

# *PUTNEY TOWN*

## *REPORT*



*For the year ending June 30, 2020*

**Public Informational Meeting**

To discuss Ballot Articles  
February 27, 2021 at 10 AM  
Please visit the town website for link  
Zoom Meeting ID: 824 8115 3829  
Zoom Meeting Passcode: 811476  
Phone +1 646-558-8656

**Australian Ballot Vote**

Tuesday March 2, 2021  
10 AM – 7 PM  
Putney Fire Station  
21 Carl Snyder Drive

# THE 2020 TOWN REPORT DEDICATION



## CURTIS TUFF

Hardworking. Creative. Successful. But also— Kind. Compassionate. Family- and community-focused. Humble. Grateful. These are all words that describe Curtis Tuff, longtime resident of Putney, who passed away in December 2020.

Curtis came to Putney in the 1960s as a migrant fruit picker, and Bill Darrow of Green Mountain Orchards encouraged Curtis to stay and make a permanent home here. Fortunately for Putney, Curtis thought that was a good idea.

Curtis began serving his all-American barbecue in Putney more than forty years ago. And from the very beginning, Curtis was creative and intuitive. He told the *New York Times* in 1988 that barbecue was something he “just kind of figured out.” Not many people can intuitively create something that then becomes successful enough to be recognized and appreciated nationwide. But Curtis did that. His barbecue has been written up in mainstream newspapers and magazines, in food publications, and in travel guides—from the *New York Times* on the East Coast to the *Los Angeles Times* on the West Coast, and many places in between. People have traveled to Putney from all over in order to eat Curtis’s food.

Curtis, in his own way, made Putney famous.

In addition to being a brilliant barbecue chef, Curtis was openhearted, compassionate, and kind. He was an animal lover and regularly expressed gratitude for his family, friends, customers, and community. He said of Putney, “It’s a good place to raise your family.”

We are grateful to have lived in Putney with Curtis for so many years. We will miss him.

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# 2020 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Town of Putney Selectboard is proud to recognize Jules Lavoie for his great work with the Putney Pool bottle program.



## A Message from the Selectboard

2020 was a challenging year for our town, our nation, and our world. The coronavirus pandemic and the global discussion of racial equity and racial justice stretched Putney residents beyond our comfort zones, and required us to engage with each other in new ways. Our ability to live harmoniously was severely tested.

We are capable of being respectful of one another through greater and greater difficulties, but we have more work to do individually and as a community in order to accomplish this. Individually navigating with our moral compass, setting aside personal agendas in order to accomplish a greater good, examining our assumptions, and accepting the differences in one another will allow healing, growth, and enrichment. Only then will Putney truly be a more inclusive, supportive place to live.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Town Hall**

(802) 387-5862 phone, (802) 387-4708 fax  
127 Main Street, P.O. Box 233 Putney, VT 05346  
[www.putneyvt.org](http://www.putneyvt.org)

## **Town Managers Office**

Hours: Monday-Friday  
9:00 am-4:00 pm

## **Town Manager, Finance Director, Zoning**

### **Administrator**

Karen Astley  
(802) 387-5862 x11  
[Manager@putneyvt.org](mailto:Manager@putneyvt.org)

## **Administrative Assistant, Assistant Treasurer**

Alyssa Harlow  
(802) 387-5862 x14  
[Adminasst@putneyvt.org](mailto:Adminasst@putneyvt.org)

## **Treasurer**

Jules Lavoie  
[Treasurer@putneyvt.org](mailto:Treasurer@putneyvt.org)

## **Town Clerk's Office**

Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9:00 am-4:00 pm,  
Wednesday 9:00 am- 7:00 pm

### **Town Clerk**

Jonathan Johnson  
(802) 387-5862 x13  
[Clerk@putneyvt.org](mailto:Clerk@putneyvt.org)

## **Assistant Town Clerk**

Kim Munro  
(802) 387-5862 x10  
[AsstClerk@putneyvt.org](mailto:AsstClerk@putneyvt.org)

## **Listers Office**

Hours: Monday 1:00 pm-3:00 pm or by appointment.  
(802) 387-5862 x17  
[Listers@putneyvt.org](mailto:Listers@putneyvt.org)

### **Listers/Assessors**

Geordie Heller, Doug Harlow, Aileen Chute

## **Selectboard Members**

Josh Laughlin, Chair [Jlaughlin324@gmail.com](mailto:Jlaughlin324@gmail.com)  
David Babbitt, Vice-Chair [dbabbittauto@gmail.com](mailto:dbabbittauto@gmail.com)  
Bara MacNeill, Clerk [putneyconversations@gmail.com](mailto:putneyconversations@gmail.com)

## **Highway Department**

(802) 387-5730

## **Highway Superintendent**

Brian Harlow  
[putneytowngarage@myfairpoint.net](mailto:putneytowngarage@myfairpoint.net)  
Road Crew Members: Adam Fletcher,  
Lenny Howard, Jason Newton, Alan Thurber.

## **Putney Fire Department**

Non-Emergency Line  
(802) 387-4372  
(802) 387-4373 Fax  
**Fire Chief, Emergency Mgt. Director,  
Health Officer**  
Thomas Goddard  
[Chief@putneyvt.org](mailto:Chief@putneyvt.org)  
Assistant Chief, Chris Fellows

## **Putney Public Library**

55 Main Street, Putney, VT 05346  
Hours: M-F 10:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday  
10:00 am-1:00 pm (Nov-March 10-3)  
[www.putneylibrary.org](http://www.putneylibrary.org)  
(802) 387-4407

## **Library Director**

Emily Zervas  
[Emily@putneyvt.org](mailto:Emily@putneyvt.org)

## **Putney Central School**

Herve Pelletier, Principal  
(802) 387-5521

## **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

(802) 387-4345  
Joe Tetreault, Simon Operation Services

## **WSWMD Recycling and Solid Waste**

327 Old Ferry Road, Brattleboro  
Hours: M-F 7:00 am-3:00 pm, Sat 8:00 am-1:00 pm  
(802) 257-0272

## **Windham County Humane Society - Pound Keeper**

(802) 254-2232

## **Windham County Sherriff Non-Emergency Line**

(802) 365-4942

# ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **Selectboard (3 year)**

Bara MacNeill (appointed - Interim)	3/2021
David Babbitt	3/2022
Joshua Laughlin	3/2023

## **Cemetery Commissioners (3year)**

Betsy MacIsaac	3/2021
Jonathan Johnson	3/2022
Gregory Wilson	3/2023

## **Justice of the Peace (2 year)**

Alan Blood	2/2023
Margaret Cassidy	2/2023
Edith Gould	2/2023
Karen Gustafson	2/2023
Holly Hammond	2/2023
Abby Jacobson	2/2023
Nancy Olson	2/2023
Peter Stickney	2/2023
Amelia Struthers	2/2023
Wendy Wilson	2/2023

## **Library Trustees (3 year)**

Irene Canaris	3/2021
Francis Knibb	3/2021
Meredith Wade	3/2021
Janice Baldwin	3/2022
Deirdre Kelley	3/2022
Margaret Smith	3/2022
Kevin Champney	3/2023
Rebecca Nixon	3/2023
Amber Paris	3/2023

## **Listers (3 years)**

Aileen Chute	3/2021
Geordie Heller	3/2022
Doug Harlow	3/2023

## **Moderator (1 year)**

Meg Mott	3/2021
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## **Windham Southeast**

### **School District Directors**

#### **Brattleboro:**

Timothy Maciel	2021
David Schoales, Chair	2021
Jaci Joanne Reynolds	2022
Emily Murphy Kaur	2023

#### **Dummerston:**

Kelly Young	2021
Shaun Murphy	2022
Michelle Luetjen Green	2023
Thomas Nolan, Clerk	2023

#### **Putney:**

Anne Beekman, Vice-Chair	2021
Liz Adams, Clerk	2023

## **STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### **State Representatives:**

Mike Mrowicki
Michelle Bos-Lun

### **State Senators:**

Jeanette White
Becca Balint



# APPOINTED OFFICIALS

## **Affordable Housing Committee (1 yr.)**

Phillip Bannister	3/2021
Joshua Laughlin	3/2021
Francis Temple	3/2021
Eva Mondon	3/2021
Michael Mrowicki	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021

## **Animal Advisory Board (3 year)**

Abby Jacobson	3/2021
Cathy Rounds	3/2022
Bill Grant	3/2022
Janet Langdon	3/2022
Janet Goldstein	3/2023

## **Animal Control Officer (1 year)**

Vacant	3/2021
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## **Community Advisory Board (1 year)**

Bradley King	3/2021
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## **Conservation Commission (3 year)**

Lionel Chute	3/2021
Tom Hinckley	3/2021
Gino Palmeri	3/2021
Ann Kerrey, Chair	3/2022
Shana Frank	3/2022
Takeshi Akaogi	3/2022
Ellen Holmes	3/2023
Kathryn Karmen	3/2023
Vacant	3/2023

## **CT River Joint Commission Rep (1 yr.)**

Vacant	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021

## **Constable (1 year)**

Vacant	3/2021
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## **Development Review Board (3 year)**

Carl Noe	3/2021
Mark Bowen	3/2021
Phillip Bannister, Chair	3/2022
Jim Sweitzer	3/2022
Mary Heller Osgood	3/2023
Wayne Wagenbach	3/2023
Vacant	3/2023

## **District 13 Ambulance Comm. Rep.**

Thomas Goddard	3/2021
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## **Energy Committee (3 year)**

Morgan Casella	3/2021
Lionel Chute	3/2021
Trevor Quest	3/2021
Vacant	3/2022
Vacant	3/2022
Aileen Chute	3/2023
Alan Blood	3/2023

## **Equity and Inclusion Committee (1 year)**

Anne Beekman	3/2021
Corin Kennedy-Spielman	3/2021
Jon Johnson	3/2021
Jaime Contois, Co-Chair	3/2021
Laura Chapman, Clerk	3/2021
Lisa Munoz, Co-Chair	3/2021
Marc Thurman	3/2021
Steffen Gillom	3/2021

## **Fence Viewers (1 year)**

Joshua Laughlin	3/2021
R. Scott Henry	3/2021
Jonathan Johnson	3/2021

## **Forest Fire Warden (5 year)**

Russell Ellis	6/2025
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## **Forest Fire Warden, Assistant (5 year)**

Marc Fellows	6/2025
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## **Health Officer (3 year)**

Thomas Goddard	4/2023
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## **Planning Commission (3 year)**

Vacant	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021
Phillip Bannister, Chair	3/2022
Aileen Chute	3/2023
Andrew Morrison	3/2023

# APPOINTED OFFICIALS

## **Public Safety Committee (1 year)**

Ellis Derrig Jr.	3/2021
Marc Fellows	3/2021
Janet Goldstein	3/2021
Stephen Hed	3/2021
Michael Luciani	3/2021
Eric McGowan	3/2021
John Nopper	3/2021
Lawrence O'Neill	3/2021
Herve Pelletier	3/2021

## **Recreation Board (1 year)**

Vacant (President)	3/2021
Matt Bristol	3/2021
Matt Ewald	3/2021
Megan Gauthier	3/2021
Rebecca Jillson	3/2021
Jessica Lindoerfer	3/2021

## **Rescue Inc. Board Rep. (1 year)**

Norman Bartlett	3/2021
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## **Senior Solutions Rep. (1 year)**

Elizabeth Stead	3/2021
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## **Surveyor of Wood & Lumber (1 year)**

R. Scott Henry	3/2021
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## **Tree Warden (1 year)**

William Harlow	3/2021
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## **Weigher of Coal (1 year)**

Wayne Wagenbach	3/2021
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## **White Whitney Oversight Comm. (1 year)**

Kathleen Bartlett	3/2021
Kate Kelly	3/2021
Steve Haisley	3/2021
Eva Mondon	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021

## **Windham Regional Comm. Rep. (1 year)**

Stephen Dotson	3/2021
Vacant	3/2021

## **Windham Solid Waste Rep. (1 year)**

Vacant	3/2021
Daniel Toomey	3/2021

## **Wilson Wetland Stewardship Com. (1 year)**

Ann Kerrey	3/2021
Ellen Forsythe	3/2021
Cole Predom	3/2021
Mary Quinn	3/2021

## **Meeting Schedule**

**Selectboard** 387-5862  
Every other Wednesday at 5:30 pm\*

**Conservation Commission** 387-5685  
4th Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm\*

**Development Review Board** 387-4358  
3rd Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm\*

**Energy Committee** 536-4022  
2nd Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm\*

**Planning Commission** 387-4358  
1st Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm\*

All other meetings are held when necessary and agendas will be posted. For more information on meetings, please refer to the Town website [putneyvt.org](http://putneyvt.org) or by calling the Town Manager.

\*All meet virtually unless otherwise necessary to meet in person. Virtual meeting details will be posted on agendas.



# TOWN CLERK REPORT

Managing the Town Clerk's office in the middle of a pandemic has had its challenges. Town Hall closed to the public in the middle of the dog license renewal period. As a result, we did renewals through the mail and despite multiple contact attempts, far too many of you failed to license your dogs as required by Vermont law. Accordingly, for the first time we are publishing the delinquent dog list in the Town Report. If you recognize your address and no longer have the animal, please contact the Town Clerk. Dog licenses are due again on April 1, 2021. As I write this in mid-December 2020, it is too early to predict the process we will use in 2021. We will be sending renewal notices through the mail in February with more information.

Managing elections during the coronavirus crisis also presented many challenges. The June school budget vote and August State Office Primary election were done as drive-throughs in the Putney Central School parking lot. Many thanks to Herve Pelletier and Steve Napoli for your support and assistance. The November General Election presented a new set of challenges as it was too cold to use the drive-through format. However, with the assistance of Karen Astley, Town Manager, we secured a \$5,000 grant from the Center for Tech and Civic Life and were able to hire additional poll workers to clean and sanitize the voting stations, pay to have the Fire Station disinfected and deep-cleaned after the election, and build sneeze-guards and obtain other protective equipment. We want to thank Putney voters for cooperating with the safety protocols during in-person voting. We are grateful to live in a community where people wore masks and followed the other safety rules. We especially appreciate the 80% of voters who voted absentee. We also received a grant from the Vermont Secretary of State's office to purchase a new weatherproof and secure ballot drop box which was installed on the front steps of Town Hall. We continue to use the drop box for tax and utility payments and other documents being delivered to Town Hall.

We have been working for the last few years to digitize our land records. This year, again with the help of Town Manager, Karen Astley, we were able to obtain \$20,478 in grant money to digitize the last thirty years of land records. These records are online and obtainable. You may access Putney land records here: <https://recordhub.cottsystems.com/> If you have problems using Record Hub, please contact [Support@cottsystems.com](mailto:Support@cottsystems.com) or call 800-588-2688 for assistance. Record Hub has indexes going back to November 1, 1989 and document images to October 24, 1990.

Our website [www.putneyvt.org/townclerk](http://www.putneyvt.org/townclerk) is kept up to date with current fees, forms, and information regarding Election Information, Dog Licenses, Marriage Licenses, Vital Records, Voter Registration, and other services offered by the Town Clerk's office.

# DELINQUENT DOG REPORT

Last Year Tag	Address	Rabies Expiration Date
237	26 OLD TOWN RD	10/15/21
225	14 KIMBALL HILL RD	07/15/19
256	16 SPRING HILL RD	08/25/22
250, 253	39 WARDON RD	05/06/20
168	46 GREAT MEADOWS RD	10/27/19
196	459 RIVER RD S	07/26/21
049	67 AIKEN RD	04/02/19
999928	165 EAST PUTNEY FALLS RD	10/28/16
999960	71 SUN HILL RD	04/24/20
999918	95 MAIN STREET	11/03/19
999922	336 BELLOWS FALLS RD	07/19/17
233	23 NEUMANN LN	12/21/20
999976	17 LOCUST LANE	03/09/17
999930	52 OLD ROUTE 5	01/09/19
155, 156	151 WESTMINSTER RD	04/09/20
205	15 BELLOWS FALLS RD	03/28/18
259	18 NINA LEE DR	08/31/22
230, 231, 232	69 TAYLOR RD	05/20/21, 07/18/20, 12/31/21
238, 239	98 HICKORY RIDGE RD S	08/06/20, 04/12/20
999931	5 OLD TOWN ROAD	10/20/16
224	14 GREENWOOD LANE	04/16/22
999934	61 WEST HILL	01/24/20
034	202 RIVER RD S	02/07/20
236	207 S PINE BANKS RD	05/09/19
999887	35 NUEMANN LN	06/04/19
193, 194	269 RIVER RD S	04/24/20
999964	1089 RIVER RD S	03/06/17
999929	59 KIMBALL HILL	02/16/17
999894	41 WATT POND RD	04/16/21
258	834 BELLOWS FALL RD	05/23/20
241-246	40 OLD DEPOT RD	04/17/21, 07/09/20, 04/17/21, 04/17/21, 04/17/21, 04/17/21
265	52 TOWN FARM RD	09/19/22
165, 166, 167	72 ROUNDS HILL RD	11/12/21, 03/22/22, 03/22/22
999935	37 SIGNAL PINE	01/20/19

# 2020 VITAL STATISTICS

## Births

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Sex	Parent A	Parent B
Zakoni Allen Dargan	3/4/2020	M	Courtney Marie Sanderson	Demetrius Allen Dargan
Jude Kristofer Normand	3/12/2020	M	Kassie Marie Harris	Jay Elliott Normand
Amir Elias Assadi	6/16/2020	M	Najiba Akhlaqi	Assadullah Akhlaqi
Hudson Grady Evans	6/22/2020	M	Janice Evans	Charles Grady Evans
Quinn Cassidy Friedman	7/5/2020	M	Susannah Catherine Cassidy Friedman	Jesse Harte Friedman
Kyle Anthony Judd	8/28/2020	M	Sophie Tiana Wood	Richard Michael Judd
Scarlet Mae Walker	9/1/2020	F	Catherine Ann Morrill	Cory Francis Walker
Sebouh Morrill Walker	9/1/2020	M	Catherine Ann Morrill	Cory Francis Walker
William Cecil Harlow	9/7/2020	M	Nicole Marie Harlow	Frank Donald Harlow
Anna Abbot Storrow-Smith	9/12/2020	F	Ashley Meyer Storrow	George Putnam Smith Jr.
Alma Rio Amparo Caunca-Dall	9/14/2020	F	Anna Gail Liwag Caunca	Aaron Robert Dall
Elliott Lucille Gardner Heal	9/30/2020	F	Grace Marie Albert-Gardner	Adrian Lapointe Heal
Jack Barrett Orion Caulfield	11/4/2020	M	Savannah Price	Nathan Caulfield

## Deaths

Name	Date	Sex	Age	Place of Death	Residence
George Whitney Allen, Jr.	1/12/2020	M	69	Putney	Putney
Kate Shelly Mattes	3/25/2020	F	73	Bennington	Putney
Kenneth Edward Bauer	4/1/2020	M	59	Putney	Putney
Abijah Reed	4/9/2020	M	84	Putney	Putney
Byron Kilby Barlow, Jr.	4/27/2020	M	70	White River Junction	Putney
Stanley Gartenstein	4/30/2020	M	87	Putney	Putney
Connie L. Fitch	5/10/2020	F	53	Bennington	Putney
Wayne P. McKeown	5/22/2020	M	58	Putney	Putney
Scott Douglas Larabee	6/10/2020	M	50	White River Junction	Putney
Betsy Perkins Temple	6/24/2020	F	79	Putney	Putney
Kenneth Paul Smart	7/9/2020	M	69	Brattleboro	Putney
Jane M. Field	7/24/2020	F	101	Putney	Putney
Gladys Mae Stockwell	7/29/2020	F	88	Putney	Putney
Emma Gloria de Crombrughe	8/11/2020	F	87	Putney	Putney
Ann Underwood Wheeler	10/31/2020	F	68	Brattleboro	Putney
Mark Pascal Schlefer	11/2/2020	M	98	Putney	Putney
Leslie A. Smart	11/18/2020	M	64	Putney	Putney
Robert T. Phillips	11/29/2020	M	74	Bennington	Putney
Richard Aaron Stockwell	12/1/2020	M	58	Putney	Putney
Curtis Tuff	12/8/2020	M	82	Putney	Putney

# 2020 VITAL STATISTICS

## Marriages

<b>Applicant A</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Applicant B</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
Jill Louise Johnson	Putney	Timothy Erik Sossa	Florence, MA	3/22/2020	Putney
McKenna Kathleen Hayes	Putney	Cole Ronn Predom	Putney	6/12/2020	Putney
Madeline Anderson Lyons	Marion, MA	John Stuart Wilson	Marion, MA	6/13/2020	Quechee
Ronnie Lee Hunt	Putney	Edward Germon Bookwalter	Putney	8/1/2020	Putney
Caludia Patricia Simard	Hanover, NH	Edward Joseph Boese	Hanover, NH	8/22/2020	Brattleboro
Adrienne Lenore Anderson	Boston, MA	Jared Micael De Jonge	Boston, MA	9/16/2020	Shaftsbury
Tory Roger Sheehan	Westminster	Kaela Joan Nadeau	Putney	10/3/2020	Putney
Caryn Morrow	New York, NY	Owen Douglas Summers	New York, NY	10/3/2020	Dummerston
Rachel Kaufman	Danbury, CT	Nagib Touma	Danbury, CT	10/3/2020	Putney
David A Nodolski	Southwick, MA	Amanda L Madiera	Southwick, MA	11/21/2020	Chester
Raymond Edward Hutchinson Jr	Putney	Marcella Pearl	Putney	12/19/2020	Putney
Stephen Victor Miiller	Putney	Moriah Brooks Miiller	Putney	12/31/2020	Putney



# REPORTS OF TOWN BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS



## SELECTBOARD

As we entered 2020, I don't believe any of us knew what was in store. The first couple months of the year were fairly quiet but, in March, the Governor declared a state of emergency as the Coronavirus (COVID-19) had migrated into the United States. As we adapted to the social changes, life as we knew it became less and less normal. Social gatherings, in person business, education and almost all aspects of everyday life grew both different and difficult. As the severity of the pandemic became clear Laura Chapman, who was the chair of the board, decided to convene weekly Selectboard meetings to communicate with fire Chief Tom Goddard and review information coming from the governor's office, the Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health. The Selectboard stayed on that schedule for several months. The town manager's time was largely occupied by planning and executing issues related to compliance with executive orders and the newest recommendations at the state level.

The Selectboard's main focus for the first half of 2020 was to complete town business as necessary, keep ourselves informed and promote measures to ensure the safety of town staff and residents. The vast majority of meetings have been on a digital platform. Although we find there to be some frustrations related to this online platform, we have also found that attendance has increased and we feel that a broader audience is reached. As we look towards the future and the eventual end of the pandemic, we are considering how to continue using digital media to enhance our ability to reach the residents of Putney.

As spring arrived, so did news of ongoing racial injustice across our country. Issues of equity and inclusion, and how to adequately address the town's procedures and practices, became more prominent in our discussions at Selectboard meetings. The pressure of issues highlighted by the upcoming presidential election further elevated apparent divisions within our community. Difficult and emotional meetings ensued and ultimately culminated in the Selectboard agreeing

that it was both necessary and appropriate for all town employees and elected officials to undergo social bias training. As of the writing of this letter, initial training has been completed and we are looking at how to continue our professional development in order to enhance what will be an ongoing but very important topic for our town to address. We know that we need to identify and take actions to improve the town's ability to be as proactive as possible.

In September, due to an increase in her professional workload and the fact that she had kids having to do their schoolwork remotely, Laura Chapman chose to step down from the Selectboard. We are grateful for the time that Laura committed to being on the board and for important issues that she brought forward. We wish Laura all the best in her ongoing work and personal life. After Laura's departure from the board her position remained vacant for a period of time while we explored options for her replacement. Bara MacNeill volunteered to replace Laura and has been sitting on the board since December 2020. She has been an excellent addition and brings valuable insight and judgment to the position. We are very glad that she was willing to fill this interim position through town meeting day in 2021.

Throughout the fall we have been examining the FY22 budget very closely. We have come to the conclusion that we would like to change some of our capital purchase methods in order to move away from borrowing. We are hoping that voters will approve the creation of capital reserve funds in both the highway and general fund budgets this coming year in order to advance that effort. With the exception of the outright purchase of a new loader for the highway department, which we are asking voters to approve buying in the coming year, it is likely to take a few years to sufficiently fund those reserves. If funded, the town will be able to make most capital purchases outright, which we believe will ultimately save the town money and put us in a more fiscally secure position. We just received our completed audit for town finances and our new auditor has made some recommendations as to how to structure these funds.

We are aware that our community continues to struggle with a lack of adequate broadband services and we need to improve infrastructure in order to connect the unserved and underserved.

Since the creation of the Deerfield Valley Communication District (DVCD) in April of 2020 and the potential availability of financial resources to fund a communication infrastructure, Putney decided to join the DVCD in the Fall of 2020. This endeavor is ongoing as we are currently researching alternative means to achieve fiber connectivity in our community as well.

The Selectboard would like to recognize the important work of the Putney Mutual Aid group that was formed during this difficult time. Putney Mutual Aid has done an excellent job in coordinating neighbor-to-neighbor assistance in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Needs are matched with offerings such as transportation, food distribution, grocery delivery, organizing and supporting neighborhood groups, assisting local organizations, and undertaking donation and gift drives. Putney Mutual Aid is committed to the community in this time of crisis and we very much appreciate their efforts and actions.

Now that we have entered 2021 and there is promise of vaccines and, perhaps, a shift in the future of the pandemic, we are hopeful that life will return to some semblance of normal. We have all adapted as well as possible and have been fortunate to live in Vermont where life has been less devastated than it has in many other places. Many of us have suffered loss and as we move into spring, we look forward to regrouping and working together to continue becoming the community we all wish to live in. Thank you, sincerely, Josh.

*~Joshua Laughlin, Selectboard Chair*

## ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD

On behalf of the Animal Advisory Board, there are still five dedicated members who serve on the board. The Board completed a draft of the proposed Animal Control Ordinance in the Fall of 2019. A small announcement was made at the March, 2020 that Public Informational Meetings would occur, but due to COVID-19 most meetings have been curtailed. The effort from this Board is greatly appreciated and as soon as we can this item will be addressed.

The Animal Control Officer is vacant again. Through discussions with the Windham County Sheriff's Office, there may be a light at the end of the tunnel. Several municipalities in Windham County are interested in the development of an Animal Control Officer through the Windham County Sheriff's Office. We may see a County Animal Control Officer that will benefit our communities and alleviate concerns when it comes to animal control.

*~Karen M. Astley, Town Manager*

## BOARD OF LISTERS

The COVID 19 Pandemic hasn't changed the work we do in the Listers office, but it has certainly affected how we go about it. Since March site visits haven't included the usual interior inspections, instead we have to rely on homeowners to answer honestly about what we would find inside. In the office where our work tends to be collaborative, we've been at times limited to only one Lister present. When we are able to have two Listers working together we wear masks and maintain social distance. Lister training and education have been a challenge as sessions were cancelled altogether or switched to truncated versions online. In spite of the different approach the work gets done. Property transfers and building permits continue at a rate that's similar to years past. (As always, contact the Zoning Administrator about permitting for any project.) Per advice from our advisors at the state, we have a policy of conducting an "Inventory Check" on transferred properties that have a sale price significantly different than the Grand List value. Seemingly related to The Pandemic is an uptick in the number of new property owners we're needing to contact regarding that discrepancy.

A searchable Grand List is available on the Town website, as is a non-interactive version of the Tax Map. We are working to make Lister Cards available through the website as well. As always, the Listers can be reached at [listers@putneyvt.org](mailto:listers@putneyvt.org) or at (802) 387-5862 ex 17.

*~Putney Board of Listers*

### Reappraisal Fund Balance:

<b>Balance June 30, 2019</b>	<b>50,275</b>
Revenue	
Vermont State Payment	10,127
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>10,127</b>
Expenditures	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance June 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$60,402</b>

## CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Cemetery Commission adopted Cemetery Policies, Rules and Regulations designed to help preserve, maintain, and protect all burial sites within the Town. Details are found on the putney.org website.

The Commission struggles with several major challenges to the upkeep of cemeteries including the deterioration of the stone retaining wall that runs along Routh 5 at Mt. Pleasant, the loss of ancient burial grounds and the problem of deteriorating monuments in all cemeteries. The struggle is not new and is shared by all Vermont towns. The cost of major maintenance or restoration is breathtaking and only grows over time. It is very difficult to balance spending taxpayer funds and honoring our ancestors.

Funding by the Town has been set at \$8,500 each year for many years. Along with receipts from the sale of lots, this barely covers the cost of basic maintenance, along with annual brush cutting at selected ancient cemeteries. There is currently no financial plan to address the bigger challenges. This will be a focus for the Commission in the coming year. As always, we welcome your questions, comments, and ideas.

*~ Jonathan Johnson, Chair*

*~ Betsy MacIsaac, Vice Chair*

*~ Greg Wilson, Secretary*

### Cemetery Fund Balance:

<b>Balance June 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$43,327</b>
REVENUE	
General Fund Appropriation	8,500
Losses	- 999
Interest	1329
Miscellaneous	1,450
TOTAL REVENUE	10280
EXPENDITURES	
Mowing/Maintenance/Repair	4,982
MT. PLEASANT	
Mowing/Maintenance/Repair	5,842
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	10,824
<b>Balance June 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$42,783</b>

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### Putney's Natural Areas

The importance of Putney's conserved natural areas became stunningly clear during the 2020 pandemic as people sought outdoor recreation and calming, safe environments. The Putney Town Forest, managed for free by the Putney Mountain Association (PMA) for over 20 years, remained the town's most-used natural area. Last spring, PMA had to make its trails one way for more safety. Putney Conservation Commission (PCC)-managed conservation sites were also much used.

In order to assure that the Town Forest is conserved as forested wildlife habitat open to the public in perpetuity (through inexpensive deed restrictions), PCC recommended at Town Meeting 2020 that the Forest be transferred to PMA. The transfer would also generate some funds for the town- \$1,000 to \$3,000 annually. To get you oriented: the Putney Mountain trail head and parking area off Putney Mountain Road, as well as the Main and West Cliff trails leading to Putney Mountain's summit were all paid for and built by PMA on Town Forest land. The parking area provides access to the 43-mile-long PMA/Pinnacle Association trail system as well as to the annual fall Hawk Watch on Putney Mountain's Summit.

The Putney Conservation Commission (PCC) supports the transfer of the Town Forest to PMA and is now actively participating in the Town's "due diligence" review. We are focusing on the value of the Town Forest as Putney's most-used recreational area, as a tourist attraction benefiting local businesses, and as a critical link in Southeastern Vermont's most important north-south, forested wildlife corridor and hunting area. The transfer would support and be consistent with Town goals for the Forest documented by Town votes on 3 occasions: 1950, 1998 and 1999.

To assist residents in finding local places to walk, PCC updated the Town's Trail Guide, "Places to Walk, Hike, Bike and XC Ski in Putney, Vermont." Sue Kochinskas prepared the digital version which was posted in April 2020 on the Town website and on "iPutney" and "I love Putney" along with tips on how to hike safely during the pandemic. 500 hardcopies were printed and will be distributed to village stores and to the library when it reopens.

In May, the PCC cleared the Beatrice Aiken Trail, not only of fallen trees but of a fort structure built right on the trail. The work required a chain saw! Trail markers and signs were also up-graded. We printed 100 more copies of John Warren's geological guide to the



Beatrice Aiken site, and neighbor, Louise Garfield, is making sure some are in the mailbox next to the kiosk.

In October, the PCC created a new loop trail on the Bare Hill Conservation Site. It is marked and ready for use. Jeff Nugent at Windham Regional Commission has agreed to generate a new map and additional information for the kiosk.

#### **Ash Tree Survey Goal Reached**

Across Vermont, towns are trying to anticipate how to deal with dead ash trees along roads. The Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive insect which has already been found in Guilford, is expected to kill 99% of our ash trees. Ash trees along roads will become hazards.

In 2020 the PCC completed its goal of identifying ash trees along Route 5, all Class 2 roads (Westminster, West Hill, Houghton Brook and River) and 22 Class 3 roads. A total of 44 miles of road were surveyed. (Putney has 66 miles of maintained roads.) The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions awarded the PCC a \$600 tiny grant to pay Landmark College professor Brian Young to collect and present this information in digital form. Data that we collected includes tree size, position in canopy and condition, which we hope will be of value to the Town's Highway Department when the trees start dying. No signs of EAB were found.

#### **Hazard Mitigation and Town Well Source Protection Plan Updates**

The Commission submitted comments to the Putney Town Manager to help up-date the Town's Hazard Mitigation and Well Source Protection Plans. We suggested that climate change be added to the Hazard Plan as well as ways the town could contribute to its mitigation.

#### **Wilson Wetland Stewardship Committee Report**

Sand Hill Road: The major pond on Sand Hill Rd. has long been dependent on there being beaver dams south of the bridge. There are now two dams downstream that are leaky but hold back enough water to keep water in areas north of the bridge, partially filling the pond. To protect the road, the Committee worked daily over a two-month period to discourage the beavers from building an additional dam under the bridge. Two road culverts with exclusion fences and two other culverts were kept clear and running for the same purpose. Much gratitude to volunteers who helped in these efforts.

Signage: The Committee, Town Manager, and Selectboard agreed on signage reminding people that the Wetland is a protected Town water supply and wildlife area not to be used for hunting/trapping or recreational purposes. This year's turtle crossing signs will be again be again posted this spring.

Dumping: The PCC's Wetland Committee has been removing garbage from the Sand Hill Road parking area and along Sand Hill Road. Poisonous parsnip was also removed again in a multi-year effort to mitigate its spread. In November 2020, it was discovered that a refrigerator, barrels, car battery, tires and other large items had been dumped into the Wetland from the Sand Hill Road Recreation Field. The Putney Community Center, which owns the Recreation Field on Sand Hill Road, is working on gate repair so it can be closed and locked. The Wetland is an important Town drinking water supply area and pollution there could eventually reach the Town's well downstream. Many thanks to concerned Townspeople who help clear debris along the road through the Wetland.

*~ Ellen Holmes, Conservation Commission*

### **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

In 2020 the Development Review Board held seven public hearings for Subdivision, Secondary Use, Conditional Use, Site Plan Review, and pre-application discussions.

#### February 18, 2020

An application for Conditional Use and Secondary Use at 26 Bellows Falls Road by Betsy MacIsaac to convert an existing shed to a residential structure was approved. A preliminary discussion about parking at 132 Main Street was presented by property owner Neil Madow.

#### April 21, 2020

An application for a Minor Subdivision/Boundary Line Adjustment for applicant Next Stage Arts Project and property owners Edward and Elena Dodd at 21 Kimball Hill was approved.

#### June 16, 2020

An application for a Minor Subdivision/Boundary Line Adjustment by applicants Mark and Bonnie Kimball and property owners Donald and June Campbell was approved.

#### July 28, 2020

An application for a Minor Subdivision by applicant Bonnie Boyd at 127 Taylor Road was approved.

#### August 18, 2020

An application for Conditional Use and Secondary Use approval by applicant Chip (Marks) Greenberg and property owners Marks Greenberg and Linda Rubenstein at 168 Westminster Road was approved.

#### November 17, 2020

An application for a Minor Subdivision by Gary and Vicki Ann Scholl at 127 Bellows Falls Road was approved with conditions.

There was a discussion with the Putney Commons attorney and some board members about additional permits needed for proposed construction and site plan changes to the existing PRD.

December 15, 2020

The DRB held a preliminary hearing with the Putney Commons attorney, the site plan engineer, and some Putney Commons board members about additional permits needed for proposed construction and changes to the existing PRD.

*~Mary Heller Osgood, DRB*

## **EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

The Town of Putney Equity and Inclusion Committee (EIC) is committed to learning, growth, and action in ways that, as a volunteer committee, serve the town. In the last year the committee has responded to requests from the Selectboard for review of policy, and we have crafted statements on how we could all be good neighbors early on during the Covid-19 pandemic.

As a result of racist graffiti in town and around the county, we supported the Windham County NAACP's efforts to bring a Black Lives Matter road mural to town. Our community came together to make that a reality. It has created the opportunity for many important discussions around how people experience Putney from different life experiences and how we can come together as people to build a culture that creates safety, and equity for all people. We hosted open book clubs with three current texts being studied by Putney Central School that covered whiteness, race, and healing. We supported and requested anti-racism learning for all town employees, which the town began in January.

As we look ahead to 2021 and beyond, we want to create opportunities for continued education at the town and individual level towards the goal of fulfilling our charge from the Selectboard, "to identify and advise the Selectboard on addressing inequities and encouraging inclusive practices in Town services, programs, human resource practices, and decision-making processes." We invite community members to join us for all meetings and to contribute toward this important work. Our meeting dates, links and minutes can be found on the committee page on the Town of Putney website. You can reach us at [equityandinclusioncommittee@gmail.com](mailto:equityandinclusioncommittee@gmail.com) or our individual email addresses on the committee page.

*~Jaime Contois, chair*

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

This year presented your fire department with the "usual" challenges and issues. However, we were also faced with an unprecedented multitude of new and never before presented challenges in the wake of COVID-19.

Between July 2019 and March 2020, fire department operations were typical, with members answering our normal number of service requests, continually participating in various education and training opportunities, and performing various maintenance related activities.

The fire department was successful in receiving the federal FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant we applied for earlier in 2019. This grant, in the amount of \$194,000, allowed for the purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus, new battery-operated hydraulic rescue tools, new heavy duty stabilization struts, and one new specialized emergency breathing air appliance used specifically during the rescue of downed firefighters.

Beginning in March 2020, the department, like all other emergency service organizations across the country, was fully engaged in all aspects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our typical and normal operations were dramatically adjusted, if not ceased completely. Many members of the department were involved with emergency planning functions related to the department, municipal government operations, and protection of the community as a whole.

By the time we got to the end of June 2020, every aspect of the fire department's administration and operations had changed dramatically. The ultimate focus was to maintain the health and welfare of our members, while continuing to provide the highest level of service to our citizens and community.

This year, as Chief of the Department, I have to extend a special thank you to all of our members for their continued dedication, especially in the face of the pandemic, and associated unknowns. The members of your fire department were unwavering in their desire to serve their community and citizens; and while working within different levels of fear and stress than they have before, they maintained the high level of customer service you have become accustomed to.

The members of the department sincerely appreciate the continued support received from our citizens and community leaders. As we move forward, and adjust to what we will find to be the "new normal" post-pandemic, the members of the fire department will continue to provide the highest quality services possible.

*~Thomas Goddard, Fire Chief*

#### Putney Fire Department – Requests For Service Statistics – 2019-2020

Structure Fire	5	Chimney Fire	2
Vehicle Fire	6	Fire, Other	34
Hazardous Materials	5	Brush Fire	10
Emergency Medical	218	Public Assist	20
Alarm Activation	75	Investigation	8
Storm Event	5	Trees/Wires	23
MVC	45	Technical Rescue	4
Special Event	11		
Mutual Aid Given	28	Mutual Aid Received	9

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Putney has taken advantage of low interest rates to purchase equipment year after year. In March of 2020 the town approved the Highway Department to borrow money to replace the 2011 Mack Dump Truck with a 2021 Western Star Dump Truck. This truck is being outfitted with a dump body and will be utilized for all seasons. The first payment on this new equipment will occur in Fiscal Year 2022. In Putney, heavy Highway Equipment (trucks) are kept for ten years with a five-year borrowing note with interest. All other equipment (loader, excavator, backhoe and grader) has a fifteen-year expectancy. Capital planning is critical in keeping the highway fleet fiscally operational. When considering purchasing new equipment, Brian Harlow along with the Town Manager and Selectboard adhere to the capital plan.

Grants are very important from local, state and federal resources. Municipalities strive to capture Structure Grant funding for large projects to improve roads or structures such as bridges and/or culverts. Putney had no bridge or box culvert projects this year. There is one project on the horizon. In a normal year, the town completes one project at a time.

Class II retreatment paving grants allow the town to shim and pave. Roads are evaluated a year in advance and are prioritized by the State based on conditions, the amount of traffic and deterioration. Putney completed approximately 3.2 miles of Westminster Road. Hickory Ridge Road is on the schedule for FY 2021-2022. The cost to pave Hickory Ridge Road will be funded from the Highway Budget.

Grants-in-Aid allow us to bring hydrologically connected road segments in compliance with State Clean Water Act 64. Annual funding varies and Putney was awarded \$20,130.00 this year to complete work on Holland Hill Road. This grant funding allows Putney to bring roads and ditches up to state road standards for control of stormwater runoff. The funds allowed for tree cutting, ditching and removal of some ledge. We continue to seek annual

grant funding to control stormwater runoff on our highways each year.

As Highway Superintendent I would like to thank Jason Newton, Alan Thurber, and Lenny Howard. We wish Tyler Westney the best in his new endeavor and we welcome Adam Fletcher to the department. Thank you to all for your hard work especially in weather-related situations. In the winter we are grateful for our two seasonal employees, Pat Wood and Andrew King.

The Highway Department would like to thank the office staff for administrative and managerial support. Chief Tom Goddard with his open communication and continued assistance is appreciated on a daily basis. Thank you to the community for your continued support.

*~Brian Harlow, Road Superintendent*

## PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission continued exploring wildlife connectivity issues, based on citizen tracking data coordinated by the Conservation Commission and with assistance from VT Fish and Wildlife Department biologist Jens Hawkins-Hilke. Jens met with the Planning Commission and provided preliminary mapping showing continuous forest blocks in Putney, and possible opportunities to maintain or improve wildlife connectivity where the blocks are interrupted by clearing or development. No regulatory recommendations have yet been proposed.

Short term rentals and “Airbnb” activity were briefly discussed. The Planning Commission felt that the Town’s current regulations and Fire Chief Tom Goddard’s inspections of rental properties provided adequate review and protection for all participants.

Windham Windsor Housing Trust representatives met with the Planning Commission to discuss designating a portion of the village a “Neighborhood Development Area” under a program established by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. The program is intended to encourage new and infill housing within walking distance of a village center. WWHT is considering a multifamily affordable housing project on land adjacent to Putney Meadows and the Community Gardens, and achieving the NDA designation would be beneficial to the housing development. Changes would be required to the Putney Zoning Regulations to meet the NDA program’s requirements. The Planning Commission is supportive of the program and is currently developing proposed Zoning changes.

The Putney Planning Commission is made up of volunteer members of the community, and is actively seeking new members. Meetings are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Putney Town Hall, and are always open to the public. Visitors and anyone interested in learning more about serving on the Commission are encouraged to attend. In response to the pandemic social distancing requirements, meetings are currently virtual. Anyone interested in attending meetings should contact Town Hall for further information.

~Phil Bannister, Chair

## PUTNEY COMMUNITY CARES



While Putney Community Cares, like other social-service organizations, continues to be dramatically affected by the COVID pandemic, we carry on our mission to serve Putney residents, continuing to deliver a total of over 4,000 Meals on Wheels -- not only to seniors, but also to others who couldn't leave home -- and serving as a clearinghouse for volunteers who donated masks and anyone who needed one. Until the pandemic closed the Laura Heller Community Barn, we offered space for the monthly Foot Clinic as well as classes in gentle yoga, tai chi, and folk dancing. When in-person consultations became impossible, our Community Advocate, Kate Kelly, turned to the phone. During the year she helped 519 residents sign up for health insurance, Medicaid, and Dr. Dynasaur through Vermont Health Connect, and identify and access resources including Three Squares, subsidized and low-income housing, heating assistance, disability services and emergency funding.

Our organization is proud to collaborate with Putney Mutual Aid and Putney Central School as well as the Putney Food Shelf, Landmark College, The Putney School, and the Grammar School. We depend on individual contributions, and we are very grateful for the Town's support.

~Elizabeth Ehrenberg, President

## PUTNEY COMMUNITY CENTER



Putney Community Center is an independent, nonprofit organization formed in 1925. Its headquarters are located at

10 Christian Square, and it also owns Cooper Field on Sand Hill Road.

PCC's purpose is "to promote the well-being of Putney and its surrounding communities through cultural, educational, recreational, and human services, and to foster cooperation and understanding between all individuals, groups, and organizations within the Town of Putney."

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the governor declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020. As a result, Wildflowers Playschool, dog training classes, and Zumba classes suspended in-person operations until further notice. In order to continue serving those in need, the Putney Foodshelf, housed at the Putney Community Center since early 2009, revised its procedures in line with Vermont Health Department directives. It now offers drive-up service on Saturdays from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

During the summer, Next Stage Arts Project used Cooper Field for three outdoor, physically distanced concerts that were sold out. Using the field over Labor Day weekend was a softball tournament, organized by Ms. Shirley Gilbert, in memory of Harris Coomes. The tournament raised \$700 for the Putney Foodshelf.

After some years of seeking new board members with no result, the former Board of Trustees of the PCC, on September 18, 2020, appointed a new board of trustees for the PCC: Christine Couturier, Marie Kim, Nancy Olson, Paul Renouf, and Ellen Strong. This new board intends to maintain the PCC as an independent nonprofit.

Until the COVID pandemic is over, the PCC building is not available to rent.

To contact the PCC, call (802) 387-8551, ext. 0, and leave a message.

~Nancy Olson, President, Putney

Community Center Board of Trustees

## PUTNEY FOOD SHELF



Since 2012, the mission of the Putney Foodshelf has been "to provide supplemental healthy food to area people in need." Anyone in need of food is welcome. We primarily serve people from Putney, and we also serve people from Dummerston and the surrounding towns.

Despite the COVID-19 state of emergency which the governor declared on March 13, 2020, the Foodshelf continues to operate in a manner consistent with Vermont Department of Health guidelines, thanks

to a group of 40+ dedicated volunteers, a five-person Board of Directors, a part-time Executive Director, and generous community support, especially during the pandemic.

Located at the Putney Community Center, 10 Christian Square, we are open on Saturdays from 9 – 11 a.m. with curbside service. We offer home deliveries in the Putney area to those who can't make it to Saturday Open Hours. With the aim of serving people safely and efficiently, but also with friendliness and choice, we offer each household the option to choose a bag of pre-packed shelf-stable groceries, a bag of fresh produce, a bag of meat, milk, butter, and eggs, plus any additional specialty items for the week. The milk and eggs we buy weekly, and we purchase other staple foods as needed.

Our Food4Kids program had a delayed start at Putney Central School, relaunching for the school year on October 29, 2020. We are currently sending home recipes along with ingredients to kids who choose to participate. Larger food bags are provided to students who need extra support. The program has adapted throughout this past year, reaching remote learners by school bus and distributing weekly food bags through the Summer Meals program.

On the fourth Thursday of every month, we run a food drop in partnership with the Vermont Foodbank, free and open to all. Fresh produce and some non-perishables are unloaded and distributed at Carol Brown Way, next to Putney Meadows. Since the start of the pandemic, the average number of households served by the food drop has increased from 40 to 65, with minimal overlap with Foodshelf recipients.

Before the pandemic, we served about 45 households per week during Open Hours. As the pandemic continues, we are now serving 90+ households weekly (60+ drive-up households and 31 home deliveries), and approximately 100 kids weekly in our Food4Kids program through Putney Central School.

Before the pandemic, we brought in about 500 lbs. of dry goods, frozen meat, and fresh produce every week. We currently bring in over 2,000 lbs. weekly.

We are actively collaborating with the town of Putney, Putney Central School, Putney Community Cares, Putney Mutual Aid, Putney Community Alliance, Dummerston Cares, Hunger Council of the Windham Region, and the Vermont Foodbank in order to work together as the COVID-19 situation evolves. Putney Mutual Aid has connected us to new volunteers, when many of our long-time volunteers had to step

back, and we have worked with PMA to distribute/deliver "Everyone Eats!" meals in Putney. We have received invaluable support from local businesses, donors, organizations, schools, and volunteers this past year, and continue to rely on the generosity of our community to do this work.

One shopper recently wrote this: "The Putney Foodshelf is such a blessing to the community. When people find themselves in situations they never, ever expected to be put in, you are there. All the volunteers are incredible. Their kindness is unbelievable, and their energy, too!"

Clearly, in the current economic situation, food insecurity has only increased. We are now serving twice as many households as we did a year ago. We consider our service successful if we continue to meet the needs of our community, providing supplemental healthy food, with dignity.

*~ Hannah Pick, Executive Director*

## **PUTNEY GUN CLUB**

The local gun club had a boost in its membership in 2020, with several new members joining and former members rejoining. A new slate of officers was elected which include the positions of president, vice president, secretary/treasurer and public relations officer. The board meets once monthly.

During a work bee in 2020, several members chipped in their time to demolish and reconstruct an outdoor stairway access that needed replacement for safety reasons. All the materials were donated by a member from Putney.

When the COVID-19 restrictions allow it, the board has discussed its plans for resuming the Hunter Safety and Bow Education courses that are certified by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. The club's instructors and members provide hands-on assistance with these courses. With prior authorization, the indoor range also provides an opportunity for Boy Scouts to earn merit badges.

Priorities for facility upgrades have been discussed, and the board also is hoping to resume its sponsorship for Putney youth to attend conservation camp. Run by Vermont Fish and Wildlife, the camps are held at Buck Lake Camp in Woodbury, Vermont and Edward F. Kehoe Camp which is on Lake Bomoseen in Castleton, Vermont. In the past, the Putney Gun Club has sponsored children who attend Putney Central School. Because of COVID-19, it is uncertain whether the camps will be held in 2021. The

decision will be based on guidance from the Vermont Health Department and the governor's orders.

The Putney Gun Club began in the 1950's and became a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit in 2011. New members and new ideas mean more people are aware of firearm safety and hunter education. We thank the Putney voters for joining us to promote safety, education, and conservation which are the club's main missions.

*~Dan Deitz, President*

## PUTNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This year of Covid-19 has been a challenge for the Putney Historical Society (PHS), as it has for everyone. However, we have continued to do our best to serve the community through providing access to our collections and historical information about Putney. We encourage community members to contact us with questions, both specific and general, they may be curious about. Our photograph collection documents many properties and people in Putney and photographs can be purchased for your use and enjoyment. We can also provide information on other items in our collection ranging from maps to clothing, hardware, store ledgers and many other items.

PHS is very pleased with the excellent job that Kim and Mike Cosco have been doing with the General Store under the most difficult circumstances. Throughout the pandemic they have remained open and serving the public with great food and other products. The Phoenix Gift Shop, on the second floor, provides a wonderful array of whimsical and practical gifts and should be a stop on everyone's search for gifts at any time of the year. We encourage everyone to patronize the store and help the Coscos build on their success.

The original mortgage in 2010 was \$230,000. Now that amount is down to just over \$152,000 but interest alone still to be paid is more than \$80,000. "The entire project cost \$1.2 million, all raised from grants and donations (both in-kind, like the trees and timber frame as well as cash gifts) save for the mortgage," said Lyssa Papazian, PHS board member.

Donations (including gifts of stock/securities or bequests) to the mortgage pay-down endeavor are gratefully accepted. Send a check to PHS, P.O. Box 260, Putney, contact [putneyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:putneyhistory@gmail.com), or leave us a message at (802) 387-4411 to arrange the donation. All gifts for the purpose of paying off the mortgage principal given directly to the PHS are tax deductible.

The society and the Selectboard are working together to develop a lease for the second floor of the Town Hall to store and display the historical society's collection. In order to make the collection searchable, the PHS is working with Bob Meyer on a computer database to help in cataloging its collection.

In November, PHS and Next Stage Arts presented an online talk by Phil Jamison, scholar of traditional southern Appalachian music and dance. It was well attended and may lead to other such presentations in the future. Keep an eye on the PHS and Next Stage websites for more information on future events.

PHS continues to research email and telephone queries about genealogy and Putney history questions.

If you would like to help with any of our projects please let us know. We welcome participation from the community.

*~Tom Jamison, Project Manager*

## PUTNEY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION



To say that 2020 has been an unusual year is a profound understatement, but Putney Mountain Association weathered the challenges with patience and resilience. The ability to get a breath of fresh air, savor the woods, and leave behind for a moment the sadness and worries of the world rose in importance this year. We saw a marked increase in trail usage, on both established and new trails, bringing home to us how important our task of land conservation is. We instituted a one-way travel loop for summit visitors to support getting outside while maintaining social distancing. Despite COVID-19, the Putney Mountain Hawk Watch, which has been providing an accurate and valuable census of raptor migration over the summit every fall since 1974 also continued uninterrupted, self-limiting the number of watchers and restricting themselves to two small cordoned-off areas on the summit. Trained shepherds and new volunteers again tended the sheep grazing the invasive buckthorn on the summit for the 7th year running. Our new stationary charger for the electric fence helped contain the sheep more reliably and made tending easier.

Our stewardship committee and volunteers were busy well into the fall with trail maintenance and improvements. There are now two permanent bridges on the Beaver Pond Loop, which will be much appreciated by hikers and skiers. We have made a

significant start on turnpike construction for the wet areas on the bottom of the Main Trail to the summit (in the Putney Town Forest). Many volunteer hours were spent debarking and moving logs, hauling sure pac from the parking lot, and building turnpike frames. We had planned to complete the first two turnpikes but trail work came to an abrupt halt with the resumed restrictions in response to the fall Covid surge. We'll do this in 2021. Please try to stay off the trail during the spring muds until we can control the serious erosion here. 2020 saw our completion of the Parsons Cutoff Trail AND the building of a stunning new trail on our new Missing Links lands!

PMA continued to push ahead with those projects which best support our goal of conserving land for wildlife habitat and public use and enjoyment. We raised all of the funds needed and purchased two parcels of undeveloped land in Dummerston, placing a Conservation Easement on them held jointly by the Vermont Land Trust and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, protecting the properties and ensuring public access in perpetuity. VHCB awarded us a generous grant and additional funding was provided by the Fields Pond Foundation, the Davis Conservation Fund and over 200 private donations. Several public-spirited neighbors donated permanent trail easements allowing the new Missing Links trail to extend south to Prospect Hill, a long-held dream of connecting this to the extended trail system of PMA and the Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association. You will be able to hike 43 miles of connected trails between Dummerston and Grafton from any PMA trailhead. A BIG thank you to all our members and supporters; we could not have done this without you! The newly built trail from our parking area at 645 Hague Rd in Dummerston, extends north for about 2 miles, gently climbing through the hardwood forest, passing several vistas and ending for now at Vermont's second largest ash tree. Trail-building will resume in the spring and the full trail to Prospect Hill will be complete by fall 2021. We invite you to explore it. Maps and access information are available on our website at [putneymountain.org](http://putneymountain.org).

We are proud of our work to conserve and care for forestland along the 16-mile Windmill Ridge-line for the benefit of wildlife habitat and public access and recreation. The "we" includes the PMA board, our volunteers, our general membership, and the broader community of Putney and beyond. We hope you feel included in that "we", and take pride and ownership of this incredible resource. The surge in foot traffic on the PMA trails this year, the continued successful sheep grazing, the ongoing hawk watch, and the expanding

trail system this year are all markers of success towards our shared mission. As we expand that vision, we also expand our responsibility and ambition to conserve the lands we manage. Buckthorn and other invasive species threaten the wellbeing of our forests, and trails need continual maintenance and care. Most importantly we always dream of protecting more land, safeguarding this incredible public space for the enjoyment of wildlife and the public alike.

*~Pat Shields, President*

## **PUTNEY POOL**

We had a beautiful summer, however, the pool remained closed. At some point during the winter, water got under the top "layer" of the liner. The water in between the layers expanded and contracted .... the end result was a "blistering" effect. We debated on whether to repair or replace...resulting in the pool remaining closed for the summer. We had about 13 lifeguards ready to work but had to deliver the sad news near the end of June. With Covid around, no new lifeguards were trained, but Putney had a crew of about 13 guards ready to take the chair! I am hopeful that most of these guards will be able to return in 2021.

Before the season was "called", the Putney PTFO was ready to have a party to celebrate the end of the school year. We also had our summer camps ready to jump in. The pool was added to the Putney Town website last summer and we were able to post closings, movies and additional information to that site.

When we realized the extent of the damage, Katy found and made arrangements with the Green Mountain Camp for Girls for swimming lessons, so many of you were not total strangers to the water and to Katy last summer. I even got to say hello to a few kiddos as I offered water aerobics and managed the pool for its patrons! Even with vaccines on the way, we realize that many people are still nervous about Covid in the spring/ summer, and might be reluctant to go where people gather publicly. By using the template, I had set up to open the Putney Pool we socially distanced, masked and had a heavy cleaning regiment set up. I am happy to report that we had 0 incidence of Covid/sickness at that facility, so I am confident with our plan!!

The objective for the spring is to do the required work on the pool so that we can celebrate another summer with you all. I can't wait to hang up our open sign and to put out our sandwich board at the top of the drive again! Thank you for your patience through all of this. Additional ideas are welcome for



activities and events at the pool. Thanks again for continued support! See you in June. Swim Safe and Stay Healthy!!

*~Beverly Baldwin Wright,  
Putney Pool Manager*

## PUTNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



For the Putney Public Library in FY 2020, creativity, adaptation, and resilience defined how we served our community in the face of the COVID pandemic. In the days before COVID, the library bustled with children and families picking out books, neighbors reading newspapers together, and people working on their resumes and keeping up with email on our public computers. Evenings often found us moving the furniture around to welcome folks back for packed programs ranging from Decoding Cat Behavior to reading Shakespeare and a full week of Cambodian arts and culture.

On March 15th, 2020, the library first closed to in-person visits, and we pivoted to supplying books outside on paper bag laden trollies. Susan Hessey read stories via Zoom and Facebook Live, and we continued to host provocative and educational programs such as, Meg Mott's Reconstruction Amendments, The History of the Caftan in Western Fashion, Vermont Reads: The Hate U Give, and Artist-in-Residence, Michelle Blake's short story series, all online.

This massive change in the year is hardly unique, as every person, family, workplace, and organization knows from personal experience. I'm proud of how the Putney Public Library responded so quickly to focus on how best to serve our community. In a short time, we created a safe pickup lending process, beefed up our online services by adding the popular film service, Kanopy, and purchased more downloadable e- and audiobook content. We provided programming that aimed to help keep our community connected, maintain their mental health, support home education, and create ways to be entertained during this incredibly difficult time.

Our patrons were responsive too! You attended virtual programs, used our online services at unprecedented rates, picked up your books outside, participated in a new kind of summer reading program, and many signed up for library cards for the first time!

This year was also marked by some important transitions for our library staff. Longtime librarian, Deb Stetson, retired after 19 years of bringing her smile,

attention to patron services, and exquisite homegrown bouquets to the Putney community. Deb shaped the library's commitment to its patrons and we are so delighted to now see her as a patron, reading through our mystery collection, which she always said she was saving for her retirement.

In late August, Julia von Ranson, our library substitute, stepped into a brand-new role for the library: Youth Services Librarian. At a time when so many families were facing new home-schooling realities, Julia was there to provide support, stories, and much-needed fun activities. She has since given our children's nonfiction section a complete overhaul, dressed our book drop in several different costumes, and applied her creativity to endless projects and problems.

We also bid a sad goodbye to Putney Public Library trustee, Abijah Reed, who died in April. Abijah served on the library board from 2012 until 2020. I will remember Abijah for his good-natured approach to any task or challenge, whether it was setting up the book sale or installing new locks on the bathroom doors. Abijah built and painted the library's outdoor sign, and I invite you to think of him when you pass by, as I have been doing.

While re-inventing every library service to ensure the safety of our community has been challenging and exhausting, The Putney Library remains committed to making the most of our budget and resources to meet whatever challenges come next.

Our budget is largely level funded in the expenses category, with cost savings realized in technology and health insurance lines because of service changes and savings from a more competitive bid for our heating oil. We have added the cost of Kanopy, the popular streaming video platform that we began offering during COVID, and modest increases in the electricity and repairs/maintenance lines. We are also making up for the lost revenue from the Edwald Fund, which will decrease by \$3000 for FY2022.

I hope that the coming year allows us to once again gather in the library to hear one of our community members speak, build a cardboard story time fort for the summer reading program, find some incredible treasures at the book sale and, my favorite, spend quiet time in each other's company again.

*~Emily Zervas, Library Director.*

## PUTNEY REC LEAGUE

The PRL has not provided programming since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. There was consideration to have a soccer season this year, but PRL made the unanimous decision to call it off due to safety concerns

and lack of volunteer support. The PRL board reassembled this fall to begin planning for the future. Since reassembling, the board has attempted to meet monthly. Currently, the number one goal of the board is to recruit new board members, including a new coordinator and treasurer. We have gained interested candidates for these positions and will follow up on recruitment at our next meeting.

The board has made it a focus to clean out the rec shed, including taking an inventory of equipment, supplies, and uniforms. The refrigerator has recently died and been removed from the shed. The board has approved the purchasing of a new refrigerator.

The board has been in conversation about how to make programs more sustainable. Part of this conversation includes brainstorming new programs that could be added to the PRL. One vague example would be an individual sport/activity, such as golf or disc golf. The PRL currently only offers team sports. Not only has COVID-19 created it harder to coordinate team sports, but we have seen a decrease in numbers over the years (pre-covid) in certain team sports like baseball. We feel it is time to re-address the PRL programming and find ways to better meet the needs of the community.

The PRL was unable to host their annual fundraiser soccer tournament this past fall. There are full intentions to continue the beloved tradition when it is safe for all.

*~Sincerely, PRL*

## ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Land development requires advanced planning. Residential and commercial construction and/or additions, subdivision(s), boundary line adjustments and large planned development projects, changing an unfinished footprint etc. are considered land development. Land development can also mean a change of use with a property from residential to commercial or vice versa. Any proposed land development of 100 square feet or more will trigger a zoning application. Depending on the district where the property is located will dictate whether a permit can be issued through the Zoning Administrator or the Development Review Board.

Development Review Board approval can take three to ninety days or more to process. With

Floodplain and River Corridor Regulations, your property may require a site visit from the Agency of Natural Resources if your property is located near a stream or brook. If in doubt, contact the Zoning Administrator to assist you with the process.

The Town of Putney processed 43 zoning applications. Eleven (11) applications were heard by the Development Review Board. Thirty-two (32) permits were issued by the Zoning Administrator.

Thank you to the Development Review Board: Phillip Bannister (Chair), Mary Heller Osgood (Clerk), Jim Sweitzer, Wayne Wagenbach, Mark Bowen, and Carl Noe for your hard work and dedication. Volunteers are difficult to retain, although this Board has stayed consistent and works well together. Having people with experience in land development is valuable. Putney's Development Review Board is guided by the zoning standards and Town Plan to keep Putney a quaint rural town and a great place to live. Thank you, Alyssa Harlow, Administrative Assistant, for your administrative support with the legal postings and mailings that go along with each application and permit.

In closing, the Zoning Department will continue to serve our community with respect and assistance for all zoning needs. Please feel free to contact or call either Alyssa Harlow or the Zoning Administrator and we will walk you through the process.

*~ Karen M. Astley, Zoning Administrator*

Accessory Buildings (not intended for residency)	19
Agricultural	3
Change of Use	2
Conditional Use & Site Plan Review	2
Minor Subdivision/Lot Line Adjustments	6
Non-Residential Addition	4
Planned Educational Development	1
Residential (New Construction)	2
Residential - Addition	1
Site Plan Review	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43</b>

# GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>REVENUE</b>					
<b>TAXES NET OF EDUCATION</b>					
Property Taxes	1,014,893	1,037,357	1,017,032	1,063,255	46,223
Penalty	19,000	13,983	19,000	15,000	(4,000)
Late Tax Interest	30,000	24,720	30,000	25,000	(5,000)
Vermont State Current Use	99,000	113,160	108,000	110,000	2,000
State of Vermont (PILOT)	150	40	150	150	0
Railroad Tax	3,400	3,663	3,500	3,500	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,166,443</b>	<b>1,192,923</b>	<b>1,177,682</b>	<b>1,216,905</b>	<b>39,223</b>
<b>LICENSES/PERMITS/FEES</b>					
Beer & Wine Licenses	555	300	555	300	(255)
Town Clerk Fees	13,000	15,383	13,000	13,000	0
Charges for use of Copier	50	50	150	50	(100)
Dog Licenses	2,000	2,106	2,000	2,000	0
Zoning Permits	2,500	3,335	5,000	3,500	(1,500)
PFD Inspection Fees	7,000	1,089	7,000	7,000	0
Fire Station Rental	200	50	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>25,305</b>	<b>22,313</b>	<b>27,705</b>	<b>25,850</b>	<b>(1,855)</b>
<b>INTERGOVERN'T'L GRANTS</b>					
Refuge Revenue Sharing	1,000	1,039	1,000	1,000	0
Lister Education Payment	350	0	350	0	(350)
Fire Dept Grants	182,000	176,463	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>183,350</b>	<b>177,502</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>(350)</b>
<b>DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE</b>					
Reimb Water Department	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
Reimb Sewer Department	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
Local Ordinance Fines	8,200	5,511	8,500	5,000	(3,500)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20,200</b>	<b>17,511</b>	<b>20,500</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>(3,500)</b>
<b>FIRE DEPT FEES</b>					
Special Detail FD Revenue	3,500	4,590	3,500	3,500	0
FD General Services	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>PROCEEDS FROM BORROWING</b>					
Note Proceeds	0	0	103,000	0	(103,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>103,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(103,000)</b>
<b>POOL</b>					
Pool-Fees/Memberships	9,000	4,798	14,000	9,000	(5,000)
Pool-Snacks	1,525	1,526	1,500	1,500	0
Pool-Swim Lessons	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750	0
Pool-Bottle Donations	1,270	2,489	1,100	2,000	900
Pool-Donations	155	155	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>13,700</b>	<b>10,718</b>	<b>18,350</b>	<b>14,250</b>	<b>(4,100)</b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>					
Interest Income	1,000	3,834	1,000	1,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>0</b>

# GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
<b>TRANSFERS IN</b>					
Transfer from Edwald Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	(3,000)
Special Revenue	56,000	56,000	56,000	56,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>61,000</b>	<b>61,000</b>	<b>61,000</b>	<b>58,000</b>	<b>(3,000)</b>
<b>OTHER MISC</b>					
Rentals/Vendors	500	255	500	250	(250)
Misc. Grant Programs	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Refunds/Other	1,000	7,013	1,000	1,000	0
Sale of Property	0	2,000	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	-74	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>9,194</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>750</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,475,998</b>	<b>1,499,585</b>	<b>1,415,587</b>	<b>1,334,755</b>	<b>(70,832)</b>
<b>SELECTBOARD</b>					
Selectboard-Salaries	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	0
BCTV Coverage	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,600	400
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>TOWN MANAGEMENT</b>					
Town Manager Salary	60,490	59,442	62,683	65,683	3,000
Office Assistant Salary	40,040	37,871	40,000	43,350	3,350
Bookkeeper	16,550	8,684	11,000	8,500	(2,500)
Building Maintenance	0	0	0	2,000	2,000
Finance Director Salary	6,000	5,769	7,200	7,200	0
Contracted Services	14,000	7,346	11,000	11,000	0
Computer IT Support	500	1,319	9,650	9,500	(150)
Web & Email Services	2,260	1,855	2,260	2,300	40
Energy Conservation	2,500	2,170	2,500	2,500	0
Advertising	350	1,114	500	500	0
T. Manager Postage	0	440	250	400	150
Telephone; Internet & Ala	1,600	2,163	1,600	3,400	1,800
Dues/Subscriptions	4,300	5,099	4,500	4,500	0
Legal Fees	7,500	10,185	7,500	10,000	2,500
Printing	300	78	300	300	0
Travel & Meetings	2,500	802	2,000	1,000	(1,000)
Office Equipment & Supplies	4,500	4,683	7,500	4,500	(3,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>163,390</b>	<b>149,021</b>	<b>170,443</b>	<b>176,633</b>	<b>6,190</b>
<b>ELECTIONS</b>					
Salaries	1,100	1,243	1,800	1,200	(600)
Printing & Programming	900	707	3,200	1,600	(1,600)
Elections Covid Grant Exp	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,950</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>(2,200)</b>
<b>TREASURER'S OFFICE</b>					
Treasurer's Salary	1,500	1,000	4,000	4,000	0
Office Supplies	1,500	1,579	2,230	2,230	0
Bank Service Charges	100	262	100	200	100
Bank Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Treasurer Postage	3,000	2,734	3,000	3,000	0
Training and Travel	250	180	500	250	(250)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6,350</b>	<b>5,755</b>	<b>9,830</b>	<b>9,680</b>	<b>(150)</b>

# GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>					
Life/Disability Insurance	900	862	900	900	0
Dental Plan	1,867	146	1,850	1,850	0
FICA-Town Share	23,000	23,755	23,600	24,000	400
Pension Expense	12,100	11,884	13,000	14,200	1,200
Health Insurance	52,648	55,246	58,350	54,325	(4,025)
VSP -Eye Care	700	448	500	500	0
Transfer to HRA Fund	5,850	5,850	6,100	6,300	200
Workmen's Compensation	17,344	12,433	18,000	15,225	(2,775)
Unemployment	0	738	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>114,409</b>	<b>111,363</b>	<b>122,300</b>	<b>117,300</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>
<b>AUDIT &amp; TOWN REPORT</b>					
Audit/CPA	11,200	11,200	11,600	10,000	(1,600)
Town Report Print/Mail	2,600	2,166	2,000	2,200	200
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>13,366</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>12,200</b>	<b>(1,400)</b>
<b>TAX LISTING</b>					
Salaries	25,090	10,411	18,590	24,000	5,410
Office Supplies	300	19	1,200	1,200	0
Listers Postage	0	163	300	200	(100)
Purchased Services	4,000	2,084	2,000	2,000	0
Mapping	1,500	1,367	1,500	1,500	0
Attorney Fees-Appeals	0	0	1,000	1,000	0
Travel & Meeting	1,350	136	1,350	400	(950)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>32,240</b>	<b>14,179</b>	<b>25,940</b>	<b>30,300</b>	<b>4,360</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE</b>					
Town Clerk's Salary	44,297	43,070	45,650	45,600	(50)
Assistant's Salary	18,606	14,145	18,875	19,060	185
Office Supplies	1,000	970	1,900	1,900	0
Contracted Services	0	0	0	0	0
Town Clerk Postage	0	1,036	500	1,000	500
Travel & Meetings	1,000	200	500	300	(200)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>64,903</b>	<b>59,421</b>	<b>67,425</b>	<b>67,860</b>	<b>435</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL BOARDS</b>					
Advertising	850	1,331	1,000	1,000	0
Windham Regional Dues	6,202	6,202	6,250	6,338	88
Travel & Meetings	300	0	300	300	0
Conservation Commission	1,150	1,687	1,150	1,150	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8,502</b>	<b>9,220</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>8,788</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>					
VLCT PACIF Insurance	37,613	34,874	42,000	32,000	(10,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>37,613</b>	<b>34,874</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>

# GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE</b>					
Supplies	500	396	750	1,000	250
Custodial Services	500	17	0	0	0
Repairs & Maintenance	2,000	2,459	2,000	2,500	500
Sewer/Water Use Charge	800	919	800	950	150
Electricity	1,450	2,287	2,000	2,300	300
Heat	2,000	2,438	2,300	1,700	(600)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>7,250</b>	<b>8,516</b>	<b>7,850</b>	<b>8,450</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
	<b>457,157</b>	<b>414,366</b>	<b>479,788</b>	<b>473,111</b>	<b>(6,677)</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY OTHER</b>					
Sheriff's Department	81,300	81,300	82,000	82,000	0
Animal Control Officer	1,800	921	1,800	7,500	5,700
Rescue Inc	63,606	63,605	64,254	64,903	649
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>146,706</b>	<b>145,826</b>	<b>148,054</b>	<b>154,403</b>	<b>6,349</b>
<b>FIREFIGHTING &amp; EMS</b>					
Chief Salary/Health & Zoning	56,650	50,653	60,590	61,214	624
PFD Special Detail	3,500	6,220	3,500	3,500	0
Paid-On-Call	27,000	28,686	32,424	32,424	0
Emergency Response	0	5,399	0	0	0
Medical Services/Exams	8,600	8,510	8,600	8,600	0
EMS Equip & Supplies	3,600	3,880	3,600	4,200	600
Mutual Aid Dues	30,270	30,722	31,178	32,750	1,572
Fire Prevention Programs	2,500	2,467	2,500	2,500	0
Fire/Rescue Training	28,500	20,034	41,004	41,004	0
Telephone; Internet & Alarm	2,500	6,932	2,500	3,900	1,400
Red Cross & Task Force	1,100	0	1,100	0	(1,100)
Radio Maintenance	3,000	4,375	3,000	3,000	0
Cleaning Dam & Miscellaneous.	2,500	2,947	2,500	2,500	0
Emergency Management	1,500	3,151	1,500	1,500	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>171,220</b>	<b>173,975</b>	<b>193,996</b>	<b>197,792</b>	<b>3,796</b>
<b>FIRE STATION MAINTENANCE</b>					
Repairs & Supplies	6,370	8,682	6,370	6,370	0
Licenses/Registration	2,300	2,917	2,300	2,300	0
Sewer/Water Use Charge	850	949	1,000	1,000	0
Electricity	3,700	7,344	3,700	7,400	3,700
Heat	6,000	5,987	6,975	4,600	(2,375)
Building Improvement	2,500	4,975	2,500	2,500	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>21,720</b>	<b>30,855</b>	<b>22,845</b>	<b>24,170</b>	<b>1,325</b>
<b>TRUCK/EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE</b>					
Trucks & Equip./Fuel	10,000	8,773	10,000	10,000	0
Repairs & Maintenance	26,500	23,966	26,500	26,500	0
Equipment Purchase	8,500	22,964	8,500	8,500	0
Hose Replacement	5,900	358	5,900	5,900	0
Grant SCBA & Jaws	194,000	178,169	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>244,900</b>	<b>234,230</b>	<b>50,900</b>	<b>50,900</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>584,546</b>	<b>584,886</b>	<b>415,795</b>	<b>426,565</b>	<b>10,770</b>

# GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>WINDHAM SOLID WASTE</b>					
WSWMD Assessment	20,000	18,571	18,000	17,785	(215)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>18,571</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>17,785</b>	<b>(215)</b>
<b>CEMETERY</b>					
Cemetery Appropriation	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>POOL</b>					
Pool Labor	23,000	22,732	25,000	25,000	0
Pool Expenses	6,000	5,379	6,000	6,000	0
Pool Improvements	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>28,111</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>RECREATION &amp; CULTURAL</b>					
Recreation Coordinator	7,725	5,408	7,725	7,725	0
Memorial Day	250	135	250	250	0
Twilight concerts	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	0
Green Up Day	230	222	230	230	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>9,605</b>	<b>7,164</b>	<b>9,605</b>	<b>9,605</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>					
Library Appropriation	164,416	164,416	184,668	189,000	4,332
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>164,416</b>	<b>164,416</b>	<b>184,668</b>	<b>189,000</b>	<b>4,332</b>
<b>SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES</b>					
Social Service Agencies	48,399	48,400	47,500	48,778	1,278
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>48,399</b>	<b>48,400</b>	<b>47,500</b>	<b>48,778</b>	<b>1,278</b>
<b>INTERGOVER/AGENCY ASSESS</b>					
County Taxes	18,000	17,890	18,000	22,250	4,250
CRT Assessment	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
SeVEDs Appropriation	8,106	8,106	8,106	8,106	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>27,106</b>	<b>26,996</b>	<b>27,106</b>	<b>31,356</b>	<b>4,250</b>
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b>					
Dog Supplies (Tags & Forms)	300	240	300	300	0
WCHS Professional Service	1,000	786	1,000	1,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MISC EXPENDITURES</b>					
Abatements Property Taxes	0	3,290	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,290</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CAPITAL &amp; DEBT SERVICE</b>					
Principal Payment-Notes	91,027	91,077	54,200	73,977	19,777
Interest Payment-Notes	12,942	14,144	13,125	11,778	(1,347)
FD Exhaust System	0	0	103,000	0	(103,000)
Transfer to Roof Replacement	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Transfer to Sidewalk Reserve	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>123,969</b>	<b>125,221</b>	<b>190,325</b>	<b>105,755</b>	<b>(84,570)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1,475,998</b>	<b>1,430,946</b>	<b>1,415,587</b>	<b>1,344,755</b>	<b>(70,832)</b>



# BUDGET NOTES 2021-2022

## GENERAL FUND

- Reflects budget increase in the Library appropriation (\$4,332)
- Reflects increase of 2.4% COLA raise
- Reflects decrease in Medical Insurance Coverage; Switch from BC/BS to MVP Insurance
- Reflects increase Animal Control Officer (\$5,700)
- Reflects overall increase of \$46,223.44
- Reflects decrease in some revenue streams
- Reflects decrease as town is not borrowing note proceeds for capital improvements on both revenue and expense.
- Reflects increase principal notes for Fire Department Exhaust System

NOTE: General Fund Surplus of \$95,516 represents 7% as unrestricted funds in case of an emergency.

## CAPITAL BUDGET/PURCHASING PLAN

Social Service Net to Budget FY22	as presented
General Total Budget	\$1,344,755
Less capital	-\$ 105,775
Less social services	-\$48,778
Highway Total Budget	\$1,001,554
Less capital	-\$290,604
Less projects	-\$0.00
Net Budget	\$1,949,950
Percent to calculate	0.025
Social Service Amount	\$48,778

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As of 01/27/2021

General Fund Article	\$1,344,755
Highway Fund Article	\$1,001,554
Total	\$2,346,309

Used to Estimate Rates	2020 Grand List	\$2,416,580
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Tax Rate Estimate	Taxes	Rate
General Fund	\$1,063,255	0.4400
Highway Fund	\$ 853,304	0.3532
Sub-total	\$1,916,559	0.7932
Fourth Tax Rate Estimated	\$ 15,000	0.0059
<b>Total Estimate Rate 2021</b>	<b>\$1,931,559</b>	<b>0.7991</b>
	<b>FY20 Rate</b>	<b>0.7806</b>
	<b>Difference</b>	<b>0.0185</b>

# HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Property Taxes	833,086	833,086	853,943	853,304	(639)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>833,086</b>	<b>833,086</b>	<b>853,943</b>	<b>853,304</b>	<b>(639)</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS</b>					
State Aid to Highways	122,000	126,772	122,000	122,000	0
State Paving/Bridge Funds	175,000	175,000	0	0	0
Better Back Roads	0	8,000	0	0	0
Structures Grant	175,000	0	0	0	0
Grants-In-Aid (WRC)	0	0	17,300	18,900	1,600
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>472,000</b>	<b>309,772</b>	<b>139,300</b>	<b>140,900</b>	<b>1,600</b>
<b>DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE</b>					
Westminster Hwy Reimbursement	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0
Brookline Reimbursement	2,200	2,111	2,200	2,200	0
Overweight Permits	150	285	150	150	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>5,350</b>	<b>5,396</b>	<b>5,350</b>	<b>5,350</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN</b>					
Edwald Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	(3,000)
Note Proceeds	175,000	170,500	190,000	0	(190,000)
Surplus	0	0	25,000	0	(25,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>175,500</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>(218,000)</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,490,436</b>	<b>1,323,754</b>	<b>1,218,593</b>	<b>1,001,554</b>	<b>(217,039)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>					
Life/Disability Insurance	900	809	900	850	(50)
Dental Plan	1,650	1,813	1,839	1,850	11
FICA-Town Share	18,800	16,231	19,925	18,750	(1,175)
Pension Expense	13,200	12,315	15,600	14,250	(1,350)
Health Insurance	77,325	63,039	56,500	78,100	21,600
VSP-Eye Care	400	447	475	500	25
Transfer to HRA	8,775	8,775	5,063	7,350	2,287
Workers Compensation	15,750	19,157	19,500	16,350	(3,150)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>136,800</b>	<b>122,587</b>	<b>119,802</b>	<b>138,000</b>	<b>18,198</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>					
VLCT PACIF Insurance	14,400	12,579	12,600	12,000	(600)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>12,579</b>	<b>12,600</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>(600)</b>

# HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>HIGHWAY GENERAL MAINT</b>					
Gen. Maintenance/Salary	134,891	136,232	143,503	136,700	(6,803)
Operating Equip Expenses	21,000	24,492	21,000	21,000	0
Vehicle Fuel	28,000	14,980	28,000	23,000	(5,000)
Materials	49,000	32,390	8,000	8,200	200
Reclamation Fee	259	0	500	1,500	1,000
Gravel Pit-Operating Expense	0	5,564	18,000	18,000	0
Contracted Services	3,500	5,730	3,500	3,500	0
Vermont MRGP	2,000	1,350	2,000	2,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>238,650</b>	<b>220,737</b>	<b>224,503</b>	<b>213,900</b>	<b>(10,603)</b>
<b>TRAFFIC CONTROL</b>					
Traffic Control/Materials	3,500	1,998	3,500	3,500	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>1,998</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WINTER MAINTENANCE</b>					
Winter Maint. /Salaries	110,231	89,052	115,346	110,750	(4,596)
Operating Equipment	28,000	31,378	28,000	28,000	0
Vehicle Fuel	30,000	12,609	30,000	25,000	(5,000)
Materials	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>208,231</b>	<b>173,039</b>	<b>213,346</b>	<b>203,750</b>	<b>(9,596)</b>
<b>BRIDGE MAINTENANCE</b>					
Materials	10,000	9,958	10,000	10,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>9,958</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>RETREATMENT</b>					
Retreatment Contract	275,000	290,596	100,000	100,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>275,000</b>	<b>290,596</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>GRANT PROJECTS</b>					
Holland Hill Culvert	200,000	0	0	0	0
Better Back Roads	0	7,390	0	0	0
Houghton Brook Culvert	0	5,000	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>12,390</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>STREET LIGHTS</b>					
Street Lights	4,250	5,451	4,500	5,000	500
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>4,250</b>	<b>5,451</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE</b>					
Sidewalk Maintenance	0	81	0	0	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# HIGHWAY FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Proposed Budget	Variance \$\$
<b>TOWN GARAGE</b>					
Town Garage/Rep.&Maint.	3,500	2,944	3,500	3,500	0
Sm Tools/Supplies	3,000	839	3,000	3,000	0
Uniforms and Safety Equip	4,000	3,897	4,300	3,000	(1,300)
Telephone & Radio	2,500	2,347	2,500	2,500	0
Operator Testing	0	0	300	300	0
Licenses/Registration	300	400	300	400	100
Training	650	0	650	650	0
Electricity	2,500	2,979	3,000	3,000	0
Heat	4,000	5,980	8,000	4,000	(4,000)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20,450</b>	<b>19,386</b>	<b>25,550</b>	<b>20,350</b>	<b>(5,200)</b>
<b>AGENCY ASSESSMENT</b>					
Brookline Taxes	2,200	2,111	2,200	2,200	0
Dummerston Taxes (Gravel Pit)	0	0	6,500	2,250	(4,250)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>8,700</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>(4,250)</b>
<b>CAPITAL &amp; DEBT SERVICE</b>					
Direct Capital Expenditure	25,000	1,530	10,000	10,000	0
Equipment Principal Payment	147,900	147,900	182,000	167,711	(14,289)
Equipment Interest Payment	10,762	10,007	12,200	11,000	(1,200)
Equipment Purchase	175,000	170,500	190,000	0	(190,000)
Excavator Lease	18,293	18,292	18,292	18,293	1
Gravel Pit Principal	0	0	40,000	40,000	0
Gravel Pit Interest	0	21,630	25,600	25,600	0
Transfer to Blasting Reserve	0	0	18,000	18,000	0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>376,955</b>	<b>369,860</b>	<b>496,092</b>	<b>290,604</b>	<b>(205,488)</b>
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,490,436</b>	<b>1,240,772</b>	<b>1,218,593</b>	<b>1,001,554</b>	<b>(217,039)</b>

## BUDGET NOTES: HIGHWAY FUND

- Level Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (No increase in Property Taxes to be Raised)
- Reflects 2.4% COLA raise
- Reflects increase in medical insurance (\$21,600)
- Reflects decrease by eliminating part-time position (\$11,399)
- Reflects decrease in vehicle fuel for regular and winter maintenance (\$10,000)
- Reflects decrease as town is not borrowing for note proceeds to purchase equipment (\$190,000) on both revenue and expense.

NOTE: Article 7 Purchase of Highway Loader, not to exceed \$163,000 will be expended by Highway Surplus Funds (\$274,067);

Article 6 Establishes a Highway Capital Reserve Fund with a deposit of \$5,000 from highway surplus funds.

11% of surplus funds, \$106,067 will remain in the Highway Budget as unrestricted funds in case of an emergency.

# PUTNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET 2021-2022

	Budget FY 2020	Actual FY 2020	Budget FY 2021	Budget FY 22	Variance \$\$
<b>REVENUE</b>					
In-House Book Sale	800	248	800	800	0
Printing	2,400	1,629	2,400	2,400	0
Out of Town Fees	5,000	3,617	5,000	5,000	0
Fines	1,000	496	1,000	1,000	0
Endowment Interest	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	0
Transfer in General Fund	164,416	164,416	184,668	189,000	4,332
Edwald Donation	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	(3,000)
Transfer in Fundraising	5,000	10,738	5,000	5,000	0
Courier Grant	0	390	0	0	0
Trustees Appropriation	19,000	19,000	19,000	19,000	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>205,616</u></b>	<b><u>205,534</u></b>	<b><u>225,868</u></b>	<b><u>227,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,332</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Salaries	99,800	93,271	105,580	107,726	2,146
Telephone/ Internet	1,900	805	1,900	1,900	0
Programs	4,200	3,326	4,200	4,200	0
Technology/ Other	3,400	2,134	3,400	3,000	(400)
Copier Lease	1,600	1,533	1,700	1,700	0
Contingency	0	1,933	0	0	0
Park Passes	800	150	900	900	0
Training & Travel	700	627	700	700	0
Supplies	4,000	2,544	4,000	4,000	0
Postage	2,600	1,685	2,600	2,600	0
Adult Books	6,000	4,992	6,250	6,250	0
Juvenile Books	2,700	2,277	2,950	2,950	0
Magazines/Newspapers	1,300	1,429	1,300	1,300	0
Videos	3,000	1,729	3,000	3,000	0
Digital Content	3,671	3,670	3,620	6,650	3,030
LT Disability	325	312	325	325	0
Dental	1,500	907	1,100	925	(175)
Fica/Medi	7,825	6,330	8,077	8,241	164
Pension Expense	5,400	4,706	5,950	6,483	533
Health Insurance	26,775	27,635	38,891	36,225	(2,666)
Vision	275	225	275	240	(35)
HRA	2925	2925	4050	4200	150
PACIF Insurance	7700	5548	6600	5485	(1115)
Maintenance	3120	2470	3400	3400	0
Repairs	7000	8413	8000	8500	500
Water/Sewer use	800	955	800	800	0
Electricity	2600	2481	2600	3000	400
Heat	3700	3398	3700	2500	(1200)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>205,616</u></b>	<b><u>188,411</u></b>	<b><u>225,868</u></b>	<b><u>227,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,332</u></b>

## SEWER FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY20 BUDGET	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 BUDGET	FY22 BUDGET	VARIANCE \$\$
<b>REVENUE</b>					
User Fees	265,030	267,342	273,932	295,246	21,314
Interest/Penalty	2,000	3,873	2,000	2,000	0
Miscellaneous	0	771	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>267,030</b>	<b>271,986</b>	<b>275,932</b>	<b>297,246</b>	<b>21,314</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
<b>Payments</b>					
Bond Payment	20,267	0	22,752	23,646	894
Interest Payment	23,117	21,956	20,615	19,700	(915)
Interest Payment	246	0	0	0	0
Admin Services Assess	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>49,630</b>	<b>27,956</b>	<b>49,367</b>	<b>49,346</b>	<b>(21)</b>
<b>Operation Expense</b>					
Telephone	2,400	2,045	2,400	2,400	0
Simons Operation Cont.	105,500	100,693	108,665	110,000	1,335
Truck Maintenance	0	4	0	0	0
Maintenance	8,400	9,725	10,000	10,000	0
Testing	2,500	3,694	4,000	4,000	0
Chemicals	7,000	15,236	8,000	15,000	7,000
Sludge Disposal	20,000	23,857	20,500	24,000	3,500
Electricity	23,000	28,542	23,000	30,000	7,000
Heat	2,000	1,588	2,000	2,000	0
Repairs/Contracted Services	4,000	8,804	5,000	7,500	2,500
Plant Improvements	12,600	1,250	13,000	13,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>187,400</b>	<b>195,438</b>	<b>196,565</b>	<b>217,900</b>	<b>21,335</b>
<b>Depreciation Expense</b>					
Depreciation	30,000	(27,889)	30,000	30,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>(27,889)</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>267,030</b>	<b>195,506</b>	<b>275,932</b>	<b>297,246</b>	<b>21,314</b>

# WATER FUND BUDGET 2021-2022

	FY20 BUDGET	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 BUDGET	FY22 BUDGET	VARIANCE \$\$
<b>REVENUE</b>					
User Fees- Bond Only	79,000	102,288	79,000	79,000	0
User Fees-Total System	68,582	0	71,553	70,501	(1,052)
Water Pen & Interest	1,500	1,395	1,500	1,500	0
Miscellaneous	0	291	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>149,082</b>	<b>103,974</b>	<b>152,053</b>	<b>151,001</b>	<b>(1,052)</b>
<b>EXPENITURES</b>					
<b>Payments</b>					
Bond Payment	30,356	0	34,077	35,416	1,339
Interest Payment	48,572	46,139	44,826	43,460	(1,366)
General Fund Assessment	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>84,928</b>	<b>52,139</b>	<b>84,903</b>	<b>84,876</b>	<b>(27)</b>
<b>Operation Expenses</b>					
Maintenance-Capital Expense	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	0
Office Equip & Supplies	0	192	0	0	0
Operation Supplies	3,000	2,778	5,000	3,000	(2,000)
Contracted Services	19,944	26,130	20,550	21,225	675
Legal/VT reporting	1,700	821	1,700	1,500	(200)
Electricity	5,200	5,964	5,300	6,000	700
Repairs	3,000	3,591	3,000	3,000	0
Heat	1,000	597	1,200	1,000	(200)
Telephone	310	971	400	400	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>39,154</b>	<b>41,043</b>	<b>42,150</b>	<b>41,125</b>	<b>(1,025)</b>
<b>Depreciation Expense</b>					
Depreciation	25,000	57,629	25,000	25,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>57,629</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>149,082</b>	<b>150,810</b>	<b>152,053</b>	<b>151,001</b>	<b>(1,052)</b>

# SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS

The following monies have been budgeted for social service organizations for 2021-22

## Group A - Putney-based agencies

Putney Community Cares/ Family Services	11,464
Putney Community Center	5,732
Putney Food Shelf	5,732
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$22,928</b>

## Group B - Agencies based outside Putney

SEVCA	3,805
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT & NH	3,805
Youth Services	3,805
Council on Aging for SE VT	3,805
Health Care and Rehab. Services	3,805
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>19,023</b>

## Group C - All other agencies

Aids Project of So. VT	854
Groundworks Collaborative	854
Brattleboro Area Hospice	854
Green Mountain RSVP	854
The Gathering Place	854
Vermont Adult Learning	854
Windham County Humane Society	854
Women's Freedom Center	854
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,827</b>

**Total** **\$48,778**

## Policy on Funding Social Service Agencies - (originally adopted 1999)

A total of **2.5%** of the proposed General and Highway budget (less capital & debt and social services) will fund social service agencies in FY 2021-22

	Total from Tax Rate Information:	<b>48,778.00</b>	
Group A: Receives 47% of social service agency budget.	22,925.66	7,641.89	
Group B: Receives 39% of social service agency budget.	19,023.42	3,804.68	
Group C: Receives 14% of social service agency budget.	6,828.92	853.62	



## WHITE WHITNEY FUND

In their respective wills of 1924 and 1936, Eveline Whitney and Sophia White named the Putney Board of Selectpersons as Trustees of funds “for the care and comfort of poor persons residing in said town.” It is meant to be a helping hand in a small way. Since then, the Selectboard has established these programs to carry out the above mission:

- Grocery Gift Certificates which are distributed during the Winter Holiday season to provide care and comfort to people in need during this traditional time of giving.
- Emergency Assistance Program providing stopgap help where needed.

The White Whitney Committee is appointed and overseen by the Town Selectboard. It is made up of several community members. Putney Community Cares is the contact agency and can be reached by calling 387-2120.

Investments for the Trust Fund are held at Edward Jones and only the interest earned is used for disbursements in this fund. The fund balance at June 30, 2020 was \$75,681 with \$7,302 in cash on hand and \$68,379 in Mutual Funds.

<b>Fund Balance at June 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$78,501</b>
Donations	500
Interest Earnings Ed Jones	3,675
Change in Value of Invest	(5,583)
Disbursements	(1,412)
<b>Fund Balance June 30, 2020</b>	<b><u>75,681</u></b>

## PUTNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITIES JUNE 30, 2020

	Library General Fund	Library Fundraising
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Checking Account	0	135,523
Petty Cash	100	0
Due from other funds	7,304	(6,838)
Investment Account		200,120
Total Assets	7,404	328,805
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	232	0
Due to other funds	0	0
Total Liabilities	232	0
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>		
Fund	7,172	328,805
Total Fund Balance	7,172	328,805
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Equity</b>	<b>7,404</b>	<b>328,805</b>

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS JUNE 30, 2020

Description	Department	Group	Cost	Depreciation	Balance
Land (water department)		Land	21,400	0	21,400
.58 Acres-Mill Street		Land	8,000	0	8,000
26 Acres-Bear Hill Road		Land	30,000	0	30,000
5.083 acres Putney Rec League		Land	7,625	0	7,625
Andrews Pastures/Putney Mt.		Land	50,300	0	50,300
Beatrice Aiken Preserve		Land	23,700	0	23,700
Bellows Falls Road Land (080237)		Land	146,100	0	146,100
Wilson Wetlands		Land	22,250	0	22,250
Fire Station	Fire	Buildings	1,009,564	292,774	716,790
Air Booster 220v	Fire	Equipment	7500	3750	3,750
HVAC Unit	Fire	Equipment	25,000	2,292	22,708
Misc. Fire Equipment	Fire	Equipment	85,569	85,569	0
Bullard Thermal Imager	Fire	Equipment	10,000	333	9,667
Breathing Apparatus	Fire	Equipment	143,200	4,773	138,427
Camera System	Fire	Equipment	4,747	237	4,510
Camera/Thermal Imager	Fire	Equipment	10,000	333	9,667
Tools/Equipment/Parts	Fire	Equipment	36,320	9,319	27,001
Generator	Fire	Equipment	31,675	3,300	28,375
1994 Engine 2 E-One Pump	Fire	Vehicles	201,127	115,648	85,479
1999 Engine 3-E-One	Fire	Vehicles	204,278	204,278	0
1994 Emergency Ladder Truck	Fire	Vehicles	20,000	19,167	833
Pontoon Boat	Fire	Vehicles	5,000	5,000	0
2006 Engine 1- E-One Pumper	Fire	Vehicles	229,938	229,938	0
2009 FORD F-350	Fire	Vehicles	29,143	29,143	0
2016 Chevrolet Silverado	Fire	Vehicles	42,952	12,528	30,424
2017 Polaris ATV	Fire	Vehicles	13,572	2,865	10,707
2019 Chevy Silverado	Fire	Vehicles	38,543	7,066	31,477
2001 John Deere Tractor/Mower	Highway	Equipment	49,890	49,890	0
2011 Kawasaki Loader	Highway	Equipment	115,400	103,860	11,540
2013 John Deere Grader	Highway	Equipment	263,500	127,088	136,412
2013 Trackless Mt6 Tractor	Highway	Equipment	106,375	35,458	70,917
2015 Backhoe John Deere	Highway	Equipment	125,000	57,084	67,916
2015 Eager Beaver Trailer	Highway	Equipment	16,995	3,494	13,501
2018 Hudson Trailer (Advantage)	Highway	Equipment	1,958	272	1,686
Generator	Highway	Equipment	11,450	1,240	10,210
HVAC Unit	Highway	Equipment	3,575	328	3,247
Leaf Blower	Highway	Equipment	5,850	3,315	2,535
Over the Rail Mower Deck	Highway	Equipment	51,190	8,958	42,232
Screen Plant 1/2 Interest	Highway	Equipment	17,100	17,100	0
Tools/Equipment/Parts	Highway	Equipment	46,836	34,605	12,231

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS JUNE 30, 2020

Description	Department	Group	Cost	Depreciation	Balance
Highway Garage Roof	Highway	Buildings	29,918	24,683	5,235
Town Garage	Highway	Buildings	137,900	137,900	0
Town Hall Storage Building	Highway	Buildings	11,500	11,500	0
Town Salt Shed	Highway	Buildings	33,380	13,353	20,027
Hickory Ridge Culvert/ Bridge	Highway	Infrastructure	230,522	27,535	202,987
Holland Hill Culvert	Highway	Infrastructure	123,425	6,857	116,568
Houghton Brook Culvert	Highway	Infrastructure	111,303	3,401	107,902
2013 #3 Western Star Dump Truck	Highway	Vehicles	150,903	115,693	35,210
2013 GMC Sierra 3500	Highway	Vehicles	42,715	29,901	12,814
2017 #5 Dump Truck Western Star	Highway	Vehicles	144,976	56,782	88,194
2017 Ram 5500	Highway	Vehicles	89,137	21,541	67,596
2018 #1 Western Star w/ Plow	Highway	Vehicles	189,422	36,492	152,930
2011 #4 Mack	Highway	Vehicles	147,525	147,525	0
2020 #2 Western Star	Highway	Vehicles	170,500	8,525	161,975
Infrastructure (monument)	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	293,610	117,172	176,438
Dam & Water Rights	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	8,000	8,000	0
Main Street Sidewalk	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	413,920	97,731	316,189
Sidewalk Phase 2	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	197,981	13,199	184,782
Sidewalk Phase 3	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	540,044	13,501	526,543
Pool Improvements	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	228,622	93,343	135,279
Route 5 Culvert	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	48,652	48,652	0
Gravel Pit	Infrastructure	Infrastructure	1,000,000	8,333	991,667
Library	Library	Buildings	721,228	223,581	497,647
Contents, Books, Equip, Misc.	Library	Equipment	32,500	32,500	0
Computers	Library	Equipment	4,426	0	4,426
Chemical Feed Building 2014	Sewer	Buildings	73,218	23,186	50,032
Sewer Plant	Sewer	Buildings	1,540,897	431,451	1,109,446
2002 Tractor/Loader-John Deere	Sewer	Equipment	16,775	16,775	0
Homa 30HP Pump at Landmark	Sewer	Equipment	7,205	5,944	1,261
Homa Pump at Landmark	Sewer	Equipment	5,269	5,269	0
Homa Pump at Sewer Plant	Sewer	Equipment	2,461	2,461	0
Kohler 80 Reozjb Diesel Generator	Sewer	Equipment	15,900	15,900	0
Lab Equipment	Sewer	Equipment	40,000	40,000	0
Portable Crane	Sewer	Equipment	2,604	0	2,604
Sewer Pump at Treatment Plant	Sewer	Equipment	2,900	0	2,900
Sewer	Sewer	Infrastructure	855,500	855,500	0
Putney Landing Upgrade	Sewer	Infrastructure	80,000	14,222	65,778
I-91 Bridge Sewer Pipe 2014	Sewer	Infrastructure	73,524	13,683	59,841
Putney Inn Pump Station Refurbish	Sewer	Infrastructure	37,592	15,037	22,555

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS JUNE 30, 2020 CONTINUED

Description	Department	Group	Cost	Depreciation	Balance
Town Hall	Town Hall	Buildings	218,300	218,300	0
Town Hall Electrical Upgrade	Town Hall	Infrastructure	6,100	5,034	1,066
Office Equipment	Town Hall	Equipment	12,669	11,970	699
Phone System	Town Hall	Equipment	3,675	3,675	0
Safe & Vault	Town Hall	Equipment	13,500	13,500	0
Water System	Water	Infrastructure	2,881,189	817,613	2,063,576
Water Fund Equipment/Tools	Water	Equipment	6,770	6,770	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>14,270,779</b>	<b>5,284,995</b>	<b>8,985,784</b>

## WAGE SUMMARY July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Highway	233,394
Fire Department	98,886
Library Administration	85,959
Recreation/Pool	28,204
Town Clerk	43,629
Town Hall Administration	51,859
Town Manager & Finance Director	65,211
Lister, Geordie Heller	5,800
Lister, Doug Harlow	3,600
Lister, Aileen Chute	330
Lister, Karen Shapiro	124
Selectperson, Joshua Laughlin	1,500
Selectperson, David Babbitt	1,500
Selectperson, Laura Chapman	1,500
Town Treasurer, R. Scott Henry	1,000

## EDWALD FUND BALANCE

<b>Fund Balance as of June 30, 2019</b>	<b>14,661</b>
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### Revenue as of June 30, 2020

Edwald Trust Distribution	8,579
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>8,579</b>

### Expenses as of June 30, 2020

Library Budget	5,00
Capital Budget	10,000
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>15,000</b>

<b>Fund Balance as of June 30, 2020</b>	<b>8,240</b>
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### Est. Revenue FY 2021

Edwald Trust Distribution	15,011
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>15,011</b>

### Est. Expenses FY2021

Library Budget	5,000
Capital Budget	10,000
	<b>15,000</b>

<b>Estimated Fund Balance June 30, 2021</b>	<b>8,251</b>
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# CAPITAL PLAN FY22-FY26

Highway Equip	Purch	Price Paid	Life	Replace	FY2020	Current FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Backhoe/J Deere2015	2015	80,000	15Y	2030	16,000	16,000	0	0	0	0	0
Grader/J Deere 2013	2015	160,000	15Y	2030	32,000	32,000	0	0	0	0	0
#5 2017 West Star	2016	100,000	10Y	2026	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	0	0	150,000
#1 2018 West Star	2017	175,000	10Y	2027	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	0	0	0
2017 RAM Pickup	2018	87,000	8Y	2026	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,400	0	0	90,000
#2 2020 West Star	2019	170,500	10Y	2029	34,100	34,100	34,100	34,100	34,100	34,100	0
#4 2021 West Star	2020	168,555	10Y	2030	0	0	33,711	33,711	33,711	33,711	33,711
Loader	2022	163,000	15Y	2037	0	0	163,000	0	0	0	0
#3 2013 West Star	2013	106,000	10Y	2023	0	0	0	175,000	0	0	0
2013 GMC	2013	45,000	10Y	2023	0	0	0	0	50,000	0	0
Excavator	2017	164,100	20Y	2037	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>154,500</b>	<b>154,500</b>	<b>303,211</b>	<b>295,211</b>	<b>117,811</b>	<b>67,811</b>	<b>273,711</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>											
Sidewalk Phase 1&2	2016/17	137,500	30Y	2046	27,500	27,500	27,500	0	0	0	0
Gravel Pit	2019	1,000,000	-	-	0	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
<b>Infrastructure Total</b>					<b>27,500</b>	<b>67,500</b>	<b>67,500</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Fire Department</b>											
2016 Chevrolet	2016	30,000	10Y	2026	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0	0	40,000
2019 Chevrolet	2018	39,500	10Y	2028	7,900	7,900	7,900	7,900	0	0	0
Exhaust System	2020	99,000	-	-	0	0	19,800	19,800	19,800	19,800	19,800
1999 Engine#3	1998	201,953			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994 Engine#2	94/2014	184,500			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994 Ladder Truck	2010	29,543			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006 Engine#1	2006	229,938			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Station Building	2006	1,010,000	-	-	40,277	40,277	40,277	40,277	40,277	40,277	40,277
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>54,177</b>	<b>54,177</b>	<b>73,977</b>	<b>67,977</b>	<b>60,077</b>	<b>60,077</b>	<b>100,077</b>
<b>Town Hall</b>											
Telephone System				2021	0	4,500	0	0	0	0	0
Front Concrete Steps				2021	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0
Front Doors				2022	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
Barn Roof					0	0	20,000	0	0	0	0
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>21,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>Library</b>											
Heat Pumps	2017		10Y	2020	0	0	24,000	0	0	0	0
Roof Replacement	2017		15Y	2022	0	0	25,000	0	0	0	0
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Pool</b>											
Pool Slide				2021	0	20,000	0	0	0	0	0
Pool Repairs				2021	0	125,000	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>0</b>	<b>145,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Water/Sewer</b>											
Water System	2005	1,500,000			32,788	34,076	35,416	36,808	38,254	39,758	41,320
Sewer System	2006	750,000			21,891	22,751	23,646	24,575	25,541	26,544	27,588
<b>Department Total</b>					<b>54,679</b>	<b>56,827</b>	<b>59,062</b>	<b>61,383</b>	<b>63,795</b>	<b>66,302</b>	<b>68,908</b>
<b>TOTAL YEARLY PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS</b>					<b>290,856</b>	<b>376,504</b>	<b>574,250</b>	<b>466,071</b>	<b>283,183</b>	<b>235,690</b>	<b>484,196</b>

# LONG-TERM DEBT FY22 - FY23

	Amount Borrowed	Total Interest	Principal Payment	Balance at the end of FY21	Interest Rate	Maturity Year	Payment FY21 (Current)	Payment FY22 (Next Year)	Payment FY23 (Future)
Fire Station	\$1,010,000	\$ 793,180	\$ 40,277	\$ 270,155	3.93%	2026	\$ 50,566	\$ 48,983	\$ 47,400
Exhaust System	\$ 99,000	\$ 6,534	\$ 19,800	\$ 105,534	2.20%	2025	-	\$ 21,978	\$ 21,542
2019 Chevy Pickup Fire Rescue	\$ 39,500	\$ 3,555	\$ 7,900	\$ 25,122	3.00%	2024	\$ 8,848	\$ 8,611	\$ 8,374
2016 Chevy Pickup Fire Rescue	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,799	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,120	2.00%	2021	\$ 6,241	\$ 6,120	-
<b>Total Department</b>	<b>\$1,178,500</b>	<b>\$ 805,068</b>	<b>\$ 73,977</b>	<b>\$ 406,931</b>			<b>\$ 65,655</b>	<b>\$ 85,692</b>	<b>\$ 77,316</b>
#4 2021 Western Star Dump	\$ 168,555	\$ 11,125	\$ 33,711	\$ 179,680	2.20%	2025	-	\$ 37,419	\$ 36,678
#2 2020 Western Star Dump	\$ 170,500	\$ 13,043	\$ 34,100	\$ 144,466	2.55%	2024	\$ 38,448	\$ 37,578	\$ 36,709
2017 RAM Series 5500 #6	\$ 87,000	\$ 7,700	\$ 17,400	\$ 36,340	2.95%	2023	\$ 18,940	\$ 18,427	\$ 17,913
#1 2018 Western Star Dump	\$ 175,000	\$ 12,292	\$ 35,000	\$ 72,468	2.35%	2022	\$ 37,468	\$ 36,645	\$ 35,823
#5 2017 Western Star Dump	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,997	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,400	2.00%	2021	\$ 20,802	\$ 20,400	-
2015 JD Backhoe	\$ 80,000	\$ 576	\$ 16,000	-	1.80%	2021	\$ 16,288	-	-
2013 JD Grader	\$ 160,000	\$ 1,120	\$ 32,000	-	1.75%	2021	\$ 32,560	-	-
Sidewalk 2&3	\$ 137,500	\$ 9,030	\$ 27,500	\$ 28,105	2.20%	2022	\$ 56,818	-	-
Dummerston/Putney Gravel Pit	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 393,413	\$ 40,000	\$1,306,183	2.93%	2044	\$ 65,600	\$ 65,058	\$ 64,506
<b>Total Department</b>	<b>\$ 2,078,555</b>	<b>\$ 454,295</b>	<b>\$ 255,711</b>	<b>\$1,787,641</b>			<b>\$ 258,819</b>	<b>\$ 243,632</b>	<b>\$191,629</b>

# DELIQUENT TAX REPORT FOR YEARS 2011-2019

Parcel	Amount	Location	Description
010118	\$5,251	234 BANNING ROAD	LAND W/SFD-BLDGS
030232	\$371	121 TAYLOR ROAD	LAND W/MH
070124	\$1,807	0 BARE HILL ROAD	LAND ONLY
070127	\$1,028	0 BARE HILL ROAD	LAND ONLY
070426	\$2,048	42 RIVER ROAD SOUTH	LAND W/SFD
070436-06	\$574	6 LOCUST LANE	MH ONLY
070436-13	\$345	13 LOCUST LANE	MH ONLY
070448	\$2548	40 OLD DEPOT ROAD	LAND W/BLDGS
080120	\$2946	43 S. PINE BANKS ROAD	LAND W/SFD
080153	\$2501	14 E. PUTNEY BROOK	LAND W/SFD
080213	\$845	15 GASSETTS ROAD	LAND ONLY
080312-1	\$657	110 PRATT ROAD	LAND W/MH
080328	\$2,984	563 RIVER ROAD SOUTH	LAND W/MH
110108	\$8,443	21 HILLSIDE DRIVE	LAND ONLY
305020	\$5,639	10 KIMBALL HILL RD	LAND W/BLDG(APTS)
305137	\$3,662	0 OLD DEPOT ROAD	LAND ONLY
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,448</b>		

## WATER AND SEWER BALANCES DUE

Account	Location	Balance
070448	40 OLD DEPOT ROAD	9,536
070448-001	9 PUTNEY LANDING ROAD	1,403
305017	20 KIMBALL HILL	476
305019	14 KIMBALL HILL	1,568
305020	10 KIMBALL HILL	1,471
305116	14 CHRISTIAN SQUARE	415
305118	17 CHRISTIAN SQUARE	741
305120	132 MAIN STREET	461
305120-001	8 MILL STREET	527
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,598</b>

### AUDIT NOTICE:

The Town of Putney has engaged the services of **RHR Smith and Company** to conduct the annual audit for the Fiscal Year end, June 30, 2020. A full report of their findings, the Town's financial statements and notes to the financial statements can be found on the Town website, at the Town Office, the Putney Public Library or a copy can be mailed to you upon request. Please contact the Town Manager's office at (802) 387-5862 x11 or x14 if you would like a copy of this report.

# 2020 GRAND LIST ABSTRACT

Real Estate	Count	Taxable Municipal LV	Taxable Education LV	Taxable Education LV	Taxable Total Education LV	
(LV = Listed Valuation)			Homestead	Non-Residential		
Residential I	432	85,921,700	60,070,400	25,851,300	85,921,700	
Residential II	319	114,679,200	72,411,200	42,268,000	114,679,200	
Mobile Homes - U	25	403,000	302,400	100,600	403,000	
Mobile Homes - L	39	3,924,600	2,618,000	1,306,600	3,924,600	
Seasonal I	10	767,700	0	767,700	767,700	
Seasonal II	7	1,955,700	615,000	1,340,700	1,955,700	
Commercial	48	14,782,800	790,600	13,992,200	14,782,800	
Commercial Apts.	13	6,540,900	256,600	6,284,900	6,540,900	
Industrial	3	1,281,000	0	1,281,000	1,281,000	
Utilities - E	8	11,381,900	0	11,381,900	11,381,900	
Utilities - O	0	0	0	0	0	
Farm	4	6,458,500	789,500	5,669,000	6,458,500	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	
Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	
Miscellaneous	91	9,897,600	0	9,897,600	9,897,600	
SUB TOTAL	999	257,994,600	137,853,700	120,141,500	257,994,600	
P.P. Cable	2	198,555	0	198,555	198,555	
SUB TOTAL	2	198,555	0	198,555	198,555	
TOTAL LISTED VALUE		258,193,155	137,853,100	120,340,055	258,193,155	
Exemptions						
Veterans Exemption	8	320,000	50,000	30,000	80,000	
P.P. Contracts	2	198,555	0	0	0	
Grandfathered	0	0	0	0	0	
Voted Exemptions	5	604,600	0	0	0	
Owner Pays Ed Tax	4	613,700	0	0	0	
Current Use	83	14,798,300	5,891,200	8,907,100	14,798,300	
Special Exemptions	8	0	0	827,091	827,091	
SUB TOTAL	110	16,535,155	5,941,200	9,764,191	15,705,391	
TOTAL GRAND LIST		2,416,580				
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			1,319,119	1,105,759	2,424,878	
COMPARATIVE GRAND LIST AND TAX RATE						
FISCAL YEAR ENDING	GRAND LIST	TOWN TAXES	TOWN RATE	HOMESTEAD EDUCATION	NON- RESIDENTIAL	STATE PAYMENT
2020	2,416,580	1,885,145	0.7801	1.7560	1.6607	810,458
2019	2,403,624	1,859,684	0.7737	1.7126	1.5988	776,351
2018	2,399,363	1,787,765	0.7521	1.5340	1.6665	767,452
2017	2,391,742	1,692,397	0.7162	1.6436	1.4817	852,149
2016	2,368,383	1,584,449	0.6690	1.7430	1.5162	858,129
2015	2,338,656	1,498,143	0.6406	1.7889	1.5413	773,054
2014	2,334,174	1,421,045	0.6088	1.7283	1.4590	635,156
2013	2,227,209	1,356,593	0.6091	1.6004	1.4556	661,357
2012	2,224,377	1,228,078	0.5521	1.6809	1.5249	654,675
2011	2,197,421	1,241,545	0.5650	1.6609	1.5955	654,080
2010	2,155,384	1,223,182	0.5675	1.5903	1.5503	658,728



# PROPERTY EXEMPTION REPORT

Tax-exempt Parcels, Putney

Last updated 12/24/2020

Category	Parcel ID	Exemption Number (Statute)	Acreage	Land Value	Building Value	Real (Total) Value	Contract Value	Beginning Date	Ending Date
<b>Contract Exemptions (Voted)</b>									
East Putney Community Club	08-02-15	323840	0.57	\$34,300	\$36,100	\$70,400	\$70,400	4/1/2017	3/31/2022
Putney Community Center (bldg.)	30-51-23	323840	0.26	\$26,500	\$232,600	\$259,100	\$259,100	4/1/2018	3/31/2023
Putney Community Center (field)	07-03-40	323832	10.2	\$141,700	\$6,200	\$147,900	\$147,900	4/1/2018	3/31/2023
Putney Gun Club	07-03-39	323832	1.2	\$49,000	\$38,200	\$87,200	\$87,200	4/1/2015	3/31/2021
Yellow Barn (at Greenwood School)	07-02-48.ON	323832	studio/shed (rehearsal)		\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	4/1/2019	3/31/2024
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>17.55</b>	<b>\$251,500</b>	<b>\$353,100</b>	<b>\$604,600</b>	<b>\$604,600</b>		
Basketville, Inc. (solar)	07-04-15.solar	Municipal				\$154,600	\$154,600	3/4/2014	
CEC Solar 31028 LLC (solar)	08-03-55.solar	Municipal				\$163,400	\$163,400	3/4/2014	
Scholl Solar Farm (solar)	07-03-23.solar	Municipal				\$154,400	\$154,400	3/4/2014	
Sun Farm LLC (solar)	08-01-39.solar	Municipal				\$141,300	\$141,300	3/4/2014	
Comcast Cable Communications	006000.UO	323620				\$62,204	\$62,204	3/1/2002	
Southern VT Cable	006890.UO	323620				\$136,351	\$136,351	4/1/2002	
		<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$812,255</b>	<b>\$812,255</b>		
Putney Community Cares (Laura Heller Barn)	07-04-18.1	323802			\$102,200	\$102,200			
Next Stage Arts Project	30-50-26	323802	0.26	\$53,000	\$414,800	\$467,800			
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>\$53,000</b>	<b>\$517,000</b>	<b>\$570,000</b>			
<b>Schools (Non-taxable Parcels)</b>									
<b>Private Schools</b>									
Grammar School, Inc.	07-01-04		60.1	\$354,400	\$2,045,600	\$2,400,000			
Greenwood School	07-02-48		97.4	\$312,400	\$4,047,000	\$4,359,400			
Greenwood School, Inc.	02-01-41.2		1.2	\$53,900	\$313,500	\$367,400			
Landmark College	07-04-03		139.71	\$354,700	\$74,667,000	\$75,021,700			
Putney School	06-03-14		358.27	\$544,100	\$29,761,000	\$30,305,100			
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>642.83</b>	<b>\$1,619,500</b>	<b>\$110,834,100</b>	<b>\$112,453,600</b>			
<b>Public School</b>									
Putney Central School	07-03-01		12.4	\$194,500	\$5,341,200	\$5,535,700			
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>174.6</b>	<b>\$194,500</b>	<b>\$5,341,200</b>	<b>\$5,535,700</b>			
<b>Putney Town Cemeteries</b>									
Aplin Cemetery	08-03-10.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Davis Cemetery	06-02-06.CEM			\$1,600		\$1,600			
Dipping Hole Cemetery	06-02-05.CEM1			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Dusty Ridge Cemetery	01-01-45.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
East Putney Cemetery	08-02-03.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Houghton Farm Cemetery	06-03-26.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Kathan Cemetery	11-01-30.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Joy Road Cemetery	06-02-05.CEM2			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Lowell Cemetery	08-02-65.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Maple Grove Cemetery	30-50-50.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Mcwain Cemetery	01-01-08.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Mt. Pleasant Cemetery	07-03-37.1.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
Old North Burial Ground	07-01-58.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
West Dalts Cemetery	06-02-36.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
West Hill Cemetery	06-03-36.CEM			\$1,500		\$1,500			
		<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>\$22,600</b>		<b>\$22,600</b>			
<b>Houses of Worship (Non-taxable)</b>									
Roman Catholic Diocese	11-01-25	3.4	\$75,000	\$299,200	\$374,200				
Roman Catholic Diocese	30-50-34	0.4	\$60,000	\$158,300	\$218,300				
Putney Friends Trust	07-04-14.1	0.94	\$122,000	\$216,900	\$338,900				
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>4.74</b>	<b>\$257,000</b>	<b>\$674,400</b>	<b>\$931,900</b>			

TOTAL EXEMPTION SUMMARY	
Category	Exempt Value
Voted	\$604,600
Solar	\$613,700
Cable	\$198,555
Statute	\$570,000
Schools (private)	\$112,453,600
Schools (public)	\$5,535,700
Cemeteries	\$22,600
Churches	\$931,900
Town Properties	\$2,555,700
Town Land	\$542,500
State of Vermont	\$404,800
United States	\$489,300
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$124,922,955</b>
Special Exemptions	\$2,064,609
Veterans	\$320,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$127,307,564</b>

# PROPERTY EXEMPTION REPORT (cont.)

Tax-exempt Parcels, Putney

Last updated 12/24/2020

Category	Parcel ID	Exemption Number (Statute)	Acreage	Land Value	Building Value	Real (Total) Value
<b>Putney Town Properties</b>						
Firehouse	11-01-23		3.4		\$820,200	\$820,200
Library	30-50-56		0.93	\$86,500	\$448,100	\$534,600
Town Hall	30-50-33		0.79	\$79,500	\$251,200	\$330,700
Garage	07-04-42		26.1	\$137,200	\$143,800	\$281,000
Sewer/Pump Station Land	11-01-26		0.07	\$4,400		\$4,400
Treatment Plant & Grounds	30-51-34		7.62	\$98,700	\$42,600	\$141,300
Town Well	07-03-40.1		0.42	\$15,300	\$9,300	\$24,600
Swimming Pool/Forest	07-03-02		168.69	\$363,800	\$55,100	\$418,900
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>44.42</b>	<b>\$785,400</b>	<b>\$1,679,100</b>	<b>\$2,555,700</b>
Bel lows Falls Rd	08-02-37		50.01	\$146,100		\$146,100
Mill Street Land (Thwing)	30-51-09		0.31	\$16,700		\$16,700
River Road S. Land (water for fire)	08-03-20		1.2	\$9,000		\$9,000
Taylor Road Land	03-02-35		2.3	\$17,300		\$17,300
Beatrice Aiken Preserve	11-01-16		9.3	\$107,800		\$107,800
Bare Hill Land	07-01-57		26.32	\$112,400		\$112,400
Sand Hill Rd. Land	07-03-42		26.6	\$19,000		\$19,000
Town Forest (Banning Rd.)	06-01-01		48.8	\$114,200		\$114,200
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>114.83</b>	<b>\$542,500</b>		<b>\$542,500</b>
<b>State of Vermont Properties</b>						
Land (I-91 north-bound rest area)	03-03-67		3.8	\$62,800		\$62,800
Land (Rt. 5 & E Putney Brook Rd)	08-01-18		0.4	\$18,000		\$18,000
Land (S.B. Weigh Station)	08-01-76		1.8	\$48,800	\$3,900	\$52,700
Land (N.B. I-91 Weigh Station)	08-03-57		1.9	\$50,400		\$50,400
Land (Fish & Game)	11-01-34		0.27	\$53,500		\$53,500
Land (leased to Fire House)	11-01-23		3.4	\$151,000		\$151,000
Land	11-01-62		0.02	\$16,400		\$16,400
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>11.59</b>	<b>\$400,900</b>	<b>\$3,900</b>	<b>\$404,800</b>
<b>United States of America Properties</b>						
Land	06-01-36.2		5.86	\$75,200		\$75,200
Land	06-02-02		206.6	\$414,100		\$414,100
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>212.46</b>	<b>\$489,300</b>		<b>\$489,300</b>
<b>Special Exemptions</b>						
PE 2 Housing Limited Partnership	30-51-45		6.2	\$1,624,700	\$228,500	\$393,200
Putney First	07-04-49.1		2.16	\$198,800	\$747,700	\$944,500
Putney Landing Limited Partnership	07-04-18				\$160,100	\$160,100
Putney Landing LP	11-01-25.1		5.6		\$787,200	\$780,200
					<b>\$1,923,500</b>	<b>\$2,278,000</b>
<b>Veterans' Exemptions (8 Total)</b>						
	\$40,000 off each homestead value*					\$320,000
	*10,000 statutory & 30,000 voted					

Special Exempt Taxable Value	
\$39,320	\$353,880
\$94,450	\$850,050
\$1,601	\$158,499
\$78,020	\$702,180
<b>\$213,391</b>	<b>\$2,064,609</b>

# PUTNEY CENTRAL SCHOOL



SOLAN



KASSIDY



MALLORY



MAXINE



NASH



STEPHANIE



CALEB



LEO



SAVANNAH



ISABELLE



NATHAN

## PCS Class of 2020

Leo Dawson, Solan Homestead, Nathan Kim, Maxine Lehnartz, Caleb Lynch,  
Savannah McVety, Nash Miller, Mallory Newton, Kassidy Packard,  
Stephanie Powers, Isabelle Tupper

### Principal's Report December 2020

Herve Pelletier, Principal  
Putney Central School

To say that 2020 was an unusual year would be the pinnacle of understatement. Since mid-March, when the decision was made to go to full-remote status, schools throughout the state scrambled to continue to provide an education to our students while simultaneously doing whatever was necessary to keep everyone safe; no small task. A colleague remarked recently that the word of the year for 2020 should be “resilience,” and I couldn’t agree more. To dwell on the multiple impediments disrupting our flow and keeping things as “normal” as possible would be counterproductive, and so, let’s take a moment to highlight some of the things we’ve learned and experienced over the past year.

### Enrollment

Currently, our enrollment stands at 190, with spikes in grades 3 and 8, where we have 27 and 25 students respectively. While we only have eight in PK this year, we already have 13 enrolled for the ‘21/22 school year, and expect to have a full complement of 16 by the time school starts in the fall. In the ten years that our PK has been in existence we’ve seen the value of offering this full-time program to our youngest learners.

### Hybrid and Full-Remote Learning Models

After much discussion and planning during the summer, our WSESU admin team came to the conclusion that a customized approach to instruction for the fall would be a necessity. We realized that those things that might work at Academy or Green St., for example, might well not work well for PCS, and vice versa. So, at PCS we decided to craft a hybrid model, at the core of which was a two-day/in-person, 2.5 days out approach. In this model we have had roughly half the kids in on Monday and Tuesday, the other half in on Thursday and Friday, with Wednesdays reserved for all-class check-ins on Zoom. It’s worth noting that our paraprofessional staff did a great job checking in with kids daily, answering questions about assignments, and ensuring that all-important touchpoints to school remain strong.

In addition, a district-wide “full-remote” option was created for students who preferred to learn from home. Each school contributed faculty to this effort, ensuring that all grades K-8 could avail themselves of this unique opportunity, which approximately 15% have done. While remote learning isn’t for everyone, for some students and their families it’s been a great option.

All of our teachers, paraprofessionals, and staff had to up their tech game in order to utilize the amazing tools at our disposal, and all met the challenge head on. Chromebooks and iPads were distributed to all students K-8 so that everyone had access to remote learning options on the days they weren’t in school, and could be ready if an abrupt pivot to full-remote was required.

A recent survey of learning options for second semester indicated that 98% of our students have access to reliable high-speed internet. This represents a marked improvement over the past few years.

### **A Focus on Relationship Building and Social-Emotional Learning**

From the outset of the ‘20/21 school year we all realized that it would be particularly important for us to focus on the emotional and social well-being of all the kids, and while challenging, our school counselor, Marisa Lazarus-Miner stepped up and has met the challenge head-on, all the while with grace and compassion. Teachers, as well, partnered with Marisa and created a welcoming, nurturing environment in which all students feel welcome.

### **Lost Time and the Outdoor Learning Boom**

While some have been wringing their hands over “lost time” in terms of academics, at PCS we’ve embraced the challenges presented by Covid-19. For example, students in PK-5 have all established outdoor classrooms, either on the campus proper (PK/K) or in the Forest for Learning, which was formerly known as the Putney Central School Forest. PE teacher Matt Bristol created an outdoor PE “headquarters” where students were able to gather for class... rain, snow or shine.

Though it has involved lots of hard work, our emphasis on outdoor and “place-based” learning has been invigorating for teachers and students alike. Watching a group of first graders establish the boundaries of their space in the forest, or middle schoolers chipping in by donning snowshoes and tramping down access paths for their younger friends has been a pleasure. In a sense, then, while we continue to maintain a focus on moving things forward in reading, math, science, social studies, physed and art, our full embrace of outdoor education has presented us with many unanticipated opportunities, and will no doubt serve as a template for how we conduct education at PCS in the future.

### **Farm to School and PCS Food Programs**

Our Farm to School program continues to evolve, and got a big boost this year with the completion of an addition over our outdoor refrigerator-freezer unit. (Special thanks to PCS-parent and builder Matt Ewald for bringing the project in on-time and on-budget.) The new space allows for the expansion of strategic purchasing from local farms and other food providers as well as stable, longer-term storage of government-supplied commodities. Steve Hed and Ariane LaVoie, with a capable assist from Nancy Gagnon, have been prepping hundreds of meals each week, both for in-house and take-home. We were also very fortunate this year to be able to replace our aging stove and oven, and thanks to a grant written by Steve Hed, purchase a new minivan that we will use to deliver meals. Things continue to look up for our FTS program.

Due to Covid restrictions, students have been eating either in their classrooms or outdoors, and so the rumble of the breakfast and lunch carts zipping through the halls delivering meals and healthy snacks has become a regular feature of our days. In addition, Our Food4Kids program, under the steady guidance of Marie Teagardin, has continued providing food and veggies for any student who would like to take a bag home, and thanks to Ruby McAdoo, our faculty and staff have been able to take advantage of the generous state-funded Everyone Eats! program run by area restaurants. Truly, no one goes hungry at PCS!

## Physical Plant Needs

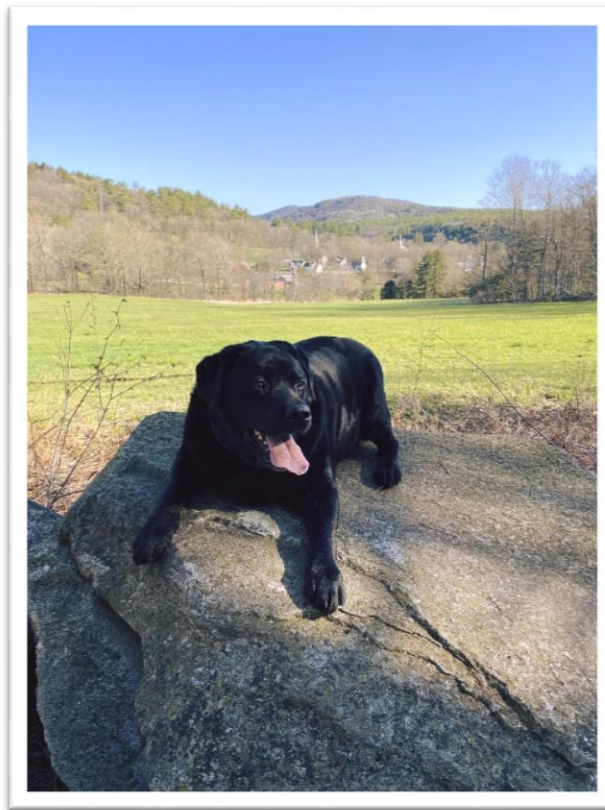
While on balance our 46,000 square foot building is in good overall condition, there are areas that will need attention in the near future. The gym roof is about ready for replacement, as is the roof over the “pod” area. In addition, the horizontal cladding on the south side of the pod will need attention soon. The middle school doors and door trim will need to be replaced over the next 2-3 years, as will the trim at the corners of that section of our building. Finally, the glass hallway will also require some moderate TLC, as the wood base and trim are deteriorating.

Worth noting is that our interior air quality, a large concern with respect to Covid-19, was thoroughly tested during the early fall and found to be in keeping with CDC guidelines, a tribute to the foresight of folks like former PCS board chairs Benjie Cragin and Alice Laughlin, who endorsed and supported building updates with a focus on energy efficiency and environmental quality.

## Looking Ahead

While the global pandemic has stretched our capacity to provide educational programming for our students, and the stability and security of our families have been placed in jeopardy by a wholly inadequate federal response to the worst public health crisis in a century, we’re nonetheless grateful to have had this chance to develop a template for outdoor learning, highlight the need for carefully crafted social-emotional learning, and maintain our vigilance regarding the health and well-being of everyone at PCS. Thanks to the dedication of all members of our faculty and staff, and our conscious partnership with our parents and community, we will take away valuable lessons from this experience, design a future with outdoor learning at the forefront, and emerge with an increased appreciation for the value of teamwork.

Respectfully submitted,  
Herve Pelletier  
Principal



# Putney Central School Leadership Council Report

When the Windham Southeast School District was created through the merger of school boards from Putney, Dummerston, Guilford and Brattleboro, there was concern that community connection and input would be more difficult. The Articles of Agreement that form the merged district were amended in November, 2019 to include an article establishing Leadership Councils -- these articles of agreement are also supported by policy that is established by the merged board. These Leadership Councils are advisory in nature and meant to "ensure community input in school board deliberations."

What does this mean for Putney and the PCS community? This means that the PCS Leadership Council is the best way to express your voice to the WSESD board. The merged board now oversees and supports 10 schools in our district -- this board has so much on their plate that raising a school-specific concern can sometimes derail their work. So, their preference is to have community input around PCS come through the PCS Leadership Council.

The PCS Leadership Council has been active for over a year and believes:

- That PCS can thrive if the community's and school's values are identified and elevated.
- If PCS families feel included in the process of directing the vision and values of our school, we will have a more vibrant school and community.

The Putney Central School Leadership Council will operate under the following priorities:

#### School and Community Values

- Engage with the community and PCS to identify our common values.
- Foster a school community built around equity and inclusion, restorative practices, positive behavior supports, NextGen science and any other values that are identified by the PCS Leadership Council or WSESD Board.

#### Communication

- Communicate both community and school values to the WSESD Board and PCS and District Administration.
- Work to increase communication flow between WSESD, PCS Administration, PCS families and the community.

#### Engagement

- Work to Increase engagement with PCS families, helping more families feel included in the PCS community.
- Advocate for PCS students and their highest academic, social and emotional growth.

If you are interested in joining a meeting of the PCS Leadership Council, or would like to share your experiences as a PCS community member with the Council, please contact one of the current council members, email us at [PCSLeadershipCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:PCSLeadershipCouncil@gmail.com) or join us at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by the Chair

Putney Central School Leadership Council:

Ruby McAdoo, Chair

Tara Castine, Clerk

Herve Pelletier, Principal

Lynne Borofsky

Jaime Contois

Marie Derouault

Steve Hed

Amy Sugihara

Alexis Duquette

# WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION

## WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

### WSESU / WSESD SEEK TO IDENTIFY CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (CHILD FIND NOTICE)

All children have a right to a public education. Federal and State law provide that all qualifying children with disabilities have a right to a free appropriate public education when the eligibility evaluation qualifies the student as eligible according to state rules for special education and related services.

The Windham Southeast Supervisory Union (WSESU) and Windham Southeast School District (WSESD) with all of its member towns (Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford, Putney, and Vernon - collectively, "the District"), have a duty to identify and locate any children, ages 3 through 21, who may be eligible for special education (including children who are highly mobile, such as migrant children, or who are homeless or in protective custody by the state), who are residents of the District and may have disabilities, or who are attending private schools or a program of home study within the boundaries of the District, or who are not receiving services, in order to evaluate and determine accommodations to support learning, as appropriate, under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act and/or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

WSESU/WSESD supports identification and evaluation to identify infants and toddlers (birth to age 3) for early intervention services under Part C of the federal special education law (the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act). The District hereby provides notice that such children may be entitled to early intervention services (birth-3) or to special education and related services (3-22).

If you have or know of such a child in your school, home or neighborhood, please write or phone: Superintendent of Schools, Windham Southeast Supervisory Union/Windham Southeast School District, 53 Green Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301; 802-254-3731 or Shelley Wilson, Director of Special Education, 53 Green Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301; 802-254-3748. Information provided will be used only to carry out child find purposes, so those protected by the educational access laws will be contacted with respect to potential eligibility, and all information will remain confidential within the District's child find system, pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and its regulations, 334 C.F.R. Part 99.

### 2020-2021 PUTNEY CENTRAL SCHOOL STAFF

Herve Pelletier ..... Principal  
 Sarah Coughlin ..... Administrative Assistant  
 Lynne Borofsky \* ..... Special Educator  
 Mary Beth Brain ..... Grade 6-8 Math  
 Matthew Bristol ..... Physical Education  
 Nicole Buser ..... School Nurse  
 Mora Butcher \* ..... Special Educator  
 Sarah Cassidy ..... Kindergarten  
 Amanda Dixon ..... Grade 6-8 Language Arts  
 Carey Fay-Horowitz ..... Librarian  
 Stacey Frazer ..... Academic Support  
 Mae Knowles ..... Grade 2  
 Valerie Kosednar ..... Pre-K  
 Marisa Lazarus-Miner ..... School Counselor  
 Laetitia LeBail \* ..... Special Educator  
 Aimee Levesque ..... Grade 2  
 Flo Levin \* ..... Special Educator  
 Don Linden ..... Grade 6-8 Science  
 Jennifer O'Donnell ..... Grade 3  
 Audrey Sager ..... Grade 5  
 Leah Toffolon ..... Grade 6-8 Social Studies  
 Ellen Tumavicus ..... Art

Henny Walsh ..... Grade 4  
 Maureen Ward ..... Grade 1  
 Sherry Ames ..... Paraeducator  
 Robert Brooks ..... Paraeducator  
 Caleb Clark \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Isaac Freitas-Eagan \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Nancy Gagnon ..... Office Assistant  
 Stephen Hed \* ..... Sustainability Coordinator  
 Joslin Hodge \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Aidan Holding ..... Paraeducator  
 Hannah Hutchinson \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Barbara Knudson \* ... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Melissa Lowe \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Jack Millerick ..... Paraeducator  
 Steven Napoli ..... Facility Manager  
 Mary Beth Peterson ..... Paraeducator  
 Amber Rose \* ..... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Mary Seekins ..... Paraeducator  
 Donna Sheehan \* ... Special Education Paraeducator  
 Amy Sprague ..... Paraeducator  
 Kevin Struthers ..... Custodian

**Note:** \* WSESU Funded

## **REPORT OF THE WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD**

Thank you for your continuing support for our learners and the adults who work with them. Last year, due to the pandemic, we were forced to cancel our public Annual Meeting and pass our articles and budget by Australian ballot. We are grateful for the strong turnout and favorable vote during this challenging time. This year we are also forced to present our board candidates and budget by Australian Ballot to be conducted on Town Meeting Day, March 2, 2021.

This year, the second year of existence for the Windham Southeast School District, we continued the process of consolidating school governance. One structure now serves over 2400 students from preschool to grade 12 in ten educational settings (Academy, Green Street, Oak Grove, Dummerston, Guilford, Putney, BAMS, BUHS, WRCC and Early Education Services). In our first year, we set up structures, organized committees, and developed mission statements. We created Leadership Councils in each school to engage parents and staff in communicating concerns and advising the administration and board. We also added two new members from Brattleboro to bring the board to ten members. All board members represent all students and constituents in all towns.

This evolution of systems and relationships continues. Balancing the need to function efficiently with the importance of responsiveness is challenging, and absolutely essential for maintaining a focus on the actual experiences of our students, families, and employees. Though many of us entered the merger believing communities would want to do things in similar ways, it turns out that most districts want to keep their unique cultures. It is a challenge to manage this in a merged district and the board has worked to find common practices. This includes making sure systems include two-way communication and provide channels for information to flow to the places it is needed. We continue to clarify the various policies, roles, expectations, and oversight structures required to maximize effectiveness and responsiveness in this huge new organization. There is no instruction booklet or checklist.

In the late winter and early spring, we carried out an extensive search and selection process to find a new superintendent. We implemented community surveys, hired an experienced consultant, and established diverse teams of students, staff, and community members. These teams reviewed applications, screened, and then interviewed candidates to provide the board with a list of finalists. This was all completed just before COVID forced us to go remote and hold the final interviews on Zoom. Through this process, we were excited to find Andy Skarzynski and convince him to join our community and head up the administration of our schools. Andy's intelligence, steady hand, and patient demeanor have proved invaluable in navigating the upheavals of this global health crisis.

Creating an effective remote learning structure in the spring and spending an intense summer planning enabled us to start the school year with limited in-person instruction. We have been following the best advice and guidance from our health leaders and are preparing conditions to be able to safely bring greater numbers of students into our buildings on more days. If our safety structures and practices continue to successfully avoid spreading infection, we hope to have students in person in much larger numbers in the spring.

This has been a stressful process because every decision has drawbacks. Students are definitely hurt by not being together with peers and adults, learning and developing social skills. Families are stressed to manage child care alongside the other upheavals of work and family needs this pandemic has caused. Avoiding putting students and their families at risk of infection from being in close proximity at school is challenging. And the burden of creating safe and effective learning environments falls most heavily on our classroom teachers. The work they are doing to assure every child is engaged, that meaningful learning is happening, that all are safe, that attendance and contacts are all recorded, and that in-person and remote classes are well-prepared and supported, is impossible. Yet they show up every day and do all they can to make it work. Then they go home and work all evening and weekend to get ready for the next series of disruptions and surprises. All our administrators, teachers, support staff, and maintenance people



have been working far beyond normal expectations to maximize the safety and quality of this new learning environment. This will continue until we can all safely return to our buildings.

A big part of this adjustment has been the creation of dozens of outside learning environments and experiences. Partnerships with Antioch University's Center for School Renewal, the Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center (BEEC), Food Connects, and many others, have led to the creation of elementary school programs centered in best practices in nature-based and place-based education. This engaging approach to development of curriculum aligned with the Vermont Early Learning Standards is becoming a central part of our school cultures and will continue to grow well after the current pandemic.

Guilford Central School has built upon previous experience operating a nature-based PK program along with a strong "Forest Day" program and is committed to spending 50% of every "in person" day outdoors. Through the labor and generosity of community volunteers, three pavilions have been erected to serve as outdoor learning spaces. They have also created outdoor classrooms in the campus woods.

Academy School has been outdoors team-building, incorporating math into the construction of outdoor spaces and forts, and writing about the world around them. Students are practicing mindfulness in sit spots, hanging tarps, and digging fire pits. With fire rings for the fire pits students are learning how to cook over a fire with food harvested from the school garden. One highlight has been having students prepare individual portions safely during a time when food can't be shared.

In Dummerston, the new forest trail is used by students for nature walks, guided lessons with BEEC staff, and to walk to outdoor classroom spaces. Community members use the trail for biking and walking after school hours. Picnic tables and fire pits have been installed at a clearing in the center of the woods. During the summer, students had the opportunity to garden with their families and engage in planting, harvesting, and maintenance activities (weeding!). This fall, a number of classrooms continued this work, harvesting produce and then readying the garden for winter. They expect to expand the garden space, plant perennial fruit bushes, erect a greenhouse in collaboration with Walker Farm, and move the vegetable garden to a more central location. Many also enjoyed creative projects with local organizations, including the River Gallery School.

The Board has worked to support these and other thoughtful efforts to enhance learning during the pandemic. We have expanded communications by breathing life into the school Leadership Councils – drawing family members and staff from each school community into regular contact with principals and board members. Our Communications Council continues to develop improvements to our website and social media access to information and resources.

We continue to review our many programs to assure our school communities have the resources they need to take on these challenges. In July we endorsed the WSESD Ongoing Social Justice and Anti-Racist Commitment, which outlines eight goals the district will work toward. We also instituted regular reports from the Diversity and Equity Teacher Leaders in every school to help the board see the progress being made.

In the fall, we heard presentations from our Special Education team and received a report from the Program and Performance Equity Committee related to compliance with gender equity requirements in our co-curricular programs under Title IX. We received a report and recommendations from our Climate Crisis Task Force which were sent on to the Amendments and Policy Committee for consideration. The board was given a comprehensive presentation by Food Connects on school nutrition efforts and our extensive relationships with the local farm community. In November, we heard from our local early education partners about the preschool programs in our community.

As we continue to feel our way through this unprecedented pandemic, we will continue to support the efforts of our learners and the dedicated adults who work with them to create meaningful learning experiences for all our children.

Although it is a cliché to say it is an honor to serve our communities, it is the most accurate way I can describe the experience of chairing this school board. I am humbled by the breadth of knowledge and dedication of my board colleagues. Their thoughtful consideration of the incredible array of questions and issues that come before us make my job easy – all I need do is ask for their thoughts, and the way forward always becomes clear.

Our board is especially thankful for the leadership and assistance of our principals and administrative staff, who planned and implemented the necessary programs and practices to bring our community together again in a safe environment. Our new superintendent, Andy Skarzynski, has been deluged with responsibilities far beyond any expectations for a first-year leader. He has been forced to make stressful choices that affect thousands of people he has never even had a chance to see in person. His patience and clarity guiding a strong administrative team and finding ways to balance the myriad needs of these school communities has been a blessing to us. This coherent administrative voice, in conjunction with the incredible work of our WSESD teaching and support staff will never be adequately appreciated.

David Schoales, WSESD Board Chair  
On behalf of the WSESD Board

### **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

The 2020-2021 school year in Windham Southeast Supervisory Union has coincided with the COVID-19 pandemic that has loomed over all aspects of our lives. In the midst of these challenging circumstances, we have witnessed the incredible commitment of our students, staff, and families in supporting each other as we navigate the small and large changes rendered by the virus. This level of commitment and perseverance has provided us with a tremendous sense of optimism for the future and, as a school system, we are grateful and appreciative for being part of such an invested and engaged community.

It would be an understatement to share that this year has been atypical. Elements of each school day that are usually taken for granted required significant changes for the safe operations of our schools. These changes were shouldered by a collective school staff that took quick actions to interpret local and state guidance to develop routines that provided for the safety of all building occupants. Throughout the summer and first semester planning, teachers and administrators emphasized the importance of providing balance to students as they simultaneously embraced the importance of greeting each student in a positive manner. Classroom routines that are so critical in a school day were augmented to accommodate these enhanced safety and hygiene procedures. The protocols that were implemented to keep the virus at bay that included a daily health screening, hand washing, mask wearing, and physical distancing quickly became a normalized part of the school day.

As we enter the second half of the school year, our students have engaged in a variety of learning experiences and dispositions. Families were initially provided with an opportunity to select a fully remote learning environment or one that enabled students to participate in a hybrid classroom whereby students spent part of their week engaged in the classroom and the remainder of the week in a remote setting. The transition from the first semester to the second allowed for further refinement of this model.

While this year has been dominated by COVID-19, the pedagogical innovations that were driven by it will be what we look back upon in the future. The new learning models have facilitated the opportunity for rapid professional learning as they relate to not only literacy and numeracy instruction but in developing classroom community as well. Teachers quickly became skilled in the use of digital tools that

enabled them to connect with their students in virtual settings. Schools have grown adept at identifying and targeting needs and creating solutions designed to improve student learning.

These new practices were not limited to remote learning platforms. The physical landscape around each school was quickly adapted to accommodate instruction outside. Whether that was through the development of outdoor classrooms, the acquisition of tents, or the generous donation of time from families, staff, and community members in modifying areas adjacent to the buildings, the transformation was incredible to observe. These areas were originally intended to provide students with an opportunity to be physically distanced but the impact of outdoor, place-based education rapidly became apparent. The emphasis quickly grew to focus on social and emotional learning, community building and resilience in addition to literacy and numeracy.

While addressing the implications of a global pandemic, our nation has been further gripped by the needs to address social justice, equity, and diversity. Protests throughout the spring, summer, and fall have underscored the urgency that we must impart upon our practices of working with our communities. Teacher leaders at each school site have been developed through the WSESU Office of Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice. These teacher leaders have facilitated the reflective conversations, practices, and professional learning necessary to enhance learning environments that are reflective of our student and family needs.

Throughout this school year, we have been fortunate to have had the enormous efforts of our administrators, teachers, and staff throughout the district. Each new challenge has been greeted as an opportunity for problem solving, collaboration, and critical thinking regarding what is in the best interest of our learners. The affinity our staff holds for their respective school and local communities is readily apparent in both action and discussion and the success that we have experienced thus far has been the direct result of their actions.

We are further appreciative of the support of our Board of Education who has toiled tirelessly to provide the policy governance necessary to ensure that students, staff, and family needs are being met. Their efforts have ensured that all voices are heard and that our schools are a reflection of our community values, beliefs, and aspirations. As a new Superintendent, the importance of this cannot be overstated and it has been a significant aspect of our ability to navigate the impact of the pandemic.

All schools in Windham Southeast Supervisory Union appreciate significant support, engagement, and participation of our families and community members. We urge you to reach out to your local school if you have further questions regarding specific programming or are interested in further volunteer opportunities.

Please remember that the voting for the annual Windham Southeast School District budget, including schools in Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford, and Putney as well as Brattleboro Area Middle School, Brattleboro Union High School, and the Windham Regional Career Center, will take place via Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

Andy Skarzynski  
Superintendent of Schools

## **BRATTLEBORO UNION HIGH SCHOOL**

This year we write to you in the midst of an extremely challenging time on both a local and global level. Our staff has certainly risen to the challenge and continues to offer the best possible educational program to our students, whether they access school in a hybrid or fully remote manner. As we navigate and adapt to these strange circumstances, we realize that attending to basic needs such as food and shelter is a priority for many of our families and we salute the work of our food service staff in providing meals for our families. Our staff is also committed to supporting the emotional needs of our students and we're looking for small, safe ways to restore a semblance of normalcy for our community when possible. Some steps in this direction have included having a fall sports season, creating time for clubs to meet and creating a daily schedule and routine that balances academics with the ongoing need to provide for a safe environment.

Despite the challenges, Brattleboro Union High School continues to offer a superior high school education. This year much of our professional development time has been directed towards programs and practices that allow us to offer content and support for students in both the hybrid and remote setting. Our teaching staff are all certified as highly qualified by the State of Vermont.

Our teachers remain among the very best in the area and in New England, and their work during the pandemic underscores how dedicated they are. Each of our departments are reviewing their course offerings and curricula to ensure they are relevant to the needs of our students as they graduate from high school. Our departments are examining ways to help our students become informed, discerning citizens regarding many issues such as climate change and the current political landscape. We offer 25 Advanced Placement and dual credit courses at BUHS which allow students to access college-credited courses as high school juniors and seniors. Our three personalized academies (STEM, Visual and Performing Arts, and International Studies) give selected students a focused four-year program that combines rigorous course work with targeted experiences with local professionals. Our greatest strength as a school lies with our teachers, and they continue to offer exemplary opportunities for our students.

Over the past two years we have shifted our professional development focus towards our students' social emotional health, school climate, and a strong emphasis on how we can create a school community that is sensitive to stress and trauma. We also have begun the lengthy process of evaluating our curricula, policies and practices with a mindset to consider what conscious and unconscious biases are part of our work. This work represents a dramatic shift for our staff and we plan to return to this as an area of emphasis over the next few school years. In addition to this work, we are also considering changes that will be required as Act 173 is implemented in schools across Vermont.

BUHS continues to carefully assess our facility needs and our facilities crew continue to decrease our carbon footprint and improve efficiency throughout the campus. Our school building is well into its second decade of service and we are looking ahead to start some important planned maintenance on our climate systems and updates to other areas of the school. As part of the work required in the pandemic, we have evaluated air flow in our classrooms and made adjustments to improve the circulation within the school. We routinely examine and replace sections of flooring as they wear out and last summer, we completed a new maintenance garage for our outside groundskeepers. We continue to be a sustainability role model for other schools across New England.

We are all proud of the work that our staff does every day at BUHS and we are also proud of the graduates that leave our school. Our students pursue a diverse array of opportunities after school including two and four-year college, military service, jobs, and apprenticeships with local employers. We are confident that our programs and staff provide all students with access to the knowledge and skills necessary for today's complex, changing world. Please visit our website at <http://buhs.wsesdvt.org/> to learn more about our school.

Steve Perrin, Principal  
Chris Day, Assistant Principal  
Kate Margaitis, Assistant Principal

## **WINDHAM REGIONAL CAREER CENTER**

To the Citizens of the Windham Southeast School District,

When I wrote my first report to you last year, I had no idea what challenges and changes the coming year would bring. The students and staff have worked together over the past year to meet the challenges of learning and teaching in a pandemic. As the director of the Windham Regional Career Center, it has been my pleasure to get to know many of your children and take on the new realities of school and education. The region has a wonderful technical center that offers 300 to 400 students, in grades 9-12, an in-depth, experiential learning opportunity in the areas of:

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY  
BUSINESS  
CAREER FOUNDATIONS  
CONSTRUCTION/ARCHITECTURE  
CULINARY ARTS  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
ELECTRONICS/ELECTRICITY  
ENGINEERING AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING  
FILMMAKING and DIGITAL EDITING  
FORESTRY/NATURAL RESOURCES  
HEALTH CAREERS  
PERFORMING ARTS  
PROTECTIVE SERVICES

As well as offering students' classes and services in:

TECHNICAL ENGLISH  
TECHNICAL MATHEMATICS  
ACADEMIC SUPPORT  
DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES (High School and College Credit)  
WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS  
CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO'S)

In the past, students in grades 8 and 10 have had the opportunity to tour the Career Center and explore the opportunities that are offered. This year those tours will be virtual, which offers its own set of challenges. It is our hope that we can produce virtual tours that are engaging and build the desire to attend WRCC. If you have a child, grandchild, or young person who might be interested in starting to build the pathway to their future career while they are still in high school, career and technical education has many opportunities to offer. Our goal is to support students in learning the skills necessary to successfully enter the region's workforce with a higher level of employment than the typical high school graduate.

We thank you for your ongoing support.

Nancy Wiese, Director

# REPORTS OF COUNTY-WIDE ORGANIZATIONS



The AIDS Project of Southern Vermont (APSV) located at 15 Grove Street in Brattleboro is a nonprofit, community-based AIDS Service Organization. For more than 30 years, APSV

has provided case management services to people living with HIV/AIDS, their partners and family members including a nutritious food program and limited financial assistance. Our prevention services include HIV and Hep C testing, syringe services, treatment referrals, HIV and Hep C presentations, safer sex supplies and information, and a website with links to additional resources.

In 2020, APSV served 91 people living with HIV/AIDS with case management. Our food program served 68 individuals and 52 family members with 18,715 pounds of frozen meat and vegetables, dairy products, fresh produce, and non-perishable food including nutritional shakes; 1,865 household and personal care items; and 900 pre-paid grocery cards and farm stand certificates.

Prevention staff and volunteers continue to provide HIV prevention services to those at highest risk for contracting HIV. In 2020, 501 individuals were reached through HIV presentations, community outreach, intensive evidence-based intervention programming/case management, syringe services and HIV testing.

APSV also provided training to staff members of human service agencies in the region on HIV/AIDS issues and advocated for people living with or at risk for HIV in areas of social justice, policy, legal and ethical issues, and equal access to community resources.

Although APSV does serve Putney residents through its direct services and prevention programs, out of respect for client confidentiality we do not publish the number of individuals served in each town. We can say that 10% (64 individuals) are from the Dummerston-Guilford-Newfane-Putney-Vernon area. For more information, please call us at 254-4444 or visit [aidsprojectssouthernvermont.org](http://aidsprojectssouthernvermont.org).

*~Karen Peterson, Executive Director*



Brattleboro Area Hospice (BAH) provides a broad range of volunteer-based services for living and dying well, focusing on end-of-life, bereavement and advance care planning. Our

programs reflect our community's values of kindness, decency, and dignity. Founded in 1979 on the belief that no one should die alone, we are committed to offering all services free of charge.

The organization is dedicated to the belief that each of us can offer companionship and support to those around us who are dying or grieving. Our volunteers provide wide-ranging support to clients and their families regardless of whether they reside at home, in a long-term care facility or some other location, or are hospitalized. We offer bereavement support groups (now via Zoom) creating a safe environment for sharing experiences, exploring feelings, providing mutual support and gaining insight into the grieving process. We publish and distribute SEASONS, a bi-monthly bereavement e-newsletter; offer one-on-one grief counseling; and conduct an Annual Service of Remembrance at our Hospice Memorial Garden at Living Memorial Park. We provide community-based educational programs throughout the Windham County region on issues related to end-of-life.

Our advance care planning initiative, Taking Steps Brattleboro, offers introductory sessions and trained volunteers to help people through the process of developing and registering advance care plans.

\*Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are providing most of our Bereavement and Advance Care services online and by phone as of December 2020. We had been meeting clients outdoors, and secured a meeting space with adequate space and ventilation to use for small meetings and support groups throughout the colder weather. We are currently limiting in-person contact in accordance with state guidelines, and providing our hospice care volunteers with safe-practices training and PPP. We plan to offer end-of-life-related educational programs, including volunteer trainings, at a variety of locations in the northern Windham County region when safe to do so.

All of our services are offered free of charge. We feel privileged to provide this compassionate care to our friends and neighbors, and are grateful for the community's partnership to mobilize our mission. Your financial support helps to make this possible.

In the past year, Brattleboro Area Hospice served 31 Putney residents. Eleven Putney residents served as active volunteers. One Putney resident currently serves on our board of directors.

Please call us at 257-0775 with any questions on death or dying or visit us at [www.brattleborohospice.org](http://www.brattleborohospice.org)

~Hilary Farquhar, Program Coordinator



CRJC continues its mission to preserve the visual and ecological integrity and working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley. With five local subcommittees and over 100 volunteers, CRJC is guiding the watershed's growth by reviewing and commenting on hydro-electric dam relicensing, regulatory proposals, shoreland protection, and initiatives on clean water.

CRJC continues to bring policy makers from both states and the public together to keep them abreast of the issues facing the Connecticut River Watershed. This year CRJC engaged with the "Rails-to-Trails Conservancy" who envisions a connected trail network of roads and highways throughout northern New England. There are 60 miles along the Connecticut River in both New Hampshire and Vermont that the Conservancy believes might be identified as part of a trails network.

CRJC completed a Strategic Plan 2020-2025 which builds on over 30 years of experience in engaging communities in the Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire in a "shared commitment to safeguard a good place and a good life." (Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan, 1997)

The CRJC is a quasi-governmental organization composed of Governor-appointed and designated Commissioners from Vermont and New Hampshire, and the parent organization to five Local River Subcommittees. They may represent different interests, but are united in a shared regard of the Connecticut River, the surrounding landscape, and the ecosystem as a whole. Together, they identify and pursue collaborative efforts that safeguard the Valley. We anticipate the Connecticut River Valley will see substantial growth related to migration from metropolitan areas to our east and south driven by climate change and sea level rise, as well as the current pandemic. The need for facilitated cooperation and

coordination between the two states on development within the watershed will only increase. The actions proposed in this plan leverage the group's strongest assets: the passion and commitment of the volunteer members and Commissioners, and its statutorily-enabled purpose and connection to state government.

In the short term, these strategic leverage points will build internal capacity to help sustain the organization. Over time and amidst those global challenges, the CRJC intends to continue serving communities of the Valley by helping to guide the growth and development in a way that conserves landscape integrity and stewards the use of its natural resources. The CRJC is well-situated to play a convening and advocating role, and understands that this work is most effective in partnership with existing organizations and initiatives. The CRJC values connection, advocacy, and mutual support, and is therefore dedicated to elevating collective efforts and collaborating with like-minded partners.

CRJC gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to complete the strategic plan and the facilitation of Emily Davis of Brattleboro, Vermont.

The current Executive Committee of the Joint Commissions members are: Lionel Chute, President (NH), Christopher Company, Vice President (VT), Jennifer Griffin, Treasurer (NH), Jason Rasmussen, Secretary (VT), Ken Hastings, (NH), Marie Caduto (VT), and Steven Lembke, Immediate Past President (VT). The Commission currently has several openings available for residents of both New Hampshire and Vermont. For more information on responsibilities and the appointment process e-mail [contact@crjc.org](mailto:contact@crjc.org)

For more information on CRJC see <http://www.crjc.org>.

~Pat Crocker, Senior Planner

### **The Wantastiquet Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions**

The Wantastiquet Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) meets every two months and consists of up to two volunteers nominated by participating municipalities, with allowance for alternates. Since March 2020, the Subcommittee has met via video conference call and continues to do while state emergency orders are active due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Current members of Vermont are Kathy Urffer and Michael Fairchild from Brattleboro, Daniel Marx from Dummerston, Andy



White from Vernon, Paul Harlow and Jim Calchera from Westminster, and openings in Putney. Current members of New Hampshire are Roland Volbehr from Chesterfield, Mike Darcy from Hinsdale, Samantha Loch from Walpole, and Perry Sawyer from Westmoreland. Those with one representative have an opening for a second volunteer.

The Subcommittee provides a local voice to help steward the resources on or affecting a portion of the Connecticut River, particularly on topics related to the maintenance of good water quality and wildlife habitat. Meeting and events are open to the public. The Subcommittee is one of five that make up the Connecticut River Joint Commissions since 1989. Specific responsibilities include providing feedback to NH Department of Environmental Services, VT Agency of Natural Resources and municipalities on matters pertaining to the river; reviewing and commenting on proposed permits and plans; and maintaining a corridor management plan.

The Subcommittee stayed up to date and commented on a number of issues including Vermont basin management plans, changes to the NH wetlands permitting process, CRJC strategic plan, and Hinsdale Brattleboro Existing Bridges Subcommittee. The Subcommittee reviewed and commented on a series of permits including NH119 Hinsdale bridge maintenance, boat dock in West Chesterfield, and river restoration in Walpole. Letters were submitted, including comments on an improved boat launch, educational signage, culvert replacement, and boat washing station. The Subcommittee enacted a water quality monitoring pilot at five sites along the Connecticut River this past summer 2020 with hopes to continue in 2021. The subcommittee welcomes resident participation in the monitoring that takes place one day per month. Members discussed an increase of river users this past year and local efforts to improve emergency services access to the river. Members vocalized interest in bolstering LRS review of VT permits.

If you or someone in your community is interested in learning about or contributing to river management for the watershed, including serving as a liaison to the Wantastiquet Subcommittee or helping with water quality monitoring, please contact our staff support Olivia Uyizeye at [ouyizeye@uvlsrc.org](mailto:ouyizeye@uvlsrc.org) or visit our website at [www.crjc.org](http://www.crjc.org) to learn more.

~ Olivia Uyizeye, staff support



The Gathering Place (TGP) is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization that has proudly served the elders and adults with disabilities of Windham County since 1989. TGP is conveniently

located on 30 Terrace Street in Brattleboro with a satellite location at 3 Mountain Park Plaza in West Dover. Seniors and adult disabled individuals of a variety of ages, races, religions and socioeconomic status enjoy the benefits of the Centers and their services. TGP is both a cost-effective way to minimize the stress of providing care at home and an affordable alternative to nursing facility placement. The Centers are open daily Monday through Friday.

TGP's services and activities are designed to bring health, fun, laughter and companionship to the lives of our participants and peace of mind to their families. Our services include:

- nursing oversight
- access to on-site counseling, and occupational and physical therapies
- daily exercise program
- recreation and social activities
- nutritious meals and snacks
- personal care (showers, podiatry, hairdressing)
- outreach services
- companionship
- special events
- access to transportation and coordination of medical appointments

For questions, additional information or to schedule a tour please contact TGP at 802-254-6559, email [info@gatheringplacevt.org](mailto:info@gatheringplacevt.org) or visit us on the web at <https://gatheringplacevt.org>.

~ Maggie Lewis, MPA, NHA  
Executive Director



Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP), an AmeriCorps Seniors program, is for people age 55 and older who want

to volunteer in their community. We help local non-profit organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers to meet community needs. Your town's funds help 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 AmeriCorps Seniors Program. Our program covers Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties.

GMRSVP staff attends the Putney Community Cares Senior Meal to provide information about the Friendly Visitor companionship and Vet-to-Vet programs and provides helpful information to area seniors about current scams and fraud, obtaining free rides to medical appointments through the Elderly and Disabled and Medicaid Dial-a-Ride programs. GMRSVP sponsors the popular Bone Builders exercise class at the Putney Meadows facility. We recruit and train the class instructors and provide all the weights and technical assistance so seniors can attend free of charge. We coordinated volunteers of the Putney Food shelf each year at RSVP's annual Stuff the Bus food drive which was the recipient of over 400 pounds of food donations.

During the current and unprecedented times, GMRSVP has not seen any increases in funding through any of the stimulus packages provided by the federal or state entities. Our program did not meet the criteria or apply for any of the other funding opportunities. 38% of our volunteers continue to serve during COVID-19 and we are pivoting our programming to continue to serve the community, focusing on addressing social isolation, wellness, and food insecurity. We look forward to all our volunteers returning to service once deemed safe to.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Steve Ovenden in our Windham County office at (802)254-7515 to learn how you can volunteer in Putney.

~Cathy Aliberti, Director



Groundworks Collaborative was established in 2015 with the merger of the Brattleboro Area Drop-In Center and Morningside Shelter (having been in existence for 27 and 36 years respectively). Groundworks provides ongoing support to families and individuals facing a full continuum of housing and food insecurities in the greater Brattleboro area. The following are our direct service programs:

### **FOODWORKS**

Foodworks—Open Monday-Friday from 9am – 4pm for curbside pickup by appointment or to schedule a delivery, our food shelf program serves roughly 1000 individuals per month, and over 1900 households per year. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Foodworks has

been distributing twice as much food to our neighbors in need—offering a thoughtfully packed box of food every two weeks.

### **HOUSINGWORKS**

Groundworks Shelter—Our year-round 30-bed shelter for families and individuals offers an extended stay and provides all residents with intensive case management. The Shelter operates at capacity throughout the year and maintains a waiting list for entry.

Seasonal Overflow Shelter—Typically open from November – April, the SOS provides a warm place to sleep and a hot meal each night for those with nowhere else to go. Groundworks is currently building a new and permanent location for this shelter, which will continue to operate seasonally until funding becomes available to operate year-round.

Day Shelter—Groundworks' new building on South Main Street will be the new home for our community's Day Shelter, which provides a safe place where our neighbors experiencing homelessness can come in out of the weather and access services such as email, telephones, laundry, showers, coffee and snacks, lockers, and a kitchen to prepare a meal. The new building will allow adequate space to seat as many as 60 people at a time, in keeping with typical usage of the Day Shelter.

### **SUPPORTWORKS**

Housing Case Management—Our team of supportive service case managers work with people who are currently and were formerly experiencing homelessness to help find and/or maintain stable housing. Our case management model includes weekly home visits (once housed) to ensure that clients are setting and meeting goals to address the challenges that led to homelessness. Additional site-specific case management services are available 40 hours per week to residents of Great River Terrace, the permanent supportive housing community on Putney Road in Brattleboro and will soon be available to residents of the Chalet (formerly Dalem's Chalet) in West Brattleboro under the same model.

Representative Payee Service—Groundworks' Rep Payee provides financial management by serving as an intermediary between those receiving Social Security disability payments and their benefits. The program ensures that rent and basic living expenses are paid before spending money is disbursed to clients, which keeps participants in good financial standing, thereby preventing future threat of homelessness.

## HEALTHWORKS

Groundworks clients have direct access to a number of services available through our embedded provider partnerships, including:

- a full-time Brattleboro Retreat Licensed Mental Health Clinician, who works on-site at all of our locations, providing psychotherapy and critical early substance use recovery supports;
- a Licensed Alcohol & Drug Counselor from HCRS supports clients with on-site meetings; and
- the Vulnerable Populations Care Coordinator is an RN from Brattleboro Memorial Hospital who provides Groundworks clients with health screenings, wound care, and connection to primary care physicians, thereby reducing emergency room visits.

*~Libby Bennett, Director of Development & Communications*



Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windham and Windsor 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 FY20, HCRS provided 1775 hours of service, 77 residents of the Town of Putney. The services provided included all of HCRS's programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Putney.

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

*~George Karabakakis, Ph.D.  
Chief Operating Officer*



Thank you again for Putney's \$1000 donation last year. As a private nonprofit 501c3 transportation company since 2003, The MOOver Rockingham relies heavily and more than ever on local contributions. These funds allow us to draw down federal funds to

provide operating support and the required match for our replacement vehicles. Putney has contributed to us for many years, and we thank you again for your support.

The MOOver Rockingham's mission is to provide a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for 30 Windham and southern Windsor County towns. We operate bus routes and senior and disabled transportation services via our fleet of 23 buses and a network of volunteer drivers. We receive state and federal grants, contributions from towns and resorts, fares, and contributions from our human service partners.

The MOOver Rockingham's total operating expenses last year were \$2,625,578. We provided 137,859 bus, van, taxi, and volunteer rides. Our buses and vans traveled 571,129 miles over 28,299 hours.

Putney's contribution supports continuing public transit in your town and throughout the region. Service levels vary by town and from year to year. A town's transportation needs can be minimal some years and large the next. We need your help to remain a healthy company to be able to respond to needs of the elderly, disabled, or in an emergency or crisis when the need arises.

We are requesting a \$1000 contribution from Putney this year. We hope you will support our funding request.

We are always seeking input to improve our services. Please contact me to let us know how The MOOver Rockingham may improve service in your community.

*~Christine Howe, General Manager*



As we continue to address the ongoing and evolving pandemic, we are grateful for community support. This has been a trying time for everyone, and we cannot overstate the pain suffered by COVID-19 patients and family members. We share in the stress of isolation, canceled events, and daily challenges.

Our amazing staff has adjusted to changing recommendations and new working conditions, all while managing online learning for children at home and enhanced restrictions. Our providers have been called upon to provide COVID testing and specialized transport of COVID patients. Our daily activities focus on use of protective equipment and decontamination of

our ambulances and buildings. These activities help to minimize the spread of the disease. We know that keeping ourselves healthy will let us better serve the community.

As front-line health care workers, our staff has been receiving vaccinations that will likely bring an end to the pandemic. We are hopeful and stand ready to assist the health department in vaccinating all those that wish to receive the vaccine in our communities.

I am pleased to report that even with the immense challenges of 2020, Rescue has been able to provide consistent quality EMS services to all our member towns. In fact, we have been able to respond to every request for emergency response in our area and have been able to help our neighbors from time to time. Rescue was awarded the 2020 Advanced Life-Support Service of the Year award as well as an award from the American Heart Association for outstanding cardiac care. We also started a first of its kind ultrasound program in Vermont. We are extremely proud of our accomplishments as an organization and the amazing EMTs and Paramedics that provide exceptional care.

We know that the year to come will continue to be difficult for our staff and communities we serve. As we enter our 55th year as the regions' ambulance service provider we remain committed to providing the service you have come to expect. We stand ready to respond with skill and expertise to your medical or traumatic emergency, to flooding or lost persons, to test for COVID or vaccinate the community. Please follow us on Facebook for pandemic response updates.

~ Drew Hazelton



Senior Solutions --  
Council on Aging  
for Southeastern  
Vermont, Inc. --  
has served the  
residents of Putney

and Southeastern Vermont since 1973. We have offices in Springfield (main office), White River Junction and Brattleboro. 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.

Our mission and vision have guided us through the COVID crisis. All of our programs except group wellness activities have remained operational subject to reasonable precautions. When recommendations were made that older adults limit their contact with others, we immediately began to recruit volunteers and have been amazed at the outpouring of support. We rapidly built a new cohort of volunteers helping people with groceries, food distributions and other needs. We have been closely collaborating with local community and Mutual Aid groups to help assure needs are being met in local communities.

Most of our services are available to all older adults regardless of income, though we target our resources to those with the greatest social and economic needs. Supporting caregivers is an important part of our work. We help them assess needs and options, connect with resources and local programs and provide short-term relief (respite) for those who are caring for loved ones.

The population of older adults is increasing, as are many costs associated with providing services. Unfortunately, our state and federal funding has not kept up. We continually seek funding from new sources to enable us to do more for people. Clients are given the opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to help support the services they receive. Financial support from the towns we serve is critical.

We work to develop programs to meet evolving interests and needs. This past year our Friendly Visitor and Vet to Vet volunteer visitor programs grew significantly. We offered the HomeMeds program that screens older adults for medication problems such as drug interactions or harmful side effects and our popular aquatics program for arthritis. We train volunteer instructors in Tai Chi for falls prevention and counselors in our PEARLS home-based program for people with mild depression. We provide financial support for training of volunteers interested in teaching classes in their community or starting new evidence-based wellness programs. Wellness programs are available to anyone 60 and over in Putney or in our region.

This is a summary of services provided to Putney residents in the last year (07-01-19 through 06-30-20).

Information and Assistance: 186 Calls and Office Visits. Our HelpLine (1-802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376 toll-free) offers information, referrals and assistance to seniors, their families and caregivers to problem-solve, plan, 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 on our web site at [www.seniorsolutionsVT.org](http://www.seniorsolutionsVT.org).

**Medicare Assistance:** 67 Calls and Office Visits. Putney 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 34 elder residents with in-home case management or other home-based assistance for 477.5 hours to enable them to remain living safely in their homes. Often minimal services can prevent nursing home placement. 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:** 33 Putney seniors received 4,608 home-delivered meals through Putney Community Cares. We also supported community meals available to Putney residents through Putney Community Cares and other meal sites in our region. 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. 2 Putney residents received respite grants.

**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 can be made for non-Medicaid seniors who require medical transportation.

**Volunteer Visitors:** Senior Solutions recruits, screens, trains and supports volunteers of all ages who visit with isolated older adults and veterans and assist with shopping and chores. 5 Putney residents received services from a volunteer.

**Special Assistance:** Senior Solutions provides flexible funds that can help people with one-time needs when no other program is available. 8 Putney residents received special assistance.

**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. Our agency is enormously grateful for the support of the people of Putney.

*~Carol Stamatakis, Executive Director*



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

Our mission is to empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty, provide opportunities to thrive, and eliminate root causes 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, housing and food assistance), Homelessness Prevention, Micro-Business Development, Vermont Matched Savings (asset building & financial literacy), Ready-for Work (job readiness training), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, VT Health Connect Navigation, Community Solar Program, and Thrift Stores.

In the community of Putney, we have provided the following services during FY2020:

Weatherization: 2 homes (3 people) were weatherized at a cost of \$33,094

Emergency Heating System Replacement: 4 homes (5 people) received a heating system repair or replacement at a cost of \$4,188

Emergency Home Repair: 1 household (1 person) received services to address health and safety risks, repair structural problems, and reduce energy waste, valued at \$7,323



Vermont Matched Savings: 2 participants earned \$997 in matched savings, received financial literacy education services valued at \$3,013

Micro-Business Development: 2 households (3 people) received counseling, technical assistance & support to start, sustain or expand a small business, valued at \$4,080

Tax Preparation: 41 households (42 people) received tax credits & refunds of \$24,396 and services valued at \$8,685

Family Services: 41 households (85 people) received 151 services valued at \$1,845 (crisis resolution for homelessness prevention, fuel & utility assistance, forms assistance, budget counseling, information & referral, and service coordination)

Fuel & Utility Assistance: 25 households (53 people) received 80 assists valued at \$28,830

Housing Assistance: 9 households (21 people) received 21 assists valued at \$15,885

Solar Energy Program: 2 households (4 people) receive a total of \$646 in energy credits on their electric to reduce their energy burden

Thrift Store Vouchers: 1 household (1 person) received goods & services valued at \$69

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of federal, state, private, and town funds enables us to not only maintain, but to increase and improve service.

We thank the residents of Putney for their support.

*~Stephen Geller, Executive Director*



SeVEDS, founded in 2007 as an affiliate of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC), takes a proactive approach to long-term regional economic development. Improving wages, attracting and keeping people in the region, and fostering a healthy regional jobs base are critical and beyond the capacity of any single community to substantially affect. SeVEDS creates strategies and attracts resources to help us act together to build a vibrant regional economy. BDCC, Southeastern Vermont's Regional Development Corporation, develops and implements these strategies. We use municipal funding in three key ways:

(1) To fund implementation of programs & projects.

(2) For capacity. We use SeVEDS regional municipal funds to create programs (see below), conduct research and planning, secure and administer

grants, and to help regional partners - last year we helped bring another \$2.7 Million directly to other organizations – towns, businesses and non-profits (not including COVID relief).

(3) As seed funding to leverage bringing more money into the region (in FY20 we administered \$635,699 of federal and state funding for BDCC & SeVEDS programs and projects)

### **Background & Request**

Our work is guided by the 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a 5-year regional plan with simple goals: Strengthen Business, Support People. The CEDS, available online at [www.seveds.com](http://www.seveds.com), is developed by the regions people and businesses. SeVEDS requests funding at \$3.00 per person from all 27 towns we serve to support this work. In 2020, sixteen communities funded SeVEDS, representing 82% of Windham residents. Therefore, we are asking the Town of Putney to appropriate \$8,106.00 (based on a population of 2702) to support SeVEDS.

### **2020 Pandemic Response**

SeVEDS history includes leading regional economic development, and recovery, with strategy and insight. We took a leading role on charting the path for economic response and recovery for both Tropical Storm Irene and the closure of the VY Nuclear Plant. During the pandemic, BDCC adapted our regular programming to the current conditions, and to emerging needs. In March, we shift staff from full-time CEDS driven program work into the COVID-19 Impact team which provided support directly to regional establishments and entrepreneurs. We remain focused on ensuring pandemic relief for small businesses and non-profits is understood and accessed locally.

This has helped, and is still helping, direct resources to the Windham Region:

- 25 businesses in Putney received liaison support from BDCC to help apply for federal and state relief.

- 54 businesses in Putney employing 215 people received \$1,155,924.92 in Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans <\$150k. 2 other firms received PPP loans ranging \$350k to \$1 million. They employ 50 people.

- 12 Putney based business are receiving Restart Vermont Technical Assistance through BDCC (up to \$4000).

- We have provided 13 webinars specific to COVID-19 Business Resiliency, along with How-to-Zoom webinars, municipal trainings on short- and long-term impacts of COVID-19.

- 1 Putney Sole Proprietor received \$7,500 in Community Development Block Grant Covid funding via BDCC.

- We convene twice monthly Business Economic Resiliency Webinars to ensure local people can be heard and get answers directly from legislators and state and federal officials.

- We convene twice monthly Windham Resiliency Team Webinars so local officials have direct access to up-to-date information on economic recovery programs, direct access to their Windham and Federal delegations, and that needs for Windham County's COVID-19 economic recovery consistently heard.

### **Regular Programming**

SeVEDS helps fund the following initiatives which stem from the CEDS strategies and SeVEDS research:

- Capacity-building for communities. BDCC's Southern Vermont Economy Project which helps towns and nonprofits improve community vibrancy through local projects. Since 2017 we've provided 100+ trainings with over 2,000 participants, plus 43 online webinars to help solve problems and find resources. This fall we provided a Funders Roundtable and Grant Writing workshop to connect towns with the resources they need to achieve local goals, and help local officials and volunteers build relationships and skills.

- Direct technical assistance – In addition to providing trainings and webinars, and opportunities to connect directly with experts and officials, we help communities directly with grant applications, state programs, talent-recruitment, and fund-finding.

- BDCC provides Community Facilities Technical Assistance through USDA which helps with libraries, childcare, town offices, public safety and other types of essential local facilities. Assistance is available for every phase of project from planning through construction.

- The Pipelines and Pathways Program (P3) operates in the regional high schools and serves all students. P3 was in full swing from September to March, with field trips, mock interview and professionalism workshops and career awareness classes. When COVID-19 halted in-person classes and field trips, P3 Pivoted to provide online resume and interview training for LNA students at Vermont Technical College as they entered the job market. This fall P3 is bringing online career content to the regional high schools through Flexible Pathways so students graduate with skills they need to navigate the working world.

- We conduct survey-based research to identify promising career pathways in this region to increase

access by underemployed, unemployed and young workers to jobs that will allow them to thrive here. Please check out our three new Hiring Needs Assessments at the BDCC web site: Accounting and bookkeeping, manufacturing and production, and CDL Drivers.

- Southern Vermont Young Professionals puts on monthly networking events, annual financial wellness and homebuyer trainings, and now a professional development scholarship fund.

- Recruitment and Retention. We welcome people to the region. Young Professionals is part of this, and we also work directly with employers to help welcome new talent. We recently launched a Southern Vermont Welcome Wagon chapter which is connecting recent newcomers to local hosts.

- BDCC Paid Internships has placed 109 interns since 2014, visited over 20 campuses since 2017, and worked with over 175 employers. 25% of interns are hired on to stay. We place regional college students of all ages, and students returning for summer or for good. Part of our college outreach is twice annually hosting Landmark College students at the BDCC Cotton Mill for an entrepreneurship teach-in and field trip.

- BDCC's Workforce Center of Excellence is building a regional workforce development system connecting people with opportunities, and employers with people. We help fund or run a diverse range of workforce training programs that invest in people.

- We have developed innovative services, lending and technical assistance for small businesses and startups through INSTIG8. In FY20 we worked with employers providing 30% of the region's jobs. The Putney General Store is a recipient of our USDA Backed BDCC Microentrepreneur Loan. The loan comes with technical assistance grants for things like marketing or accounting services, and wraparound support from BDCC's business experts.

- SeVEDS & BDCC visit every community, listen and learn, and keep adapting to serve you.

*~Sarah Lang, Project Manager*



Vermont Adult Learning is a statewide, private nonprofit corporation with a public mission to provide basic education and literacy skills for Vermonters. The

Windham County, Brattleboro-based Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) Center instructors provide free adult

education and literacy services to residents 16 and older who want to earn a high school diploma, prepare for the Accuplacer Exam or improve math and literacy skills for the workplace. VAL instructors and educational advisors work personally with adult learners to determine the best way for learners to achieve educational and career goals. In addition, we provide English as a second language classes.

Students are referred to VAL by local high schools, Community College of Vermont and local employers. In addition, students self-refer for our services, or are referred to VAL by various Vermont State Agencies. In FY'18, the Brattleboro VAL Center provided 710 hours of instruction to eight Putney residents.

~Cathryn Hayes, Regional Director



Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is one of the oldest and largest non-profit providers of in-

home healthcare services in the region. VNH is committed to providing the highest quality care throughout all stages of life, from maternal child care to end of life hospice care, and everything in between. Providing individuals and families with the care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care.

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, 2019 and June 30, 2020 VNH made 2,503 homecare visits to 79 Putney residents. This included approximately \$51,903 in unreimbursed care to Putney residents.

- Home Health Care: 1,115 home visits to 56 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- Long-Term Care: 290 home visits to 9 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in the home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- Hospice Services: 1,062 home visits to 11 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- Skilled Pediatric Care: 36 home visits to 3 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. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic we were forced to suspend these services in March. Since then, we have been rethinking our community wellness programs to find a way to continue to offer them following the pandemic.

Putney'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.

~ Hilary Davis, Director External Relations and Service Excellence



#### Description of Services:

The Windham County Humane Society (WCHS) is a nonprofit organization serving all residents of the towns of Windham

County, Vermont. The mission of WCHS is to ensure the safety and well-being of animals as well as enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare.

Animal Intake numbers 1,592 animals were served by WCHS

- 785 animals were seen at our Wellness & Spay/Neuter clinics
- 268 animals were surrendered by their owners
- 37 animals that were adopted out were returned to WCHS
- 12 animals were seized by law enforcement
- 207 animals were brought in as strays
- 283 animals came as transports from regions of the country where the euthanasia rate is high due to overpopulation

#### Outcomes

- 663 animals were adopted
- 85 animals were reunited with their owner
- 47 animals (6%) were euthanized for health or behavior issues. WCHS does not euthanize for time or space.
- 30 Animals were euthanized for owners who could not afford veterinary clinic fees for this service
- 8 animals died in care
- 16 animals were transferred to other animal welfare organizations
- 8 animals were dead on arrival.



The average length of stay for animals was 14 days. Total expenses were \$559,253.

#### Spay/Neuter

WCHS hosts spay/neuter clinics for income eligible residents of Windham County. A simple application is required. WCHS provides financial assistance to applicants who can't afford the fees and provides spay/neuter at no charge for free-roaming, un-owned cats. All animals adopted out from WCHS are spayed/neutered, up-to-date on vaccines and microchipped. In 2019-20, WCHS spayed/neutered 318 cats, 120 dogs and 7 rabbits owned by Windham County residents as well as un-owned community cats.

#### Pet Care Assistance

This program provides veterinary care at low-to-no cost to low-income pet owners. Clients must apply and provide proof of financial need and of residency in Windham County. In 2019-20, 518 pet owners received support in the form of vaccinations, surgeries, parasite control, diagnostic tests and pet food.

From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, WCHS served Putney residents as follows:

- 7 cats and 3 dogs were surrendered by 7 Putney residents
- 36 doses of parasite prevention
- 3 humane euthanasians
- 24 spay neuter surgeries for cats, 6 for dogs and 1 for a rabbit
- 2 diagnostic tests
- 33 Distemper vaccines
- 37 Rabies Vaccines
- 26 residents adopted 18 cats and 11 dogs
- 6 residents were reunited with a lost pet(s).

*~Annie Guion, Executive Director*



Each year as we prepare town reports, we get to reflect on the time gone by. I don't think anyone will argue that this was a bizarre year, but with the closing of 2020, we continue our tradition of sharing with you what's going on. One of the focal points of this year was SARS-CoV-2 (COVID19), which like similar hardships brought our community together, despite the words "socially distant." We were grateful to receive donations of personal protective equipment from area businesses and nonprofits when emergency services faced shortages in the supply chain. We coordinated with community groups to ensure people received food and that our neighbors were okay. Our deputies created the "Bring Birthdays Back" program

to celebrate the birthdays of children isolated from their friends and families by the lockdown, raising over \$1020 and countless toy donations. In short, the community came forward to support our department and we worked to support the community during this trying time.

COVID-19 brought about numerous changes for us. While we continued to provide policing, service of civil process, and emergency dispatching services, we suspended non-essential activities such as civilian fingerprinting, evictions as required by Act 101, prisoner transports, extraditions, and traffic control for construction, as well as closed our facility to public access. We implemented protocols for safe contacts between the public and our personnel. Foregoing many of these services resulted in a significant financial burden as our expenses remained largely the same, though our non-tax funded revenue sources dropped. Through the efforts of Windham County's Legislative delegation and with the support of the Assistant Judges Barnett and Duff, we were able to obtain emergency funding through the Local Government's Emergency Response grant which diminished the financial impact and allowed our essential services to continue. While several of our services were reinstated over the Summer and Fall, we monitor daily and adjust as the environment changes.

Another important issue brought about this year was regarding police reform and racial justice. Many of us stood in horror as we watched the homicide of George Floyd which sparked conversation and debate nationally and locally. Historically, Vermont has done a lot of work toward better policing initiatives, but we must acknowledge that this isn't a conversation with a finish line. We continuously improve. I am thankful of the many people willing to share their experiences, perspectives, and time to help the Windham County Sheriff's Office measure itself and identify what changes it needed. We reviewed policies, training, data and engaged in community dialogue. As part of our introspection, I established the Windham County Sheriff's Advisory, a group of citizens to help provide community input toward the policies and operations of the Sheriff's Office. We engaged with individuals, organizations, researchers, and public bodies, to listen candidly. We worked with 40 agencies in Vermont to uniformly share traffic stop and race data reporting of all traffic stops. We obtained a grant-funded study from an independent researcher to evaluate us.

Since 2007, we've engaged in various forms of training on de-escalation of force, explicit/implicit



bias, fair and impartial policing, and interacting with persons suffering from mental illness. The department has long prohibited the use of chokeholds. We declined to deploy tools such as tasers, acknowledging the power of de-escalation through dialogue and our low occurrences of use-of-force techniques by deputies. We've captured race data on our traffic stops to help us monitor for deputies engaged in biased policing. While many action items of the President's 21st Century Policing Task Force report have been accomplished, we continue to address other areas. You can follow our progress on our website at [windhamcountynyvt.gov](http://windhamcountynyvt.gov)

The Sheriff's Office continues to support the interdisciplinary Consortium on Substance Use, working to resolve the opioid and substance use issues that have affected Windham County. This year, we welcomed a Police Liaison social worker through a partnership with HCRS, Dover PD, and Wilmington PD. The Sheriff's Office continues to support the following programs and initiatives: coordination with the Windham County Highway Safety Task Force; daily Are You Okay? welfare check phone calls; Work Zone Safety Enforcement; Toys for Kids; and snow mobile patrols. We continue to maintain secured anonymous drug disposal bin in our lobby to help the citizens of our community safely dispose of unwanted/unused prescription medications. It is the continued support of Putney and other towns which help contribute to our ability to provide these no-cost services to Windham County as a whole.

For the 2020 fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), Putney contracted with the Sheriff's Office to provide a total of 2000 hours of service throughout the year. The Sheriff's Office was able to provide 2020.25 hours of service, at no additional cost to the town. The services provided included motor vehicle enforcement and response to calls for service, or calls where response would not be provided by the town's primary law enforcement agency. During the contract period, we issued a total of 110 tickets with the potential net revenue for Putney of \$3561.60. Additionally, deputies have issued 353 warnings, made 28 arrests, and responded to 778 calls for service.

The Windham County Sheriff's Office is pleased to serve the people of Putney and look forward to the upcoming year. If you have a need for our services, please don't hesitate to contact our office at 802-365-4942 for non-emergencies or 911 for emergencies.

*~Mark R. Anderson, Sheriff*



The mission of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) is to assist towns in Southeastern Vermont to provide effective local governance and to work collaboratively with them to address regional issues. The region is comprised of 27 member towns: the 23 towns of Windham County; Readsboro, Searsburg and Winhall in Bennington County; and Weston in Windsor County.

The Commission is a political subdivision of the state composed of and governed by town-appointed Commissioners. After Town Meeting each Selectboard appoints up to two representatives to serve on the Commission for one-year terms. Putney is currently represented by Karen Astley and Stephen Dotson. Each Commissioner represents their town's interests within a regional context before the Commission, brings information back and forth between the Commission and their town, and serves on at least one of a number of WRC committees that address regional and municipal issues and concerns. Committees and meeting schedules can be found on our website [www.windhamregional.org](http://www.windhamregional.org). All WRC meetings are open to the public and subject to open meeting law.

We assist towns with a wide variety of activities, including developing and implementing town plans and bylaws; community and economic development planning and implementation; local emergency and hazard mitigation planning, including flood hazard and river corridor bylaw assistance; natural resources, including assisting towns with watershed restoration projects and implementation of the state's new clean water law; enhanced town energy planning enabled by Act 174; transportation, including traffic counts (vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian), inventories (bridges, culverts, signs, road erosion), road foremen training, and serving as a liaison with VTTrans to report damage to town road infrastructure as a result of flooding to the state; redevelopment of "Brownfields" (sites that are or may be contaminated by hazardous substances); review of projects applying for permits through state Act 250 (land use) and Section 248 (energy generation and transmission, telecommunications) and federal permitting processes; grant application and administration; training of municipal officials and volunteers across a range of topics; and mapping and geographic information system (GIS) analyses. The maps in your town office were likely produced by the WRC.

We help towns, both individually and collectively, make the most of the financial and human resources they have, assisting with projects in and among towns, building and augmenting the capacity of volunteer-based town boards and commissions, and providing professional services to towns that may want to take on projects that are beyond what they can comfortably manage with their own staff and volunteers. Our relationship with towns is inherently collaborative. For instance, towns may choose to have their plans reviewed by the Commission; town plan review and approval by the WRC is not mandatory, but is a requirement of some state programs (Designated Downtowns and Village Centers) and municipal grant programs. The regional plan, which was updated in 2014 following a two-year process, is developed in consultation with member towns, reflects town plan policies, and is ultimately approved by our towns.

In 2020 we were able to continue to function with minimal disruption, and transition to remote operations, to serve the towns and people of the Windham Region. As the realities of the pandemic became evident, we organized training for towns on continuity of operations planning. We worked with the legislature, state agencies, and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to make changes to statute to enable towns to continue with their operations while still conducting business in a publicly transparent manner. We arranged for a regular conference call for town emergency management directors and Selectboard chairs with local Vermont Emergency Management, Department of Health, and Agency of Human Services staff. Our website hosts a comprehensive COVID-19 resource guide for individuals, which was developed and maintained by local service organizations and other volunteers. Municipal applications to the Local Government Expense Reimbursement program were and continue to be supported by the WRC. Performance of our normal responsibilities and projects never ceased. Among these was the development of a regional broadband feasibility study and subsequent business plan to provide broadband internet access to the unserved and underserved in the region. The Deerfield Valley Communications Union District organized itself to implement this plan. We are here to support the towns of the region to meet the needs of their residents, conduct their business, and engage in looking forward through and beyond the pandemic.

Funding for the WRC is provided through contracts with state agencies, federal grants, and town assessments. Town assessments make up

approximately 5 percent of our total budget for FY 2021, and is the only funding we receive that has no conditions placed upon it by entities beyond the WRC's borders. Each town's individual assessment makes it possible for us to leverage the resources to serve all towns. The town's assessment for this year is \$6,337.79. To see our detailed Work Program and Budget for FY 2021, visit our website and click on the heading "About Us."

*~ Ashley Collins, Office Manager*



Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a nonprofit 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.

The organization applies mission to practice through three branches: Homeownership, Housing Development, and Property Management. In 2020, the **Homeownership's** Home Repair Program assisted 43 homeowners by providing low-cost loans to make critical repairs. The one-to-one counseling assisted 54 clients by navigating them through the purchase process to closing on their new home. The Shared Equity program has 135 homes currently and provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes which lowers the cost to the homebuyer. Beyond these standard programs, the Homeownership department has acted quickly to administer the State's COVID Relief Funded Rehousing Recovery Program. This program granted funding for the rehab of 60 privately owned apartments which were formerly offline to bring them back on the market before the close of the year to provide safe and affordable housing. The newly rentable apartments are spread across the whole of Windham and Windsor Counties.

**Housing Development:** 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. 2020 brought progress towards the planned development in downtown Bellows Falls. This project, the Bellows Falls Garage, will introduce 27 new apartments to Downtown Bellows Falls, and contribute to the revitalization of this historic Vermont village. In 2021, WWHT is planning the rehabilitation of 26 apartments in Brattleboro and Windsor, comprising some of the oldest buildings in our portfolio. Breathing new life into these apartments will allow us to serve our residents into the coming decades. Alongside these projects, with the help of COVID Relief Funds, the Housing Trust has purchased the former Dalem's Chalet in West Brattleboro. In partnership with Groundworks Collaborative, the Chalet will provide permanent supportive housing to people in our community experiencing chronic homelessness.

**Property Management:** WWHT owns 867 residential properties and 16 commercial properties with rental apartments housing over 1500 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. This includes helping tenants access rent relief funding through the State. This year, over \$107,000 of rental relief was accessed. 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.homemattershere.org](http://www.homemattershere.org)

*~Jenna LeBlanc, Office Manager*



**History and Current Status:** The Windham Solid Waste Management District (WSWMD) was

formed in 1988 with eight member towns. These towns cooperatively managed a 30-acre landfill on Old Ferry Road, Brattleboro, which closed in 1995. A regional materials recycling facility (MRF) was constructed

adjacent to the closed landfill, and processed dual-stream recyclable materials for 20 years until it stopped operating in 2017. The recycling roll-off containers that WSWMD had provided to all of its member towns were no longer hauled and processed by WSWMD, and the towns assumed responsibility for complying with state recycling mandates. The roll-off containers are currently on loan to member towns at no charge. Besides the WSWMD transfer station, there are 7 towns that operate their own transfer station, three towns that provide residential curbside trash and recycling, three towns with 24-7 recycling drop-off areas, and five towns with no municipal trash or recycling services.

**Financial Report:** WSWMD finished fiscal year 2020 with a budget surplus of \$52,596, with total revenues of \$1,125,679 off-setting total expenses of \$1,025,025.

**Transfer Station:** The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that WSWMD provides “essential services,” and has continued full-scale operation. A comparison of the six-months from January - June in 2019 versus 2020 documented \$49,000 more revenue in 2020.

The staff stepped up to keep the transfer station operating with significant new safety protocols. Only the ever-popular Swap Shop suspended operation. The transfer station is a regional drop-off center for landfill materials, recyclables, organics/food scraps, construction & demolition debris, scrap metal, and appliances. The transfer station diverts 76% of all materials to recycling and composting, including electronics, fluorescent tubes, ballasts, lead-acid and household batteries, waste oil and oil filters, oil-based paint and other paint products, sharps, textiles, books, and tires. Use of the transfer station is limited to residents and businesses from member communities and requires the purchase of an access sticker for \$40/year. The cost for trash disposal is \$3.00 per 33-gallon bag, or \$155/ton.

**Materials Recovery Facility (MRF):** The WSWMD MRF closed in July 2017 but continues to accept cardboard from commercial sources. Cardboard is baled (no sorting required) and sold. Eight towns continue to utilize the District's recycling roll-off containers and offer drop-off recycling services in their communities. Towns contract with private haulers to provide recycling services.

**Trucking:** Since closure of the MRF in 2017, WSWMD no longer collects recyclable materials from member towns, but retained a driver with a Class A CDL license that allows WSWMD to self-haul



recyclables from our transfer station, scrap metal, and wood chips for the composting operation.

**Composting Facility:** Of all recyclable materials handled by the District, the only ones that are kept local are food scraps and yard debris. The food scrap composting facility is in its 7th year of operation and is the 2nd largest food scrap composting facility in Vermont. As the food scrap composting mandates of Act 148 have been phased in, the total quantity of food scraps processed at the site in 2020 approached 2,000 cubic yards per year, the maximum allowed by the state permit. The District is evaluating options to process additional quantities of organics. About 50% of the food waste is from the Town of Brattleboro curbside collection program, and the balance from commercial and institutional sources brought to the compost site by private trash haulers. The District sold more than 3,000 cubic yards of “Brattlegrow” compost in 2020 through retail distributors, as well as for construction projects. WSWMD donates compost for town projects, school, and community gardens.

**Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP):** Household hazardous waste collection, education and outreach, as well as numerous other requirements, are mandated by State Law and contained in the District’s SWIP. Membership in WSWMD makes towns compliant with state recycling mandates. On behalf of member towns, WSWMD submitted an amended SWIP this fall, and once approved by VT Agency of Natural Resources, it will be valid for 5 years.

**Solar Array:** WSWMD leases its closed and capped landfill to Greenbacker Capital who operate a 5 megawatt solar array on the landfill. It is the largest group net-metered project in the state, and has contracted for 20 years with the towns of Brattleboro, Wilmington, Readsboro, Vernon, Wardsboro, Dummerston, Halifax, and Newfane; schools in Brattleboro, Vernon, Putney, and Marlboro; as well as Landmark College, Marlboro College, and the Brattleboro Retreat. The project provides significant cost savings for municipal and school budgets. Greenbacker Capital has a 20-year lease and pays the District a minimum of \$120,290/year for use of the landfill, as well as 50% of renewable energy credits, for total annual revenue of over \$250,000.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collections:** Due to the pandemic, WSWMD held just two household hazardous waste collection events, as mandated by VT ANR Materials Management Plan. Collections were held in Brattleboro and in Wilmington on October 24th, with 230 households from 17 District towns participating.

**New HHW Depot:** Due to the high costs of HHW event collections, WSWMD applied for a state grant to construct a permanent HHW collection facility at Old Ferry Road, and following approval of a state permit, it will open in Spring of 2021 for certain hours each week to serve all District residents. Small businesses will also be able to use the site by appointment.

**Backyard Composting Demonstration Area:** A new teaching area has been installed at the District demonstrating five different systems for composting food scraps at homes, schools, and community gardens. The District held an open house in October and will be offering workshops starting in the spring of 2021. The facility will be available for use by schools and community organizations as well. The District also conducts composting workshops in District towns as we did in Vernon this fall.

**Business Outreach & Technical Assistance:** The District continues to promote its business resources and free technical assistance, including food scrap diversion.

**School Outreach & Technical Assistance:** The District continues to promote its school resources and free technical assistance, including food scrap diversion.

**Special Event “Zero Waste” Outreach and Technical Assistance:** WSWMD owns 20 event-sorting stations that are available to towns, businesses, residents, and institutions for use at fairs, festival, etc. In addition, WSWMD offers free technical assistance to help make events “Zero Waste.”

*~Bob Spencer, Executive Director*



The mission of the Women’s Freedom Center is to work to end physical, sexual and emotional violence against the women and children of Windham County. 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 Windham 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, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the Women's Freedom Center responded to over 1,900 crisis telephone calls, sheltered 125 people and provided thousands of hours of individual and group support, advocacy, emergency financial and housing assistance, access to legal representation, transportation and childcare to 1,163 people (711 women, 34 men, and 418 children) who had been abused. These figures include 23 survivors and their 9 children from Putney. In addition, we provided 24 community outreach activities including school presentations and workshops to over 650 people throughout Windham and southern Windsor County.

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.

~ Vickie Sterling, Executive Director



Youth Services was established in 1972. For over 48 years we have served the needs of youth, young adults and families in and around Windham County. We envision equitable communities where all people are thriving, working together to build resilience and be a catalyst for change with programs in prevention, intervention and development for young people and families. We believe in helping people learn how to grow, both as individuals and as a family, so they can learn to rely on themselves and their own networks to face future issues. We annually assist over 1,200 children, youth and families. Our broad array of program services includes:

- Intervention and support services to teens running away from home or at-risk for running away with counseling, family mediation, and housing
- Transitioning youth in foster care to independent living as young adults
- Court Diversion for youth and adults, an alternative to the traditional court system using a restorative justice approach to repair the harm to victims and the community while addressing the underlying issues of the people who violated the law
- Substance use prevention, treatment and recovery including counseling services
- Therapeutic case management services for youth and young adults
- Workforce development programs with a career-based mentoring focus
- Transitional living services
- Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program

We served 23 residents from Putney during Fiscal Year 2020 and remain available to provide services in the future. Your continued support is beneficial to the children, youth and families in your town.

For additional information please see our website at [www.youthservicesinc.org](http://www.youthservicesinc.org), call 802-257-0361 or email [info@youthservicesinc.org](mailto:info@youthservicesinc.org). Thank you for your consideration of this request.

~Russell Bradbury-Carlin,  
Executive Director

# Minutes for 2020 Putney Annual Town Meeting

**Polls were open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Putney Central School**

Before the official start to the meeting our state elected officials spoke. Representative Mike Mrowicki, Representative Nader Hashim, Senator Majority Leader Becca Balint, and Senator Jeanette White each discussed the work they are doing in Montpelier.

Moderator Meg Mott called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM

Moderator Meg Mott moved, barring no objections, to invite out-of-town residents Karen Astley, Town Manager, and Kim Munro, Assistant Town Clerk, to the stage.

The Selectboard introduced themselves. Joshua Laughlin; Chair, Laura Chapman; Vice-Chair, and David Babbitt; Clerk

Announcements: Parking has designated areas for Town Meeting versus voting only. The meeting is run by Roberts Rules of Order (you can find the highlights in the annual town report), and the school is a separate meeting, but the school leadership council will be available for questions after the official meeting.

Article 1: To choose all Town Officers required by law to be elected at the Annual Town Meeting.  
(*Voting by Australian Ballot*)

<u>Results:</u>	Moderator (for 1 year)	Meg Mott
	Selectperson (for 3 years)	Josh Laughlin
	Cemetery Commission (for 3 years)	Greg Wilson
	Lister (for 3 years)	Douglas Harlow

Article 2: The Town of Putney seeks voter approval to purchase a new 2021 Fire Engine for the Putney Fire Department to be financed by general obligation bonds or notes for a purchase price not to exceed Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000).

The question to be voted by Australian Ballot was as follows:

“Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Putney, in the amount not to exceed Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000) bearing an interest rate not to exceed 2% for a term not to exceed 10 years be issued for the purpose of financing a new 2021 Fire Engine for the Putney Fire Department?”

Results: Yes: 526 No: 136

While the vote is Australian Ballot, questions are permitted on the floor. Alan Blood asked if we were replacing an existing vehicle. Thomas Goddard spoke to the history of the truck. It is a 2006 truck and is one of the two primary engines.

The decision to replace is due to a combination of factors, including increasing costs and tariffs and electrical and mechanical problems beginning to occur.

Josh Laughlin pointed out that the trade-in value will drop sharply in the next few years and interest rates for bonds are very favorable now. Janice Baldwin asked if the trade-in value was included in the budget and the answer was yes. Lionel Chute asked if we have a capital reserve and how does it relate to borrowing. Karen Astley answered that we have a public safety reserve fund but not a set-aside capital reserve fund and Josh Laughlin said that interest rates have influenced the decision to borrow versus save and there is an ongoing discussion about it. Craig Goldberg asked if it is possible in the future to discuss this before the vote and Josh Laughlin pointed out that there were two published informational meetings on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, as required by statute. Laura Chapman said that the Australian ballot vote was required by the state because of the bond. Mikaela Marmion asked what made them choose that specific vehicle and was climate impact a factor in the decision. Josh Laughlin answered that the technology is not yet to the point where it is practical but it was in their consideration. Patricia Blum asked how much this would cost per household and the answer was approximated at \$25 per \$100,000 of value over 10 years. Elizabeth Fox asked about the longevity of firetrucks and when do you expect the other primary engine to go. Thomas Goddard gave an overview of the 8 total fire apparatuses and a description of 'light' versus 'heavy' built trucks. He also recalled that in 2006 the decision was to purchase a light truck because of recent large expenses and refurbishing it is not an option.

Article 3: To see if the Town will accept the report of the last Town Meeting.

Kathleen O'Reilly moved and Elizabeth Christie seconded.

Result: Accepted 11:10 AM

Article 4: To hear and act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

Kathleen O'Reilly moved and Janice Baldwin seconded

Result: Accepted 11:11 AM

At this time Moderator Meg Mott pointed out that Howard Fairman was serving as the parliamentarian for the meeting.

Josh Laughlin then presented the Community Service Award to Julien "Jules" Lavoie

Article 5: To elect three Trustees to the Putney Public Library Board

Meredith Wade, current chair, nominated Kevin Champney, Amber Paris, and Rebecca Nixon. Moderator Meg Mott proposed they be voted upon as a slate and there were no objections.

Result: Passed 11:16 AM

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to exempt the Putney Gun Club from municipal and educational taxation, on the improvements, appurtenances and land off of Sand Hill Road, Lot 07-03-39, for a period of five (5) years, beginning April 1, 2020, as authorized by 32 V.S.A., Section 3832(7)

Kathleen O'Reilly moved and Alice Maes seconded.

James Olmstead was invited to speak on behalf of the Putney Gun Club. They are looking into replacing the former hunter safety instructor. Eva Mondon spoke against saying that it isn't used that much. Kathleen O'Reilly spoke in favor and pointed that it is about safety, and the goal is to get more people involved. Alan Blood suggested that we decline until the course is offered again. Janice Baldwin asked how much money are we considering and Geordie Heller answered approximately \$2070. Robin Ekstrom asked how many people use the location and James Olmstead responded that 6 people are on the team and two other clubs rotate through for competition. Josh Laughlin asked how many people used the hunter safety course and the answer was estimated about 40 with an excess demand. Eva Mondon pointed out that they did a poor job advertising the course and it is time to end the exemption. Deb Stetson supports an "if you build it, they will come" approach. Laura Chapman moved an amendment changing the Article to state one year instead of five and Lawrence O'Neill seconded. Josh Laughlin questioned if it was legally allowable to do for one year and Georgie Heller pointed out that they had done it for Putney Cares in the past. Lyssa Papazian asked what the \$2000 dollars would do to the gun club budget and James Olmstead said they only have \$1500 in the treasury and the membership costs \$75 a year. Robin Ekstrom suggested giving the gun club the year to get the safety course running again.

Vote on the Amendment: Passed 11:38 AM

Vote on Article 6, As Amended: To see if the Town will vote to exempt the Putney Gun Club from municipal and educational taxation, on the improvements, appurtenances and land off of Sand Hill Road, Lot 07-03-39, for a period of one (1) year, beginning April 1, 2020, as authorized by 32 V.S.A., Section 3832(7)

Result: Passed 11:39 AM

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$190,000 to purchase a Dump Truck for the Highway Department, to be repaid, by a promissory note, with a term of not more than five (5) years.

Robin Ekstrom moved and Melanie Fletcher seconded

Josh Laughlin explained that this is to replace a 2010 truck and as per the capital plan there is a regular rotation after 10 years due to a consideration of the balance between maintenance costs and trade-in values. Gail Haines asked what the energy consideration was in the plan? Josh Laughlin said that they are keeping an eye on it. We are headed into a couple of years where we don't have to replace another. Karen Astley says 2023 is when the next one is due. She also said we are looking into buying outright versus



borrowing but right now the rates are good for borrowing. Alan Blood asked why this was a floor vote versus Australian ballot. Josh Laughlin stated that it was due to the different types of bonds and the other one required Australian ballot. Lawrence O'Neill asked what the bank rates were and why choose bank rate versus bond rate. Karen Astley answered between 2.5 and 3 percent and Josh Laughlin added that legal counsel costs add to the cost of considering a bond. Karen Astley added that the term of the bond varies the rate. Amanda Perez asked what the timeline was for looking at the Capital Plan. David Babbitt answered that it is an ongoing conversation and it is a balance between value and services. Josh Laughlin said there is a three-year window before the next anticipated large purchase and less services for less money is a voter choice.

Result: Passed 11:57 AM

Moderator Meg Mott called for a 45-minute lunch recess.

At 12:50 PM Moderator Meg Mott called the meeting back to order.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$103,000 to install a new vehicle exhaust system for thirteen (13) emergency vehicles located at the Fire Department to be repaid by a promissory note with a term of not more than five (5) years

Alan Blood moved and Alice Maes seconded

Josh Laughlin moved an amendment to change the word thirteen (13) to say eight (8), due to a mistake and Alan Blood seconded. Kate Dodge asked if the change in number would bring the price down but the answer was no. Josh Laughlin stated that they looked into grants but there was nothing to fund this project but the state may help with one since it houses a state vehicle. Robin Ekstrom asked what is the existing system in place and Josh Laughlin said that is was basically three fans – better than nothing but not great.

Vote on the Amendment: Passed 12:57 PM

Alan Blood asked for clarification on the purpose and do the vehicles need to run inside. Josh Laughlin said that the data is clear that this is good for health and safety and yes, they do need to run inside not only for maintenance but even just turning them on briefly inside is unhealthy with big diesel engines like these.

Vote on Article 8, as amended: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$103,000 to install a new vehicle exhaust system for eight (8) emergency vehicles located at the Fire Department, to be repaid, by a promissory note with a term of not more than five (5) years

Result: Passed 1:01 PM

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Gravel Pit Blasting Reserve Fund to be used for payment of blasting related services and equipment at the jointly owned gravel extraction site in Dummerston, Vermont

Josh Laughlin moves and Melanie Fletcher seconded.

Josh Laughlin estimated that this would cost in the realm of \$90,000 every 5 years. Lyssa Papazian asked how many years can we estimate on the gravel pit and Josh Laughlin said an estimate of 30+ years but 50-60 if there is an amendment to act 250. Eva Mondon wanted to thank the Selectboard for buying the gravel pit.

Result: Passed 1:06 PM

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$18,000 from the highway capital budget to the Gravel Pit Blasting Reserve Fund, if established by Article 9

Lawrence O'Neill moved and Melanie Fletcher seconded

Alan Blood asked why this was a good source of the money. Josh Laughlin explained that there was a highway surplus and this was money available that didn't raise taxes.

Result: Passed 1:09 PM

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,415,587 to defray its expenses and liabilities for the Town General Fund, ensuing fiscal year (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021)

Melanie Fletcher moved and Janice Baldwin seconded

Josh Laughlin pointed out that the first bond payment for the question on Article 2 doesn't happen until 2022 and the budget does include the 103,000. Eva Mondon asked why the \$8106 for SeVEDS (on page 46) was more than the Foodshelf or Community Center. Eva Mondon moved an amendment to reduce the overall budget by \$4053 and Janice Baldwin seconded. Laura Chapman asked Karen Astley to speak about SeVEDS and she explained that it is instrumental with economic development, it helps place young people with jobs, and it's payback is greater than the \$8100 investment. She highly recommends anyone with a business to contact them. R. T. Brown was invited to make a statement and answer questions. It is made up of volunteers and they use municipal money to leverage grant money and they've learned that \$3 per registered voter is ideal. R.T. Brown stated they put \$6500 back into Putney business last year. Mike Mrowicki spoke in support of economic development and pointed out that Putney is one of a few small villages that still has a village center and some of the work of SeVEDS and BDCC is why. Kate Dodge asked about the distinction between SeVEDS and BDCC and R.T. Brown answered that SeVEDS has a volunteer board but no staff so the BDCC is who enacts the programs. Sally Fletcher asked about programs for young people and R.T. Brown talked about the young professionals' organization and their practical workshops and social events.

Vote on Amendment: NAY 1:35 PM

Lawrence O'Neill asked about the elimination of compensation time note and Josh Laughlin explained that it was shifting unused compensation time to salary paid. Janice Baldwin asked what happens to surplus. Karen Astley said you hold between 8 and 12 percent of your budget and it is there for use in emergency. Josh Laughlin said that it's a buffer to be used at the Selectboard's discretion. Kate Dodge asked how we determine the different tiers in the social service agencies. Josh Laughlin said that it is evidence based drawn from information provided by the agencies on their level of service. Laura Chapman said the Selectboard is going to revisit the formula. Josh Laughlin used the Putney Community Cares merger as an example of why this needs to be revisited. Ruby McAdoo asked what the recreation coordinator was and also discussed how the pool costs exceeds revenue and the value it has to the town and wondered if the fees will increase this year. Karen Astley said they increased last year and don't plan on it this year and they are looking into grants. Jaime Contois discussed the slide and said to be prepared for a go-fund-me request. Lawrence O'Neill asked the difference between a reserve fund and surplus. Karen Astley said that a reserve fund is designated.

Result: Passed 1:53 PM

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,218,594 to defray its expenses and liabilities for the Highway Fund, ensuing fiscal year (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021)

Lawrence O'Neill moved and Alan Blood seconded

Lawrence O'Neill asked if this includes the loan for the truck. Karen Astley said yes.

Result: Passed 1:55 PM

Article 13: To transact any other town business that may legally come before the Annual Town Meeting.

The Selectboard presented a non-binding resolution:

“RESOLVED, the Town of Putney Selectboard seeks a non-binding consensus from the electorate on the questions of whether the Selectboard should consider a gift or sale of approximately 49 acres of town forest in Putney and an additional 85 acres in Brookline (Putney Mountain); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Selectboard perform a due diligence review to determine whether this property is a valuable asset for the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution does not bind or legally obligate the Selectboard to gift or sell this property.”

Geordie Heller moved and Nancy Storrow seconded.

Richard Fletcher, board member of the Putney Mountain Association, spoke to the history of the land. Discussion on the non-binding resolution included what the value of the land is and how to assess that. Value of lumber, carbon, tax, and what is the advantage of the transfer were discussed. Robin Ekstrom pointed out that the valuation was about the Selectboard doing due diligence and the Putney Mountain Association would be good stewards of the land.

Result: Passed 2:31 PM

Janet Goldstein spoke about the Animal Advisory board and to keep an eye out for new draft ordinance online.

Josh Laughlin reminded everyone to keep an eye on the Selectboard agendas.

Karen Astley talked about a broadband grant and encouraged every household to go online and participate in the survey.

Alice Maes moved a non-binding resolution and Janice Baldwin seconded.

“Be it resolved that the town of Putney requests of the State of Vermont that a state-owned bank be established following the model of the Bank of North Dakota.” She stated the reason as North Dakota survived the recession better than any other state.

Result: Passed 2:46 PM

Laura Chapman moved and Ruby McAdoo seconded a non-binding resolution that the Town of Putney Selectboard invites one of our school board members to present when the other elected officials present at the beginning of future town meetings. Liz Adams said a school board member cannot do that because they would need a quorum. The motion was amended to say invite one of the members of the Putney Central School’s Leadership Council to be present when other elected officials present at the beginning of future town meetings.

Vote on the Amendment: Passed 2:51 PM

Vote on the Resolution, as amended: Passed 2:52 PM

Ruby McAdoo spoke thanking for the childcare available at the meeting.

Jonathan Johnson spoke about the new Equity and Inclusion Committee and invited the public to participate and look for postings online and in the normal spots around town

Motion to adjourn by Ellen Forsythe and seconded by Elizabeth Christie

Meeting adjourned 2:54 PM

**OFFICIAL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING BALLOT  
MARCH 2, 2021**

**Instructions to Voters**

Use BLACK PEN or PENCIL to fill in the oval.  
To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.  
To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write or stick their name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line.  
Do not vote for more candidates than the "Vote for not more than #" for an office.  
To vote in favor of an article, fill in the oval to the right of the YES.  
To vote against an article, fill in the oval the right of the NO  
If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

**FOR MODERATOR**

1 Year (Vote for not more than **ONE**)  
MEG MOTT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)

**FOR SELECT BOARD**

3 Years (Vote for not more than **ONE**)  
AILEEN CHUTE  
CHARLES RAUBICHECK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)

**FOR LISTER**

3 Years (Vote for not more than **ONE**)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)

**FOR CEMETERY COMMISSIONER**

3 Years (Vote for not more than **ONE**)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)

**FOR PUTNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

3 Years (Vote for not more than **THREE**)  
IRENE CANARIS  
FRANKIE KNIBB  
EMILY MOORE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write-in)

**Article 3:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,344,755 of which \$1,063,255 shall be raised by taxes and \$281,500 by estimated revenues for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 4:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize highway fund expenditures of \$1,001,554 of which \$853,304 shall be raised by taxes and \$148,250 by estimated revenues for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**TURN OVER BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING**

educational taxation, on the improvements, appurtenances and land off of Sand Hill Road, Lot 07-03-39, for a period of five (5) years, beginning April 1, 2021, as authorized by 32 V.S.A., Section 3832(7);

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 6:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney establish a reserve fund named “Highway Capital Reserve Fund” to be used for the purchase or lease of highway equipment, construction and/or improvements of highway building(s), repair and maintenance of roads and bridges; and authorize the transfer of \$5,000 from the fiscal year 2019-2020 Highway Fund surplus to fund the Highway Capital Reserve Fund?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 7:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the Selectboard to purchase a Highway Loader at a cost not to exceed \$163,000 to be paid for from the fiscal year 2019-2020 Highway Fund surplus?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 8:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the transfer of \$20,000 from Phase II & III Sidewalk Construction Fund to the Sidewalk Maintenance Reserve Fund?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 9:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the transfer of the balance of approximately \$96,981 from the Phase II & III Sidewalk Construction Fund to the General Fund Capital Reserve Fund?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 10:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the Town to withdraw from the Windham Southeast School District?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 11:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney conditionally approve and ratify the withdrawal of the Towns of Brattleboro, Dummerston, and/or Guilford from the Windham Southeast School District, subject to the certification of results from the respective Town votes to withdraw on March 2, 2021?

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 12:** SHALL IT BE RESOLVED, that the town of Putney hereby endorses federal legislation which will provide universal, comprehensive healthcare coverage, with zero cost sharing, for all of our community residents during this crisis, such as the Health Care Emergency Guarantee Acts, and beyond, such as the Medicare-for-All Acts of 2019; and SHALL IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the town of Putney calls on Senator Sanders and Leahy and Representative Welch to work vigorously toward the immediate enactment of this, or similar legislation, thus ensuring healthcare coverage as a basic human right for all Americans.

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**Article 13:** Shall the Town of Putney declare that an ecological and climate emergency threatens our town, state, nation, and all of humanity and our natural world. With appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from State and Federal authorities, the Town of Putney commits to a town-wide effort to combat this imminent threat by:

- (a) Reducing the release of greenhouse gasses that promote global warming, by promoting zero-carbon electricity, heating, and transportation systems.
- (b) Supporting adaptation and resilience strategies for our residents, in preparation for intensifying local climate impacts.

If in favor of this Article, fill in the oval to the right YES  
If against this Article, fill in the oval to the right NO

**YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING**

# **TOWN OF PUTNEY 2021 WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**

The legal voters of the Town of Putney are hereby notified polling will take place on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, to act upon the following Articles by Australian Ballot. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Putney Fire Station, 21 Carl Snyder Drive, Putney, Vermont.

Due to emergency public health orders currently in effect, voters of the Town of Putney are urged and encouraged to request an absentee and early ballot from the Putney Town Clerk by telephone or email (802.387.5862 x13 or [clerk@putneyvt.org](mailto:clerk@putneyvt.org)) on and after February 10, 2021.

**The following articles will be voted by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.**

- Article 1:** To choose all Town Officers required by law to be elected by Australian Ballot;
- Article 2:** To elect three Trustees to the Putney Public Library Board by Australian Ballot;
- Article 3:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,344,755 of which \$1,063,255 shall be raised by taxes and \$281,500 by estimated revenues for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022?
- Article 4:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize highway fund expenditures of \$1,001,554 of which \$853,304 shall be raised by taxes and \$148,250 by estimated revenues for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022?
- Article 5:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney exempt the Putney Gun Club from municipal and educational taxation, on the improvements, appurtenances and land off of Sand Hill Road, Lot 07-03-39, for a period of five (5) years, beginning April 1, 2021, as authorized by 32 V.S.A., Section 3832(7);
- Article 6:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney establish a reserve fund named “Highway Capital Reserve Fund” to be used for the purchase or lease of highway equipment, construction and/or improvements of highway building(s), repair and maintenance of roads and bridges; and authorize the transfer of \$5,000 from the fiscal year 2019-2020 Highway Fund surplus to fund the Highway Capital Reserve Fund?
- Article 7:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the Selectboard to purchase a Highway Loader at a cost not to exceed \$163,000 to be paid for from the fiscal year 2019-2020 Highway Fund surplus?
- Article 8:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the transfer of \$20,000 from Phase II & III Sidewalk Construction Fund to the Sidewalk Maintenance Reserve Fund?
- Article 9:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the transfer of the balance of approximately \$96,981 from the Phase II & III Sidewalk Construction Fund to the General Fund Capital Reserve Fund?
- Article 10:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney authorize the Town to withdraw from the Windham Southeast School District?

**Article 11:** Shall the voters of the Town of Putney conditionally approve and ratify the withdrawal of the Towns of Brattleboro, Dummerston, and/or Guilford from the Windham Southeast School District, subject to the certification of results from the respective Town votes to withdraw on March 2, 2021?

**Article 12:** SHALL IT BE RESOLVED, that the town of Putney hereby endorses federal legislation which will provide universal, comprehensive healthcare coverage, with zero cost sharing, for all of our community residents during this crisis, such as the Health Care Emergency Guarantee Acts, and beyond, such as the Medicare-for-All Acts of 2019; and

SHALL IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the town of Putney calls on Senator Sanders and Leahy and Representative Welch to work vigorously toward the immediate enactment of this, or similar legislation, thus ensuring healthcare coverage as a basic human right for all Americans.

**Article 13:** Shall the Town of Putney declare that an ecological and climate emergency threatens our town, state, nation, and all of humanity and our natural world. With appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from State and Federal authorities, the Town of Putney commits to a town-wide effort to combat this imminent threat by:

- (a) Reducing the release of greenhouse gasses that promote global warming, by promoting zero-carbon electricity, heating, and transportation systems.
- (b) Supporting adaptation and resilience strategies for our residents, in preparation for intensifying local climate impacts.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021, at Putney, Windham County, Vermont

#### **PUTNEY SELECTBOARD**

Joshua Laughlin, Chair  
David Babbitt, Vice Chair  
Bara MacNeill, Clerk



# NOTES



**TOWN OF PUTNEY**

**P.O. BOX 233**

**PUTNEY, VT 05346**

**PRESORTED**

**STANDARD**

**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**

**PERMIT NO. 17**

Property taxes are due in three  
installments:

Third Friday of August,  
November, and February