended, 3 Possession of Marijuana, 8 Operating without Liability Insurance, 222 were for speed related infractions,



216 Written Traffic Warnings: 141 Speed related infractions, as well as various warnings, such as, 2 Texting While Driving 10 Inspection Violations, 9 operating without Liability Insurance. Revenue from the Judicial Bureau for paid VCVC tickets totaled \$13876.67.

Chester Police Department Purchased 3 Solar Radar Signs, the signs were put up on Main Street, South Main Street; North Street (Pictured), this will result in lower VCVC's and warnings to be issued.



Chester Officer's continue to assist Okemo Mountain Resort with traffic control. Their efforts help the flow of traffic into and out of the area during the peak travel times on weekends, vacations and holidays and during the ski season of December through March. This is a paid service by Okemo, based on a state mandated police officer traffic control.

TRAINING

Chester Police Officers are required to attend a minimum of 25-30 training hours annually. Their training included: Interacting w/ People having a Mental Health Crisis, Field Training Officer Certification Course, Training on Administering Narcan (Overdose Reversal), Crash Investigation, Domestic Violence, Firearms Training, Death Scene Investigation.



Chester's K9 Dutch completed his training at the Vermont Criminal Training Council, and is now certified to search and detect multiple drugs. Dutch has completed more than 240 hours of training. Dutch already has been responding to requests for K9 assistance. K9 Dutch has also just completed 500 hours of Patrol School, which includes tracking, Building Searches, Missing Persons, Officer Protection and Evidence Recovery.



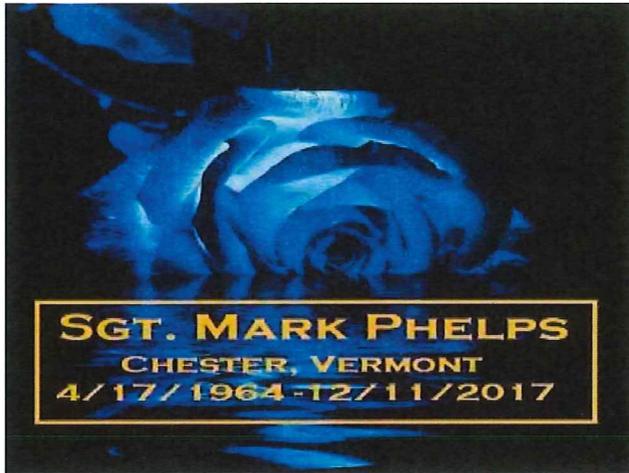
K9 Dutch In Training at the Vermont Criminal Training Council.



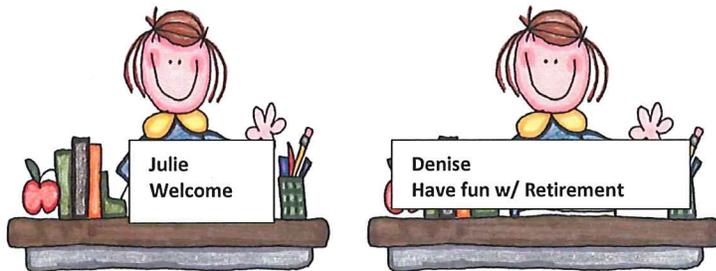
Chief and K9 Dutch

STAFFING:

Chester Police Department normally staffs 5 Full-Time Officers and 3 Part-Time Officers. Chester Police Department is at 4 Full-Time Officers and 2 Part-Time Officers Part-Time Officer Jillian Cenate, has resigned, and the unexpected and sudden loss of Sgt. Mark Phelps, Brother of the Blue-Line; will be missed personally and professionally for a very long time.



Administration had a turnover in staff; Julie Parsells was hired in April to continue administration responsibilities of the retiring Denise Caron. Denise stayed on to help with transition, until her retire date of May 31, 2017. Congratulations Denise on your retirement, Police Department Personnel and Town Office Personnel wish you the best for your retirement.



Current Roster: Chief Richard Cloud, Detective Andrew Brothers, Todd Mayer, Adam Woodell,
Part-Time Officers: Jeff Holden, Timothy Worth
Chester Police will be returning to 5 Full-Time Officers in the near future

COMMUNITY POLICING

Chester Police Department continues to manage a Facebook Page, Look for us at Chester VT Police Department And like us to receive updates and notifications about your community.

Chief Richard Cloud Enjoying the Dunk Tank At National Night Out!!!



Phelps's
TA-DAAAA
Moment



Chief Richard Cloud put together and held training for area residents back in April, 2017. The R.A.D. (Rape/Aggression/Defense) certified training provides educational opportunities to create a safer future for participants. R.A.D. trainer's mission statement is "to challenge society to evolve into existence where violence is not an acceptable part of daily life." Should another training class be organized, notification will be sent out through the Chester Police face-book page and posted at the Town Hall. If interested, you may always contact the department for intended scheduling.

Chester Andover Elementary School (CAES) 5th grade students participate in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) training, provided by the Chester Police Department. Students learn more than just drug prevention education; it teaches students good decision making skills to help them avoid high-risk behavior to ensure they grow up healthy, safe and secure. Chester Officer's accompany the C.A.E.S. students to a Dartmouth hockey game each year



REMINDER:

Don't forget! No need to wait for a National Drug Take Back Event!! Just outside of the Police Department in the hallway of the Chester Town Hall is the MedReturn drug collection unit.



Unused and unwanted prescriptions may be deposited.

There are restrictions on allowable items to be deposited into the MedReturn Unit. Not allowed are needles, ointments, liquids, aerosols and inhalers. Please check with your physician for disposal of these restricted items.

POLICE

FT = 6

PT = 3

Revenues

		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-342-11	Court Fees	\$30,000.00	\$13,876.67	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
01-342-12	Ski Payroll Reimbur	\$18,000.00	\$19,040.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
01-342-13	Other Payroll	\$0.00	\$15,493.83	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-342-15	Other	\$2,000.00	\$975.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-342-19	START	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00
	Total	\$52,500.00	\$49,385.50	\$41,500.00	\$42,500.00

Expenses

1-421-10	Payroll	\$340,000.00	\$352,704.87	\$346,500.00	\$346,500.00
1-421-11	Overtime	\$20,000.00	\$22,192.11	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
1-421-12	Ski Traffic	\$19,000.00	\$14,929.80	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
1-421-15	CORE	\$5,000.00	\$7,394.90	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-421-16	SIU PR	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-421-19	GHSP Payroll	\$0.00	\$7,485.48	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-421-2	Special Detail	\$0.00	\$984.50	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$30,500.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00			\$60,670.00
	Life Insurance	\$0.00			\$400.00
	Retirement	\$0.00			\$19,200.00
1-421-20	Supplies	\$7,000.00	\$5,009.69	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
01-421-22	START Payroll	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-421-23	Equipment	\$8,000.00	\$21,535.02	\$17,500.00	\$19,500.00
1-421-24	DARE	\$750.00	\$309.02	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
1-421-34	Telephone	\$5,000.00	\$3,633.05	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-421-36	Training	\$5,500.00	\$1,935.27	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
1-421-40	Police Asso	\$500.00	\$360.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
1-421-68	Vehicles	\$19,000.00	\$17,629.77	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
1-421-69	Gasoline	\$17,500.00	\$10,679.97	\$15,000.00	\$12,500.00
1-421-74	Travel	\$3,500.00	\$2,048.92	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
1-421-75	Uniforms	\$4,000.00	\$6,908.44	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
01-421-76	Attorney	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
01-421-77	MDC	\$3,000.00	\$58.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
01-421-78	Watch Guard	\$500.00	\$145.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	Finger Print Machine	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
	Totals	\$462,750.00	\$475,943.81	\$477,200.00	\$587,470.00

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

The Chester Fire Department responded to the following calls in 2017:

Structure Fires Chester3	Swift Water/Flooding/Ice Rescues..2
Structure Fires Andover0	Snow / ATV Woods Rescue/Recov..1
Structure Fires Mutual Aid9	Landing Zones (DHART).....0
Rekindle Fires.....1	Missing/Lost Person.....0
Room/Contents Fires0	Public Services.....3
Building Electrical Fires.....2	Fireworks Detail.....1
Chimney Fires5	Fire Safety Education.....1
Vehicle Fires0	Storm Crews.....1
Appliance Fires0	Road Hazards2
Oven Fires0	Power lines down11
Oil/Wood/LP Burner Fires0	Power Transformer Fires.....1
Trash/Rubbish Fires0	Assist CPD / VSP0
Dumpster Fires1	Medical Assist5
Gas Grill Fires0	Cover Assignment / Mutual Aid ...3
Illegal Fires0	Smoke Alarms4
Forest/Brush/Grass Fires.....6	Fire Alarms25
Brush/Grass Fires Mutual Aid...2	Smoke Investigations5
Water Leak Hazards.....0	(LP) Propane Leaks2
Motor Vehicle Crashes29	Carbon Monoxide Calls5
Low/High Angle Rescues0	Hazmat Incidents3
	<u>Total Calls 133</u>

Chester Fire Department call volume decreased this year which was in a large part to a decrease in motor vehicle crashes.

Our firefighters continue to train at a minimum of 3 times a month, in addition to multiple weekend classes and for some of our firefighter’s week-long classes. I am very grateful for our men and women that sign up for these weekend and week-long classes as they are not being paid by the town to attend these classes and in most cases going without pay or using vacation time from their full-time jobs. This kind of dedication is essential in our continued effort to provide the Towns of Chester and Andover the best services we can. This year I have requested extra funds on our Salary to start paying Firefighters for this training to conform with labor laws and to encourage continued training.

Chester Fire Department has continued to climb the ladder of respect with other towns and in a lot of cases we are the first due engine to surrounding towns. In common terms this means when another town is requesting help we are the first to get called. This is attributed to our upgrade in training and safety which allows us to provide an excellent service with very knowledgeable and trained crews.

This year the voters approved replacement of our 20-year-old Class A Pumper which we are very grateful for! We expect to take delivery of the truck by first week in April.

This year we raised money to purchase our Bailout Kits which allows for self-rescue if trapped in a burning building. This was a two-year effort of raising money through donations to complete this project.

We ended the year by teaming up with St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital and Dollar General to get gifts out to Children in Chester. It was a great day and the kids were all very excited when Santa arrived at the Fire Department in the Fire Truck to give them gifts.

I would like to Congratulate Firefighters James Ravlin and Larry Edwards who were both recognized this year for their dedication to Chester Fire Department. Firefighter Ravlin was awarded the Firefighter of the Year and Firefighter Edwards was awarded the fire department’s highest achievement, the Chief’s Award. Congratulations to you both, you earned it and it is well deserved.

I would like to thank the Yosemite Engine Company which is our private organization made up of current and past members of the fire department that raise money to buy and donate equipment to

the Fire Department to help keep the cost of business lower for tax payers. I would also like to thank the newly formed Chester Fire Department Auxiliary which is made up of the significant others of current firefighters. They are newly formed but have hit the ground running already providing amazing assistance to us.

Most importantly I would like to thank all my Firefighters and their families. Robert MacAllister, Ben Whalen, George Niesuchouski, Andrew Sheere, Steve Vertefeuille, Eric Richarson, Mark Verespy, Bruce Savery, Amber Wilson, Timothy Tassinari, Larry Edwards, Matthew Goyette, Daniel Lamson, Taylor Wilson, James Ravlin, Nicholas Trask, Lucas Trask, Jamie Klezos and Chad Carey Jr. These men, women and children give up so much to make all homes and lives safer in this town. You are all truly heroes.

I would like to end this year's annual report by asking for your consideration in supporting a new Fire Station. We are definitely working in a facility that no longer works for us, and we cannot fit our equipment. Anyone wishing to take a tour of our current facility can reach out for me at any time and I would be happy to show you around. Thank you for your consideration and thank you all for your ongoing support of the Chester Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew S. Wilson
Chester Fire Chief

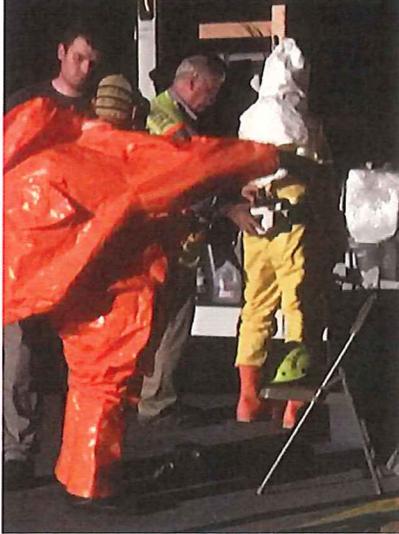
Chester Fire Department Color Guard



Santa visited Chester Fire



Couple of our Fire Responses

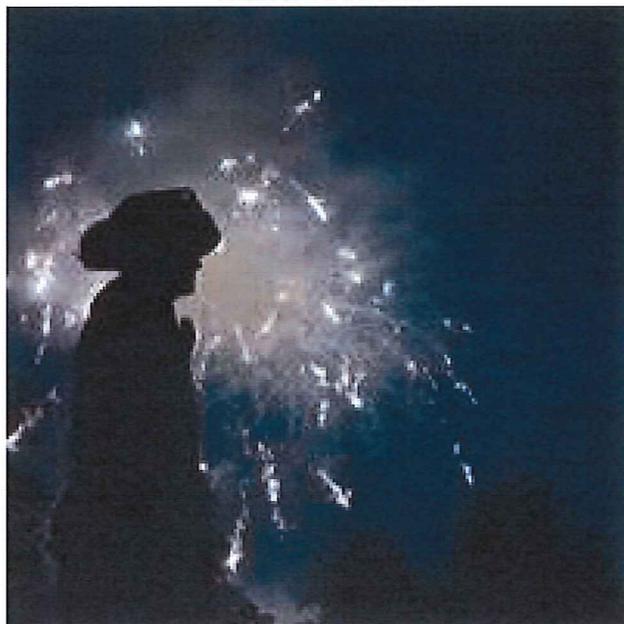


Training





Chester Fireworks



FIRE

Revenues		PT = 20			
		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-342-22	Andover Income	\$19,000.00	\$21,500.00	\$21,500.00	\$24,000.00
01-342-21	Other Income	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-342-24	Hazmat Income	\$0.00	\$50,819.97	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$19,500.00	\$72,319.97	\$22,500.00	\$25,000.00
Expenses					
1-422-10	Salary	\$67,500.00	\$69,378.90	\$67,500.00	\$77,500.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$5,925.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Life Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Retirement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Co-Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-422-22	Physicals	\$2,000.00	\$1,710.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1-422-23	Equipment	\$18,500.00	\$19,306.01	\$18,500.00	\$24,000.00
	Supplies	\$0.00	\$777.03	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-422-24	Ipad/Data Link	\$400.00	\$377.61	\$400.00	\$400.00
1-422-36	Training	\$5,000.00	\$6,885.25	\$5,000.00	\$6,500.00
1-422-40	Assoc Dues	\$2,500.00	\$2,143.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	PACIF	\$0.00	\$219.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-422.67	Building Maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$6,404.46	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	Equipment Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
1-422-68	Vehicle Maint	\$5,500.00	\$14,180.78	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
01-422-76	Utilities	\$750.00	\$143.14	\$750.00	\$500.00
01-422-69	Fuel	\$2,000.00	\$1,078.84	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
01-422-70	Radio Maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$7,900.19	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
	Foam	\$3,000.00	\$4,945.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
	Uniforms	\$1,500.00	\$440.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,500.00
1-422-79	Transfer to Water	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
01-422-81	Hazmat Incidnet	\$0.00	\$20,398.03	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
		\$133,650.00	\$156,287.24	\$139,400.00	\$145,325.00

Report of the Chester Ambulance Service

The ambulance service responded on 378 calls out of a total 386 dispatched during 2017 resulting in 371 patients being seen within the towns of Chester (287), Andover (27), Ludlow (40), Rockingham (2), Cavendish (5), Proctorsville (4), Grafton(2), Londonderry (1), Springfield (1) and Plymouth (2) as a result of the following incidents:

223 Medical Emergencies 33 MVC's (Motor Vehicle Crashes including motorcycle, ATV and snowmobile)

88 Traumatic Incidents by other cause 7 Stand-By Requests by Fire, Police, etc.

27 Public Assists and/or Cancellations

Response volumes continue increase in comparison between 378 as stated for 2017 and 353 during 2016. Within my report last year, I reported that we were unable to respond to 59 calls during 2015 due to lack of personnel availability and 33 during 2016. During 2017, that number again dropped significantly to a total of 12 with most of those missed calls happening late year after weekday coverage difficulties yet again became reality due to resignation.

Meghan Greene resigned her position as full time employee during September of 2017. She had been an important part of our service fulfilling that roll, but personal reasons caused her ultimate decision. During her time with us she pushed for adoption of change to our billing rates plus replacement of the billing program we have used since 1998 to a more efficient program now in service. Between the two we are just beginning to realize increased revenue that I am sure will help the overall tax base as we move forward. She also taught a 6 month long EMT course that produced a few new recruits with State licensure plus she taught many certifiable CPR courses for individuals and organizations alike. She completed some of the tasks that I find hard to do during nights and weekends as I am technically a volunteer with different full time obligations within our Highway Department. I think that I can safely say that given the numbers above, she helped demonstrate worthiness of having a full time person and I look forward to being well on our way to again filling that position very soon.

2017 proved to be an expensive transition year with change in State protocols affecting every licensure level. Many treatment procedures were added causing need to stock supplies that were not planned during the budget process. In addition, the need to change billing programs caused unexpected expense plus many supplies have exponentially increased during a short period. Some examples to this are the need to now stock different forms of Narcan pending use at each licensure for opiate overdoses and the addition of Epinephrine for Cardiac Arrests for use by advanced licensure. Epinephrine Pens for allergic reactions for use by basic level licensure have increased in cost tremendously plus the diabetic medication Glucagon has now increased two fold. Even though we try to keep costs at a minimum and budget accordingly, it is difficult to know exactly what will be needed each year.

Our relationship with Ludlow Ambulance is working well. Each service can call for one licensed person to respond out of the other to fulfill legal transport needs. I want to assure all that we do not wait at the station for them to arrive. We respond while the requested license is on their way to meet on scene. Another plus is that Ludlow now has 4 full time Paramedics on staff that can use their skills under our service license if needed.

At this time I would like to recognize Michael Randzio and Chad Carey, Jr.; Mike is an EMT on our service and Chad is a firefighter for Chester. Both left the same day during August of 2017 to pursue active duty training within the United States Army. We continue their roles as members of our departments for when they are on leave visiting home. Please join me as I extend to them my utmost gratitude for selfless willingness to serve in defense of our country.

As volunteerism is ever revolving, we do continue pursuit of new members; if interested, please contact Dan Cook at 875-3134(H), 802 558-9972(C) or by email to tcambulance@vermontel.net

Report of the Chester Ambulance Service

We would like to thank all town departments of Chester and Andover including all officials and Select Boards; the members of the Chester Volunteer Rescue Squad, Chester Fire Department, Yosemite Engine Company, Ludlow Ambulance, Hartford Dispatch, the emergency room staff at Springfield Hospital and all other surrounding mutual aid organizations. It is with continued support from all, including the taxpayers of Chester and Andover that enables us to continue operation at our current level of care.

I would also like to extend my personal appreciation to all volunteer members of our service as well as thank their respective loved ones for gracious acceptance of any subsequent loss of family time throughout the year. They are an incredible group of individuals with dedication that preserves our ability to continue.

Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians: Jeff Knisely, Eric Martens, Rebekah Martens and Eric Richardson

Emergency Medical Technicians: Mary Ann Bonneville, Amanda Johnson, Elizabeth Brothers, Laurie Cloud, Irwin Post, Meghan Thomas, Laurie Perry, Rachel Cote and Michael Randzio

Emergency Medical Responders: Rebecka Randzio, Michael Steuwe and Robert Carlock

Drivers: Greg Gomo, Bruce Savery, Brianna Dyer and Jim Perry

EMT Trainee: Marissa Stack

EMR Trainees: Alyssa LeTourneau, Montana LeTourneau and Quadale Jackson

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Cook, Coordinator

AMBULANCE

FT = 1

PT = 19

Revenues		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-342-31	Service Fees/ Reimburse	\$70,000.00	\$126,771.90	\$72,000.00	\$90,000.00
01-342-33	Other Income	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-342-34	Andover	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
		\$76,000.00	\$132,871.90	\$78,000.00	\$96,000.00

Expenses		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-423-10	Salary	\$97,500.00	\$75,829.66	\$75,000.00	\$80,000.00
01-423-11	Adm Assistant	\$0.00	\$28,174.61	\$34,000.00	\$30,000.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$8,250.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00			\$10,468.08
	Life Insurance	\$0.00			\$100.00
	Retirement	\$0.00			\$1,944.00
	Uniforms	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
1-423-21	Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$13,328.85	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00
1-423-22	Medical Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$82.50	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-423-23	Equipment	\$8,000.00	\$8,083.21	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00
1-423-24	Intercept	\$2,000.00	\$5,100.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-423-36	Training	\$5,000.00	\$2,542.76	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00
1-423-68	Veh. Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$2,076.35	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00
01-423-69	Fuel	\$1,500.00	\$969.34	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
01-423-70	Billing Expense	\$3,500.00	\$11,132.72	\$6,500.00	\$7,500.00
	Medicaid Tax	\$0.00	\$2,177.45		\$2,000.00
	Equipment	\$0.00	\$1,789.16		\$0.00
	Building Maintenance	\$0.00	\$5,650.00		\$0.00
		\$126,000.00	\$157,286.61	\$147,250.00	\$171,362.08

COMMUNICATIONS

Revenues

		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-343-21	Andover Dispatch Fee	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-343-20	Tower Rent	\$27,600.00	\$19,800.00	\$27,600.00	\$27,600.00
	V-Tel Rent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$30,600.00	\$22,800.00	\$30,600.00	\$30,600.00

Expenses

		2016 Budget	12-31 Cash	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-426-10	Dispatching	\$21,000.00	\$20,156.00	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00
1-426-34	Telephone	\$2,750.00	\$1,818.92	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
1-426-35	Radio Maint	\$2,750.00	\$2,488.31	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
1-426-36	Cell Phones	\$11,350.00	\$15,540.69	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
		\$37,850.00	\$40,003.92	\$34,500.00	\$34,500.00

Town Constable

01-427-36	Training	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
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Total Public Safety	Revenues	\$178,600.00	\$277,377.37	\$172,600.00	\$194,100.00
	Expenses	\$760,265.00	\$829,536.58	\$798,365.00	\$938,672.08

Highway Department Report for 2017

The Chester Highway Department had a very busy year in 2017. I would like to thank the Highway Crew for their hard work during this past year. Thank you also to the town folks for their patience and cooperation during this past year, not only during the winter months at the beginning of the year, but during the many construction projects that took place.

Since 2005, the Highway, Fire and Ambulance building has been heated with an outdoor wood boiler approximately 45 cord of wood is burned. The town has only purchased wood once in 2005 with an average savings of approximately \$20,000.00 a year in heating oil.

During the storms of 2014, there were 3 large culverts that were severely compromised in the west end of Chester. The town has received an Emergency Highway Grant through the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation to fund the engineering and construction of these large structures. I am happy to report that construction is now complete on all 3 culverts and this project has been closed out.



Excavator working on Farrar Road

The largest project completed this summer, was the replacement of a large tube on Amsden Hill Road. The town replaced a 60 inch x 35 foot culvert with a 96 inch x 48 foot culvert. This culvert had to be replaced due to a failure of the existing culvert. The Highway crew was able to perform the work on this project, providing a significant savings to the taxpayers. This is not always the case.



Large culvert on Amsden Hill Road



Large culvert installed on Amsden Hill Road

The State Legislature has adopted and enacted Act 64 which is a Clean Water Act throughout the State of Vermont. This Act requires towns to perform various erosion control measures throughout the town. Through the Better Backroads Grant, the Regional Planning Commission and the town updated the town's bridge and culvert inventory. At this time, the town identified its high, medium and low risk erosion control needs. During 2017, the town was able to stone line several sites throughout town bringing us a little closer to meeting the State's criteria. Through the receipt of approximately \$40,000 from the Better Back Roads Grant, the Highway Department will be able to replace a large culvert on Whitmore Brook Road this coming summer.

In 2017, 300 feet of roadway was replaced on Route 35 with the assistance of a large structures grant through the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The section of road was completely removed, underdrain installed and a stacked stone wall was built on the river side to help stabilize the bank. This

is a small portion of the total road, but we were able to complete the worse section. There remains approximately 1200 feet of Route 35 that still needs to be done in this same fashion. Due to the cost of this type of construction, approximately \$100,000 per 100 feet, it will take some time to complete the remaining sections. The town continues to search out available grant opportunities to help with this work.

As you may recall, the large culvert on Popple Dungeon Road failed in the fall of 2016 and was replaced with a temporary bridge which we are renting from the State of Vermont. We are happy to report that a Transportation Grant has been received from the State of Vermont in the amount of \$300,000 to help pay for the installation of a new bridge. Additional funding is being applied for to help pay for the difference in cost which will help minimize the burden to the taxpayers.



Temporary Bridge installation on Popple Dungeon Road

At long last, the sidewalk project along Main Street, Grafton Street and Maple Street has been completed! The budget this year is asking for approval of a new sidewalk plow which will replace the existing plow that is many years old. This piece of equipment is vital in keeping our sidewalks walkable in the winter months.

The town used its new roadside mower for this year. We were able to complete mowing on all roads in a timely manner this year, the first in a while. The Highway Crew also replaced 9 small road culverts and one 40 foot timber deck bridge. In addition, we resurfaced several miles of gravel roads and maintained Chester's 90 miles of dirt roads.

Graham Kennedy
Public Works Director

SNOWFALL

Snowfall is presently measured at Dian Circle, elevation 760 feet above sea level. Some areas of town exceed 1,800 feet in elevation; therefore, snow totals there may be higher. Steadman Mountain at 2,300 feet is the highest elevation in Town while the Missing Link Road, between Peck Road and Green Mountain Turnpike, at 530 feet above sea level is the lowest elevation in Town.

Shown in Inches

SEASON	OCT.	NOV	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	TOTAL
1984-85	0	10	16.25	7	11	13	5	62.25
1985-86	0	11.5	14.5	27	18	8.5	8.5	88
1986-87	0	18	23	54.5	1	9	4	109.5
1987-88	4	11	15	19	36	7.5	1	93.5
1988-89	0	0	9.5	7.5	15.5	9	6	47.5
1989-90	0	5	15.5	38	27	6	0	91.5
1990-91	0	1	13.5	21	10.5	8.5	0	54.5
1991-92	0	2	20.5	5.5	8.5	5	7.5	49
1992-93	0	3	5.5	26.5	40	26	7	108
1993-94	0.5	0	13.5	46	13	22	0	95
1994-95	0	5	6	7	15	4	0	37
1995-96	0	8	29.5	32	9.5	22.5	11	112.5
1996-97	0.5	4	19.75	30	22.75	22	8	107
1997-98	0	19	13	25.5	7	15	0	79.5
1998-99	0	1.5	6	34	9.5	19	0	70
1999-00	0	0.5	2.5	20.25	26.5	15	1	65.75
2000-01	0.5	1	16	6	27.5	53	0	104
2001-02	0	0	8	30.5	5.5	20.5	2	66.5
2002-03	7	18.75	31.5	27.5	17.5	5	15.5	122.75
2003-04	0.5	5	30.75	10	14.5	12.25	0	73
2004-05	0	0	11	29.75	16.25	22	0	79
2005-06	1	4.5	17.5	21.5	13.5	0	0	58
2006-07	0	0	4	4.25	24.25	25.25	18.75	76.5
2007-08	0	2.5	40	17.5	38	12	1	111
2008-09	0	2	35	35	13.5	6.5	0	92
2009-10	0	0	22	13	31.25	0	0	66.25
2010-11	0	Trace	16	34.5	37.5	10	2.2	100.2
2011-12	8.75	10	2	15.25	3.5	15	0	54.5
2012-13	0	0	22	9.75	25	15.75	0	72.5
2013-14	0	0.75	24.75	12.5	34	12.5	0	84.5
2014-15	0	9.75	13	17.25	38.25	3.5	1	82.75
2015-16	0	0	5	4.5	8	0	2.5	20
2016-17	3.5	0	25.25	13	28.5	26.5	6	102.75
2017-18	0	trace	26.25					
AVERAGE	0.80	4.66	17.38	22.66	20.88	14.57	3.48	82.40

PUBLIC WORKS

1/22/2018

REVENUES

	2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-344-11 Diesel Sales				
Ambulance	\$1,500.00	\$969.34	\$1,250.00	\$1,500.00
Fire	\$2,000.00	\$1,031.78	\$1,750.00	\$2,000.00
Police	\$17,500.00	\$10,679.97	\$15,000.00	\$17,500.00
School	\$45,000.00	\$28,962.48	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Sewer	\$1,250.00	\$688.70	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00
Water	\$1,250.00	\$1,077.37	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
Sale of Material	\$0.00	\$7,149.76	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Income	\$0.00	\$1,137.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-344-13 State Aid	\$194,488.00	\$194,011.76	\$194,488.00	\$194,488.00
01-344-29 Prior Year Surplus	\$115,313.00	\$139,504.50	\$129,794.00	\$68,315.69
01-344-30 Insurance Reimb	\$0.00	-\$3,468.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<u>\$378,301.00</u>	<u>\$381,744.66</u>	<u>\$379,532.00</u>	<u>\$321,303.69</u>

EXPENSES		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-431-10	Payroll	\$420,000.00	\$444,758.46	\$432,600.00	\$449,234.50
01-431-12	Overtime	\$50,000.00	\$40,422.65	\$47,500.00	\$47,500.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$33,692.63
	Unemployment	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00			\$106,165.00
	life Insurance	\$0.00			\$700.00
	Retirement	\$0.00			\$25,200.00
01-431-20	Equipment	\$5,500.00	\$1,243.28	\$6,500.00	\$4,000.00
01-431-21	Supplies	\$8,500.00	\$6,270.06	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00
01-431-23	Tools	\$5,000.00	\$3,666.77	\$6,500.00	\$5,000.00
01-431-24	Salt	\$75,000.00	\$67,039.82	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
01-431-25	Sand	\$65,000.00	\$59,440.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
01-431-26	Gravel	\$80,000.00	\$59,679.99	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
01-431-27	Hot Mix	\$5,000.00	\$3,265.19	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
01-431-28	Bond Plan Transfer	\$46,000.00	\$51,226.75	\$50,120.39	\$32,515.21
01-431-29	Cal Chloride	\$15,000.00	\$3,144.75	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
01-431-30	Culverts	\$5,000.00	\$10,430.50	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
01-431-31	Rip Rap	\$6,000.00	\$8,259.26	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
01-431-32	Bridges	\$5,000.00	\$5,081.36	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
01-431-34	Communications	\$1,500.00	\$659.50	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
01-431-36	Training	\$500.00	\$450.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-431-37	Contract Services	\$5,000.00	\$5,393.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
	PACIF	\$0.00	\$934.79	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-431-38	Mowing	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$567.23	\$0.00
01-431-40	Truck Replacement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-431-55	Capital Plan Transfer	\$3,000.00	\$49,553.16	\$49,553.16	\$22,462.46
01-431-66	Blades/Chains/Plows	\$20,000.00	\$16,453.60	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
01-431-67	Diesel/Gasoline	\$115,000.00	\$115,010.78	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
01-431-68	Vehicle Maintence	\$55,000.00	\$59,877.47	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
01-431-69	Street Lights	\$23,500.00	\$24,898.85	\$26,000.00	\$25,000.00
	Sign Replacement	\$0.00	\$407.50	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
01-431-75	Uniforms	\$7,500.00	\$7,420.53	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
01-431-76	Garage Utilities	\$6,500.00	\$6,402.13	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
01-431-77	Garage Water	\$3,000.00	\$1,337.91	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
	Telephone	\$0.00	\$1,828.99	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-431-78	Fuel	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$500.00
	Truck Replacement	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-431-79	Garage Maintenance	\$15,000.00	\$4,789.70	\$15,000.00	\$8,000.00
		\$1,062,550.00	\$1,059,346.75	\$1,088,590.78	\$1,214,469.80

SOLID WASTE**1/22/2018****REVENUES**

Solid Waste District	\$0.00	\$30,764.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$30,764.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

EXPENSES

	2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-432-37 Eager Beaver	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00
01-432-38 Transfer Station	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$40,000.00
01-432-39 Green Up Day	\$200.00	\$125.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
	<u>\$26,250.00</u>	<u>\$25,125.00</u>	<u>\$31,250.00</u>	<u>\$40,200.00</u>

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS AND SOLID WASTE

REVENUES	<u>\$404,551.00</u>	<u>\$412,508.66</u>	<u>\$379,532.00</u>	<u>\$321,303.69</u>
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EXPENSES	<u>\$1,088,800.00</u>	<u>\$1,084,471.75</u>	<u>\$1,119,840.78</u>	<u>\$1,254,669.80</u>
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REPORT OF THE CHESTER RECREATION DIRECTOR

The 2017 year saw many added upgrades to our recreation areas. This past winter was the first full year of the new skating rink at the Pinnacle, all new metal bleachers at our ball fields, our pool received a few more upgrades with a new slide, a new pump and it was the first summer with the new liner and decking. The 2018 year also has many ideas in the works. There will be 9 more holes at the frisbee golf course at the Pinnacle due to a 50 percent grant from the State of Vermont. We will also look to add new benches around the course and upgrade the old Pinnacle ski tow building into a beautiful pavilion with picnic tables. The Recreation Department is also looking to buy new soccer goals at Cobleigh Field for our younger soccer teams as well as updated sports equipment.



Our programs vary season to season. In the fall we run our Pre-K through 6th grade soccer programs with roughly 100 children involved. We also run our start smart program for 3-5 year olds that remains popular. We also run open gyms when there is no school when possible. In 2017, we started our first gymnastics classes which was a huge success.

In the winter we have our K through 6th grade basketball teams lined up for a season that runs from November until March. The 2017 Winter Carnival was also a huge success. We had many different activities including horse rides, broom hockey, pie tasting, movie night and frisbee golf and we will once again be doing this in 2018.



During the spring time we switch over to mainly baseball and softball and again the start smart program. This spring we intend to also start an intramural lacrosse program.

In the summer, we focus on the Chester town pool and summer camps. The pool still tends to be one of the busiest areas in the summer in Chester. The camps are also very popular; from soccer to tennis; sports camp; baseball; basketball and gymnastics.

I would like to once again thank all the workers at the Chester town garage for helping and assisting in projects. I would also like to thank the numerous volunteers that help with coaching, camps and the different activities that the recreation department runs.

Matthew A. McCarthy
Recreation Director

Recreation Revenues & Expenses 2018

1/22/2018

Revenues		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
Non-Program Revenues					
01-346-09	Town of Andover	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00
01-346-23	Pool Income	\$3,500.00	\$3,625.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
01-346-27	Donations	\$100.00	\$247.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-28	Food Commission/Sales	\$1,200.00	\$147.00	\$600.00	\$500.00
01-346-29	Pavilion Rental	\$225.00	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
01-346-36	League Fees	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Fund Raising	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-476-33	Other Income	\$0.00	\$100.00		
01-346-35	Men's Basketball	\$0.00			
	Non-Program Revenues	\$8,825.00	\$8,379.00	\$8,150.00	\$8,050.00
Seasonal Sports & Camps Revenues					
01-346-10	Smart Start Camps	\$160.00	\$225.00	\$200.00	\$100.00
01-346-11	Sports for Squirts	\$100.00	\$45.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-12	Spring Baseball	\$2,000.00	\$2,983.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
01-346-13	Black Fly Baseball Camp	\$1,200.00	\$170.00	\$500.00	\$300.00
01-346-15	Softball Camp	\$200.00	\$30.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-346-16	Fall Soccer	\$1,800.00	\$2,425.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00
01-346-17	Flag Football	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
01-346-17	Soccer Camp	\$1,750.00	\$1,085.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-346-18	GM Sports Camp	\$1,000.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
01-346-19	Winter Basketball	\$1,200.00	\$1,710.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
01-346-20	Dance Camp	\$270.00	\$785.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
01-346.20	Hip Hop Dance	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
01-346-22a	Boys & Girls Basketball Camp	\$125.00	\$0.00		\$100.00
	Wall Climbing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
01-346-24	Baseball Camp	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$125.00	\$100.00
01-346-25	Summer Program	\$0.00	\$100.00		
01-346-26	Gymnastics	\$0.00	\$1,185.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
01-346-27	Basketball	\$0.00	\$0.00		
01-346-29	Tennis Camp	\$150.00	\$70.00	\$150.00	\$100.00
01-346-30	OWLS Adventure Camp	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
01-346-33	Babe Ruth Baseball	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$600.00	
01-346-51	Climbing Camp	\$300.00	\$730.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
	Sports & Camps Revenues	\$11,805.00	\$12,318.00	\$9,795.00	\$10,470.00
	Total Revenues	\$20,630.00	\$20,697.00	\$17,945.00	\$18,520.00

Recreation Revenues & Expenses 2018
1/22/2018

Revenues		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
Non-Program Revenues					
01-346-09	Town of Andover	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00
01-346-23	Pool Income	\$3,500.00	\$3,625.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
01-346-27	Donations	\$100.00	\$247.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-28	Food Commission/Sales	\$1,200.00	\$147.00	\$600.00	\$500.00
01-346-29	Pavilion Rental	\$225.00	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
01-346-36	League Fees	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Fund Raising	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-476-33	Other Income	\$0.00	\$100.00		
01-346-35	Men's Basketball	\$0.00			
	Non-Program Revenues	\$8,825.00	\$8,379.00	\$8,150.00	\$8,050.00
Seasonal Sports & Camps Revenues					
01-346-10	Smart Start Camps	\$160.00	\$225.00	\$200.00	\$100.00
01-346-11	Sports for Squirts	\$100.00	\$45.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-346-12	Spring Baseball	\$2,000.00	\$2,983.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
01-346-13	Black Fly Baseball Camp	\$1,200.00	\$170.00	\$500.00	\$300.00
01-346-15	Softball Camp	\$200.00	\$30.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-346-16	Fall Soccer	\$1,800.00	\$2,425.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00
01-346-17	Flag Football	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
01-346-17	Soccer Camp	\$1,750.00	\$1,085.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
01-346-18	GM Sports Camp	\$1,000.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
01-346-19	Winter Basketball	\$1,200.00	\$1,710.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
01-346-20	Dance Camp	\$270.00	\$785.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
01-346.20	Hip Hop Dance	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
01-346-22a	Boys & Girls Basketball Camp	\$125.00	\$0.00		\$100.00
	Wall Climbing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
01-346-24	Baseball Camp	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$125.00	\$100.00
01-346-25	Summer Program	\$0.00	\$100.00		
01-346-26	Gymnastics	\$0.00	\$1,185.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
01-346-27	Basketball	\$0.00	\$0.00		
01-346-29	Tennis Camp	\$150.00	\$70.00	\$150.00	\$100.00
01-346-30	OWLS Adventure Camp	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
01-346-33	Babe Ruth Baseball	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$600.00	
01-346-51	Climbing Camp	\$300.00	\$730.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
	Sports & Camps Revenues	\$11,805.00	\$12,318.00	\$9,795.00	\$10,470.00
	Total Revenues	\$20,630.00	\$20,697.00	\$17,945.00	\$18,520.00

Expenses	Programs	FT = 1		1/22/2018	2018 Budget
		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	
	Non-Program Expenses				
01-451-10	Payroll	\$48,080.40	\$48,001.11	\$49,550.00	\$50,985.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$3,900.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00			\$14,639.64
	Life Insurance	\$0.00			\$100.00
	Retirement	\$0.00			\$2,484.00
01-451-13	Veh. Expense	\$3,800.00	\$3,599.96	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
1-458-22	Concession Expense	\$1,000.00	\$87.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
01-451-11	Snack Shack Payroll	\$500.00	\$0.00		
01-451-16	League Fee	\$825.00	\$381.75	\$400.00	\$400.00
01-451-41	Weight Room	\$500.00	\$0.00		
	Non-Program Expenses	\$54,705.40	\$52,069.82	\$54,350.00	\$76,908.64
	Seasonal Sports & Camps Expenses				
01-451-14	Start Smart Camp	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
01-451-15	Sport for Squirts	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
01-	Baseball	\$1,600.00	\$1,950.69	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
01-451-36	Black Fly Camp	\$1,000.00	\$70.00	\$400.00	\$200.00
01-451-38a	Spring Softball Camp	\$160.00	\$345.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-451-40	Fall Soccer	\$1,400.00	\$1,762.33	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
01-451-17	Fall Flag Football	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
01-451-39	Tennis		\$30.00		
01-451-42	Soccer Camps	\$1,600.00	\$840.64	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
01-451-18	GM Sports Camp	\$800.00	\$220.00	\$400.00	\$300.00
01-451-44	Basketball	\$900.00	\$847.81	\$900.00	\$900.00
01-451-23	Dance Camp	\$220.00	\$960.00	\$350.00	\$300.00
01-451-20	Hip-Hop Dance	\$320.00	\$425.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
01-451.43a	Girls Basketball Camp	\$100.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
01-451-43b	Boys Basketball Camp	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$100.00
01-451-51	Wall Climbing Camp		\$625.00	\$260.00	\$400.00
01-451-30	OWLS Adventure	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
01-451-12	Babe Ruth Baseball	\$600.00	\$515.14	\$600.00	\$600.00
	Gymnastics	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-451-52	Winter Carnival	\$2,000.00	\$1,016.69	\$2,750.00	\$2,000.00
	Sports & Camps Expenses	\$11,170.00	\$8,706.61	\$10,790.00	\$9,630.00
	Total Expenses	\$65,875.40	\$60,776.43	\$65,140.00	\$86,538.64

Other 2018 Recreation Expenses

1/22/2018

		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-451-77	Pool Water & Sewer	\$400.00	\$606.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
1-458-11	Lifeguards	\$16,000.00	\$13,574.15	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
1-458-20	Pool Improvement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-458-21	Supplies	\$5,000.00	\$5,326.76	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
1-458-41	Skating Rink Maint	\$300.00	\$113.87	\$300.00	\$300.00
01-458-43	Disc Golf	\$0.00	\$2,608.81	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
01-451-46	Tennis Court	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$3,000.00
	Telephone	\$0.00	\$1,202.76	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
1-458-68	Pool Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$2,461.64	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
1-458-75	Water & Sewer	\$1,000.00	\$207.23	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
1-458-76	Utilities	\$4,500.00	\$3,870.10	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
01-458-77	Equipment Repair	\$500.00	\$13.60	\$500.00	\$2,000.00
	Equipment Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
01-458-78	Facility Repair	\$1,000.00	\$492.93	\$1,000.00	\$7,500.00
		\$31,700.00	\$73,582.85	\$36,700.00	\$52,950.00

REPORT OF THE CHESTER CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

The Chester cemetery department consists of a two person team to mow, trim, and maintain 7 cemeteries which includes: Pleasant View off High Street; North Street Cemetery in the Stone Village; Brookside Cemetery on Main Street; Simmsbury Cemetery off Adams Road; Spoonerville Cemetery off Trebo Road; Smokeshire Cemetery off Cemetery Road; Poplar Grove off Popple Dungeon Road. We also maintain the grounds at the Pinnacle Recreation area, Cobleigh Field, behind and in front of the Chester Academy/Central School building, Whiting Library, the park across from the laundromat, the Town Garage, the Town Hall, Rainbow Rock and the piece of property off of First Avenue with the old apple tree. We also take care of the trash receptacles placed at certain areas in Chester's Village. We are responsible for the selling of lots, placement of markers, and installation of cornerstones which are mandatory per all new lots. We prep all burials, whether full or cremation. We try to maintain the old stones that have fallen or broke due to age or the elements. In the fall we pick up the leaves from each area that we maintain in the summer.

This past summer we had 11 burials, 2 of which were full burials and the rest cremations. There were 2 new monuments installed, 2 sets of Corner markers, and 4 new lots sold.

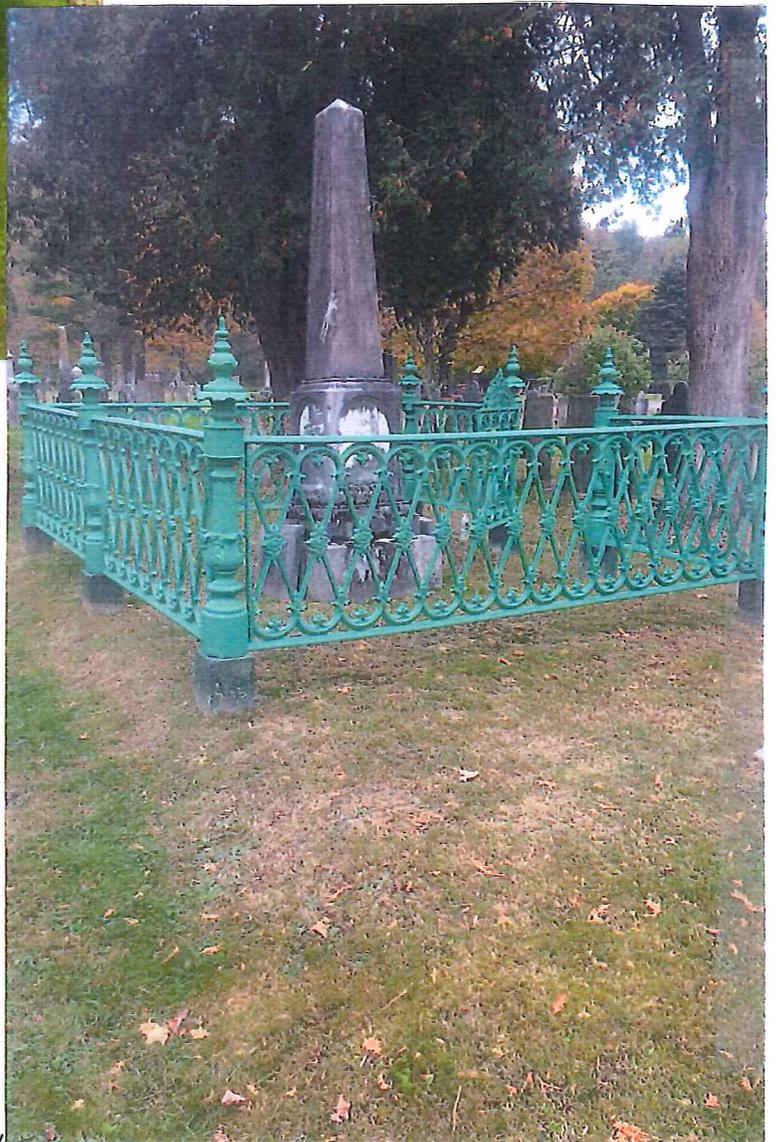
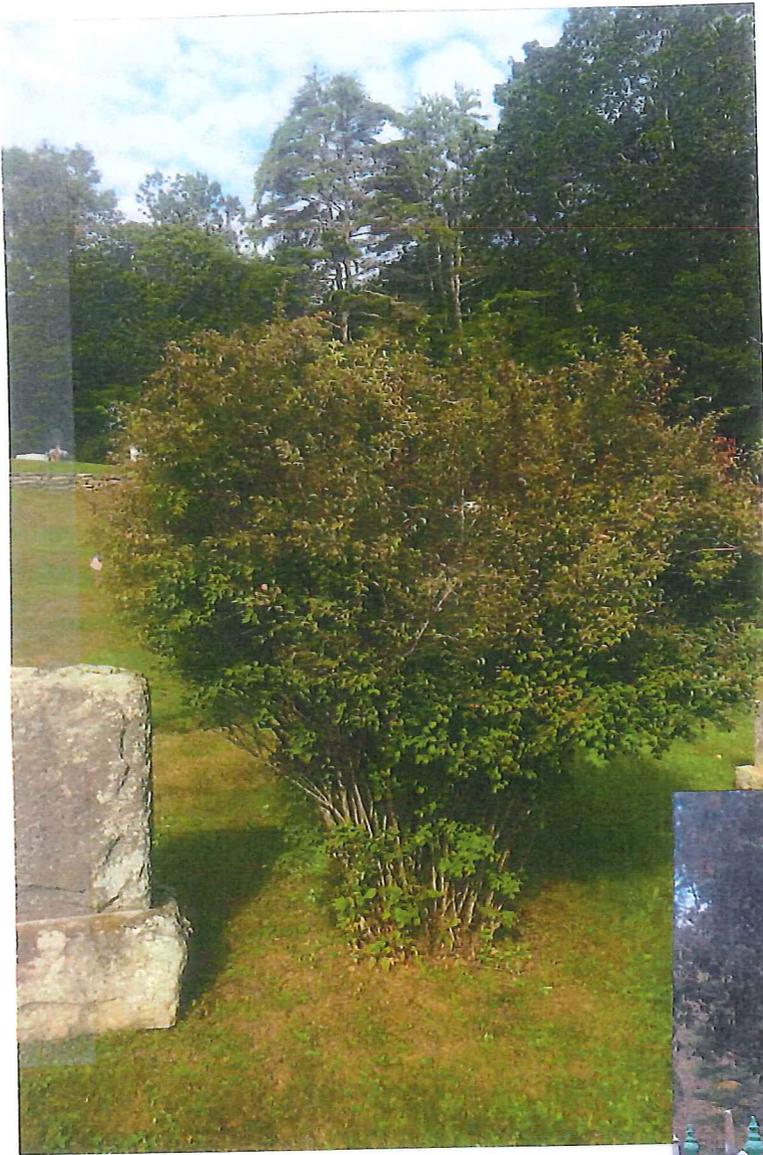
This past summer we were able to trim back many overgrown shrubbery bushes and spruce up the wrought Iron fences located in Brookside in addition to our regular grounds maintenance.

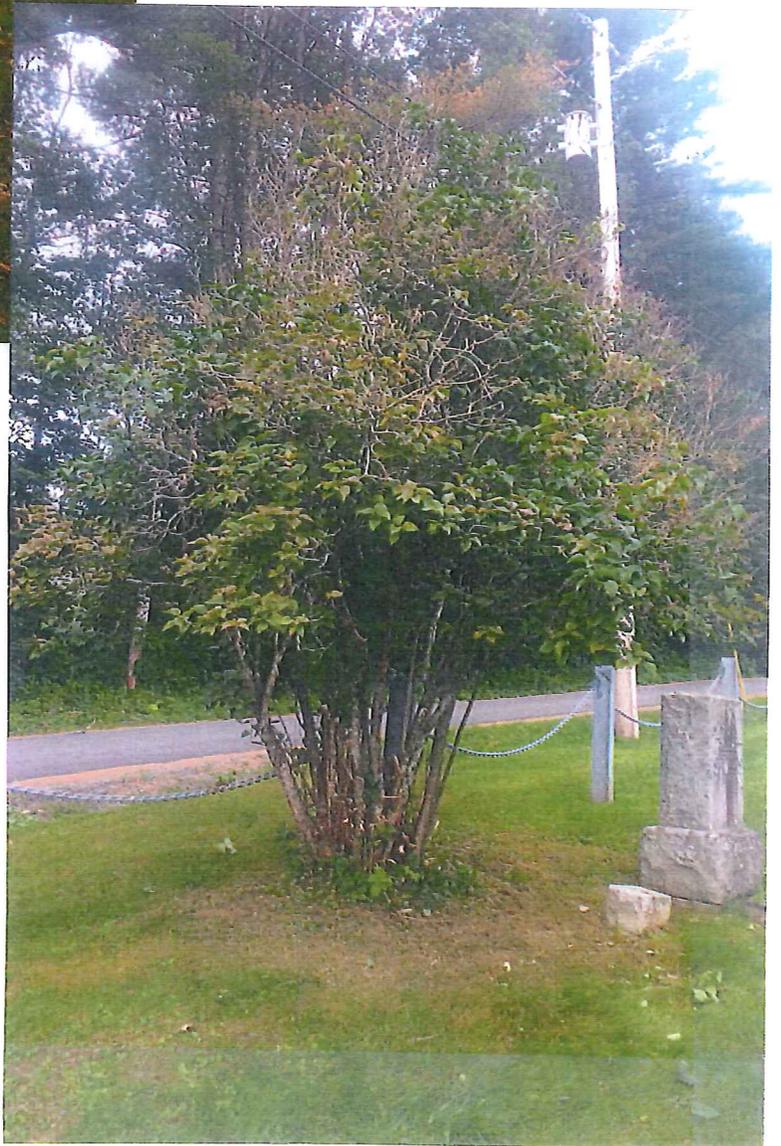
For the summer of 2018, we are looking forward to breaking ground in the field behind the historical building.

I would like to thank the highway department for the help they provide to prepare for Memorial Day.

As a reminder to the owners of the lots in Chester cemeteries, please remove all summer seasonal arrangements from lots by October 31 and fall Winter arrangements by April 15. Please note that flower pots and plastic arrangements will be disposed of by the cemetery department on or about November 1st. In addition, the planting of trees and shrubs is not allowed in the cemetery lots.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Sheldon, Cemetery Sexton





Parks & Cemeteries

FT = 2

	Revenues	2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-347-21	Sale of Lots	\$1,500.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-347-22	Grave Preparation	\$4,500.00	\$3,150.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
1-347-23	Cemetery Funds	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
1-347-25	Perpetual Care	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-347-26	Other Income	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
1-347-40	Town Hall	\$500.00	\$650.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-347-41	Town Hall; Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$10,450.00	\$6,025.00	\$10,450.00	\$10,450.00

Parks & Cemeteries

	Expenses	2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-452-10	Payroll	\$49,440.00	\$39,090.67	\$50,923.20	\$46,000.00
	Social Security	\$0.00			\$3,175.00
	Unemployment	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Workers Comp	\$0.00			\$0.00
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00			\$14,650.00
	Life Insurance	\$0.00			\$100.00
	Retirement	\$0.00			\$2,100.00
1-452-21	Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$1,142.57	\$4,000.00	\$2,500.00
1-452-23	Equipment	\$4,000.00	\$1,860.80	\$4,000.00	\$4,500.00
	Cemetery Fence	\$0.00	\$930.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-452-38	Contract Labor	\$1,000.00	\$855.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-452-39	Trees	\$6,672.00	\$6,815.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
1-452-40	Perpetual Care	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
01-452-45	Survey	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1-452-76	Water	\$300.00	\$396.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
1-452-77	Memorial Day	\$700.00	\$354.60	\$700.00	\$700.00
1-452-82	Power on the Green	\$0.00	\$18.08	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$67,512.00	\$51,462.72	\$70,323.20	\$84,425.00

Library**1/22/2018**

		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
1-455-20	Architectural Service	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-455-21	Library Expense	\$72,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
1-455-68	Maintenance	\$5,000.00	\$8,316.54	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
1-455-76	Utilities	\$2,500.00	\$4,656.87	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
1-455-77	Water/Sewer	\$1,000.00	\$660.19	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-455-78	Fuel	\$8,000.00	\$3,080.80	\$8,000.00	\$5,000.00
		\$89,500.00	\$91,714.40	\$95,000.00	\$92,000.00

Town Hall

		2016 Budget	5-Jan	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-456-11	Cleaning Service	\$5,500.00	\$5,127.11	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-456-21	Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$2,807.93	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
1-456-68	Repair/Maint	\$6,000.00	\$10,758.71	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
1-456-76	Utilities	\$8,500.00	\$9,989.18	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00
1-456-77	Water/Sewer	\$1,000.00	\$897.11	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
1-456-78	Fuel	\$7,500.00	\$6,318.77	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00
1-456-79	Trash	\$3,000.00	\$4,797.61	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
		\$33,000.00	\$40,696.42	\$29,500.00	\$35,000.00

Total Culture & Rec Revenues	\$31,080.00	\$26,722.00	\$28,395.00	\$28,970.00
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Total Culture & Rec Expenses	\$287,587.40	\$318,232.82	\$296,663.20	\$350,913.64
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Other income & Expenses

Other Income		2016 Budget	31-Dec	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
01-349-11	Poor Funds	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
01-350-12	Cyprus Minerals	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
01-389.15	VLCT Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-432-15	Other Income	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-350-13	School Refund	\$0.00	\$74,758.93	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Total		\$2,200.00	\$74,758.93	\$62,500.00	\$62,500.00

Other Expenses					
01-450-15	School Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
01-475-61	County Tax	\$29,900.00	\$26,362.00	\$27,801.00	\$27,801.00
	Land Purchase	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Total		\$39,900.00	\$26,362.00	\$37,801.00	\$27,801.00

	2017
	Cash
Other Gov't Expenditures	
01-16-75-41-00 County Tax	\$ 26,362.00
Total Other Gov't Expenditures	<u>\$ 26,362.00</u>
Transfer Accounts	
01-17-80-40-00 CTSD Assessment	\$ 4,442,608.82
01-17-80-90-00 Transfer - Capital/Bond	<u>\$ 330,000.00</u>
Total Transfer Accounts	<u>\$ 4,772,608.82</u>
Voted Articles	
01-18-95-21 Visiting Nurses	\$ 13,807.00
01-18-81-95-22 Health Care & Rehab	\$ 3,044.00
01-18-81-95-23 Council on Aging	\$ 1,200.00
01-18-81-95-25 CT River Transit	\$ 2,250.00
01-18-81-95-26 Meals & Wheels	\$ 2,700.00
01-18-81-95-27 Family Center	\$ 3,000.00
01-18-81-95-28 RSVP	\$ 400.00
01-18-81-95-32 Windsor County Partner	\$ 800.00
01-18-81-98-34 SEVCA	\$ 3,040.00
01-18-81-95-36 Women's Freedom Center	\$ 900.00
01-18-81-95-37 Chester Fireworks	\$ 2,500.00
01-18-81-95-38 Chester Community Playground	\$ 3,000.00
01-18-81-95-87 Community Cares	\$ 1,800.00
01-18-81-95-89 SRDC	<u>\$ 12,591.50</u>
Total Voted Articles	<u>\$ 51,032.50</u>

2018 Grant Budget

Grant Name	Total Project Cost	Grant Award Amount	Town Match Required	
Grants that have been awarded:				
Sidewalk Grant	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	Capital
Route 35 Construction	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	Capital
Poppo Dungeon Culvert/Bridge	\$ 435,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 135,000.00	Bond
Whitemore Brook Culvert	\$ 40,005.00	\$ 32,004.00	\$ 8,001.00	
Asset Management Grant	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	
Caopy Grant	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
Frisbee Golf Course	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 10,275.00	\$ 10,275.00	
Municipal Planning Grant	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
Academy Building Windows	\$ 38,350.00	\$ 19,175.00	\$ 19,175.00	
Total Grants Received	\$ 1,883,855.00	\$ 1,443,454.00	\$ 440,451.00	
Grants applied for - awaiting award:				
Poppo Dungeon Culvert	\$ 320,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	bond
Total Grants Applied For	\$ 320,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
Seed Money for Potential Grants:				
PACIF	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Brookside Trail/Bridge	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Recreation	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$12,500.00	
Total Seed Money:	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 37,500.00	\$22,500.00	
Grand Totals	\$ 2,263,855.00	\$ 1,780,954.00	\$482,951.00	
Total Town Match		\$ 482,901.00		
Previous Year Award		\$ 440,451.00		
Net to raise in Taxes		\$ 42,450.00		

Municipal Grants Managed
during 2017

Type of Grant	Purpose	Amount	Year Awarded	Current Status
USDA	Library Restoration	\$ 41,900.00	2014	Construction is complete
Emergency Highway	Storm Damage from July	\$ 561,990.00	2014	Construction is complete
Vtrans	Sidewalk upgrades	\$ 274,760.00	2012	Construction is complete
Vtrans	Construction of Route 35	\$ 175,000.00	2016	Construction is complete
Vt. Emergency Mgmt.	Property Buyouts with FEMA	\$ 382,600.00	2015	Project is complete
Clean Water Fund	Storm Drain Survey	\$ 20,000.00	2016	Survey is currently taking place
Vtrans	Popple Dungeon Culvert	\$ 300,000.00	2017	New bridge is being designed.
Historic Preservation	Academy Building Windows	\$ 19,175.00	2017	Restoring the windows at the Academy Building
Municipal Planning	Rewrite of the existing Zoning Bylaws	\$ 20,000.00	2017	The Zoning Audit is being completed at this time.
Forestry Division	Canopy Management Plan	\$ 2,500.00	2017	The Canopy Management Plan is in the development stage.
Dept. of Recreation	Frisbee Golf Course	\$ 10,275.00	2017	The additional 9 holes will be constructed in the summer of 2018.
Better Backroads	Whitemore Brook Culvert	\$ 32,004.00	2017	Construction will take place in 2018.
VTRans	Depot Street Sidewalk	\$ 800,000.00	2017	The project will be in the design phase during 2018
	TOTAL	\$ 2,640,204.00		

**Grant Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017**

	Dec 31, 17
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Grant Fund	0.00
Due to/from Other Accounts	-65,246.13
Grant Receivable	-15,073.42
Total Current Assets	-80,319.55
TOTAL ASSETS	-80,319.55
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	-16,050.40
Total Other Current Liabilities	-16,050.40
Total Current Liabilities	-16,050.40
Total Liabilities	-16,050.40
 Equity	
Retained Earnings	-67,883.19
Fund Balance Unreserved	23.00
Net Income	3,591.04
Total Equity	-64,269.15
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	-80,319.55

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Due
2011	\$ 181.88	\$ 155.51	\$ 14.56	\$ 351.95
2012	\$ 358.40	\$ 259.66	\$ 28.68	\$ 646.74
2013	\$ 475.38	\$ 278.09	\$ 38.03	\$ 791.50
2014	\$ 10,604.76	\$ 4,817.70	\$ 848.42	\$ 16,270.88
2015	\$ 17,299.58	\$ 5,187.01	\$ 1,383.99	\$ 23,870.58
2016	\$ 44,043.27	\$ 5,952.92	\$ 3,442.52	\$ 53,438.71
2017	\$ 205,541.59	\$ 4,097.64	\$ 16,512.24	\$ 226,151.47
Total:	\$ 278,504.86	\$ 20,748.53	\$ 22,268.44	\$ 321,521.83

PROCEDURES FOR TAX SALE

The tax sale process for Chester was amended this year due to increasing delinquencies. Taxes are due September 15 of each year. If taxes are not paid, or a payment arrangement made by October 15, the tax sale process will begin. Typically, the town holds two tax sales per year. The first one in March and the second one in November. The fall tax sale is usually for those individuals who have not kept up on their payment arrangement.

A tax sale is a remedy available to a municipality to ensure collection of its local property tax. The right to sell real estate to satisfy taxes is a wholly statutory right. The first step is to have the Tax Collector "extend" his Warrant on the property in question.

The next step is to advertise such property for sale at public auction, both publicly on the notice board and in a local newspaper. In addition, Notices of Tax Sale are sent directly to the property owner by registered mail. All mortgage and lien holders are sent the same notice.

After three successive weeks of advertising, and at least ten day from the last advertisement, the property is sold at public auction if the taxes remain unpaid. The owner of a property may redeem the property within one year by paying to the Tax Collector the tax due, together with 1% interest per month plus all associated charges. The Tax Collector then returns the funds to the purchaser and releases the property from the Tax Sale Lien.

When the time for redemption (i.e. one year) has passed, and the property has not been redeemed, the Tax Collector will execute and deliver to the purchaser a Quit Claim Deed.

The Town of Chester may become the purchaser at a Tax Sale, if a bid equal to the tax and costs is not made at such Sale. Property so acquired may be held, leased, sold and conveyed like other real estate belonging to the Town of Chester. The redemption period of one year also applies to the Town.

2018 PROPERTY TAXES DUE

September 17, 2018

Interest will be assessed on September 19, 2018 at the rate of 1%. Penalty will be assessed at the rate of 3% on September 19, 2018. An additional 5% will be assessed on October 1, 2018.

**TOWN NOTES
GENERAL FUND and CAPITAL FUND
2017**

GENERAL FUND:

Line of Credit:

TAN Current Expense Note/Line of Credit
Dated 01/20/2017 People's United Bank

\$1,250,000.00 Due 10/16/2017

Borrowed/Paid:

TAN Current Expense Note/Line of Credit
Dated 01/20/17 People's United Bank

\$ 890,000.00 Paid 09/20/2017

	original date	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Repaid
Bond Series 1 - \$823,065	March 2016		59,345	58,688	178,619	175,868	172,920	125,741	123,244								894,425
Capital Purchases Article 2 \$269,900																	-
Paving Bond - Article 3 \$220,000																	-
O'Neil Land Purchase \$333,165																	-
Bond Series 3 - \$920,000	March 2017		7,875	23,824	60,824	60,118	156,355	153,461	150,352	110,069	107,528	57,860	56,400	54,875	53,300	51,670	1,104,510
Popple Dungeon Culvert - Article 2 \$135,000																	
Route 35 Improvements - Article 2 \$100,000																	
Fire Pump - Article 3 - \$500,000																	
Capital Items - Article 4 - \$185,000																	
Total Bond Payments		0	67,220	82,512	239,443	235,986	329,275	279,202	273,596	110,069	107,528	57,860	56,400	54,875	53,300	51,670	1,998,935

CAPITAL FUND:

Capital Equipment Note \$136,500	June 2016			45,500	45,500	45,500											136,500
2016 John Deere Excavator																	
Highway Lease \$147,137.40	June 2015		49,046		49,046												98,092
2015 John Deere 544K loader																	
Total Capital Payments		49,046	94,546	45,500	45,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	234,592
Total Long Term Debt		49,046	161,766	128,012	284,943	235,986	329,275	279,202	273,596	110,069	107,528	57,860	56,400	54,875	53,300	51,670	2,233,526

* Repayments include Principal & Interest

Hurricane Irene Flood Damage Fund
Statement of Revenues Expenditures
 January through December 2017

SUMMARY

Earned Income 2017	\$46,179.24
Incurred Expenditures 2017	0.00
	\$46,179.24

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	\$15,567.91
Due to/from Other Funds	-\$10,907.35
A/R Grants	\$57,086.59
Total Current Assets	\$61,747.15

TOTAL ASSETS	\$61,747.15
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Due to General Fund	
Total Liabilities	\$0.00

Retained Earnings	\$15,567.91
Net Income	\$46,179.24
Total Equity	\$61,747.15
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$61,747.15

RECONCILIATION OF CASH

Hurricane Irene Fund Balance January 1, 2017	\$ 15,567.91
Cash Receipts - State of Vt	\$ 46,179.24
Hurricane Irene Fund Balance Dec 31, 2017	\$ 61,747.15

Report of the Water/Wastewater departments

This year has been extremely busy with projects that continue to improve the infrastructure of the Water and Wastewater systems.



Construction of new water tank



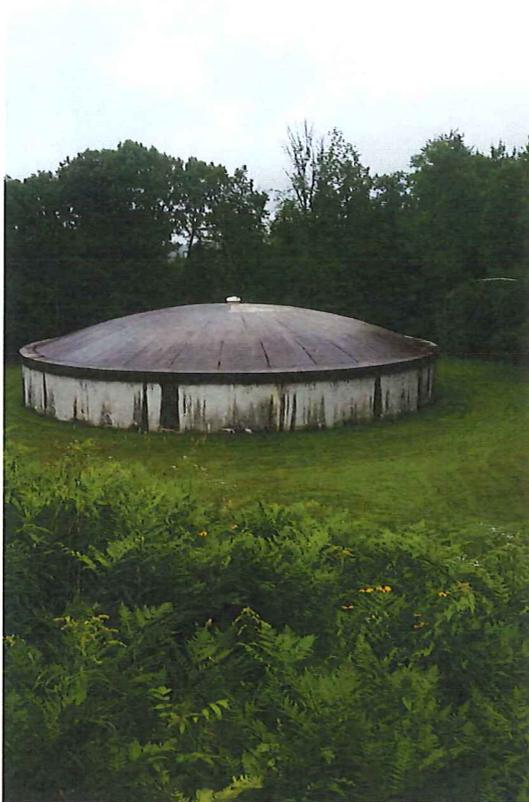
With the moneys that we saved on the water project contract last year we started with the Coach Road project, which consisted of blasting a section of ledge on the dirt portion of the road to allow for the installation of about 900 ft. of new 8 inch Ductile Iron pipe from where it had been left off, many years ago on First Avenue to the top of the hill on coach road. It was connected to an additional 900 ft. of new 8 inch D.I. pipe that replaced a section of old 4 and 6 inch Cast Iron pipe that dead ended there, it was full of Iron Oxide and was failing, having several breaks in that section in recent years. Until we actually dug it up we did not know exactly how bad it was. We were lucky to get it completed before we had any more serious issues in the area. This eliminated 2 sections of dead end lines and created a loop in the system which makes the service in that area much more reliable for fire flows and with cleaner fresher water provided to the customers. We also installed all new copper service lines to the curb stops for all of the residences on that section of line.

Also with this contract we were able to replace about 24 new Fire Hydrants in the system. We will still have some cleanup and other minor punch list issues to finish up next season; however that contract is almost complete.

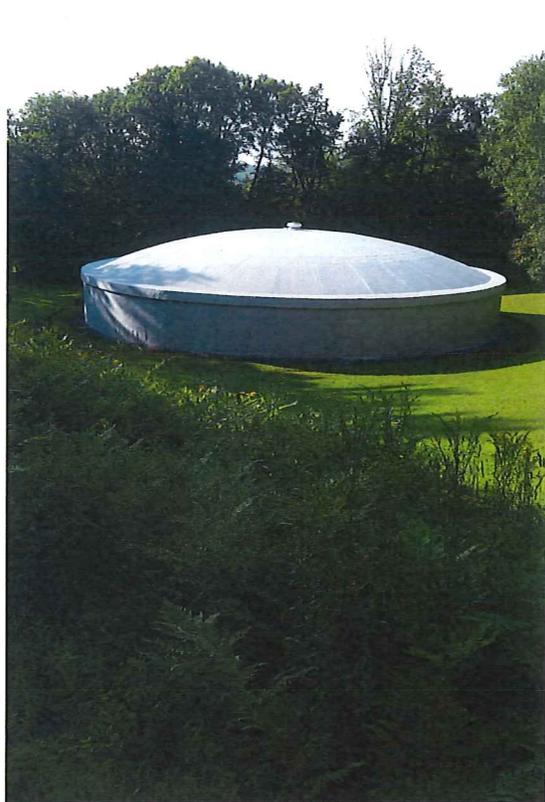


This year under another contract we were able to install a new 12 inch Ductile Iron transmission line, of about 5000 ft. to the new Water Tank site that is located up behind Green Mountain Union High School and Drew's all natural on 103 south of the village. This tank is 330,000 gallons of additional storage and will increase our fire flows to expectable state standards and with available flows coming from 2 directions it allows us to be able to keep more customers in service in the event of a major water break that may occur in the older parts of the system.

Under this contract we were able to clean and paint the old 38 year old, 1,000,000 gallon tank that is on Reservoir road on the north end of the system. Both of the tanks were fitted with agitators that will keep the water moving and prevent the water from becoming stagnated. The new one was fitted with a solar unit to operate it as there is no power to that tank. Both tanks also were fitted with wireless signaling units that send information about the tank levels, and pressures that will allow us to remotely monitor them at the Jeffery Well and will shut it down when they are full.



Reservoir Road Tank before



Reservoir Road Tank after

Also under this contract we are upgrading all of the controls systems at the Jeffery Well station. It will be equipped with a VFD (Variable Frequency Drive) that when the well pump is called for will ramp up the motor speed slowly, and not create a water hammer that would shock the system. It will also help control the pumping rate.

We also were able to complete an upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment plants water service line from an old 1 ½ inch PVC line, which was prone to breaking due to age and water hammers, with an 8 inch Ductile Iron pipe into the plant. This line will ensure that we have more than adequate flows and pressures to operate the plant properly. This was a much needed upgrade.

Also in the Wastewater Department we have had additional personnel changes this year. Christopher Hughes has received his Wastewater Certification. We have also hired a

certified operator from New Hampshire, Gary Davis who received reciprocity for his Vermont Certifications.

During the transition we had Simmons Operating Systems, Christopher Hayes Assisting us, part time with transition of the operations; all reports are now done electronically that are sent to the state. Hayes also assisted us with much maintenance up grades and repair issues that had been mounting within the system, in the pump stations and at the treatment plant. We replaced non-operating check valves, gate valves and up graded much required safety equipment at the plant, to meet all VOSHA standards.

We have also completed the new upgrades at the Pleasant Brook Pump Station. We changed the hatch to a larger one that allows easier access for maintenance. We change the pumps with larger, more efficient ones on a rail system that allows easier removal for maintenance, added a stainless steel exterior pedestal with all new control systems in it. So far it has been operating 200% more efficiently.

There has been a lot of general maintenance completed also, such as painting the shop, and concrete around the aeration tanks and head works building, painting of all exterior piping and upgrading of lighting in about half of the buildings to LED.

Respectfully submitted
Jeffery C Holden, Water/Wastewater Superintendent



New Water Tank completed

CHESTER WATER DEPT – VT0005318
Consumer Confidence Report – 2016

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided in 2016. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. To learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings which are held: The First and Third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall.

The person who can answer questions about this report is: (print) Jeffrey Holden, Water/Sewer Superintendent, Telephone: (802) 875-2173

Water Source Information

Your water comes from

Source Name	Source Water Type
JEFFREY WELL	Groundwater

The State of Vermont Water Supply Rule requires Public Community Water Systems to develop a Source Protection Plan. This plan delineates a source protection area for our system and identifies potential and actual sources of contamination. Please contact us if you are interested in reviewing the plan.

Drinking Water Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include surface water (streams, lakes) and ground water (wells, springs). As water travels over the land’s surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals. It also picks up substances resulting from the presence of animals and human activity. Some “contaminants” may be harmful. Others, such as iron and sulfur, are not harmful. Public water systems treat water to remove contaminants, if any are present.

In order to ensure that your water is safe to drink, we test it regularly according to regulations established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Vermont. These regulations limit the amount of various contaminants:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past year. It also includes the date and results of any contaminants that we detected within the past five years if tested less than once a year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily show that the water poses a health risk.

Detected Contaminants CHESTER WATER DEPT

Disinfection Residual	RAA	Range	Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
No Residual						

Microbiological	Result	MCL *	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2016				

*As of April 1, 2016, there is no MCL for total coliform. Instead more than 1 positive monthly sample requires a treatment technique.

Chemical Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Barium	06/08/2015	0.04	0.04 - 0.04	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	06/08/2015	0.0067	0.0067 - 0.0067	ppm			
Nitrate	12/27/2016	0.1	0.1 - 0.1	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
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Combined Radium	07/07/2014	0.929	0.929 - 0.929	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	07/07/2014	0.23	0.23 - 0.23	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	07/07/2014	0.476	0.476 - 0.476	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	07/07/2014	0.453	0.453 - 0.453	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection ByProducts	Monitoring Period	LRA - A	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found							

Lead and Copper	Date	90 th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL*	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
Copper	2016	0.095	0.056 - 0.17	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2016	1.9	0 - 2	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

* The lead and copper AL (Action Level) exceedance is based on the 90th percentile concentration, not the highest detected result.

Violation(s) that occurred during the year

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. The below table lists any drinking water violations we incurred during 2016. A failure to perform required monitoring means we cannot be sure of the quality of our water during that time.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	Failure to Monitor	Nitrate	04/01/2016 - 06/30/2016

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) TT Violation(s)

No RTCR TT Violations

Additional information (including steps taken to correct any violations listed above)

Level 1 Assessment(s)

No Level 1 Assessment was required.

Level 2 Assessment(s)

No Level 2 Assessment was required.

Health information regarding drinking water

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. CHESTER WATER DEPT is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Public Notice - Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies: The system is required to inform the public of any significant deficiencies identified during a sanitary survey conducted by the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division that have not yet been corrected. For more information please refer to the schedule for compliance in the system's Operating Permit.

Date Identified	Deficiency	Facility
09/10/2015	Inadequate Water Pressure (Under Normal, Peak, or Maximum Flow Conditions)	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

The issue of water pressure is being resolved with the addition of a new water tank which should be complete by the fall of 2017.

WATER

	2016 budget	2017 Budget	5-Jan	2018 Budget
03-311-01 Water Fees	\$160,000.00	\$165,000.00	\$204,423.46	\$210,000.00
03-311-02 Delinquent	\$20,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
03-311-03 Penalty	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,411.69	\$3,000.00
03-311-05 Connection	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Timber Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,840.00	\$500.00
03-311-07 Interest	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$88.08	\$125.00
03-311-06 Hydrant Fees	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
03-311-09 Other Income	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Total Income	\$203,200.00	\$213,100.00	\$222,263.23	\$216,425.00
03-411-10 Labor	\$69,000.00	\$69,000.00	\$64,505.42	\$69,000.00
03-411-15 Benefits	\$13,500.00	\$12,000.00	\$9,208.86	\$14,100.00
Uniforms	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
03-411-23 Tools	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,083.63	\$2,500.00
03-411-24 Meters	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,258.00	\$3,000.00
03-411-25 Collection System	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$8,015.87	\$9,000.00
03-411-28 Paving	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,048.00	\$3,000.00
03-411-29 Chemicals	\$14,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$10,294.95	\$13,000.00
03-411-32 Hydrants	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$175.41	\$1,000.00
03-411-36 Training	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$172.00	\$750.00
03-411-37 Contract Serv	\$7,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$76,241.55	\$4,000.00
03-411-38 Well Repair	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$651.00	\$3,200.00
03-411-39 Testing	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,115.00	\$2,000.00
03-411-50 PACIF Insurance	\$3,060.00	\$3,060.00	\$0.00	\$3,060.00
Tank Inspection	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
03-411-56 Legal Services	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$4,488.35	\$1,500.00
03-411-58 Computer	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
03-411-59 Audit	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
03-411-60 Serv Charge	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$431.36	\$1,100.00
03-411-61 State Fees	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,375.47	\$3,000.00
03-411-68 Veh Maint	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$902.66	\$1,200.00
03-411-69 Gasoline	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,077.38	\$2,000.00
03-411-76 Utilities	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$22,025.26	\$20,000.00
03-411-77 Telephone	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$432.00	\$400.00
03-411-78 Gas	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$90.44	\$500.00
Loan Repayments	\$1,140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Land Purchase	\$530.00	\$0.00	\$1,103.32	
03-411-94 System Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$1,878.30	\$7,500.00
03-411-95 Water Bond Reimbur	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,703.32
Total Expenses	\$174,130.00	\$161,960.00	\$214,924.23	\$182,663.32
Net	\$29,070.00	\$51,140.00	\$7,339.00	\$33,761.68

**Water Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017**

	<u>Dec 31, 17</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
03-00-00-00-00 Water Fund	289.20
03-00-00-05-00 Accounts Receivable	307.00
03-00-00-05-10 Fixed Assets	797,151.00
03-00-00-09-00 Due to/from Other Accounts	207,701.84
03-00-00-30-15 A/R Water Billing	15,703.43
Total Checking/Savings	<u>1,021,152.47</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1,021,152.47</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>1,021,152.47</u></u>
LIABILITIES &	
Liabilities	
03-00-01-00-00 Accounts Payable	1,162.00
03-00-01-00-05 Accrued Payroll	2,521.42
03-00-01-00-10 Accrued Comp Balances	17,237.04
03-00-01-70-01 Water Project Bond	776,800.60
Total Liabilities	797,721.06
Fund Balance	
03-00-03-00-00 Fund Balance Unreserved	207,371.00
03-00-03-00-10 Net Investment in Capital	8,721.40
Fund Balance Current Year	<u>7,339.00</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>223,431.40</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	<u><u>1,021,152.46</u></u>

SEWER

	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	5-Jan	2018 Budget
04-311-01 Sewer Fees	\$435,000.00	\$390,000.00	\$441,857.44	\$450,000.00
04-311-02 Delinquent Fees	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-311-03 Penalty & Interest	\$7,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,971.66	\$6,000.00
04-311-05 Connection	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
04-311-07 Interest	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$3.18	\$100.00
04-311-08 Excess BOD Charge	\$3,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
04-311-08 Fines	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-311-09 Other Income	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-311-25 VLCT Insur Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-344-25 FEMA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$501,600.00	\$451,600.00	\$448,832.28	\$460,600.00

FT=1.5

04-411-10 Payroll	\$106,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$78,775.63	\$90,000.00
04-411-15 Benefits	\$45,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$38,892.69	\$40,000.00
04-411-20 Sewer Line Repair	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Generator	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$142.49	\$400.00
Pumps	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,430.61	\$5,000.00
04-411-21 Supplies	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$330.25	\$500.00
Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,108.13	\$2,000.00
04-411-23 Tools	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,375.17	\$1,500.00
04-411-24 Lab Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,817.06	\$2,000.00
04-411-25 Plant Maint	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$11,908.02	\$12,000.00
04-411-26 UV Disinfection	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$955.86	\$1,400.00
04-411-28 Sludge Disposal	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$18,651.00	\$25,000.00
04-411-29 Chemicals	\$13,500.00	\$14,000.00	\$10,868.95	\$14,000.00
04-411-32 Pump Stations	\$12,500.00	\$13,000.00	\$11,035.91	\$12,500.00
04-411-35 Training	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$882.40	\$1,000.00
04-411-36 Collection System	\$12,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,067.36	\$5,000.00
04-411-37 Contracted Serv	\$6,000.00	\$8,500.00	\$14,458.25	\$10,000.00
Line Flushing	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
04-411-38 Engineering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-411-39 Testing	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,032.50	\$3,500.00
04-411-40 Uniforms	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$643.94	\$1,000.00
04-411-50 PACIF Insurance	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,500.00
04-411-56 Legal	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
04-411-58 Computer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04-411-60 Serv. Charge	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$433.98	\$1,000.00
04-411-61 State Fees	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$525.00	\$1,000.00
04-411-68 Veh Maintenance	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$128.92	\$1,000.00
04-411-69 Gasoline	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$688.69	\$1,200.00
04-411-76 Utilities	\$45,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$43,408.39	\$43,000.00
04-411-77 Audit	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
04-411-78 General Fund Loan	\$64,244.00	\$0.00	\$1,751.31	\$0.00
General Maintenance	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sewer Bond	\$136,000.00	\$135,911.10	\$135,991.11	\$135,911.00
04-411-97 Bond Plan Transfer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,231.70
	496,294.00	423,961.10	383,303.62	440,242.70
Net	\$5,306.00	\$27,638.90	\$65,528.66	\$20,357.30

**Sewer Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017**

	Dec 31, 17
ASSETS	
Assets	
04-00-00-00-00 Sewer Fund	24.00
04-00-00-05-10 Fixed Asset	1,866,820.00
04-00-00-05-15 Accumulated Depreciation	-487,295.00
04-00-00-09-00 Due to/from Other Funds	193,511.68
04-00-00-30-15 A/R Sewer Billing	28,803.82
TOTAL ASSETS	1,601,864.50
 LIABILITIES	
04-00-01-00-00 Accounts Payable	316.29
04-00-01-00-05 Accrued Payroll	3,706.02
04-00-01-00-10 Accrued Comp Balances	3,764.80
04-00-01-05-00 USDA Loan	1,060,616.00
04-00-01-30-15 Sewer Payments	1,088.19
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,069,491.30
 FUND BALANCE	
04-00-03-00-00 Fund Balance Unreserved	32,786.57
04-00-03-00-10 Net Investment on Capital	318,909.00
Fund Balance current year	180,677.63
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	532,373.20
 TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	1,601,864.50

**SEWER and WATER DEPARTMENT NOTES
2017**

	original date	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Repaid
Bond Series 2 - \$1,151,360	May 2015	113,372	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	67,996					1,405,288
Sewer bond refinanced																	
Water Project Loan \$25,800 loan for water master planning	2014 & 2015			5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160									25,800
Water Project Bond \$4,050,000	May 2015																4,050,000
Approved May 2015 vote; repayment begins 2 years from completion; negative 1.5% interest; repayment schedule available upon completion																	
Total Utilities Long Term Debt		113,372	135,991	144,151	144,151	144,151	144,151	144,151	135,991	135,991	135,991	67,996	0	0	0	0	5,481,088

* Repayments include Principal & Interest

DELINQUENT WATER/SEWER REPORT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

	CURRENT	OVER 30	OVER 60	OVER 90	OVER 120	TOTAL
SEWER	\$ 14,778.12	\$ 212.57	\$ 181.16	\$ 6,007.00	\$ 9,409.25	\$ 30,588.10
WATER	\$ 7,626.48	\$ 91.29	\$ 92.34	\$ 3,060.76	\$ 4,791.45	\$ 15,662.32
TOTAL	\$ 22,404.60	\$ 303.86	\$ 273.50	\$ 9,067.76	\$ 14,200.70	\$ 46,250.42

The town has adopted a stricter delinquent water and sewer collection procedure. Once a billing is sent out, it is due in 30 days and becomes delinquent in 31 days. The account will be allowed to be delinquent for 30 days before the shut off process begins. At that time, the user has the opportunity to make a payment arrangement with the requirement that all future current billings remain current. Should this not occur, shutoff will occur with further charges being assessed. We are hopeful that this stricter collection policy will help reduce the delinquencies in these funds, thereby reducing the need for rate increases.

ACADEMY FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	3,511.39
Interest - 2017	\$	0.86
Income	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	3,512.25

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	11,643.83
Donations		
Interest	\$	7.70
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	11,651.53
Money Mkt Balance 12/31/17	\$	5,767.40

CHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND		
Loan Interest Income	\$	784.29
Bank Interest Income	\$	3.63
Interest on Investment	\$	40,349.59
Information Booth Expense	\$	(3,509.43)
Wayfinding Signage Expense	\$	(28,694.11)
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	8,933.97
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	315,175.08
Investment Income	\$	5,939.24
Gain/Loss	\$	34,410.35
People's Investment Balance 12/31/17	\$	355,524.67

REAPPRAISAL FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	221,403.61
Interest	\$	100.10
2017 State of Vermont Payment	\$	15,827.00
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	237,330.71

RECREATION DONATION FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	6,176.60
Interest	\$	-
Donations	\$	3,403.00
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	2,375.11
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	7,204.49

EMS BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	31,285.81
Interest	\$	9.43
Feasibility Study	\$	33,077.60
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	(1,782.36)

SAM ADAMS POOR FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	2,288.42
Interest	\$	0.56
Income	\$	-
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	2,288.98

FORFEITURE FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	12,507.12
Interest	\$	-
Income	\$	1,400.00
Expenditure	\$	2,524.23
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	11,382.89

250th Celebration		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	97.22
Donations	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	97.22

LISTER TRAINING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	2,686.34
State Payment	\$	-
Expense	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	2,686.34

POLICE COMMUNITY RESOURCE		
Balance January 1, 2017	\$	1,453.36
Interest	\$	0.22
Donations	\$	170.00
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	476.40
Balance December 31, 2017	\$	1,147.18

TOWN OF CHESTER LAND AND BUILDING ASSETS

DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE	VALUATION
Adams Family Aquifer	30.53	\$ 90,800
Bouchard Land, (Smokeshire Road)	.12	19,200
Cemeteries:		
Adams Road	1.00	6,500
Brookside	3.80	44,900
North Street	5.74	46,500
Pleasant View	8.90	93,400
Poplar Grove (Popple Dungeon Road)	.42	2,700
Smokeshire	.49	1,200
Spoonerville (Trebo Road)	.28	1,800
Colbeth Land (Grafton Road)	.12	16,200
Dodge Land (Reservoir Road)	9.08	57,200
Emergency Services Land	4.04	95,400
Firehouse (Yosemite)	.11	96,800
Flamstead Acres (Lot 45)	.11	13,600
Green, The	1.50	57,500
Hadley Land (Main Street)	14.10	66,300
Hammond Park (Depot Street)	.55	41,000
Historical Society Building	3.86	481,800
Jeffrey Well Site (Rt. 103 North)	17.0	834,900
Library Building	.43	623,300
McNally Land (Rt 11 West)	2.00	12,000
North Street Bridge Field	.50	32,000
Parizeau Land	1.3	24,800
Peck Land (Reservoir Road)	4.00	42,000
Perry/Pierce Land (Reservoir Road)	501.35	855,900
Quimby Land (School Street)	1.10	25,800
Rainbow Rock Land	1.84	23,000
Recreation Area (The Pinnacle)	37.28	739,200
Salt Shed, Henry Land	.63	28,300
Suojanen Land (Reservoir Road)	.20	700
Town Garage	6.12	717,000
Town Hall	.41	580,900
Wastewater Treatment Plant	13.45	2,752,900
Water Tank Site (GMUHS)	1.00	20,000
Weatherby Farm Land (Reservoir Road)	40.00	105,000
Well Site (Canal Street)	3.00	125,800
Wiley Land (Cobleigh Street)	3.00	73,600
TOTAL	715.01	8,853,500

Windsor County Update
Assistant Judges Jack Anderson and Ellen Terie

FY 2018-19 County Budget

The Assistant Judges held the preliminary budget meeting at 5 PM on Wednesday, December 13, 2017. The budget calls for \$439,858 to be raised by taxes, a *decrease* of \$1,853 from the current FY 17-18 budget. The new budget calls for \$541,025 in total spending, a significant *decrease* of \$16,709 from the current FY 17-18 budget. The county tax rate *decreased* slightly, from .0049 to .0048. This is the third straight year it has dropped.

According to the Vermont Department of Taxes, the Equalized Grand List for the entire county grew by \$87,762,000. This is the third year in a row where the value of the grand list has increased markedly. It is now \$9,094,596,000.

Pursuant to Title 24 Sect. 134, the County Treasurer shall issue warrants on or before March 1, 2018, requiring the tax to be paid in two installments on or before July 5 and on or before November 5, 2018.

Courthouse Renovation Bond

2018 marks the fifth year of the \$2 million bond repayment. (The first bond payment was in November 2014). This year, the amount to be billed to the towns will be \$234,896 (\$200,000 principal; \$34,896 interest). This billing is NOT part of the county budget, but a separate assessment. Last summer, the borrowing rate was renegotiated resulting in a savings of several thousand dollars in interest.

Other County News

2017 has been a busy and productive year for the Assistant Judges and Windsor County. Here are some of the happenings in the past year:

With the installation of interior storm windows at the court house at 12 The Green in 2015, the county continued to save thousands of dollars in fuel costs.

For the fourth year in a row, the county finished the 2016-2017 fiscal year solidly in the black and continues to roll the surplus into the next budget year.

Judge Terie completed the 40 hour Civil Mediation course at the National Judicial College in Reno, NV. last summer.

The County has established the Windsor County Mediation Center in its building at 62 Pleasant Street and Windsor County Bar members use it for civil mediation.

Lastly, in 2017 we said goodbye to our Building Superintendent Carl Tancreti, who retired and headed west for the winter. We welcomed our new Building Superintendent, Bruce Page.

REPORT OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER FIRE WARDEN

We have had another good year with only one incident of under 1 acre of brush fire in the Town of Chester for the year of 2017.

With most people getting it and understanding the dangers and calling to make sure that the conditions are favorable to burn.

I did not have to issue any tickets for burning of Hazardous Materials, and one verbal warning for burning unpermitted material and two verbal warnings given for burning without a permit.

I issued somewhere around 130 verbal permits, turning down about 6 permits due to conditions.

I would like to thank all of the citizens of Chester for calling for permits to burn. This is the main reason that we have had a good year, with only one unnecessary Fire Department response to a permitted burn.

I would also request that people continue to call in the winter to burn legal materials so that I can keep track of where the fires are and continue to avoid unnecessary Fire Department responses. This will continue to be a cost savings to the tax payers by avoiding unnecessary responses.

I would like to remind everyone that you may call for a permit any day of the week on my cell at 802-384-3001.

Respectfully submitted
Jeff Holden
Town of Chester Fire Warden

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY AND BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT

In the year 2017 the Boards of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement had little business before them. There were no appeals this year for lower property assessments beyond the level of Lister grievance. No appeals indicate that most taxpayers feel the prevailing assessments are fair in comparison from one property to another, plus the town is headed for a town wide reappraisal soon. The Board of Civil Authority thanks the Listers for their hard work and expertise in setting assessments and handling grievances. Their dedication makes our work much easier.

The Board of Tax Abatement reviewed four requests for abatement. One request for abatement for loss of property by fire was granted. The Delinquent Tax Collector requested two small abatements for trailers that had been removed from town. These abatements are usually granted in that they are deemed uncollectable. One request for abatement based on inability to pay was denied, because the appellant failed to convince need to the Board's satisfaction. The small number of abatement requests reflects an awareness of how few grounds for abatement are permissible under Vermont law.

In 2017 the Board of Civil Authority conducted the biennial review of the voter checklist, as required by law. The Board members went through the entire checklist page by page, name by name, identifying names of those believed to be no longer here, wither by moving away or deceased, and having the Town Clerk send inquiries whenever anyone on the Board of Civil Authority had reason to ask whether the name was still properly on the list.

There will be three elections in 2018. There will be the Town Meeting Election on Tuesday, March 6, for voting on local office candidates plus union school budgets. The local budget is voted at Town Meeting, the evening before the election on Monday, March 5. The State Primary Election will be held August 14 and the State General Election will be November 6. Do your duty....PLEASE GET OUT AND VOTE! There are several options for voting besides coming to the polling place (Town Hall) on Election Day. Call the Town Office, 875-2173, for other options.

We thank the Town Office Staff and Listers for doing all the preparation and work that makes our job so much easier.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Barrett, Chairman
Board of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement

Chester Conservation Committee 2017 Report

The Chester Conservation Committee (CCC), established in 2006, is an informal group of volunteers dedicated to fostering awareness and stewardship of Chester's natural and recreational resources. The CCC focuses its efforts and energy in outdoor recreation, conservation projects, public outreach and education. In collaboration with the Town, the CCC also serves as a primary point of contact or liaison to third party organizations interested in enhancing Chester's natural and recreational assets.

Outdoor Recreation

Hiking Trails

The CCC maintains three unique hiking trails on public land in Chester: the Lost Mine Trail, the Butternut Hill Trail (both located within the Chester Town Forest on Reservoir Road), and the Green Mountain Nature Trail (situated adjacent to Green Mountain High School). Trail maps are available at www.chestervt.gov/recreation.

Highlights for 2017 include:

- Completion of the Butternut Hill Trail loop to the summit of Butternut Hill included clearing vegetation, installing signage, trail markers, tree identification tags, and trailhead parking.
- Installation of three new wooden bridges on the Green Mountain Nature Trail replaced compromised and unsafe rock culvert stream crossings.
- A guided full-moon snowshoe night hike on the GM Nature Trail and a Tiki Torch hike at the Disc Golf Course during Winter Carnival were promoted as community events.
- Guided hikes on the Lost Mine and Green Mountain Nature Trail introduced the community to these trails.



Disc Golf Course

Since first opening in the summer of 2016, the Chester Disc Golf Course has been a popular and highly utilized recreational resource for Chester and surrounding community residents, as well as disc golf enthusiasts from afar. The course now features an informational kiosk, professional



baskets and tee boxes, and winds its way through hilly, wooded and previously under-utilized town property at the Pinnacle Recreation Area.

Highlights for 2017 include:

- Continued refinement and enhancement of the course grounds and design
- Installation of permanent tee box signs and hand-carved wooden benches
- Receipt of a Recreation Facilities grant from the Vermont Department of Buildings & General Services to expand the course in 2018 and upgrade facilities
- Development of CDCG Facebook Page, and the listing of the course on 'disc golf course review' and 'green mountain disc golf club' websites or searchable databases



Conservation Projects

The CCC remains actively involved in several on-going volunteer projects focused on monitoring, evaluating and improving environmental activities in Chester including:

Vermont Green-Up Day: The CCC recruits and coordinates volunteers and resources for the annual VT Green-Up Day activities in Chester, removing and properly disposing trash and other abandoned materials from community roadways and neighborhoods.

Williams River Water Quality Monitoring project: In collaboration with the Southeastern Vermont Watershed Alliance (SeVWA), the CCC recruits and coordinates volunteers to collect water samples from seven different Chester locations during July and August. The samples are tested and results are uploaded to the SeVWA website at www.sevwa.org/water-monitoring.



Tree Canopy Grant: In coordination with the Town, and as a direct outcome of the Tree Inventory initiative conducted by the CCC in partnership with the Vermont Community Forestry Project in 2016, grant funding was received to develop a plan for tree planting, management and care in the heart of Chester.

Rainbow Rock Swimming Hole: The CCC raised \$2,000 in private donations to help support the efforts of the Vermont River Conservancy to purchase and maintain public access to the Rainbow Rock Swimming Hole on the Williams River.

Public Outreach & Education

The CCC continues to be involved in a variety of public outreach and education programs benefitting the Chester community. These include:

The Enchanted Forest: After many years of producing this annual, family-oriented storytelling event on the GM Nature Trail, the CCC has handed coordination and leadership over to GMUHS faculty and students. The CCC will remain active in supporting this event.



Green Mountain Conservation Camp Scholarship: Since 2012, the CCC has provided tuition-matching scholarships to students from Chester-Andover Elementary School and GMUHS to attend a weeklong session of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife's Green Mountain Conservation Camp.

Chester Fall Festival: The CCC participates annually in the Chester Fall Festival by setting up a booth and providing attendees with information related to Chester's natural resources and recreational opportunities. The CCC likewise participates annually in the Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival.

Chester Trails Experience Photography Contest: The CCC is currently conducting a photo contest to obtain photographs that best express the CCC's goal of fostering awareness, stewardship and enjoyment of Chester's hiking trails. Photo entries should be emailed as JPEG attachments to: chestertrails05143@gmail.com.

CCC Facebook page: The CCC developed and maintains a social media presence on Facebook to share information and news about upcoming events and activities.

The Chester Conservation Committee meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Chester-Andover Elementary School. If you are interested in learning more about the CCC's member-driven initiatives or want to volunteer to support our on-going projects, please attend our meeting. We welcome new members and new ideas. For more information about the CCC, contact David Nanfeldt at dnanfeldt@gmail.com



Report of the Chester Historical Society

The Chester Historical Society had a busy year in 2017. We held two large yard sales in May and July and a smaller one during the Fall Sale on the Green, which are our main fundraisers for our operating expenses. Our successful book, "History of Chester", first published in 2011, was sold out. The membership voted to reprint more copies. Our annual Calendar was published in September.

It is with excitement that we announce a new book. Collaboration between the historical societies of Chester, Londonderry, Weston and Peter Farrar of Andover is allowing us to publish a book of old photographs and postcards of the area. This book will be published this summer. Our thanks to Ron Patch and Tom Hildreth for the work involved in compiling this book.

Much work still needs to be done in archiving our collection. Many boxes of documents and ephemera have been given over the years and much remains to be sorted. However, as work has progressed many questions about this past have been answered. Our website remains popular and continues to be used by those seeking information on town history and genealogy.

Our thanks to the Town of Chester and Julie Hance for obtaining the grant money to fix, restore and/or replace all of the windows in the Academy Building. This is indeed a project that is needed in order to make the building more efficient and weathertight. Work in the future must be done on the plaster ceilings. A portion of plaster fell on the upstairs stairwell which, for liability purposes, renders the upstairs unavailable at present.

Last year a safe was found in the river near the footbridge on School Street. All such finds become the property of the State of Vermont. In working with the State Archaeologist, the Historical Society received the necessary permits to remove the safe from the river. Our thanks to P&L Trucking for the manpower and equipment to remove this artifact. It was later determined to be a safe that was stolen from Jameson's Market (now Lisais) many years ago.

The Historical Society thanks Fran Provost for her volunteer efforts to maintain our large perennial gardens. The gardens are a wonderful addition to the downtown area. We also thank the many donors to our yard sales and the volunteer help for other endeavors. It is only with dedicated volunteers that we are able to continue our work.

The Historical Society is a tax exempt 501c3 IRS designated educational organization. There are no paid personnel, only volunteers. We hold monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of the month, except November and December. Meetings are held at the Town Hall, January to April and at the Historical Society May to October. All are welcome to join us! Dues are \$10.00 individual and \$15.00 for a family.

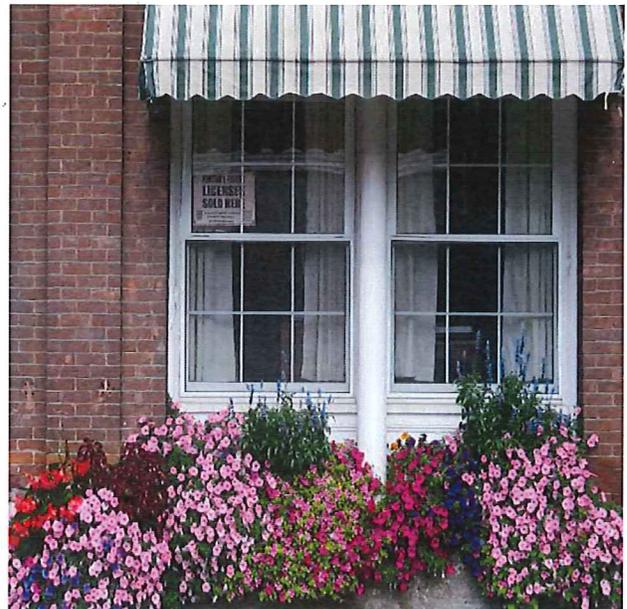
Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Barrett, Treasurer
Chester Historical Society

FOR 2017 TOWN OF CHESTER ANNUAL REPORT

CHESTER TOWNSCAPE

2017 marked another year of accomplishments for Chester Townscape [CT], an all-volunteer group of 16 highly motivated and active members dedicated to enlisting public and private resources to enhance the natural, historic, and architectural features of the town and to further Chester's environmental and cultural vitality. Our hallmark projects of seasonal landscaping and maintenance, as well as decorations for public buildings and properties, are highly visible. To promote Chester's historical appeal, CT developed and continues to distribute, free of charge, the very popular Walking Tour brochure of Chester Village. In addition to our town beautification efforts, 2017 marked the year that the restoration of the Hearse House was completed.

Chester Beautification. In collaboration with the Town, the Depot Gazebo was painted with paint purchased by CT. The "Light Up Chester" campaign, which supports the annual planting of yellow daffodil bulbs, created a superb visual impact in town again this spring. Following the daffodil bloom along the Brookside Cemetery wall, CT volunteers planted, watered, and fertilized impatiens that bloomed well into the fall. New flower boxes were added to the bridges on Church Street and Pleasant Street and to the concrete bridge by Mountainside Road to complement the boxes on Veteran's bridge (103 North). A spectacular array of flowers cascaded from the bridges which delighted both residents and visitors. Impatiens were planted along the fence at the Chester-Andover Family Center and in the flower bed around the sign, thereby creating a colorful welcome for those entering Chester from the East. In support of the Chester-Andover Elementary School fundraiser, CT purchased four beautiful hanging baskets, which were hung at the Depot Gazebo. Newly purchased whiskey barrels replaced the old barrels at the pool entrance at the Pinnacle, and new barrels were also added at the entrance to the pavilion. New whiskey barrels were placed at the Civil War monument, the Maple Street Island, the Chester-Andover Elementary School sign, Post Office, Train Station, and the entrance to the Swinging Bridge on School Street. Six large pots were placed along the Town Green by School Street, creating a truly beautiful flower display. Summer plantings were followed by fall mums, pumpkins, and cornstalks at various locations. Winter saw green boughs placed in the whiskey barrels and window boxes with wreaths hung in public locations and a garland placed around the Whiting Library sign.



Hearse House/Public Tomb Renovation and Museum Opening. Chester Townscape opened the Hearse House Museum to the public on October 28, 2017. That was the culmination of a project that addressed the plight of an historic building whose survival was in jeopardy as recently as 2014. The official ribbon cutting was attended by an enthusiastic crowd, which appreciated the informative displays and joined in a festive outdoor reception. The restoration of the Hearse House, the adjacent cast-iron fence, and the Public Tomb were all part of a major project by CT's Hearse House Subcommittee. The project received enthusiastic support from the Town of Chester and the many volunteers and donors who contributed funds and in-kind services to make the project possible.

The building, located opposite Chester's Village Green and adjacent to the Brookside Cemetery and Public Tomb, once again houses the Town's horse-drawn hearse. Prior to the structure's renovation, the building had lacked power. Steve Mancuso of Chester Electric donated his time to satisfy the electricity needs so essential for the museum. Chester Electric's work included installation of a sub-panel and all interior and exterior wiring and lighting, as well as installation of a smart TV that shows slides of the restoration project. The building now features the Town of Chester's handsome hearse behind a glass-and-wood partition – along with objects on long-term loan from the Chester Historical Society: two right-hand elliptical doors, which are thought to be original doors to the building, a casket carrier, and a set of wooden runners that were exchanged for the hearse's wheels to enable travel over snow. Information about the buildings' history, renovation process, funeral customs, the hearse, and other hearse-related objects are on display in the foyer. With the exhibit's introduction of QR codes, the information has been linked to the Town's website and is accessible under History at www.chestervt.gov/history.html.



Other projects that were completed for the opening of the mini museum included working out a solution with the Town for the granite ramp, which was designed and cut by Scott Wunderle of Terrigenous and installed by Town workers under Wunderle's direction.



The exterior of the Hearse House Museum was completed with the installation of a new granite ramp, created by Scott Wunderle of Terrigenous and put in place by the Town crew. The ramp made the building handicap accessible and allowed it to be opened to the public on October 28, 2017.

Landscape cloth and stones were laid down around the building by Town workers to prevent damage to the building by mowing or trimming, and a copper sheet was installed behind a faucet on one side of the building to prevent splashing from the outdoor spigot. Photographs on display were framed by John and Jo-Anne DeBenedetti at The Framery of Vermont. Lew Watters was instrumental in photographing the historical Selectmen's signatures, which had been etched in the concrete floor. Hugh Pennell designed and created the sign for the exterior of the building. Photographs of the hearse in action were supplied by three residents to round out the educational material on display. Anyone with additional photographs or information is urged to contact Lillian Willis at 875-1340. By design, as more information becomes available, it may be added to the display. We thank NewsBank for laminating the written material.

The Hearse House mini-museum is a seasonal attraction since the building is not heated. Following the Grand Opening, the Hearse House and its educational foyer were available to the public on the weekends of Nov. 4-5 and Nov. 11-12 and again during the Overture to Christmas Cookie/House Tour on December 3. The building was then closed for the season and will re-open to the public in the Spring of 2018.

Community Support. Chester Townscape provided a comprehensive report outlining the group's strategy and mission to the SE Group (the company hired to assist in the development of the Town of Chester Master Plan). CT is eager to support appropriate projects that develop from the Master Plan. Additionally, CT is actively participating in the monthly meetings organized by the Town of Chester where various groups meet to share their information and develop synergies, where applicable, in support of town improvements. CT also has a

representative on the Canopy Grant Management Plan and expects to actively support that group as the plan materializes.

Again, this year, CT provided funding to the Overture to Christmas Committee for the purchase of additional lights for the Green.

In Appreciation. CT is very grateful to the support received by many individuals in our town: to Bonnie Watters of Bonnie's Bundles for the donation of the DAFFY doll, which was raffled, resulting in a successful fundraising effort; our watering partners Candy Anderson, George and Mary Bittner, Jessica Buchanan, Jim and Joan Houghton, Ann Paterno, and Sarah Yake; George Hanes for building our new bridge boxes; Evan Parks for continuing his work on repairing the benches in town; Newsbank for all it does to help CT improve our community; and to the Town of Chester for its support and collaboration in our projects.

For Information. The Chester contacts for the flowers and beautification program, bulb sales, the walking map, and Hearse House restoration may be found on the Town of Chester website at www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape. Support for CT's projects comes from private donations and grants. Contributions to Chester Townscape, a subcommittee of the tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) Chester Community Alliance, Inc. [CCA], may be sent to CCA at PO Box 561, Chester, VT 05143, with the pertinent Chester Townscape project noted in the memo line.

Respectfully submitted,

Chester Townscape Committee

Mariette Bock, Nancy Chute, Jane Davis, Suzy Forlie, Carol Gilbert, Cheryl LeClair, John McAveeney, Chris Meyer, Nancy Rugg, Lynn Russell, Rosann Sexton, Tory Spater, Margie Straub, Ann Summers, Barb Westine, and Lillian Willis

YOSEMITE ENGINE COMPANY 2017 REPORT

As 2017 has come to a close it gives us a chance to reflect on what all the Yosemite Engine Company has done the past year and what we will be able to do in the future. It was another good year for us which means we were successful in our mission of supporting the Chester Fire Department and our community.

Not everyone is aware of what the Yosemite Engine Company is. We are a not for profit 501C3 organization whose goals are as follows.

Yosemite Engine Company Goals and Objectives

- a. The purpose of the company is to promote goodwill, encourage public support, promote fire safety and prevention and improve cooperation among members.
- b. The purpose of this company shall also be to provide training opportunities for members of the Chester Vermont Fire Department and to conduct fund-raising activities for the benefit of said department community.

In 2017 the Yosemite Engine Company donated time and food and was able to ultimately donate \$600 to Hoops for Cure to benefit a Springfield High School student battling Hodgkin's disease. The Engine Company also purchased and donated \$9,300 worth of firefighter bailout kits to the Chester Fire Department for increased firefighter safety. We purchased and donated \$2,200 of equipment to create a Chester Fire Department Color Guard, and purchased \$900 worth of fire safety equipment for better fire safety education in our schools and community. In total we were able to give back \$13,000 to the Fire Department and community while reaching all of our goals.





Over the past few years the Yosemite Engine Company has been able to support the Chester Fire Department and our community in ways that may not have otherwise been possible and will continue to do so. In recent years we have purchased and donated a boat which has be utilized for water rescues, we purchased and donated \$25,000 worth of firefighter turnout gear, and we purchased and donated a trailer and ATV for off-road rescue and wildland fires. All of these purchases and more have been invaluable assets not only for the town of Chester, but our surrounding communities as well.



In the coming year the Yosemite Engine Company already has big plans and has paid for three firefighters to travel to training in March for technical rescue. This training will provide these members some of the best training being offered, and provide the first step in allowing them to be instructors so they can train and someday certify our own staff in house.



The Yosemite Engine Company has also paid for the Chester Fire Department to travel to the Vermont Fire Academy and participate in Live Fire Training in their new burn building. This will give members the opportunity to practice live fire evolutions to allow them to be more efficient and safe in real life situations. The hope is this training will take place right when Fire Department receives the new engine so everyone can get trained and comfortable with it.



On behalf of everyone at the Yosemite Engine Company, I want to personally thank the entire community, as well as all others who have assisted and supported us in our cause. It is your support of the fire department as a whole that allows us to thrive and be the great group that we are. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending cash or check to The Yosemite Engine Company, P. O. Box 631, Chester VT 05143.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Whalen, President



RABIES ALERT

Rabies is a disease that can kill animals and people.



- * Vermont law requires rabies shots for all CATS and DOGS.
- * Rabies shots help protect pets and pet owners from rabies.
- * Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance. Remember, rabid animals have been found in all Vermont counties.



Questions? Call the Vermont Rabies Hotline
1-800-4-RABIES (472-2437)

Vermont Department of Health • Health Surveillance Division
P.O. Box 70, Durlington, VT 05402 • 863-7260 or 1-800-640-4374

2018 DOG AND CAT RABIES CLINIC CHESTER, VERMONT

Saturday, March 10, 2018, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Chester Town Garage

Licenses are available for Chester residents only

Reminder to renew dog licenses by April 1

Neutered: \$9; Non-Neutered: \$13

After April 1

Neutered: \$11; Non-Neutered: \$17

VACCINATE TO ELIMINATE RABIES

WHAT IS RABIES?



Rabies is a viral infection passed from animals to other animals or humans, usually through a bite. The virus affects the brain, and is nearly always fatal (causes death). Here's how we control rabies in animals and reduce transmission to people.

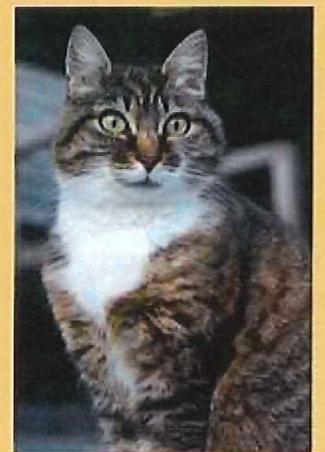


1. VACCINATE DOGS

Rabies shots protect dogs and people. Because dog vaccination is common in the United States, people don't get rabies from dogs like they do in countries where dogs are not vaccinated.

2. VACCINATE CATS

In the last 25 years, most of the rabid domestic animals in the US have been cats. Cats are almost 5 times as likely as dogs to get rabies - but you can prevent this by vaccinating them.





3. VACCINATE WILDLIFE

Many Vermont wildlife are vaccinated with an edible vaccine through a bait drop. Do not touch or feed wildlife.

4. PREVENTION IN PEOPLE

If you are bitten or scratched by an animal or find a bat in a room where you were sleeping, wash any wound thoroughly. Call your doctor and the health department. 1-800-4-RABIES. You may need to get post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), a series of shots that keep the virus from making people sick.



ONE HEALTH VERMONT

VERMONT VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Recycle 2017

The calendar year has rolled on leaving our recycle center feeling the ill effects of a troubled world economy. The market value of materials has been low, and has recently dropped again. The length and depth of this trend is anyone's guess.

Why?

In the fall of this year representatives of the Chinese government announced restrictions on the import of paper, plastic and textiles. To stay in the game, companies that we deal with had to tighten up on quality and what they can accept, and in turn what we can cannot allow into our bales.

We will need your help with this. In addition to all the stuff we never wanted, we can no longer take flower pots and plant trays, containers that held hazardous products or any black plastic at all. Buckets are also out of the mix, but a limited number may be taken in for reuse; ask the attendant.

A number of people think Vermont's recycle law, act 148, banned all plastic from the landfill, and that we can, and should take anything with a recycle symbol on it. Sorry, but no on both points. The law only covers #1 and #2 bottles and jars. We will continue to take other types of packaging for as long as we can. PACKAGING. Here is where you can help. If in doubt put it into your trash. That would be better than contaminating the good material. The occasional mistake is to be expected, but our crew spends more time than should be necessary picking trash out of the recycle bins, and or good recyclables out of the wrong area.

Again, please, we need your help to make this work. This is true with anything dropped off at the Second Chance Shop as well. Please donate responsible. I know of a town that has given up on reuse. Textiles are now limited to clean wearable clothes, clean towels and a limited amount of bedding. (No pillows.)

Other reuse options include local thrift stores, SEVCA, and Planet Aid boxes at a number of locations around town.

Mixed paper has dropped in value but not in content. Quality may be more important than ever. Some of what degrades the material is waxy stuff such as milk or juice cartons, plastic or foil lined packaging, paper towels, plates, or cups and gift wrapping. This should all be put into your trash. Please let's not burden the taxpayers of Springfield with the cost of disposing trash that could be managed more responsibly.

The most recent aspect of the recycle law to go into effect provides for food waste. We have contracted with a company called Grow Compost. The service is not cheap; little worthwhile is. Avoiding contamination here is just as important as everywhere else. What they want is food waste only. No trash. It may be a little more work for both you and our crew, but will in time be recognized for its part in helping to sustain the only environment we are ever likely to have. Who knows, someday the children may thank you for your efforts, as do I.

Dan Farrar

Recycle Coordinator

Website: www.springfieldvt.govoffice2.com

REPORT OF TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS 2017

Our annual meeting of the Trustee of Public Funds was held in January 2018 to discuss the economic condition of our 2017 investments . The wealth management officers of Peoples Bank presented a report of our assets held in mutual, real asset, and equity funds. We were pleased to see our investments did very well in 2017.

There were no requests for disbursement from the Trustee of Public Funds for the year 2017. As these funds are restrictive, they can only be used as specified by the original donor. If anyone is interested in donating to the Town of Chester for a special project or gift, a letter is required with your instructions for disbursement for the life of the funds. The fund could also be named for the donor .

Respectfully Submitted.

Shirley Barrett
Erron Carey
Sandra Walker

**STATEMENT OF TRUST FUNDS
HELD BY TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

<u>Investments</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Net Income 2017*	\$ 5,350.80
Principal Money Market Fund	\$ 55,924.45
Mutual Funds: Fixed Income	\$ 310,538.22
Equity	\$ 364,473.55
Real Assets	<u>\$8,933.64</u>
Total Investments	\$ 745,220.66

*\$ to be disbursed January 2018 \$5,350.80

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
PAYABLES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Due Town of Chester	\$ 4,502.46
Due Chester Town School District: Abbie Ingalls School Fund	\$ 10.88
Due Chester Schools: Williams School Fund	<u>\$ 837.46</u>
TOTAL	\$ 5,350.80

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS 2017

	Receipts		Disbursements			Invested Principal
	Income	Principal	To Town	To Schools	To Cemetery	
Cemetery Fund	\$ 1,740.21	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,740.21			\$ 2,000.00
Campbell for Poor	142.42		142.42			
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.43		0.43			
Howe-Peabody	823.93		823.93			
Fullerton Cemetery	7.09		7.09			
Samuel Adams Poor	444.63		444.63			
Salter Poor Fund	10.88		10.88			
Cyprus Minerals	1,332.87		1,332.87			
Abbie Ingalls School	10.88			10.88		
Williams School Fund	837.46			837.46		

Capital Gains Distributions 33,712.97
\$ 5,350.80 \$ 35,712.97
\$ 4,502.46 \$ 848.34 \$ - \$ 33,712.97

Inc MMkt Bal 12/31/17 \$ 5,350.80

12/31/2017 Year- End Market Value	Contribution Amount	Total
\$745,220.66	\$ 2,000.00	\$747,220.66

	Old %		New %
Cemetery Fund	32.530%	\$242,363.41	32.52%
Campbell for Poor	2.660%	\$19,835.05	2.66%
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.010%	\$60.31	0.01%
Howe Peabody	15.400%	\$114,750.75	15.40%
Fullerton Cemetery	0.130%	\$987.61	0.13%
Samuel Adams Poor	8.310%	\$61,925.15	8.31%
Salter Poor Fund	0.200%	\$1,515.34	0.20%
Cyprus Minerals	24.910%	\$185,632.21	24.91%
Abbie Ingalls School	0.200%	\$1,515.34	0.20%
Williams School Fund	15.650%	\$116,635.50	15.65%
	100.00%	\$745,220.67	100.00%

REPORT OF THE WHITING LIBRARY

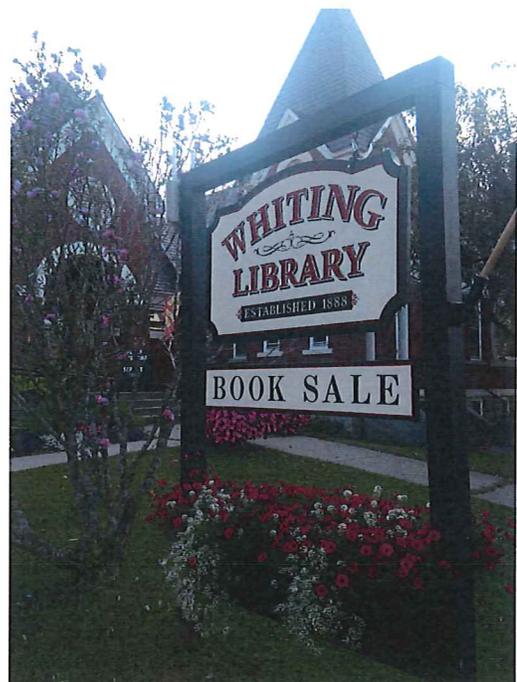
We offer our sincere **APPRECIATION** for all that makes Whiting Library a community resource. We are grateful to our loyal patrons who find books, movies, computers, workshops and discussions. We are grateful to our enterprising staff and volunteers who help all who need assistance. We are pleased to offer **ART SHOWS** which grace our walls all year long including Bob Birbeck's presentation of "The Twenty Most Influential Women Authors" pencil sketches, Gary Barron's "Iconic Vermont Architecture" and "Landscapes" by Elizabeth Beliveau. Our pre-school story-time painters presented colorful "Process Art" followed by "Botanicals" by Stephanie Whitney-Payne, concluding the year with Dolls of Bonnie Watters.

A variety of **PROGRAMS** enhanced learning from free pocket US Constitutions and the touring National Archive Exhibit of the Bill of Rights and Learn to Knit by 6 Loose Ladies Fiber Shop. Wayne Blanchard taught us how to begin our family tree with an engaging Genealogy workshop, and we were amazed by Birds of Prey brought to us by Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Gardeners scooped up 92 packets of free vegetable and flower garden seeds and 64 tomato plants in the spring. Michael Wanigasekra enlightened all with a program on Cambodia, the Peace Corp and AmeriCorps. Other drop-in activities open to all age included Denis Waring's captivating "Trash to Tunes" display of instruments made from found items (funded by Vermont Department of Libraries and Chroma Technologies), The Vermont Library Association Passport program, Valentine cards and pumpkins to decorate.



National Library Week was celebrated again this year with "Blind date with a Book." Lively monthly **BOOK DISCUSSIONS** brought people together: *No Ordinary Time* by Doris Kearns Goodwin, *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah, VT Humanities council annual READS title *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson, *Fortune Smiles* by Adam Johnson, *Desert God* by Wilbur Smith, *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward, *Ship of Fools* by Katherine Anne Porter, *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen, *Plague of Doves* by Louise Erdrich, *Florence Gordon* by Brian Morton, *Dandelion Wine* by Ray Bradbury, and *A Christmas Memory* by Truman Capote.

A brisk schedule of programs for children kept everyone engaged. 250 children and their companions enjoyed stories and activities throughout the year. Special **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS** occurred every week with stories, games, movement and art. Wednesday after-school programs in March and April offered seven weeks of theatre, games and storytelling to elementary school students. The Nature Museum generously donated free programs throughout the year and extra programs during July and August. The Library offered a full month of "Build a Better World" Summer Reading Program events and raffle prize incentives. Over 785 books were read! Librarians traveled to Chester community Pre-school as guest readers so our youngest community members know the shining pleasure of books. Willem and Delaney Bargfrede created the "watch tower" entry for the Nature Museum's Fairy House event. Children's Librarian Jeanne Waldren shared story-telling with CAES Library Media Specialist Alice Harwood, as they charmed their audience during Overture to Christmas.



Economical heat pumps for central heat and air conditioning were installed as were new furnaces which run on propane. The inefficient old oil furnace and storage tank were removed. The Library added fiber optic, though not without miseries to our older equipment. Cathy Hasbrouck, volunteer computer specialist tackled these ordeals with the help of All Service creating better, more reliable internet connections throughout the building. Sidewalk repaving resulted in improved walkway and parking area entrances.

The State Department of Libraries revised all services keeping us primed for changes throughout the summer, discontinuing former e-mail and inter-library loan systems, and adding a state-wide shared catalog. Our patrons reaped the benefits afforded by these updates. The Library Board of Trustee members who keep us funded and sailing along, adopted the first ever By-Laws. They also attended a retreat with guest Scott Murphy, new State Librarian. Personnel changes saw the departure of Rich

Hoffmann and resignation of Karin Fischer and Charlene Huyler (Trustee). We offered our gratitude and remembrance for Mary-Lou Farr (trustee from 2010-2017).

Many **THANKS TO**: CAES for use of the cafeteria for Birds of Prey presentation; Frank Kelley for partnership in VT READS; the beautiful plantings kindly attended by Chester Townscape Committee; the Chester Historic Preservation Committee for prioritizing repairs and maintenance for the perpetual care of the Library building. Whiting Library was pleased to assist with the Chester-Andover Blanket and Outerwear Drive and to share in the Fall Foliage Festival **SUCCESS** with a record-breaking book sale. We offer our gratitude to the Town of Chester and to the Town of Andover for their financial support. Extraordinary donations were treasured from Helene Linn and Phoenix Books, and St Luke's Episcopal Church. Chester Rotary Club's generosity will sponsor a Robotic Lego Club for next year.



TRUSTEES: Kathy Pellett,Chair; David Lord; Stephanie Whitney-Payne, Secretary; John Holme; Carrie King; Jessica Buchanan; Mariette Bock,Treasurer



STAFF: Sharon Tanzer ,Director; Jeanne Waldren,Youth Services; Will Wilcox,Assistant

VOLUNTEERS: Jonne Adler, Chris Blodget, Sophie Buchanan, Cindy Collins, John deVoursney, Jon Donorum and GMUHS students, Suzy Forlie, Lyza Gardner, Daryl Gustafson, Katrina Harris, Doris Hastings, Maggie and Miriam Macdonald, Elizabeth Moulton, Evan Parks , Don Payne, Mark Tanzer,

Respectfully Submitted
Sharon Tanzer, Director
Kathy Pellett, Chair

WHITING LIBRARY'S OPERATING BUDGET

REVENUES	2016 Cash	2017 Cash	2017 BUDGET	2018 BUDGET
Interest	206.84	0	0	0
Chester, Town of	72,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Andover, Town of	2,200	3,000	3,000	2,500
Fund Raising Drive	11,605.24	21,241.80	15,000	18,000
Donations	2,188.79	829.55	800	900
Grants/Programs	382.5	3,875	200	200
Book Sales	3,959.99	3,126.87	2,400	2,600
Lost Items	206.30	222.49	300	300
Copier	648.32	702.94	800	800
Fines	1,461.41	1,141.99	1,800	1,200
Raffles	482.15	46.5	200	100
Non-Resident Fees	314.59	296.72	300	300
Check Acct Draw	4,944.33	0	5,580	0
Total Revenues	100,600.46	108,983.86	105,380	101,900

EXPENDITURES	2016 Cash	2017 Cash	2017 BUDGET	2018 BUDGET
Payroll	68,419.14	69,795.18	72,100	67,000
Payroll Benefits	6,109.95	4,409.82	6,130	5,300
Administration	827.66	723.5	800	800
Bank Charges	101.57	0	100	0
Books & Materials	9,549.47	11,240.01	11,000	11,500
Supplies	3,420.09	3,164.13	3,500	3,500
Fund Raising Expense	1,161.09	1,391.70	1,500	1,500
Programs Expense	1,228.59	1,293.40	1,500	2,500
Postage	1,329.57	1,021.16	1,000	1,000
Telephone	828.24	910.76	900	1,600
Copier	1,319.97	1,130.52	1,100	1,000
Prof. Development	154.89	270.50	100	300
Travel	102.09	381.46	150	400
Equipment & Tech	1,716.49	4,486.24	1,000	2,000
Repairs & Maint	4,331.65	3,881.98	4,500	3,500
Total Expenditures	100,600.46	104,100.36	105,380	101,900

**WHITING LIBRARY
BALANCE SHEET**

As of December 31, 2017

Dec 31, 17

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Library - People's Bank	0.00
Due To/From Other Funds	90,747.28
Petty Cash Account	200.00
TD Bank Money Market	20,669.87

Total Checking/Savings	111,617.15
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Other Current Assets

People's Bank/Wealth Management	138,869.25
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Total Other Current Assets	138,869.25
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Total Current Assets	250,486.40
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TOTAL ASSETS	250,486.40
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	21.00
Accrued Payroll	2,694.40
Total Liabilities	2,715.40

Equity

Fund Balance - Whiting Library	
Opening Bal Equity	227,067.98
Retained Earnings	20,703.02

Total Equity	247,771.00
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	250,486.40
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FY 2019 Proposed Budget Summary

	Budget FY 2017	Actual FY 2017	Budget FY 2018	Budget FY19	Percent Change
Central Office (Equalized Pupil)					
General Administration	347,736	339,429	366,482	324,437	
Finance	248,087	257,577	261,580	265,451	
Bookkeeping	184,108	184,496	200,082	204,682	
Operations & Maint	106,503	100,792	101,559	95,420	
SU Technology	114,827	112,004	112,849	116,624	
Curriculum Implementation	33,213	34,137	37,658	40,724	
English as a 2nd Language	26,809	26,738	27,209	27,761	
Sub Total	1,061,283	1,055,173	1,107,419	1,075,099	-2.92%
Revenue Offsets					
Medicaid and MAC Reimbursement	35,921	29,054	27,508	30,250	
Fund Surplus	0	0	12,000	15,000	
Bank Interest, ERate & Misc Revenue	14,000	15,761	17,000	15,000	
Federal Indirect Reimbursement	0	0	20,000	15,000	
Sub Total	49,921	44,815	76,508	75,250	-1.64%
Central Office Total	1,011,362	1,010,358	1,030,911	999,849	-3.01%
Tech School Support (EqPup)					
ENA and shared Software	268,400	275,076	185,836	88,306	
Less: E-Rate Reimbursement	91,200	93,600	0	0	
Tech Support Total	177,200	181,476	185,836	88,306	-52.48%
Transportation (in SU Req'd by State)	0	0	427,656	465,747	
Special Education (Child Count)					
K-12th Grade (net expense-districts)	2,733,811	2,858,201	1,233,708	1,287,893	4.39%
K-12th Grade (reimbursed expense)	0	65,772	1,833,605	2,072,843	
Early Essential Education in Schools	119,247	131,844	123,692	98,113	
Early Essential Collaborative*	125,140	134,723	139,405	142,507	
Special Ed Total	2,978,198	3,190,540	3,330,410	3,601,356	8.14%
Preschool Private Collaborative*	262,552	316,352	324,151	0	-100.00%
*Preschool/EEE shared by GMUSD towns; Pre-K moved into GMUSD for FY19					
Grants (Estimates)					
IDEA-B	340,000	385,726	350,000	320,000	
Title I	438,084	570,291	450,000	397,000	
Title IIA	127,016	227,611	175,000	108,000	
21st Century Grant (After School)	86,000	153,119	176,515	176,515	
Grant Total	991,100	1,336,747	1,151,515	1,001,515	-13.03%
Summary					
Net TRSU FY17 Proposed Budget	5,420,412	6,035,473	6,450,479	6,156,773	
Offsetting Revenues	141,121	138,415	76,508	75,250	
Grand Total of Expense for Approval	5,561,533	6,173,888	6,526,987	6,232,023	-4.52%

SIZE OF THE GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT:

<u>TOWN:</u>	<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS/VOTES</u>
Andover Town	1
Baltimore Town	1
Cavendish Town	3
Chester Town	<u>6</u>
	11

FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS AND PROGRAMS

Please see the Chester-Andover and Green Mountain Annual Reports

CONTINUED COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Agendas and Minutes of the Green Mountain Unified School District Board meetings are posted at the respective Town Offices and can also be viewed on the school website.

The Approved Budget FY 2018-2019 and the Audit Report FY 2016-2017 can also be viewed on the school website.

su.trsu.org

The public is invited and encouraged to attend meetings.

*Green Mountain Unified School District Boards meet regularly
on the second Tuesday of each month.*

Please call Two Rivers Supervisory Union to confirm meetings: 802-875-3365

SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FIND NOTICE
TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION

Two Rivers Supervisory Union is required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to locate, evaluate and identify all persons with disabilities between the ages of birth through 21 who may be in need of special education related services or accommodations in order to access a free appropriate public education and to provide such needed services for those ages 3 through 21.

Services for children birth to 3 years are provided in conjunction with Part H Services of the Family, Infant and Toddler Project of Vermont. If you know of a person residing in the towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow or Mount Holly you believe has such needs but is not currently receiving services; please contact the Director of Special Services, at (802) 875-6428.

NON-DISCRIMINATION DISCLAIMER

The School Board recognizes its obligation to respect the legal rights of all students, parents, employees, and applicants, for admission or employment and those conducting business with the district. The Board will comply with all applicable federal and state non-discrimination laws including *Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act*, and will not discriminate against any person or group on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, handicapping condition and/or disability or sexual orientation. A process of referral, evaluation and placement of handicapped students exists in accordance with section 504. The Superintendent shall notify appropriate persons of this policy and of the grievance procedure whereby claims of discrimination may be processed including the right to contact the Human Rights Commission in Montpelier and the Regional Office of Civil Rights in Boston. Information on these and other sources of assistance is contained in the grievance procedure.

ENROLLMENT

The following is the Chester Town School District K-12 grade enrollment of students attending Chester-Andover Elementary School and Green Mountain Union High School as of October 11, 2017:

	Pre K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total:
CAES	40	36	26	30	19	24	33	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	194
GMUHS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	27	23	33	40	34	182
Total															376

FIREWORKS COMMITTEE REPORT

We'd like to, once again, thank the Town of Chester for its support of our annual fireworks display last year. Chester's fireworks have been in existence for over 20 years. Each year we have managed to raise the money necessary for this event through donations from local businesses and town's people.

We, as a town, look forward to these fireworks each year and many of us plan our holiday picnics/parties around this event. The 2018 display is scheduled for Labor Day weekend, Saturday, September 1st.

As you know, the total cost for this fireworks display is \$5,500. We are asking the town to consider continuing their support by donating \$2,500 again this year. We will, of course, be approaching our other usual sources for donations to assist with the rest of the cost.

For individual donations checks can be sent to Chester Fireworks c/o TDBank 48 Main St., Chester, VT 05143

Thank you in advance for your consideration.
The Fireworks Committee
Pat Budnick



Board of Directors:

Bob Wells
President

Ed Magee
Vice President

Michael Jeffery
Treasurer

Carolyn Partridge
Secretary

Joel Kuhlberg

Susie Wyman

Delores Barbeau

Mary Jo DeGrandi

Dwight A. Johnson

Staff:

Gloria Dawson
Interim ED

Noreen Lenilko
Social Worker

Regina Downer
Community Nurse

Jackie Borella
Finance & Ops Mgr.

MC Schwartz
Program Director

Neighborhood Connections is a community based organization located in Londonderry Vt. We serve nine mountain towns including Chester. We are currently seeing clients at the Chester-Andover Family Center once monthly and have other clients visit our office in Londonderry. These clients use the services of our social worker and also our community nurse, who does home visits to the elderly and new moms.

Some of the services that we provide include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Advocacy | Supportive Counseling |
| Crisis Intervention | Access to Mental Health Services |
| Heating Assistance | Access to Healthcare |
| Traditional Housing | Legal Referrals |
| Application/Benefit Assistance | Safety and Wellness Checks |

In addition we provide diverse programming in our Meeting Place for all community members. Last year we presented 49 programs to some 487 attendees from surrounding communities. We also host on site independent mental health practitioners that accept Medicaid for clients. Our facilities house community groups as well as AA meetings, the Tri-County Lions Club and the Annual Town Tree Lighting reception.

We are requesting \$500 from the town of Chester in support of our work. We see ourselves as conduits for strong and healthy communities and happy to serve.

Gloria Dawson
Interim Director

Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission

The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) is an organization that serves the ten towns in the Southern Windsor County Region, including Chester. The activities and programs of the SWCRPC are governed by a Board of Commissioners that are appointed by each member town. The primary function of the SWCRPC is to assist member towns with their planning and other community related activities, and to promote cooperation and coordination among towns.

During FY17, the dues from member towns contributed about 3% of the SWCRPC's annual budget of \$961,275. The town dues assessment of \$3,943 was determined on a \$1.25 per person based upon 2010 Census data. The remaining revenues were derived from federal, state and other funding sources.

The SWCRPC offers member towns a broad range of services, including assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, water quality, emergency management, data, mapping and other planning activities. In FY17, the SWCRPC assisted the Town of Chester by serving on the steering committee for the Village Center Master Plan and providing technical assistance to the Zoning Administrator and Planning Commission.

We would like to thank town appointed representatives Tom Bock, Derek Suursoo and Arne Jonynas who have served on the SWCRPC Board and Committees this past year.

Thank you for your continued support of local and regional planning. For more information about the SWCRPC, call us at (802) 674-9201, visit our website at www.swcrpc.org, or look us up on Facebook.

Thomas Kennedy, AICP
Executive Director

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
TOWN REPORT 2017
January 2018

On behalf of SRDC, our Board and our members, many thanks for the continued support and partnership from the Town of Chester this past year.

We provided assistance to the Town with the recently completed “Better Connections” Master Planning process. It was a lot of work, but the finished product can hopefully serve as an effective blueprint for growth as well as improved linkages between the Depot and the Green. This work has already helped secure a major sidewalk grant to jumpstart the implementation phase of the project.

SRDC continues to work with several clients, 14 this past year, in the community, which includes people looking to start a business as well as existing companies and major employers. This includes our direct efforts as well as those of the Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center, which are all part of our office.

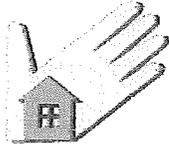
Workforce development continues to be a dominant issue in the region as our employers struggle to attract quality workers. SRDC has been heavily involved with Vermont Tech in the “Strengthening Working Families Initiative” and this region is currently serving as one of two pilot sites in the state. SWFI aims to provide technical training, but also personal support services (e.g. helping with child care, transportation etc), so that those who complete the program will be successful as they enter the workforce. SRDC also remains closely involved in the River Valley Technical Center with the Executive Director currently serving as the Board Chair of RVTC and Co-Chair of the Workforce Investment Board.

SRDC is always grateful and appreciative of our relationship with the community. We appreciate our connections with David Pisha and Julie Hance at Town Hall and we work very closely with Chester Economic Development Corporation. Barbara Lemire of Peoples Bank and Dale Williamson of Newsbank both serve as members of the SRDC Board.

As always, we are ready and anxious to talk to any existing company or anyone looking to start a business venture. If you would like to know more about SRDC, please feel free to contact me at our offices at 14 Clinton Street, Springfield, 885-3061 or bobf@springfielddevelopment.org. You can also learn more about SRDC through our web site at www.springfielddevelopment.org or on our Facebook page!

Again, many thanks for your continued support. Working together, we will ensure that “Great Things Happen Here” for many years to come.

Bob Flint
Executive Director



Chester-Andover Family Center

Our Mission: Providing a helping hand to persons
and families in need

P. O. Box 302
908 VT Route 103 South
Chester, VT 05143

Telephone: (802) 875-3236
Email: cafc302@gmail.com
Website: www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org

The Chester-Andover Family Center

Board of Directors

2017

Nena Nanfeldt-
President

Stephanie Mahoney-
Vice President

Mariette Bock- Treasurer

Georgia Ethier- Secretary

Bruce Parks

Ginger Roper

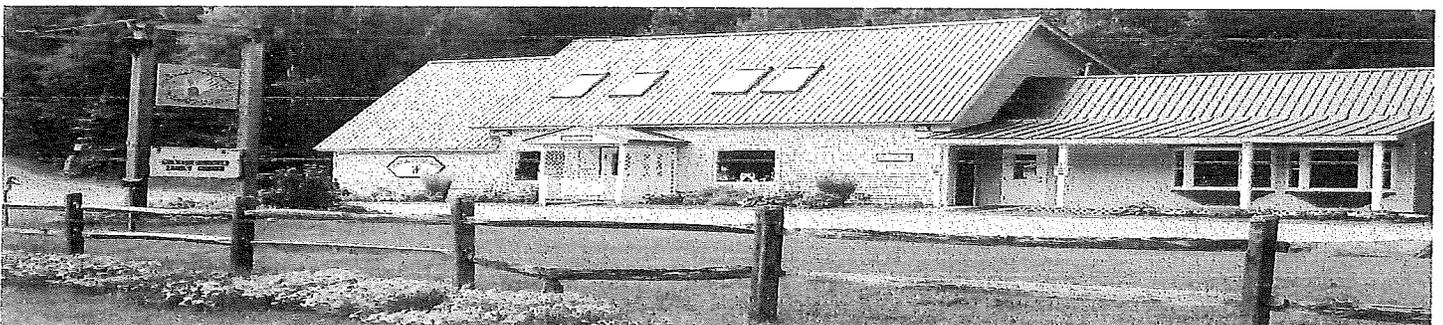
Mary Semones

Suellen Slater

Sandra Vincent

- **History:** The Family Center has been providing relief from hunger and financial stress for the most vulnerable residents of Chester and Andover for thirty-two years. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, staffed by volunteers.
- **Partners:** Neighborhood Connections offers our financial assistance recipients counseling, assistance with budgeting, and referral to other sources of assistance. We also partner with the Vermont Foodbank, Healthy Harvest Network, Hunger Council of the Windham Region and other hunger relief and service organizations.
- **Thrift Shop:** We provide affordable, quality clothing, small housewares and linens. Thrift Shop income supports the Food Shelf, our Financial Assistance Program and operational expenses.
- **Food Shelf:** Over one hundred fifty households are enrolled to receive nutritious, supplemental food. Food is purchased from the Vermont Foodbank, area grocery stores, and local growers. Individuals and organizations donate money, shelf-stable food and fresh produce.
- **Financial Assistance Program:** The Family Center provides financial assistance for utilities, heating fuel, rent and transportation (gas cards).
- **Gratitude:** The Chester-Andover Board of Directors acknowledges and thanks our donors, the community and our volunteers who donate resources and time in support of our mission.

“Providing a Helping Hand to Persons and Families in Need”



Southeastern Vermont Community Action

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965.

Our mission is to enable people to cope with and reduce the hardships of poverty; create sustainable self-sufficiency; reduce the causes and move toward the elimination of poverty. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Family Services / Crisis Resolution (fuel & utility, food, & housing assistance), Homelessness Prevention, Micro-Business Development, Individual Development Accounts (asset building & financial literacy), Income Tax Preparation, VT Health Connect Navigation, and Thrift Stores.

In the community of Chester we have provided the following services during FY2017:

Weatherization: 7 homes (20 people) were weatherized at a cost of \$74,221

Emergency Heating System Replacement: 6 homes (7 people) received furnace repairs or replacements at a cost of \$3,334

Emergency Home Repair: 1 home (2 people) received services to address health and safety Risks, repair structural problems, and reduce energy waste, valued at \$10,730

Micro-Business Development: 1 household (3 people) received counseling, technical Assistance and support to start, sustain or expand a small business, valued at \$1,761

Tax Preparation: 7 households (17 people) received tax credits and services totaling \$26,446

VT Health Connect Navigation: 17 households (28 people) received assistance to enroll in the Vermont Health Exchange, valued at \$2,051

Family Services: 43 households (90 people) received 152 services valued at \$1,552 (including crisis resolution, financial counseling, nutrition education, forms assistance, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services)

Fuel & Utility Assistance: 386 households (87 people) received 49 assists valued at \$23,435

Housing Assistance: 8 households (16 people) received 8 assists valued at \$10,413

Jobs for Independence: 7 people were recruited, screened and referred to enhanced employment services, valued at \$2,812

Head Start: 18 families (69 people) received comprehensive child development and family support services valued at \$238,851

Thrift Store Vouchers: 4 households (11 people) received goods and services valued at \$340

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of federal, state, private and town funds allow us to not only maintain, but increase and improve service. We thank the residents of Chester for their support.

Stephen Geller, Executive Director
Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)
91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
(800) 464-9951 or (802) 722-4575
sevca@sevca.org
www.sevca.org



ANNUAL REPORT

SENIOR SOLUTIONS (COUNCIL ON AGING FOR SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT)

Senior Solutions-- Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont – has served the residents of Chester and the Southeastern Vermont region since 1973. Our main office is located at 38 Pleasant Street in lower level of the Nolin-Murray Center building. Our mission is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults. Our vision is that every person will age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

Many of our services are available regardless of income or assets. However, we target our resources to those older adults with the greatest social and economic needs. Supporting caregivers is an important part of our work. Senior Solutions can help caregivers assess their family's needs and options, connect with resources and local programs that meet their needs and provide short-term relief (respite) for those who are caring for family members.

The population of older adults is increasing, as are many costs associated with providing services. Vermont is the second oldest state in the country (median age) and within Vermont the highest concentration of elders is in Windsor and Windham counties. Unfortunately, our state and federal funding has been largely stagnant for many years. This means that financial support from the towns we serve is critical.

We continually seek funding from new sources to enable us to do more for people. This past year these included grants from the Christopher Reeve Foundation to serve people with paralysis, from Efficiency Vermont to conduct home energy visits and help older adults save money on their electric bills and from the Holt Ames Fund to increase our outreach to vulnerable elders. Clients are given the opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to help support the services they receive. We also seek donations from the public and have established a planned giving program through the Vermont Community Foundation.

We strive to develop new programs to meet evolving interests and needs. This past year we trained instructors in Tai Chi for falls prevention and started a new program, aquatics for people with arthritis. We provide financial support to volunteers interested in starting new evidence-based wellness programs.

This is a summary of services provided to Chester residents in the last year (9-1-16 through 8-30-17).

Information and Assistance: 254 Calls and Office Visits. Our toll-free Senior HelpLine (1-800-642-5119) offers information, referrals and assistance to seniors, their families and caregivers to problem-solve, plan for the future, locate resources and obtain assistance with benefits and completing applications. Callers were assisted with applying for benefits, health insurance problems, housing needs, fuel assistance and many other services. Extensive resources are also described at www.seniorsolutionsVT.org.

Medicare Assistance: 225 residents received assistance with Medicare issues through our State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Our SHIP program provides Medicare education and counseling, “boot camps” for new Medicare enrollees and assistance in enrolling in Part D or choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Social Services: We provided 25 elder residents with in-home case management or other home based services for 191 hours to enable them to remain living safely in their homes. Often minimal services can prevent premature institutionalization. A case manager works with an elder in their home to create and monitor a plan of care, centered on the elder’s personal values and preferences. Many people would not be able to remain in their homes but for the services of Senior Solutions. Senior Solutions also investigates reports of self-neglect and provides assistance to those facing challenges using a community collaboration approach.

Nutrition services and programs: 46 Chester seniors received 8,691 meals at home and many received congregate meals through Springfield Meals on Wheels. Senior Solutions administers federal and state funds that are provided to local agencies to help operate senior meals programs, and provides food safety and quality monitoring and oversight. Unfortunately these funds do not cover the full cost of providing meals, so local agencies must seek additional funding. Senior Solutions does not use Town funds to support the senior meals program or benefit from any funds given by the Town to support local Meals on Wheels. Senior Solutions provides the services of a registered dietician to older adults and meal sites. Assistance is also provided with applications for the 3SquaresVT (food stamp) program.

Caregiver Respite: Through grants we provide respite assistance for caregivers of those diagnosed with dementia or other chronic diseases.

Transportation: Senior Solutions provides financial support and collaborates with local and regional transit providers to support transportation services for seniors that may include a van, a taxi, or a volunteer driver. Special arrangements are made for non- Medicaid seniors who require medical transportation.

Other Services: Senior Solutions supports a variety of other services including health, wellness and fall prevention programs, legal assistance (through Vermont Legal Aid), assistance for adults with disabilities and home-based mental health services. Senior Solutions has a flexible “Special Help Fund” that can help people with one-time needs when no other program is available.

Our agency is enormously grateful for the support of the people of Chester.

Submitted by Carol Stamatakis, Executive Director.

*(802) 885-2655 Fax (802) 885-2665 Toll Free (866) 673-8376
Senior HelpLine (800) 642-5119*

VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH
Home Health, Hospice and Maternal Child Health Services in Chester, VT

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is a compassionate, non-profit healthcare organization committed to providing the highest quality home health and hospice services to individuals and their families. VNH provides care for people of all ages and at all stages in life, and delivers care to all, regardless of ability to pay.

VNH services reduce costs associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 VNH made 3,549 homecare visits to 159 Chester residents. This included approximately \$134,832 in unreimbursed care to Chester residents.

- **Home Health Care:** 1,608 home visits to 114 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Long-Term Care:** 404 home visits to 16 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in the home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- **Hospice Services:** 1,382 home visits to 24 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care:** 155 home visits to 5 residents for well baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

Additionally, residents made visits to VNH wellness clinics at local senior and community centers throughout the year, receiving low- and no-cost services including blood pressure screenings, foot care, cholesterol testing, and flu shots.

Chester's annual appropriation to VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,


Jeanne McLaughlin, President & CEO (1-888-300-8853)

COMMUNITY CARES NETWORK
OF
CHESTER/ANDOVER, INC.

Community Cares Network of Chester/ Andover, Inc. (CCN,INC.) continues its on-going work of helping to keep our Senior Citizens in their own homes safely longer. Our dedicated volunteers give of their time and energy to help Seniors who do not have the resources they need to live independently.

In addition to providing transportation to doctors and hospital appointments, we also assist with such services as grocery shopping, record keeping, friendly visiting and check-ins, library book delivery, and odd jobs. We have helped many clients get to the Chester/Andover Family Center and Food Shelf.

This year we have undertaken a new project, working in conjunction with the Chester Ambulance Service. We are putting together emergency bags for Senior Citizens. These bags will contain emergency supplies for Seniors to use at times of power outages, floods, storms, and other unforeseen disasters. We are planning to have these bags available for distribution early next year.

In addition to the Chester Ambulance Service, we also work closely with such agencies as Senior Solutions, the Visiting Nurses & Hospice of Vt. And NH.,also Adult Protection Agency. We cooperate with the Chester/Andover Ministerium to get help for people in need.

CCN, INC., sponsors a low-impact exercise for Seniors, to help them maintain their health and physical fitness. We also sponsor social activities, which have included potlucks, art and hobby fairs, Christmas and Valentines parties, and other social events.

When we transport a client to doctors or hospital appointments the volunteer always stays with the client. We find that our clients find it very reassuring to know that they are not left by themselves. We walked beside a family whose their loved one was diagnosed with Alzheimers. The family felt reassured that there were people there for them and their loved one.

This past year we served our Senior Citizens with over 850 services.

Respectfully submitted by
The Community Cares Network of Chester/Andover, Inc. Board

Chester Annual Report – January 2018

Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. has been serving meals to the elderly since 2000. The program serves the communities of Andover, Baltimore, Chester, Springfield and South Weathersfield. A hot meal is provided Monday through Friday with frozen meals available to those who qualify for weekends and holidays. We also have a cold breakfast option for those who qualify that we deliver along with the noon time meal.

During the past fiscal year, October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017, volunteers from Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield delivered nutritious hot meals, breakfast, and frozen meals to approximately 30 private homes around the Chester area for a total of 7,775 meals provided to those in need in the community.

All this work was done with the help of 1 part-time and 1 full-time employee and many volunteers. Over the past year, Meals & Wheels engaged about 75 volunteers who came to us from community programs such as RSVP, the Springfield Schools, Lincoln Street, Mental Health Services and other community members who just want to volunteer out of the spirit of good will. Volunteers serve on our Board, deliver meals, wait on tables, assist in the kitchen, provide entertainment at the congregate meal site and help with fund raising. We strongly believe that our program gives back to our volunteers, as much as they give to the program. We provide an opportunity to be a part of a vital service and a chance for volunteers to connect with others and to become part of the community.

The most important role of our program goes far beyond meeting the nutritional needs of the seniors in the community. For many, the meal delivery volunteer may be the only contact they have for the day and seeing a friendly face can be the highlight of their day. At Meals & Wheels, we do our part in providing a safety net for many isolated seniors in our community.

The Current 2018 Town Report for Chester

The Current has been southern Windsor and Windham County's public transit provider since 2003. Our mission is to provide a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for the 27 towns we serve. As a private non-profit 501c3, we rely more than ever on local contributions to deliver rides and to provide the required local match for replacement vehicles.

The Current is funded by state and federal grants, contributions from towns and resorts, fares on some routes, and contributions from our human service partners. We operate bus routes and senior or disabled transportation services via our fleet of 36 buses, vans, and a network of over 50 very dedicated volunteer drivers.



Our operating expenses last year were \$5,164,289. With that we provided 282,102 bus, van, taxi, and volunteer rides. Our buses and vans traveled 910,711 miles over 50,096 hours.

In Chester we operate van and volunteer services which last year provided 7,374 rides at a cost of \$147,300.

We are requesting a \$2,250 contribution from the Town of Chester this year. We hope you will once again support us.

We are always seeking your input to improve our services. Please contact me by email (rgagnon@crtransit.org); phone (802) 460-7433 x 201; or visit us at www.crtransit.org to let us know how The Current may improve service in your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rebecca Gagnon'.

Rebecca Gagnon
General Manager

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District

Andover • Athens • Baltimore • Cavendish • Chester • Grafton • Ludlow • Plymouth
Reading • Rockingham • Springfield • Weathersfield • West Windsor • Windsor

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org

The District was chartered in fourteen Vermont towns. Each member municipality appoints a representative and Board of Supervisors. Chester's representative is Derek Suursoo.



1981 and currently serves Each member municipality an alternate to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Chester's representative is Derek Suursoo.

The District received a grant from the Agency of Natural Resources to subsidize the cost of composters for participants of backyard composting workshops. The workshops were very popular (254 attendees) More workshops will be held in the spring of 2018.

Two hundred and fifty-one District residents attended the household hazardous waste (HHW) collections in September 2016 and two hundred and fifty-five attended the May 2017 collections. The HHW events in 2018 will be held on Saturdays, May 12 and September 8 at the Springfield Transfer Station. We will have other collections on May 19 and September 15 but the locations have yet to be determined.

Two retailers in Springfield accept unwanted paint year-round. Bring paint to Bibens Ace Hardware or Sherwin-Williams during regular business hours and dispose of it for free (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty).



unwanted paint year-round. Bring paint to Bibens Ace Hardware or Sherwin-Williams during regular business hours and dispose of it for free (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty).

The District received a USDA grant to support our work on the Solid Waste Implementation Plan and educational outreach efforts. We took turns attending Selectboard meetings in each of the fourteen District towns to give presentations regarding the Universal Recycling law.

This year, the transfer stations collected 95 working but unwanted sewing machines to ship overseas with Sewing Peace – up 60% over 2016.

“Recycling Resources” is the District’s annual 12-page newsletter devoted to local recycling information. It’s available in town offices and libraries.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy
District Manager

Mary T. O'Brien
Recycling Coordinator

Ham Gillett
Outreach Coordinator





Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and southern Windsor County. We provide housing for residents of low and moderate incomes, preserve and revitalize neighborhoods, help residents acquire their own homes, and generally improve the social, economic, and cultural health of communities of Windham and southern Windsor County.

WWHT's mission is *to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.*

Homeownership Center

The **Home Repair Program** provides low cost loans to low and moderate income homeowners throughout Windham and Windsor counties to make critical home repairs. These include repairs necessary to bring a home up to code and make it a safe place to live. Our rehabilitation specialist inspects the home, determines which repairs are necessary, and works with the homeowner to plan and finance the project. We assisted 24 homeowners in 2017 with home repair projects.

One-to-one Counseling helps renters and homeowners understand and navigate their options and make smart financial decisions. The program is available to all residents in both counties. We provide homebuyer education, financial literacy training and credit counseling. In 2017, 79 of our clients were able to purchase a home.

The **Shared Equity Program** provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes. Grants are used toward the purchase price of the land underneath the home, lowering the cost to the homebuyer. Windham & Windsor Housing Trust retains ownership of the land and ensures long-term affordability through special ground lease provisions. 135 homes are in the shared equity program.

Rental Housing Development Program-In order to meet the diverse housing needs of a community, WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities. This takes the form of both rehabilitation of existing housing and the construction of new apartments. WWHT works with towns to plan for meeting local affordable housing and community development needs. In 2017, WWHT began renovation of a historic apartment building and broke ground on 18 new apartments in Putney, as well as breaking ground on 22 micro-apartments for the homeless in Brattleboro.

Rental Housing Management Program-WWHT owns 707 rental apartments with over 1,074 tenants. We manage the rental properties in and near Brattleboro and contract with Stewart Property Management Services for the properties in northern Windham and Windsor Counties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure long-term health and safety for our residents as well as preservation of property values. Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our rental properties and our shared-equity homeowners pay property taxes to the Towns and Villages.

For more information, please visit us on the web at www.w-wht.org



Proudly Sponsored by Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

Serving Bennington, Windham and Windsor Counties
160 Benmont Ave., Suite 90 Bennington, VT 05201
802-772-7875 | caliberti@svcoa.net | rsvpvt.org

Chester Annual Town Report FY 2017

Green Mountain RSVP connects volunteers 55 and older to opportunities at nonprofit organizations with a positive impact to the towns within Bennington, Windsor, and Windham Counties. We are sponsored by the Southwestern VT Council on Aging (SVCOA).

As part of our Healthy Living focus, we partner with some of the following volunteer stations: Meals on Wheels providers, transportation programs, food pantries, The American Red Cross, AARP/VITA Tax Programs, Bone Builder Exercise classes, and mentor programs in local schools. We also partner with many other nonprofits, like senior meal sites, hospitals, museums, libraries, and knitting projects.

We provide annual recognition and social events for volunteers. We issue a bi-monthly newsletter in each county. We help support nonprofits with background checks and liability insurance for RSVP volunteers. Our motto is do good, feel good! Volunteering benefits the volunteer and their community.

Chester is an active community with several volunteers. We have volunteers at the Chester Andover Family Center who help at the food shelf with stocking and distribution. Other volunteers deliver meals on wheels. There is an active Bone Builder class of 20, many of which reside in Chester.

Your Town's funds are essential for us to continue to support and develop programs for seniors who wish to volunteer. Our staff and administrative costs are covered by federal funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) – Senior Corps. Your partnership within the Chester community can truly make a difference for Windsor County with local volunteers helping their neighbors.

You are welcome to contact Corey Mitchell in our Ascutney office at (802) 6744547 or speak to me directly in the Bennington Office at (802) 772-7875. Thank-you for your continued support.

Respectfully,
Cathy Aliberti
Green Mountain RSVP Director

volunteer
do good, feel good

RSVP is
Supported in part by The Corporation for National and Community Service
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

Health Care & Rehabilitation Services
Narrative Report for FY17 for Town of Chester

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windsor and Windham counties. HCRS assists and advocates for individuals, families, and children who are living with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. HCRS provides these services through outpatient mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment program, community rehabilitation and treatment program, developmental services division, and alternatives and emergency services programs.

During FY17, HCRS provided 5,249 hours of services to 118 residents of the Town of Chester. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Chester.

Anyone with questions about HCRS services should contact George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer, at (802) 886-4500.

Request for Support from the Town of Chester

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont (HCRS) requests an appropriation of \$3,044.00 from the Town of Chester at the 2018 Town Meeting to help defray the cost of services to its residents for the Mental Health Walk-In Clinic. In the year ending June 30, 2017, our agency provided a comprehensive range of community based services to 4,154 residents of Windsor and Windham counties. The services that are available to the residents of your community are:

Adult Mental Health and Addiction Services: HCRS offers comprehensive services for adults who are experiencing mental health and/or substance abuse difficulties. Adult services include assessment, treatment including individual, group, couples, and family counseling, referral services, and limited psychiatric services. It is the philosophy of HCRS that people are resilient and therefore capable of overcoming difficult experiences and recovering from mental illness and substance abuse. HCRS is committed to building on the strengths of the individuals and families of whom we serve. Our goal is to help clients and their families achieve improved wellness, health, and quality of life while addressing their mental health and substance abuse needs.

Children, Youth, and Families Program: The Children's Division provides a comprehensive system of care for youth experiencing emotional, behavioral, developmental, or substance use difficulties in their life, as well as education and support for family members. We offer many services for youth and their families including psychiatry, counseling, case management, respite and case aid services, school-based services, behavioral consultation services, summer therapeutic programs, crisis response and emergency respite services, a mental health program specifically for young children up to six years old, and an employment assistance program for youth in transition who have significant emotional disturbances.

Developmental Services (DS): The DS program provides services to people with developmental disabilities and their families. Services are available to people of all ages who have been found eligible, and each person being served receives an individually written program to meet his or her needs. Children with a developmental disability are served through a collaboration with the Children's Division.

Residential Services: Residential Services offers residential care from short term crisis stabilization, to intensive residential care, to therapeutic community residential services. Each program is specifically designed to offer individuals the appropriate level of care to support their personal recovery and wellness needs. The Residential continuum of care is comprised of a total of 38 beds spanning five individual programs.

Emergency Services: The Emergency Services Team has a very specific mission to act quickly in critical situations. Specially trained mental health professionals are available 24 hours a day for emergencies. Anyone may use this service when an emergency arises including individuals of any age, family or friends of an individual in crisis, hospitals and nursing homes, police, schools, clergy, businesses, and other community agencies.

We thank the Board and the citizens of Chester for your past support and for your continued interest in Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont.

**Women's Freedom Center's
Statement of Services
And
Report to the Town of Chester**

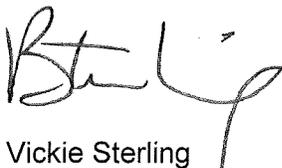
The mission of the Women's Freedom Center is to work to end physical, sexual and emotional violence against the women and children of southern Windsor and Windham Counties. The Freedom Center works to fulfill its mission by educating the community regarding the root causes of violence against women, challenging the systems that help keep it in place and by providing support and services, including shelter and safe housing, to women and their children who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Since our beginnings in 1977, we have provided support to the survivors of these crimes, as well as consultation and educational activities to a wide range of community groups to help create a community in which violence is not tolerated.

Emergency support such as shelter, safety planning, financial assistance, and information and referral is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Ongoing individual and group support for women and children; legal, medical, housing and social services advocacy; and cooperative work with other agencies are provided during the week. Due to the rural nature of Windsor County and the isolation inherent in many abusive relationships, we are committed to meeting with women wherever we may do so safely. Sometimes this means assisting her to get to us and other times it means us going to her, somewhere safe in her community.

During the fiscal year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the Women's Freedom Center responded to over 1,700 crisis telephone calls and provided hundreds of hours of individual and group support, advocacy, emergency financial and housing assistance, access to legal representation, transportation and childcare to 638 women, 17 men, and 478 children who had been abused. These figures include 12 survivors and their 7 children from Chester. In addition, we provided over 200 community outreach activities including school presentations and workshops throughout our service area.

The Women's Freedom Center is a private, non-profit organization relying heavily on community support to provide our free and confidential services. We thank you for your town's contribution to the Freedom Center and hope you will look at it as an investment in creating a future free from violence, something we all deserve.

Regards,



Vickie Sterling
Executive Director
Women's Freedom Center



BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES THROUGH YOUTH MENTORING

PO Box 101, 54 Main Street, Windsor, VT 05089 • 802-674-5101
windsorcm@outlook.com • www.wcpartners.org

**Town Narrative - Chester
For July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017**

Windsor County Partners is in its 5th decade of building healthier communities through youth mentoring. Our community-based PALS (Partner Always Lend Support) program extends across the county. Mentored youth learn life skills, provide community service and participate in cultural and athletic activities. In our surveys, 100% of the young people in our PALS program report that having a mentor has made a difference in their life.

WCP creates partnerships where mentors are matched with a child. Matches are made up with children up to age 12. Since matches are renewed annually, mentored children range in age from 7 – 18. These mentoring partnerships meet for 2 hours per week for at least a year, with many partnerships continuing on for years.

Last year, WCP served and supported 28 community-based partnerships, with children from 9 local towns. Collectively, these partners spent over 2000 hours together. Our mentees were distributed among 20 schools and 100% of the guidance counselors who have a student in our program report that they would recommend a Windsor County Partner for other students that they work with.

Financial support from Windsor County helps ensure the well-being of children and their families. For more information on our mentorships, find us on Facebook, visit our website www.windsorcountypartners.org or contact us at ProgramsWC@outlook.com 802-674-5101. WCP thanks the voters of Chester for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Jennifer Grant
Executive Director

2017 VITAL STATISTICS

Federal regulations (Intelligence Reform Law and the Real ID Act) have been issued and one of the areas affected is accessibility to vital records. These regulations have resulted in a more stringent protocol for obtaining certified copies and a tracking system for those who request certified copies. States have been required to implement new security standards regarding accessibility to birth and death certificates.

With fraud and identity theft on the increase and for the protection of the public, statistical information only will be printed.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to give us a call or stop by the office.

Deborah J. Aldrich
Town Clerk

Statistical information for 2017:
Civil Marriages - 21
Births - 20
Deaths – 23
Burials – 11

The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 46 in May 2017, which significantly changes the state laws that govern vital records –namely, birth and death certificates. The new law and rules will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates, provide better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the entire statewide system for creation, storage and tracking of birth and death certificates. Act 46 will impact anyone who seeks a copy of a Vermont birth or death certificate.

The changes go into effect on July 1, 2018.

The most notable changes are:

- Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.
- An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.
- Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.
- Access to noncertified copies (previously called “informational” copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.
- Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

For text of Act 46, go to

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/ACTS/ACT046/ACT046%20As%20Enacted.pdf>

**TOWN OF CHESTER AND CHESTER TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2017**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the Chester Town School District Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moderator Dakin asked the voters if there was any objection to non-voters speaking, if asked to. There was no objection.

Moderator Dakin introduced the Chester Town School Directors: Alison DesLauriers, Marilyn Mahusky and Heather Chase. Moderator Dakin then read the Chester Town School District Warning.

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT are hereby notified and warned to meet at Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. to act on the following Articles. Voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian Ballot on March 7, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town School District Officers for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot). Copy of results attached.
- ARTICLE 2:** To elect Directors for Chester-Andover Elementary School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot). Copy of results attached.
- ARTICLE 3:** To elect Directors for Green Mountain Union High School for the ensuing year (Australian Ballot). Copy of results attached.
- ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$222,120.00 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2017, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness. **Julie Hance moved Article 4 as written. Seconded by Charlea Baker. Alison DesLauriers explained that this money is for mandatory Pre-K students, Early Essential Education students and children under five years old with special education needs. Article 4 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town School District will authorize the Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town School District's indebtedness. **Richard Jewett moved Article 5 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 5 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 6:** To authorize the Town School District to accept payment from the State Department of Taxes under Act 68. **Patricia Benelli moved Article 6 as written. Seconded by Deb Trent. Article 6 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 7:** To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers for the year ending December 31, 2016. **Alison DesLauriers moved Article 7 as written. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. Alison DesLauriers explained that there was a correction on page 108 of the annual report and there is an insert with the correct information. Also, the education tax rate is expected to be even. Article 7 voted in the affirmative.**

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other business deemed proper when met. **Alison DesLauriers explained that the school board would be holding informational forums to inform voters about Act 46 and there will be a vote on a Regional Education District on May 2, 2017.**

Heather Chase made a motion to adjourn the Chester Town School District Meeting. Seconded by Charlea Baker. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Moderator Dakin explained that the Select Board would know take their seats.

Moderator Dakin called the Town Meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. and introduced the Select Board: John DeBenedetti, Ben Whalen, Dan Cote, Heather Chase and Arne Jonynas, Town Manager David Pisha and Town Clerk Deborah Aldrich. Moderator Dakin then read the warning.

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be by Australian ballot on March 7, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont and citizens to serve on the Budget Committee (Australian Ballot). Copy of results attached.

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$235,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$135,000.00 to repair the large culvert on Popple Dungeon Road; \$100,000.00 to make improvements to Route 35. (Australian Ballot)
Yes = 557 No = 78 Blank = 41

ARTICLE 3: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing a new Pumper Truck for the Fire Department. (Australian Ballot)
Yes = 466 No = 175 Blank = 35

ARTICLE 4: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$25,000.00 to replace the pumps at the town pool for the recreation department; \$110,000.00 to purchase a tractor with a roadside mower and leaf blower for the highway department; \$50,000.00 to repair the handicap access ramp at town hall. (Australian Ballot) **Yes = 501 No = 134 Blank = 41**

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to eliminate the office of town auditor. The town is audited annually by a certified public accountant. (Australian Ballot)
Yes = 450 No = 168 Blank = 58

- ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to eliminate the office of Lister, effective January 1, 2018. This position would be replaced by a professionally qualified assessor. (Australian Ballot) **Yes = 439 No = 176 Blank = 61**
- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Nelson and Sherry Smith, \$1,000.00; Georgeann and Donald Turner, \$500.00; Frederick Salo, \$500.00. **Leigh Dakin moved Article 7 as written. Seconded by Carla Westine. Article 7 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$2,876,502.11 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2017, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness. **Patricia Benelli moved Article 8 as written. Seconded by David Liebttag. Moderator Dakin explained that Town Manager David Pisha would now make a presentation on the budget. (Copy attached) Alden Blodgett asked what kind of route is Route 35. Town Manager David Pisha explained that it is a Class 2 Road and the Town maintains it to a certain point. Article 8 voted in the affirmative.**

Moderator Dakin introduced Representative Thomas Bock. Representative Bock explained some of the projects being worked on in Montpelier. Representative Bock also thanked Select Board Member John DeBenedetti for his many years of service and dedication to the Town of Chester.

- ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$333,100.00 to be allocated as follows: \$125,000.00 for the purchase of a new dump truck for the highway department; \$49,600.00 for the Loader lease for the highway department; \$20,000.00 for the purchase of a new pickup truck for the highway department; \$55,000.00 for the excavator loan for the highway department; \$18,500.00 for the purchase of airpaks for the fire department; \$45,000.00 for the purchase of a cruiser for the police department; \$20,000.00 for the library repairs; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received. **Donald Payne moved Article 9 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 9 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Chester Rod & Gun Club, Inc. Harry Goodell moved Article 10 as written. Seconded by Mark Verespy. **Troy Rietta, President of the Chester Rod & Gun Club, explained about a few of the many opportunities offered to the community. The range is free of charge to Police Departments and the Military; and free to the residents of Chester from the third Saturday in October to the end of the year. Mr. Rietta introduced Sargent Daniel Martin and Senior Trooper Gary Salvatore, Firearms Instructor, from the Westminster State Police Barracks and Chief Richard Cloud, from the Chester Police Department. Sargent Martin and Senior Trooper Salvatore expressed their appreciation to the Rod and Gun Club and the Chester residents, for their support and for the use of the Rod and Gun Club for firearms training. Chief Cloud also expressed his appreciation for the use of the Rod and Gun Club for firearms training. Mr. Rietta introduced Paul Stoddard. Mr. Stoddard explained that he does the Hunter Safety courses at the Rod and Gun Club and they have between 50 and 100 students every year that participate**

in the courses. These courses are free to the public. David Liebttag asked how much in taxes would the town be losing. Mr. Rietta replied approximately \$4,000.00. Alden Blodgett asked if the Rod and Gun Club had ever inquired about being in the Land Use Program, which would pay part of the taxes to the Town and the remainder could be exempt. Mr. Rietta advised that he would look into it. It may benefit the Club and the Town. Article 10 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Green Mountain Softball League. Sandra Vincent moved Article 11 as written. Seconded by David Liebttag. Joel Gomez, President of the Green Mountain Softball League, explained that the field is used for softball and adult and youth volleyball. Mary Jane Miles asked if this had always been a five year exemption. Last year the Article was amended to a one year exemption and before that it has always been a five year exemption. Matthew Wilson advised that the fire department also uses the field for training. Article 11 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$ 8,649.00 to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation. Thomas Bock moved Article 12 as written. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. Bob Flint, Executive Director of Springfield Regional Development Corporation, explained that SRDC helped 15 businesses in Chester in 2016. Steven Davis advised that SRDC is very helpful to Chester Economic Development. Article 12 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Pennies for the Playground (501(c)(3) nonprofit) organization for the renewal of the Chester Community Playground at Chester Andover Elementary School in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. Leigh Dakin moved Article 13 as written. Seconded by Marilyn Mahusky. Jill Bruning, from the Playground Committee, explained Pennies for the Playground and advised that they have raised \$16,000.00 and have submitted two grants. The committee is hoping to get \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 from the school. The goal for fund raising is \$100,000.00. The report for Pennies for the Playground can be found on page 116 of the annual report. Raven Norlander-McCarty explained that she is in charge of design, walking paths and a nature based play area. Marilyn Mahusky advised that up to \$10,000.00, from Medicare Funds, would come from the school. Article 13 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Labor Day weekend, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691. David Liebttag moved Article 14 as written. Seconded by Thomas Bock. Ruth Douglas read a letter from Patricia Budnick asking for the voters support for Chester Fireworks and thanking everyone. Article 14 voted in the affirmative.

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH. Tony Weinberger moved Article 15 as written. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. Tony Weinberger advised that the report of the Visiting Nurse Association could be found on page 123 of the annual report. Article 15 voted in the affirmative.

- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. **James Bartley moved Article 16 as written. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. James Bartley advised that the report for HCRS could be found on page 131 of the annual report. Article 16 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. **Nancy Davis moved Article 17 as written. Seconded by Carrie King. Gladys Collins advised that the SEVCA report could be found on page 121 of the annual report. Mrs. Collins explained that the cost for weatherization should be \$38,000.00, not \$55,506.00. Article 17 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town. **Kari Storm moved Article 18 as written. Seconded by Ken Ebell. Kari Storm advised that the report of the Women's Freedom Center could be found on page 132 of the annual report. Article 18 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home. **Nora Ellen Spaulding moved Article 19 as written. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. Nora Ellen Spaulding advised that the report of Senior Solutions could be found on page 122 of the annual report. Article 19 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester. **Maria Contro moved Article 20 as written. Seconded by Richard Pease-Grant. Maria Contro thank all the residents of Chester for their support. Article 20 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester. **Donald Payne moved Article 21 as written. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. Ruth Holleran asked what services the Current provides to Chester. Aula Dewitt advised that the report could be found on page 127 of the annual report. Barry Pinske advised that it is available for the elderly, for shopping purposes and Mary Hildreth advised that from personal experience it is a very valuable service. Article 21 voted in the affirmative.**

- ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. **Kari Storm moved Article 22 as written. Seconded by Ken Ebell. Kari Storm advised that the Windsor County Partners report could be found on page 133 of the annual report. Article 22 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 23:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service. **Maria Contro moved Article 23 as written. Seconded by Richard Pease-Grant. Article 23 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 24:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely. **David Armstrong moved Article 24 as written. Seconded by Sandra Vincent. David Armstrong advised that the report of Community Cares could be found on page 125 of the annual report. Article 24 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need. **Derek Suursoo moved Article 25 as written. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. Derek Suursoo thanked all of the volunteers of the Chester Family Center and advised that the Family Center is 100% volunteers and they serve 173 families in Chester. Article 25 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness. **Leigh Dakin moved Article 26 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 26 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 27:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2016. **Thomas Bock moved Article 27 as written. Seconded by Charlea Baker. Article 27 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 28:** To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles. **Alden Blodgett asked for explanations on Articles 5 and 6. Town Manager David Pisha explained that Lister Wanda Purdy would be retiring in 2018 and it is very hard to find people to run for Lister. Also, background knowledge of the job and qualifications is a concern. There is the same concern for the position of Auditor. David Pisha explained that there are checks and balances in place, the treasurer, assistant treasurer, bookkeeper and department heads all review the bills that pertain to that department and there is an outside audit firm that audits annually. Alden Blodgett asked for a cost comparison. David Pisha explained that there would be a cost savings because the Town already has an outside audit every year and if the local auditors are eliminated the town will not have that cost. The cost of an assessor is yet to be determined. Jack Cable explained that he was an elected auditor and by State law there are elected auditors for the town. The local**

auditors checked the books four times a year. Patricia Benelli asked how the town can eliminate the position. Julie Hance explained that the town can vote to eliminate the position.

Tim Roper asked if the new pumper, for the fire department, could be put off because of the need for a new emergency services building, which is more important. Fire Department Chief Matthew Wilson explained that there is a need for both, but the pumper is at the end of its life. Ernest Giurtino asked what would be done with the current pumper. Chief Wilson replied that it would be traded.

Nora Ellen Spaulding made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Patricia Benelli. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

A true record.

Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk

John DeBenedetti, Chairman, Select Board

Alison DesLauriers, Chairwomen, Chester Town School District

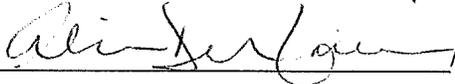
William E. Dakin, Moderator

**WARNING FOR CHESTER
TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT are hereby notified and warned to meet at Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 5, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. to act on the following Articles. Voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian Ballot on March 6, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town School District Officers for the ensuing year. (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 2:** To elect Directors for Chester-Andover Elementary School for the ensuing year. (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 3:** To elect Directors for Green Mountain Union High School for the ensuing year. (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 4:** To authorize the Town School District to accept payment from the State Department of Taxes under Act 68.
- ARTICLE 5:** To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers for the year ending December 31, 2017.
- ARTICLE 6:** To transact any other business deemed proper when met.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 19th day of January, 2018.


Alison DesLauriers /s/ Alison DesLauriers, Chairman

**TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 5, 2018, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be by Australian ballot on March 6, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont. (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 2:** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thirty Six Thousand Dollars (\$236,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$110,000.00 to purchase a Compaction Roller for the highway department; \$115,000.00 to purchase a new Sidewalk Plow for the highway department; \$11,000.00 to purchase a hazmat trailer for the fire department. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 3:** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester, subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of restoring the Town Hall building, the estimated cost of such improvements being Four Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars (\$408,000). (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 4:** Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of constructing a pocket park on School Street. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Leona and Wendell Brown, \$500.00; Russel and Jacquelyn Farrar, \$250.00; Virginia Carol Stowell, \$250.00.
- ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,038,539.63 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 17, 2018, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$447,051.38 to be allocated as follows: \$125,000.00 for the purchase of a new dump truck for the highway department; \$45,500.00 for the Excavator lease for the highway department; \$35,000.00 for sidewalk improvements; \$20,000.00 for

the purchase of new signage; \$48,000.00 for the purchase of a new police cruiser; \$20,000.00 for the payment of library loan; \$15,000.00 for renovations to Town Hall; \$8,000.00 for the tree management; \$60,000.00 for improvements to Route 35; \$34,500.00 for the purchase of emergency equipment to include air paks, a new portable water pump and refurbishing the rescue truck; and \$36,051.38 as a transfer to the Bond Plan; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Labor Day weekend, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and

home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500) to Neighborhood Connections to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. (This article is by petition)
- ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 22:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2017.
- ARTICLE 23:** To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 19th day of January, 2018.

Arne Jonynas /s/ Arne Jonynas, Chairman
Heather Chase s/ Heather Chase
Dan Cote /s/ Dan Cote
Ben Whalen /s/ Ben Whalen
Lee Gustafson /s/ Lee Gustafson