

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

**TOWN
OF
BETHEL, VERMONT**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

*“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God,
indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.”*

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL, VERMONT AND THE FIFTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF GOVERNMENT, YEAR
ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003.**

USEFUL INFORMATION

TOWN CHARTER...The state of Vermont declared its independence on July 4, 1777 and on March 3, 1778 set up an organized government with sovereign powers, calling it New Connecticut. Before 1778 all town charters had been granted by either New Hampshire or New York, both claiming ownership of the land. Bethel was chartered December 23, 1779 by the Republic of Vermont.

THE RIVER... The Town is well watered. The White River flows across the southeast corner. The third branch of the White River which rises in Roxbury, courses through Braintree and a corner of Randolph into Bethel, flows about four miles within this town and then discharges into the White River. The second branch flows across the eastern corner of the town, through the village of East Bethel and joins the White River at North Royalton.

THE LAND... Area: 28,544 acres Altitude: 753 feet

ITS PEOPLE... 2000 US Census 1,968

CURRENT TOWN MAILING LIST... The Town's current mailing list to taxpayer, in-town, out-of-town, individuals and businesses: 1,120.

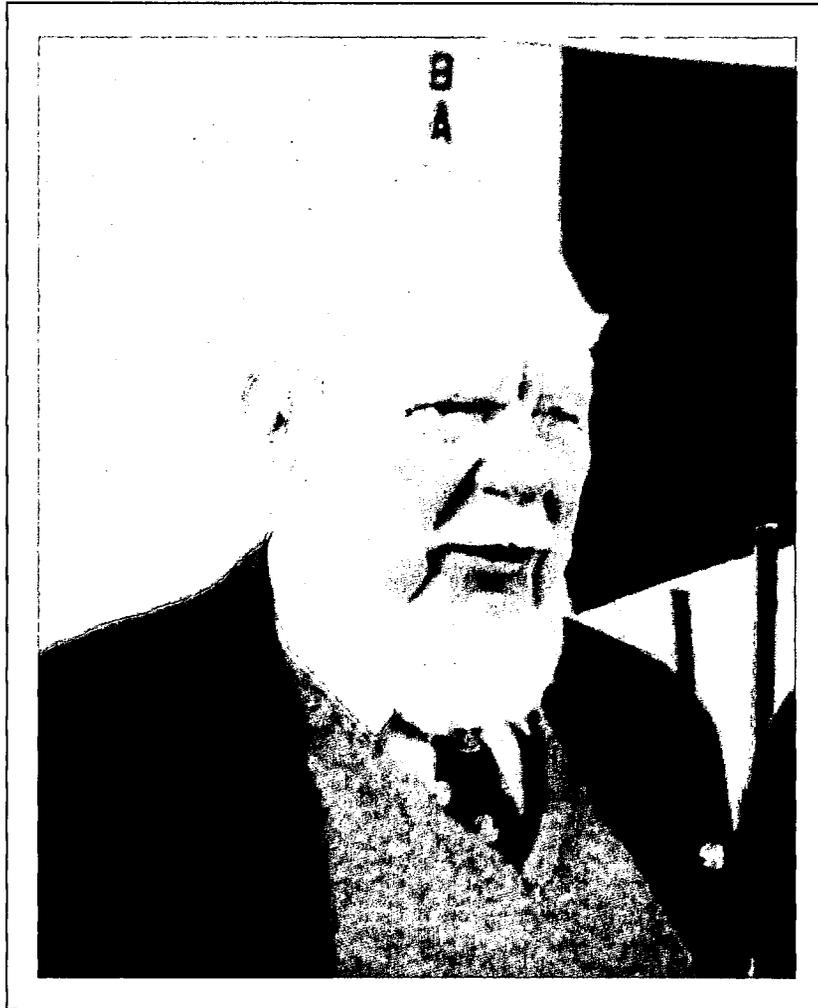
DOG LICENSES... Dog licenses are due April 1. After April 1 an additional fee is charged. Rabies shots must be kept up to date (every 24 months) and certificate left with Town Clerk.

TAXES DUE...Municipal taxes are due July 15, 50 % of school taxes are due September 15 and 50 % are due November 15. All taxes become delinquent on the day following the date they are due, and subject to an 8% penalty. A 1% interest charge per month will be added thereafter.

OFFICIAL NOTICES & WARNINGS... The newspaper in which Bethel publicizes its official warning and notices is the Herald of Randolph, published weekly on Thursdays, at Randolph, Vermont. The Valley News is used as an alternative source if needed.

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING CENTER... Located in Royalton about 3 miles from the Bethel Municipal Building, on Waterman Road just south of I-89. The facility is open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm.

In Dedication to
NORMAN S. CASE



(Photo courtesy of: Chris Costanzo)

This Annual Town Report has been dedicated to Norm with recognition for his 42 years of service as an officer of the Town of Bethel, and a lifetime of service to the public.

WARNING FOR THE 2004 TOWN MEETING

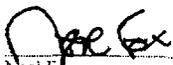
The legal voters in the Town of Bethel are hereby warned to meet at the Whitcomb High School in said Bethel on Tuesday, the 2nd of March, 2004 at 10:00 AM for the following purposes:

1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing.
2. To elect a Town Clerk for the year ensuing.
3. To hear the report of the Auditors and take action thereon.
4. To elect a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.
5. To elect by ballot, a Selectman for a term of three years to succeed Neal Fox whose term expires.
6. To elect by ballot, a Lister for a term of three years to succeed Beverly Washburn whose term expires.
7. To elect by ballot, an Auditor for a term of three years to succeed Rosella Leonard whose term expires.
8. To elect one or more Grand Jurors.
9. To elect an Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested.
10. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under Section 24, V.S.A. for a term of three years to succeed Eric Benson whose term expires.
11. To see if the voters of the Town of Bethel will vote a sum of money to defray Highway and General expenses for the year ensuing. **Recommended: \$693,236.00**
12. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to the Town Hall Restoration Fund, to be disbursed at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen in furtherment of efforts to preserve the building and maintain its usefulness.
13. To see if the Town will appropriate, using the cap given by the Select Board, the sum of \$12,535.00 for the support of the following Human Services Agencies.

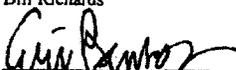
<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>2003 FUNDING</u>	<u>2004 PROPOSAL</u>
ACORN	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Central VT Community Action	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Central VT Council on Aging	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Clara Martin Center	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Life Skills for Women	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Mental Health Services of VT	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Safeline	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Senior Center	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,750.00
Stagecoach	\$ 1,285.00	\$ 1,285.00
Teen Scene	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,000.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00
Windsor County Partners	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
TOTALS	\$13,135.00	\$12,535.00

14. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$750.00 (2003-\$750.00) to support the work of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
15. To see if the Town will appropriate \$59,522.00 (2003-\$54,432.00) to continue service provided by the White River Valley Ambulance, Inc.
16. To see if the Town will collect taxes on real property in one (1) installment, the installment being due July 15, 2004.
17. To do any other necessary and proper business in connection with the foregoing articles.

Dated at Bethel, Vermont this 22nd day of January 2004.


 Neal Fox


 Bill Richards


 Eric Benson

SUMMARY OF TOWN MEETING

March 4, 2003

Annual Meeting was called to order by Moderator Carroll F. Ketchum at 10:15 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

- Art. 1 Carroll F. Ketchum was elected Moderator.
- Art. 2 Jean Burnham was elected Town Clerk
- Art. 3 Auditors report accepted as printed.
- Art. 4 Jean Burnham was elected Town Treasurer.
- Art. 5 Bill Richards was elected Selectmen for 3 years.
- Art. 6 Ella Mae Grady was elected Lister for 3 years.
- Art. 7 Audrey Turk was elected Auditor for 3 years.
- Art. 8 Kent Batcheller was elcted Grand Juror for one year.
- Art. 9 Ruth Clough was elected Town Agent for one year.
- Art 10 Donald Hyde was elected Trustee of Public Funds for 3 years.

Selectman Neal Fox thanked Charlie Young for his many years of service on many committees over the years.

- Art. 11 Voted \$636,694.77 to defray Highway & General Expenses.
- Art 12 Authorized the Selectmen to borrow up to \$200,000.00 to be amortized over 5 years or less to pay for the Town's share of the temporary bridge on Church St.
- Art. 13 Voted to appropriate \$15,000.00 to the Town Hall Restoration Fund.
- Art. 14 Voted \$13,135.00 for the support of Human Services.
- Art. 15 Voted \$750.00 to support the Vt. Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired.
- Art. 16 Voted \$54,432.00 to continue service provided by the White River Valley Ambulance Service.
- Art. 17 Voted to approve the collection of interest on delinquent water and sewer accounts at 1% per month.
- Art. 18 Voted to have taxes paid in one installment on July 15.
- Art. 19 Other Business: James Robinson spoke on renewable energy.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Burnham, Town Clerk

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Ella Mae Grady..... Assistant Town Clerk
Ella Mae Grady..... Assistant Town Treasurer
Wendell Wills First Constable
Jim Bennett..... Second Constable
Heidi Nikolaidis Civil Defense Chairman
Priscilla Smith, R.N..... Health Officer
Delbert Cloud Town Manager, Tax Collector,
Road Commissioner, Water
Superintendent and Zoning
Administrator

BETHEL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Craig Wortman (Chairman) Term Expires 2004
Richard Wagner Term Expires 2005
Carla Hodgdon Term Expires 2005
Eric Richardson Term Expires 2005
Peter Dohrn Term Expires 2006

BETHEL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD:

Bill Floyd Term Expires 2004
Beverly Washburn Term Expires 2004
Kent Batcheller Term Expires 2004
Paul Vallee Term Expires 2005
Greg Hughes (Chairman) Term Expires 2005
James Giberti Term Expires 2006
Ruth Clough Term Expires 2006

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Newall Wood Maureen Judge Jean Cayer
Shari Stratton Bev Kerr (Chairman)

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Scott Putney Louise Ferris-Burt Geneva Gaiko
Tom Brennan Suzanne Burgos, RN

BETHEL/ROYALTON SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Charles Young

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Richard Wagner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

(CONTINUED)

WINDSOR COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Heidi Nikolaidis

TWO RIVERS OTTAUQUECHE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Slavko Stanchak

Olena Stanchak (alternate)

STAGECOACH ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Bill Green

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE:

Jon Hodgdon

SO. ROYALTON SENIOR CENTER:

Elizabeth Balsler

COUNCIL ON THE ARTS:

Tom Burgos

Bennett Law

Kellie Burke

James Bannister

Becky Lewandoski

Amy Perez

BETHEL COMMITTEE ON THE DOWNTOWN:

Lang Durfee

Greg Hughes

Kent Batcheller

Mary Floyd

Mary Pavone

REVOLVING LOAN COMMITTEE:

Ellen Nobile

Kent Batcheller

Carroll Ketchum

Beverly Washburn

PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE:

Heidi Nikolaidis

Ellen Nobile

Tamie Slack

Kathy McCullough

Ola O'Dell

PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES SUB-COMMITTEE-URBAN FORESTRY:

Greg Hughes

Eric Benson

Bruce McCullough

David Aiken

Mary Floyd

TOWN HALL FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Nancy Hughes (Chair)

Lang & Lorraine Durfee

Brendan Butler

George & Janet Burnham

John Young

Kep Taylor

Susan Rule

Davis Dimock

Victoria Weber

Liz Kreig

Spencer Lewis

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TOWN OFFICERS:

Carroll F. Ketchum	Moderator
Jean Burnham	Town Clerk
Jean Burnham	Town Treasurer
Ruth Clough	Town Agent
Kent Batcheller	Grand Juror

SELECTMEN:

Neal Fox	Term Expires 2004
Eric Benson	Term Expires 2005
William Richards	Term Expires 2006

LISTERS:

Beverly Washburn	Term Expires 2004
Louise Ferris-Burt	Term Expires 2005
Ella Mae Grady	Term Expires 2006

TOWN AUDITORS:

Rosella A. Leonard	Term Expires 2004
Louise Ferris-Burt	Term Expires 2005
Audrey Turk	Term Expires 2006

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS:

Eric Benson	Term Expires 2004
Carroll Ketchum	Term Expires 2005
Donald Hyde	Term Expires 2006

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:

Newall Wood	David Eddy, Jr.	Phil Mollitor
Eric Benson	Kent Batcheller	Cathy Day
Ola O'Dell		

STATEMENT OF THE AUDITORS

In accordance with section 1681 of Title 24, V.S.A. we have verified the existence of the stated cash balance, inspected the accounts and records of the Town Officers and Trustees. To the best of our knowledge the financial statements and reports of receipts and disbursements show the financial position of the Town as of December 31, 2003.

Auditors: Rosella Leonard, Louise Ferris-Burt, Audrey Turk

Selectmen's Report for 2003

I. Introduction

The Town of Bethel's 2003 financial year ended upon conclusion of the calendar year. All fund balances and reports set forth in this Annual Report are based upon the interval January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003.

The Town administers an assortment of programs, all of which deliver services to its citizens. A number of these programs are paid for in significant part by tax dollars, and the revenues and expenditures associated with these are reported herein under what is commonly referred to as the "Town General Fund." This encompasses maintenance of roads, bridges, and public properties; fire protection; law enforcement; recreation programs; and grand list/tax administration, among other matters of business associated with general government operations. Other programs are primarily paid for by the users of the services, these being the "enterprise" departments providing water, sewage, and recycling/rubbish services.

The Board of Selectmen has authority over the design and delivery of all these programs. Business meetings are regularly held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Town Office Building on South Main Street, commencing at 6:00 PM. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings to offer input or to gain information on matters of interest. The three member Board is made up by Neal Fox, who has served as the Board's Chair for the entirety of the 2003 year, Bill Richards, and Eric Benson. The public is also encouraged to contact the Town Office at any time if immediate needs are at hand, the telephone number being 234-9340.

II. Municipal Planning and Development

In December of 2001, the Town was awarded a Municipal Planning Grant in the amount of \$13,000.00 from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. This grant was to assist the Town in completing two projects: (1) to review the bylaws of the Town (Zoning and Subdivision) and bring them current to support the Town Plan, and (2) to develop a formal "Village Center" or "Downtown" designation for the relevant portion of the community as would help promote economic sustainability and development.

The scheduled completion date for work supported by this grant was April 30, 2003. The Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission was contracted to assist in performance of the work, which was completed on schedule. The immediate downtown now has a formal "Village Center" status. As follow-up to the bylaw review process, the Bethel Planning Commission has been holding public hearings on potential bylaw amendments, with formal adoption by the Selectboard to likely occur in 2004. In order to provide for appropriate review of new communication technologies, the Selectboard adopted an interim "Wireless Telecommunication Facilities" bylaw in May 2003, which will serve until the permanent amendments have been through the hearing and adoption process.

During 2003, it became apparent that sources of grant funds to rehabilitate the Town Hall would be more difficult to access than had been previously anticipated. This realization has caused some uncertainty as to how best to proceed with that effort. The Selectboard, and the citizen committee appointed to seek funds, have agreed that an initial project to eliminate groundwater infiltration would be both prudent and affordable, using funds accrued in the "Town Hall Restoration Fund." This project is being developed, and work will likely be performed when seasonal conditions are appropriate in 2004.

The Town continues to hold two revolving loan funds, both of which were originally capitalized through grants the Town received from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. One of the funds is available for loans to property owners who have an emergency need, such as a failed furnace or septic system, and may need financial assistance to accomplish the repairs. The principal balance available for loan purposes at year's end in this fund was \$50,057.31. The second loan fund is for economic development purposes, and funds may be borrowed for any business purpose subject to Town

Selectmen's Report - continued

approval under the loan guidelines. The principal balance available at year's end in this fund was \$277,112.82.

It has become evident that the Town's grand list for billing of taxes is in need of review; sales of certain properties have been considerably higher than their "listed" values, and the values of other types of property have been lowered through the formal "grievance" procedure. Indications are that a complete re-appraisal of all properties in Town is going to be necessary, and initial inquiries have been made as to cost and as to availability of qualified people to assist the Listers in this task. As an alternative, the Board of Listers is evaluating the possibility of doing sections of the task itself under what is called a "rolling re-appraisal," with technical assistance provided by the Vermont Department of Taxes.

Since the Town received over \$300,000.00 in federal funds during the year 2002, a so-called "single audit" had to be done of that year. The audit had to be completed before the end of September 2003. A "single audit" encompasses all departments and funds of the Town, including the Water Department, Wastewater Department, and Solid Waste Program. This audit was performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co. of Montpelier, Vermont. Copies of the Audit Report are available for review at the Town Office. In order to comply with recommendations of the auditing firm, and meet new federal "Government Auditing Standards" which become applicable in 2004, the Town has been assembling information and changing reporting formats, which will result in a different appearance for Town Reports in future years. Work on this task will be on-going during the coming year.

III. Public Works, Highways and Bridges

In addition to maintenance work on nearly 70 miles of highway, the Town crew was also called upon to assist in various projects for the water, wastewater, and solid waste program. In the interest of improving their expertise, several of the Town's employees took training seminars on equipment operation and safety. This included hands-on training with both road graders and with operation of excavation equipment.

It was necessary to put up an additional 1000 cubic yards of winter sand to replenish the stockpile depleted by the erratic weather of Spring 2003. Approximately 6000 cubic yards of sand was thus hauled and put in storage by the Town crew to be in readiness for the ensuing Winter season.

New federal regulations on stormwater management are soon to be in effect, and the Town requested an on-site inspection of the Town Garage property to see what might need to be dealt with to be in compliance with those new regulations. The technical inspection was conducted by staff of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and the resulting report was quite complimentary of present activities and procedures. Some very low cost compliance measures were immediately implemented, such as labeling of containers.

Certain other measures will be addressed within the 2004 budget. The Town should be able to work modest changes into place without great expense over the next few years in compliance with the phasing in of the full set of regulations. It will be necessary to study how best to meet certain other requirements which take effect in future years, such as stockpiling of Winter sand.

No significant amount of paving was done in 2003; only small areas of patching were done. The entire paved portion of Christian Hill Road, and the majority of Gaiko Lane, were "reclaimed" instead. The "reclaiming" process consists of grinding all pavement up and mixing it with the uppermost few inches of underlying gravel. This reclaimed material is then reshaped with a grader, and when compacted in place makes a very durable "gravel road." As was the case with the above noted roads, this process makes a good use of the existing pavement when it has become quite deteriorated. If new pavement were simply put over the top of the old in its existing form, the cracks and imperfections would soon show through in the new pavement. Decision is pending regarding how much new pavement should be installed, and when that should be done.

Selectmen's Report-continued

In keeping with the equipment trade schedule in the Town's "capital plan," the 1997 International dump truck was traded, and a 2004 Sterling was acquired as the replacement. The new cab and chassis was purchased through a three year lease-purchase agreement since the Highway Equipment Fund did not have sufficient money to meet the increasingly more expensive purchase prices charged for new equipment.

The Town acquired a Case 580 Super M loader/backhoe during 2003, this also being obtained through a lease-purchase agreement which will mature in year 2007. This purchase is not expected to draw from assets of the Highway Equipment Fund, since the subject equipment will be charged out at a competitive rate for work done in both the water department and the wastewater department, and the Town public works department will no longer need to contract out such work, the expense of which has always been carried as an operating expenditure in the past. The annual operating budgets of the three departments are thus expected to carry all purchase cost obligations.

During 2003, further work was done toward replacement of the failing Church Street Bridge, this project unfolding in phases. In 2002, the Town acquired a house and lot on the westerly end of the bridge in order to provide a location for a temporary bridge to be placed just downstream of the existing bridge. In early 2003, work was done to finalize all right-of-way considerations, and bids were invited for the construction of the temporary bridge itself which is a pre-engineered truss system made by the Mabey Corporation. The low bidder for construction of the temporary bridge was Winterset, Inc. of Lyndonville, Vermont, with a bid amount of \$971,737.00. The work was very efficiently performed, with a construction start being made on August 26, 2003, and a final inspection of the project being held on December 12, 2003. The Agency of Transportation expresses confidence that a permanent replacement bridge can be built in 2005. All phases of this project are managed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, and 90% of the costs are covered by State and Federal sources.

IV. Fire Department

The Town Fire Department had a very busy year, department members putting in a total of nearly 1500 hours of service. Thanks to the effort of the Department's officers, a substantial grant was secured from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through the "Homeland Security Unit" program. This grant was in the amount of \$28,600.00 and will be used to purchase air breathing equipment, some new pagers, a multi-gas detector, a thermal imaging camera, and other miscellaneous safety equipment.

V. Water Department

All final auditing was completed for the capital improvement project which consisted of: new water mains on Church Street and Pleasant Street, repairs to the East reservoir, a new river crossing near Lower Church Street, and various upgrades at the two well houses. Total costs for this project came in less than had been previously approved by the Town's voters, the final cost of the project being \$628,098.52, which will be amortized as an expense of the Water Department.

The Town performed all required monitoring of water quality, per the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and State of Vermont recommendations. Tests were done for total coliform bacteria, inorganic chemicals, nitrate, gross alpha and radium 226-228, lead, and copper levels during 2003. The quality of the Town's water is very good, and does not require addition of any purification agents; a small amount of chlorine is added as a precautionary measure in the warm summer months. A publication is made each year of the test results of all required monitoring, and other interesting points of information, this publication being entitled the "Consumer Confidence Report." Copies are available at the Town Office free of charge.

The old distribution main serving properties on the Sand Hill Road was frozen during late Winter, and a great deal of the Town Crew's time was spent trying to maintain flow to the homes involved. During the Summer, a replacement main of 200 psi plastic was installed by the Town Crew. The replacement main was placed at a greater depth, and on the outer shoulder of the road where it is less vulnerable to freezing in the future.

Selectmen's Report-continued

VI. Wastewater Treatment Department

During 2003, the average daily wastewater flow was 64,183 gallons which is substantially below the treatment plant's design capability of 115,000 gallons per day. Operations at the treatment plant itself were quite uneventful for the year, the plant functioning acceptably within all permit limits and conditions. In September, a "Reconnaissance Inspection" conducted by personnel from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Wastewater Management Division gave the treatment plant an "Excellent" overall inspection rating which speaks very well of both the plant's performance and its operation.

As a condition of its "Discharge Permit" the Town was required to install a stand-by generator which would automatically start in the event of a power outage, and keep all flow processing and disinfection equipment operating. This amount of equipment required a 125 KW unit. In addition to the generator and the associated apparatus, this installation required electrical circuitry modifications at the plant, and a considerable amount of site work, concrete pads and retaining wall, etc. The final cost for this project, including labor by the Town's employees, was \$40,056.38. Fortunately, the Town was able to receive a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 to help defray this expense, this being an "Emergency Management Performance Grant" funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and administered by the Vermont Department of Public Safety.

Repairs of breaks in the wastewater collection system were the greatest problem during the year. Not counting employee labor, the costs for these repairs exceeded \$30,000.00. This was an extraordinary expense which is not typical to the system's operations, and hopefully this will not recur in future years.

VII. The Alliance Solid Waste Management Program

The Towns of Bethel and Royalton continue to own an improved 22 acre site on Waterman Road in Royalton which has been used to provide local waste management services for a group of area Towns, now eight in number: Barnard, Bethel, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Stockbridge, Rochester, and Royalton. The "Alliance" program provides each of the member Towns a means of offering to its citizens an organized and formal plan for management of all hazardous wastes, special wastes, recyclables, and trash, in compliance with State of Vermont law.

Two household hazardous waste collection events were held in 2003, these being available for citizens of the member Towns to dispose of practically any hazardous wastes at no cost, the only materials not accepted being explosives and radioactive material. The collection events can also be used by businesses, on a fee basis, if appointments are made in advance to ensure that adequate holding equipment is on site to keep such wastes secure. In 2003, the following materials were collected: a total of 22 fifty-five gallon drums containing aggregate quantities of antifreeze, motor oil, other automotive wastes, paints, solvents, stains, strippers, batteries, pesticides, and cleaning compounds; 3 pounds of "mercury added" products; and 3,084 linear feet of fluorescent lamps.

The "Swap Shop" remained a popular component of the facility. No inventory is kept of materials exchanged through the shop, but the public is encouraged to use this facility to help minimize the amount of re-usable material going to the transfer station for disposal. The public is asked to help monitor the materials left off, and if article(s) are not taken by someone in a reasonable time, the donor should take responsibility for disposing of them as trash.

Recycling continues to be practiced diligently by the member Towns, but we are reminded that there is still room for improvement. There is no fee charged for most recyclables in order to encourage citizens to use this means of getting rid of acceptable materials. In the past year, the following quantities were collected and shipped from the facility: (all measured in tons) glass: 105.5, aluminum cans: 2.23, steel cans: 28.49, PET plastic: 8.69, HDPE plastic: 16.17, boxboard: 10.77, corrugated cardboard: 320, magazines and junk mail: 95.57, white ledger paper: 2.36, and newspaper: 60.14, (a total of nearly 650 tons.) Other materials are collected and recycled, but a small fee is assessed due to the requirement for special handling of those

Selectmen's Report-continued

materials: used motor oil, antifreeze, tires, scrap metals, and clean wood. Recycling is MANDATORY as a condition of membership in the Alliance program; it is also the responsible thing to do.

As a last resort, materials which cannot be re-used or recycled must be disposed of, and the facility's transfer station provided aggregation, loading and shipping services for a total of 7,322 tons of solid waste. It is a program objective to reduce this volume by fostering a greater understanding in the public's mind of the need to purchase only necessary quantities, use up purchased materials, and recycle/re-use all that is practical. To further assist in reduction of the quantity of disposed wastes, the program is studying the possibility of collecting used electronic apparatus for recycling, and implementing a composting component in the array of services offered at the facility.

Since the 22 acre site also harbors the former landfill which served the area Towns, groundwater is regularly monitored through test wells created for that purpose. The "capping" of the former landfill with a layer of impervious clay has resulted in steadily improving test results. The likelihood of contaminants causing off-site impacts appears to be diminishing as time goes by.

The program had to apply for "Recertification" of its facility during 2003, the present five year certification expiring in May of 2004. This is essentially a "license to operate" issued by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The application for recertification requires a focused evaluation of the methods and means being used to operate the facility, and establishes parameters on all operations. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Town Office of each member Town.

The State of Vermont developed a new State-level solid waste implementation plan which was made effective in 2002. Towns and solid waste districts were required by State law to develop new plans also, which would address all elements of solid waste management as were addressed within the State's own plan. In the future, reports on progress in meeting objectives under these plans will have to be filed with the Agency every two years. Developing a new "Solid Waste Implementation Plan"(SWIP) for the Alliance Towns has been a paramount task. A draft submittal was made as required in April 2003, and a follow-up submittal in response to Agency comments and questions was made in December 2003. Assistance in performing this work was provided by The Johnson Company of Montpelier, Vermont, and financial assistance was provided by a grant from the Agency in the amount of \$6,082.09. Each of the Alliance Towns will need to hold two public hearings regarding the SWIP, and Selectboards will then need to decide if the SWIP is appropriate for adoption by each Town as its stated plan for managing the solid waste stream. The SWIP is an ambitious plan, and sets forth a number of new initiatives as well as committing to enforcement of existing laws governing recycling, illegal dumping and burning. Copies of the "Solid Waste Implementation Plan" are available for public review at the Town Office of each Alliance member Town. Questions or suggestions can be directed to Delbert Cloud, Agent for the Solid Waste Program, at 134 South Main Street, Bethel, Vermont 05032 (234-9340).

VIII. Closing Comments

Although note is made in the financial statements within this Report of a small cash balance at year's end, this value is outweighed by the borrowing which has been necessary to meet expenses. The deficit resulting is being reviewed with the Town's professional auditors, and a plan to address all financial obligations, with as minimal an impact on the tax rate as possible, will be developed during 2004.

TOWN OF BETHEL
STATEMENTS OF CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS

Year ended December 31, 2003

Balance in Checking Account January 1, 2003	\$ (-304.77)
Add Receipts:	
Taxes	
Current	2,628,379.82
Back Taxes	229,967.14
Fees	17,888.33
Interest	10,134.12
State of VT - in lieu of Taxes	2,033.00
Current Use	37,866.00
Tax Credit	1,773.59
Water	74,314.89
Interest	139.31
Sewer	131,199.49
Interest	432.70
Solid Waste-Fees	658,845.75
Recyclables	17,733.39
Surcharge	62,373.20
Hazardous Waste	3,906.76
Donations	1,931.30
Miscellaneous Reimbursement-Pool	50.10
Trustee of Public Funds	74.50
Miscellaneous	7,318.85
State of Vermont-Highways	132,465.18
Solid Waste Implementation Plan	3,649.25
Tax Sales	14,355.20
State of Vermont-Local Fines	1,893.72
Campbrook Road Reimbursement	123,870.48
Town Planning Grant	3,900.00
Transfer Equipment Trust Fund	11,750.72
Sewer-Reimbursement for Administrative	3,000.00
Sewer-Reimbursement for Equipment Used	5,946.85
Interest Earned	1,839.83
Jeffords Fire Safety Grant	2,266.00
Town Clerk's Fees	19,515.26
Dog Licenses	1,409.00
Local Licenses	325.00
Railroad Tax	1,101.17
Recreation Center-Fees	9,530.25
Recreation Center-Food Sales	69.21
Tax Anticipation Notes	420,000.00
Line of Credit	60,000.00
Transfer from Sweep Account	1,300,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 6,003,249.26
Total Available	6,002,944.49
Less Orders	4,743,282.08
Less Sweep Transfers	<u>\$ 1,250,000.00</u>
Balance in Checking Account on December 31, 2003	\$ 9,662.41

EQUIPMENT & MATERIAL INVENTORY

(Estimated)

As of December 31, 2003

Interest in 2004 Dump Truck -- Sterling	\$ 52,000.00
Interest in Case 580 Super M Backhoe	15,000.00
2001 Dump Truck -- International	30,000.00
2000 1 Ton Truck -- Ford F350	20,000.00
1998 Dump Truck -- International	15,000.00
Police Cruiser	1,000.00
1981 Fire Truck -- Chevrolet	15,000.00
1973 Fire Truck -- Maxim	12,000.00
1976 Tanker -- International	5,000.00
1954 Pumper - General	2,000.00
Interest in 2001 Eagle-One Freightliner	40,000.00
1991 Grader -- Caterpillar	50,000.00
1973 Road Grader -- Austin Western	1,500.00
Interest in 1999 Caterpillar 928G Loader	70,000.00
1999 Kubota B7300 Tractor	5,000.00
Loader - (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	3,000.00
Loader - Bobcat (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	3,500.00
Interest in Cat 906 Loader (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	12,000.00
Radios	5,000.00
Low Bed Trailer	500.00
"V" Plow and Grader Wing (2)	8,000.00
Grader Blades	200.00
Misc. Tires	200.00
Loader Snow Bucket	1,500.00
Sand Spreaders	1,000.00
Four One-Way Plows	8,000.00
Chain Saws (3)	800.00
Welders	1,500.00
Mechanics Tools	1,000.00
Shop	1,500.00
Office Equipment and Supplies	30,000.00
Salt	2,000.00
Lubricants	1,000.00
Motor Vehicle Fuels	6,000.00
Culverts	100.00
Pumps	400.00
Screen Plant	2,000.00
Culvert Thawer & Steamer	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 398,700.00

TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Revenue Summary

As of December 31, 2003

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
LOCAL REVENUES			
Dog Tax	1,000.00	1,409.00	1,200.00
Local Licenses	400.00	325.00	300.00
Town Clerk Fees	12,000.00	19,515.26	14,000.00
Town Clerk - Historic Preservation	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recreation Area Fees	8,000.00	9,599.46	8,000.00
Recreation Area Food Sales	300.00	0.00	0.00
Zoning Application Fees	500.00	1,208.00	600.00
Zoning Regulations	50.00	45.00	50.00
Overweight Permit Fees	150.00	305.00	200.00
Trustees of Public Funds	100.00	74.50	100.00
Subdivision Permit Fees	50.00	146.00	100.00
Land Use Withdrawal Penalties	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL - Local Revenues	22,550.00	32,627.22	24,550.00
MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL REVENUE			
Miscellaneous Local Revenue	0.00	498.28	0.00
Workmans Comp Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reimbursement Tax Sales Expenses	20.00	561.13	50.00
Labor/Equipt Reimbursement-WWTF	0.00	5,946.85	0.00
Other	100.00	6,420.37	100.00
TOTAL - Miscellaneous Local Revenue	120.00	12,304.37	150.00
STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES			
Highways-Class I	9,000.00	9,490.04	9,000.00
Highways-Class II	41,000.00	43,177.60	42,000.00
Highways-Class III	78,000.00	79,797.54	78,000.00
State Owned Lands	100.00	462.00	100.00
Traffic Tickets	500.00	1,915.44	500.00
Fish & Game (fish hatchery)	200.00	0.00	100.00
Downtown Planning Grant	3,900.00	3,900.00	0.00
BridgeMaintenance Program	0.00	0.00	0.00
Church Street Bridge	0.00	262.50	0.00
FEMA Hazard Mitigation	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	2,164.65	0.00
TOTAL - State and Federal Revenues	132,700.00	140,644.77	129,700.00

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
MISCELLANEOUS			
Solid Waste - Admin. Reimbursement	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sewer - Admin. Reimbursement	3,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
School Reimbursement (winter maint.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Dept. - Admin. Reimbursement	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Reimbursement Workmans Comp Prem.	0.00	0.00	0.00
RR Revenue Sharing	800.00	1,101.17	800.00
Temporary Borrowing	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reimb.-Workmans Comp Fire Dept	0.00	0.00	0.00
Donations	0.00	25.20	0.00
Jeffords Fire Safety Reimbursement	2,266.00	2,266.00	0.00
TOTAL - Miscellaneous	10,066.00	13,392.37	10,800.00
INTEREST EARNINGS			
Checking Account	300.00	157.67	150.00
Sweep Account Interest	200.00	1,520.05	50.00
Mini-Custody Account	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL - Interest Earnings	500.00	1,677.72	200.00
TAXES-PROPERTY			
School Tax Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00
Current Property Taxes	0.00	485,988.23	0.00
Land-use	30,000.00	37,866.00	30,000.00
Delinquent Taxes-current	0.00	1,123.50	0.00
Delinquent Taxes-prior	0.00	144,821.46	0.00
Penalty	15,000.00	17,751.06	15,000.00
Interest	10,000.00	9,423.79	10,000.00
TOTAL - Taxes Property	55,000.00	694,727.04	55,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES	220,936.00	892,037.55	220,400.00
CASH BALANCE WITH TREASURER	(304.77)		* see note below
TOTAL	220,631.23		220,400.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	636,694.77		693,236.00
TOTAL	857,326.00		913,636.00

*** *The modest cash balance is not applied here as revenue due to the overall deficit status in which the year 2003 concluded.**

TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown
As of December 31, 2003

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
PUBLIC WORKS			
Labor	118,000.00	136,860.94	132,000.00
School Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Security	9,600.00	11,604.16	9,100.00
Medicare	2,250.00	2,713.62	2,100.00
Retirement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance	39,100.00	28,735.24	29,600.00
Workman's Compensation	7,100.00	9,836.25	7,200.00
TOTAL - Public Works	176,050.00	189,750.21	180,000.00
TOWN OWNED EQUIPMENT			
1991 Caterpillar Grader	500.00	248.20	1,000.00
1973 AW Grader	500.00	746.93	1,000.00
1997 International Truck	500.00	355.95	0.00
1998 International Truck	1,500.00	1,055.13	1,500.00
2001 International Truck	1,500.00	1,670.50	1,500.00
Insurance on Building & Equipment	10,100.00	13,003.90	13,000.00
2000 F-350 Truck	1,500.00	1,735.72	500.00
Kubota B7300	500.00	1.20	200.00
2004 Sterling Truck	0.00	280.59	1,500.00
928G Caterpillar Loader	500.00	1,033.71	2,000.00
Case 980 Super M Backhoe	0.00	15,000.00	15,120.00
One Way Plow	500.00	875.77	500.00
Sanders & Spreaders	500.00	0.00	500.00
Chain Saw	100.00	0.00	100.00
Welder	100.00	0.00	100.00
Culvert Thawer	100.00	716.02	100.00
Steamer/Trailer	100.00	0.00	100.00
Sand Screen	100.00	28.50	100.00
Rake	100.00	456.72	100.00
Repairs-All Vehicles	1,500.00	3,430.01	2,500.00
Snow Blower/Mower	100.00	0.00	100.00
Permits/Underground Tank	100.00	0.00	100.00
Garage	5,000.00	8,292.39	7,000.00
Electricity	2,300.00	2,610.79	2,400.00
Telephone	600.00	122.20	400.00
Uniforms	2,700.00	3,185.01	2,800.00
Other	100.00	1,318.78	100.00
Gas, Oil & Grease	7,000.00	5,784.23	6,000.00
Diesel	14,000.00	6,987.33	15,000.00
Underground Tank	0.00	144.30	200.00
TOTAL- Town Owned Equipment	52,100.00	69,083.88	75,520.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
HIRED SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT			
Backhoe	6,000.00	1,960.00	0.00
Trucks & Operations	1,000.00	0.00	500.00
Screening Sand	0.00	0.00	0.00
State Owned Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Roadside Mowing	6,000.00	6,225.99	6,500.00
Dozer	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
Bailey Bridge Rentals	0.00	0.00	0.00
Labor	500.00	0.00	500.00
TOTAL - Hired Services or Equipment	15,000.00	8,185.99	7,500.00
MATERIALS			
Salt	22,000.00	30,092.08	27,000.00
Chloride	16,000.00	13,521.00	16,000.00
Gravel	6,000.00	5,820.00	6,000.00
Crusher Run Gravel	3,000.00	681.60	2,000.00
Sand	18,000.00	27,040.35	22,000.00
Bridge Plank	500.00	0.00	500.00
Bridge Material	1,500.00	0.00	1,000.00
Culverts	3,000.00	1,856.02	3,000.00
Patching Material	2,500.00	818.82	2,500.00
Hot Mix	6,000.00	7,001.80	10,000.00
Tools	500.00	141.99	500.00
Signs	500.00	235.93	400.00
Snow Fence	100.00	0.00	100.00
Salt Boxes	100.00	0.00	100.00
Other	100.00	262.84	100.00
TOTAL - Materials	79,800.00	87,472.43	91,200.00
OTHER PUBLIC WORKS			
Storm Water Catch Basins	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Cemeteries	9,000.00	15,470.12	10,000.00
Church Stret Bridge	0.00	507.19	0.00
Sidewalk Imprvvements	6,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Parking-Pedestrian Safety	500.00	0.00	500.00
Camp Brook Road Project	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	100.00	115.77	100.00
Highway Equipment Trust Fund	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
Project Impact	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bridge Maintenance Program	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEMA Hazard Mitigation	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL - Other Public Works	57,600.00	56,093.98	57,600.00
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	380,550.00	410,585.59	411,820.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
FIRE DEPARTMENT			
Salaries	6,000.00	11,982.80	7,000.00
Social Security	500.00	667.89	390.00
Medicare	100.00	156.18	100.00
Workman's Compensaiton	1,650.00	1,728.00	1,750.00
Insurance On Equipment	6,100.00	6,436.00	6,500.00
General Pumper	500.00	0.00	200.00
International Tanker	500.00	816.75	600.00
Maxim Pumper	500.00	4.89	600.00
Dodge Van	500.00	14.58	0.00
1981 Chevy Van	500.00	600.04	600.00
2001 Freightliner	500.00	702.03	600.00
Gas, Oil & Lubricants	1,000.00	1,043.26	1,000.00
Electricity-Fire Alarm	1,000.00	1,239.24	1,250.00
Telephone	3,400.00	3,136.76	3,400.00
Heat	1,800.00	2,558.43	2,000.00
Communications	2,000.00	2,664.16	2,000.00
Supplies	1,700.00	9,504.23	4,000.00
Station Upkeep	1,000.00	2,347.80	1,200.00
Debt Service-New Building	21,250.00	18,271.45	18,270.00
Debt Service-E. One Pump	21,630.00	21,632.34	21,630.00
Jeffords Fire Safety Grant	2,300.00	2,216.00	0.00
Other	500.00	2,170.05	100.00
Training	500.00	735.00	700.00
Safety & Equipment Fund	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00
TOTAL-Fire Department	87,430.00	102,627.88	73,890.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Labor	9,000.00	7,568.79	9,000.00
Social Security	550.00	469.26	550.00
Medicare	150.00	109.73	150.00
Workmans Compensation	420.00	412.54	420.00
Insurance on Equipment	800.00	0.00	500.00
Professional Liability	6,050.00	8,794.89	9,000.00
Cruiser	800.00	473.13	1,000.00
Mileage	100.00	29.04	100.00
Other	100.00	224.33	100.00
TOTAL-Police Department	17,970.00	18,081.71	20,820.00
RECREATION DEPARTMENT			
Staff and Labor	28,000.00	25,778.55	27,000.00
Social Security	1,050.00	1,294.52	1,360.00
Medicare	250.00	302.74	320.00
Workman's Compensation	100.00	0.00	100.00
Insurance on Building/Equip	50.00	47.00	50.00
Mowing	300.00	0.00	300.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
RECREATION DEPARTMENT-cont.			
Electricity	2,000.00	2,299.93	2,200.00
Telephone	150.00	0.00	150.00
Improvements	100.00	0.00	100.00
Reparis & Maintenance	4,000.00	1,193.24	2,000.00
Supplies	2,000.00	2,347.57	2,400.00
Chlorine	3,600.00	2,881.60	3,200.00
American Red Cross	200.00	148.00	200.00
Playground Equipment	50.00	0.00	50.00
Other	100.00	1,151.49	100.00
TOTAL-Recreation Deparment	41,950.00	37,444.64	39,530.00
PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES			
Labor	500.00	848.42	600.00
Social Security	50.00	52.60	50.00
Medicare	50.00	12.29	20.00
Retirement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Workmans Comp-Bandshell	200.00	0.00	200.00
Workmans Comp-Gazebo	200.00	85.08	200.00
Workmans Comp-Fort Fortitude	200.00	0.00	200.00
Workmans Comp - Peavine Park	0.00	865.00	200.00
Insurance-Bandshell	25.00	32.00	100.00
Insurance-Gazebo	400.00	0.00	200.00
Insurance-Fort Fortitude	25.00	0.00	100.00
Insurance - Peavine Park	0.00	412.00	100.00
Mowing Common	400.00	285.00	300.00
Mowing-Fort Fortitude	250.00	228.75	250.00
Mowing-Peavine Park	350.00	292.50	350.00
Mowing-Parking Lot	200.00	198.75	200.00
Street Lights	23,000.00	23,086.08	23,100.00
Electricity-Common	500.00	486.33	500.00
Electricity-Peavine Park	200.00	158.68	200.00
Electricity-Parking Lot	200.00	971.00	1,000.00
Improvements-Peavine Park	0.00	0.00	200.00
Maintenance-Common	150.00	8.97	400.00
Maintenance-Fort Fortitude	150.00	0.00	100.00
Maintenance-Peavine Park	300.00	0.00	100.00
Maintenance-Parking Lot	100.00	38.50	100.00
Other	100.00	712.97	100.00
TOTAL-Parks & Public Places	27,550.00	28,774.92	28,870.00
MUNICIPAL OFFICES			
Clerical Labor-Town Managers	51,500.00	52,775.09	54,500.00
Salary-Town Clerk	22,200.00	23,072.95	22,900.00
Social Security	2,800.00	4,180.55	4,320.00
Medicare	700.00	977.68	1,000.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

Budget 2003 Actual 2003 Budget 2004

MUNICIPAL OFFICES-cont

Retirement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance	34,500.00	36,417.35	38,000.00
Workmans Compensation	1,150.00	796.44	820.00
Insurance-Building	2,000.00	1,843.27	2,000.00
Bond Insurance	1,000.00	700.00	800.00
Electricity	1,500.00	1,293.41	1,500.00
Telephone	2,800.00	3,979.13	3,000.00
Heat	1,250.00	1,931.97	1,500.00
Maintenance-Building	1,000.00	629.80	1,000.00
Maintenance-Copier	500.00	0.00	500.00
Maintenance-Computer	1,000.00	1,875.53	1,500.00
Maintenance-Equipment	0.00	0.00	500.00
Purchase-Copy Machine	0.00	191.50	0.00
Purchase-Computer	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
Purchase - Typewriter	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supplies	5,000.00	6,667.68	5,500.00
Supplies-Copier	500.00	1,743.33	1,500.00
Supplies-Computer	600.00	564.85	600.00
Water & Sewer	450.00	575.70	600.00
Bank Fees	300.00	118.43	150.00
Other	100.00	4,943.12	100.00
TOTAL-Municipal Offices	135,850.00	145,277.78	142,290.00

TOWN HALL

Insurance	500.00	0.00	500.00
Electricity	400.00	135.54	300.00
Heat	1,000.00	2,335.53	1,500.00
Building Repair	1,000.00	278.20	1,000.00
Repair-Clock	300.00	0.00	200.00
Water & Sewer	400.00	478.06	500.00
Town Hall Restoration Fund	15,000.00	15,100.00	0.00
TOTAL-Town Hall	18,600.00	18,327.33	4,000.00

SALARIES

Selectmen	775.00	775.00	775.00
Treasurer	3,605.00	3,605.00	3,720.00
Town Manager	27,800.00	27,856.25	28,650.00
Trustees of Public Funds	250.00	0.00	250.00
Auditors	105.00	0.00	105.00
Health Officer	600.00	600.00	600.00
Elections	100.00	0.00	100.00
Board of Civil Authority	100.00	146.00	100.00
Social Security	1,800.00	1,775.14	1,800.00
Medicare	400.00	411.48	420.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
SALARIES-cont			
Retirement	0.00	3.63	0.00
Health Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	100.00	0.00	100.00
TOTAL-Salaries	35,635.00	35,172.50	36,620.00
LISTERS			
Salaries	10,000.00	11,863.17	10,000.00
Social Security	620.00	735.50	620.00
Medicare	150.00	172.02	150.00
Supplies	200.00	153.63	2,200.00
Mileage	400.00	416.79	400.00
Re-appraisals	0.00	3,500.00	0.00
Other	100.00	2,236.00	100.00
TOTAL-Listers	11,470.00	19,077.11	13,400.00
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS			
Town Meeting	200.00	0.00	200.00
Town Reports	3,100.00	2,616.35	3,000.00
Tax Billing	1,000.00	1,162.50	1,200.00
Preservation of Records	2,000.00	180.36	2,000.00
Board of Civil Authority	100.00	0.00	100.00
Committee Training	100.00	0.00	100.00
Unemployment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Legal	2,500.00	20,185.55	3,000.00
Planning	1,000.00	100.00	500.00
Auditing Services	4,000.00	11,306.00	4,000.00
Training	500.00	685.00	500.00
Advertising	500.00	585.40	500.00
Other	100.00	5,838.73	100.00
TOTAL-Government Operations	15,100.00	42,659.89	15,200.00
APPROPRIATIONS			
Local			
Bethel Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Council on the Arts	500.00	500.00	500.00
Bethel Historical Society	500.00	500.00	500.00
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	1,569.00	1,569.00	1,673.00
Two Rivers Regional Plan. Comm.	2,175.00	2,175.00	2,175.00
Green Mountain Econ. Develop.	984.00	984.00	990.00
Green Up Day	50.00	50.00	50.00
Resource Conservation & Develop	50.00	50.00	50.00
White River Partnership	500.00	500.00	500.00
Total Local	6,528.00	6,528.00	6,638.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
APPROPRIATIONS-cont			
Human Services			
Senior Citizens Center	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Visiting Nurse Alliance	5,400.00	5,400.00	
Clara Martin Center	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Central VT Comm. Action Council	300.00	300.00	
Mental Health Service	200.00	200.00	
Safeline	300.00	300.00	
Stagecoach	1,285.00	1,285.00	
Windsor County Partners	100.00	100.00	
Teen Scene	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Central Vermont Council on Aging	200.00	200.00	
Acorn	250.00	250.00	
VT Adult Learning	300.00	300.00	
Life Skills for Women	200.00	200.00	
VT Center for Independent Living	100.00	100.00	
*** VT Association for the Blind	750.00	750.00	
Total Human Services	13,885.00	13,885.00	
White River Valley Ambulance	54,432.00	54,432.00	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	74,845.00	74,845.00	
DEBT SERVICE			
Long Term indebtedness Sewer	39,973.00	39,972.50	39,128.00
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	2,500.00	5,041.72	3,500.00
E. Coli Sewer	26,955.00	0.00	27,000.00
Camp Brook Road Project	0.00	0.00	22,000.00
TOTAL-Debt Service	69,428.00	45,014.22	91,628.00
TAXES			
County Taxes	12,400.00	11,786.02	12,000.00
Reimbursement of overpayment	0.00	681.72	0.00
TOTAL-Taxes	12,400.00	12,467.74	12,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS			
Medicare	0.00	0.00	0.00
FICA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Managers Expense	2,400.00	1,722.90	2,400.00
Solid Waste Management Plan	14,465.00	14,464.80	14,530.00
Unemployment Security	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL-Miscellaneous	16,865.00	16,187.70	16,930.00
	857,326.00	1,006,544.01	913,636.00

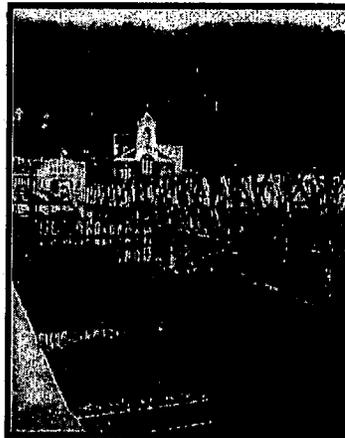
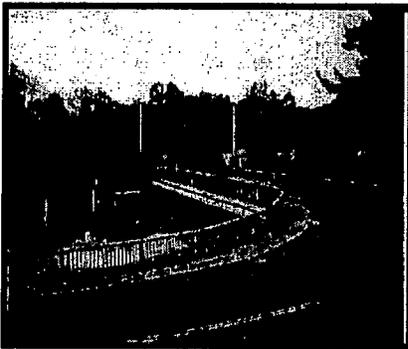
TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Expenditure Summary

As of December 31, 2003

<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
Public Works	380,550.00	410,585.59	411,820.00
Fire Department	87,430.00	102,627.88	73,890.00
Police Department	17,970.00	18,081.71	20,820.00
Recreation Department	41,950.00	37,444.64	39,530.00
Parks and Public Places	27,550.00	28,774.92	28,870.00
Municipal Offices	135,850.00	145,277.78	142,290.00
Town Hall	3,600.00	18,327.33	4,000.00
Salaries	35,635.00	35,172.50	36,620.00
Listers	11,470.00	19,077.11	13,400.00
Government Operations	15,100.00	42,659.89	15,200.00
Appropriations	6,528.00	6,528.00	6,638.00
Debt Services	69,428.00	45,014.22	91,628.00
Taxes	12,400.00	12,467.74	12,000.00
Miscellaneous	16,865.00	16,187.70	16,930.00
TOTAL	857,326.00	1,006,544.01	913,636.00

Church Street Bridge Project 2003



Photos courtesy of: Louise Ferris-Burt and Willis Stoddard)

BETHEL WATER DEPARTMENT**Operating Statement****As of December 31, 2003**

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
WATER REVENUES			
Temporary Borrowing	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	200.00
Transfer from Mini Custody	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Rentals	82,000.00	76,435.34	98,580.00
Other	0.00	76.59	0.00
TOTAL-Revenues	82,000.00	76,511.93	98,580.00
WATER EXPENDITURES			
Salaries	8,000.00	16,329.18	15,000.00
Social Security	525.00	1,012.39	660.00
Medicare	125.00	236.77	220.00
Retirement	100.00	0.00	0.00
Health and Accident Insurance	3,450.00	3,676.53	3,850.00
Workmans Compensation	700.00	70.90	100.00
Electricity for Pumps	17,500.00	19,882.99	18,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance-Pumps	1,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Repairs-Hydrants	1,000.00	1,441.86	100.00
Repairs-Telemetry System	1,000.00	1,022.00	3,000.00
Mains & Distribution Line	3,000.00	6,261.37	2,000.00
Tools	100.00	0.00	100.00
Bank Service Charge	100.00	0.00	50.00
Supplies	500.00	1,757.17	500.00
Water Testing	2,000.00	1,197.48	1,200.00
Engineering Charges		0.00	0.00
Reserve Funds		0.00	0.00
Insurance	700.00	381.63	400.00
Reimbursement-Town of Bethel	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
State of Vermont Permits	1,600.00	1,617.37	1,650.00
Leases	200.00	100.00	200.00
Chlorine Contact Chamber	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,300.00
Advertising	100.00	25.36	50.00
Loan - MBB	34,000.00	42,218.09	42,200.00
Water Bond Construction	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	1,113.27	0.00
TOTAL-Expenditures	82,000.00	104,644.36	98,580.00

BETHEL WATER DEPARTMENT**Comparative Financial Statement****December 31, 2002 & 2003**

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
ASSETS		
Cash on hand in Checking Account	11,375.67	(27,603.18)
Interest Earned	102.38	0.00
Land	2,500.00	2,500.00
Water System	1,275,850.00	1,305,850.00
Cumulative Fund Balance	0.00	11,478.05
Accounts Receivable-Water Rentals	<u>14,570.56</u>	<u>24,739.13</u>
TOTAL-Assets	1,304,398.61	1,316,964.00
LIABILITIES		
Notes Payable	628,098.52	604,723.39
Chlorine Contact Chamber	35,655.37	33,194.54
Accounts Payable	407.46	0.00
Customer Overpayments	<u>45.75</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL-Liabilities	664,207.10	637,917.93
NET ASSETS	640,191.51	679,046.07

BETHEL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**Comparative Financial Statement****December 31, 2002 & 2003**

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
ASSETS		
Cash in Checking Account	\$ (33,103.34)	\$ (17,197.88)
Interest Earned	9,679.22	199.65
Reserve Fund	0.00	9,656.00
Land	7,100.00	8,000.00
Sewer System	2,200,000.00	2,100,000.00
Accounts Receivable	<u>17,249.57</u>	<u>33,098.06</u>
TOTAL-Assets	\$ 2,200,925.45	\$ 2,133,755.83
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	842.11	0.00
Customer Overpayments	108.30	0.00
Notes Payable	60,000.00	60,000.00
Cumulative Fund Balance	<u>30,087.34</u>	<u>30,087.34</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 950.41	\$ 90,087.34
NET ASSETS	\$ 2,199,975.04	\$ 2,043,668.49

BETHEL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Operating Statement As of December 31, 2003

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
SEWER REVENUES			
Checking Account Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00
Proceeds Debt	0.00	60,000.00	0.00
Fees	123,400.00	128,984.42	132,100.00
Other	0.00	153.89	0.00
FEMA Monies	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL- Revenues	123,400.00	189,138.31	132,100.00
 SEWER EXPENDITURES			
Labor-Operations	36,800.00	50,943.59	42,000.00
Administration	4,000.00	4,144.22	4,000.00
Social Security	2,470.00	3,472.26	2,810.00
Medicare	600.00	812.09	660.00
Retirement	100.00	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance	14,390.00	15,027.46	15,500.00
Workmans Compensation	940.00	970.26	980.00
Insurance	1,200.00	767.64	800.00
Electricity	19,000.00	16,844.46	18,000.00
Telephone	900.00	142.08	300.00
Improvements	100.00	0.00	50.00
Maintenance-Building	2,000.00	25.23	2,000.00
Maintenance-Collection System	5,000.00	8,884.00	6,000.00
Maintenance-Equipment	5,000.00	3,224.55	4,000.00
Flushing Sewer Lines	600.00	0.00	500.00
Sludge Disposal	8,000.00	3,501.79	4,000.00
Supplies	2,000.00	3,058.01	3,000.00
Chemicals	700.00	799.66	600.00
Reimbursement-Town of Bethel	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Reimbursement-Employee Vehicle	0.00	252.78	0.00
Leases	400.00	250.00	400.00
Training	700.00	0.00	500.00
Certification	4,500.00	2,351.50	3,500.00
Bacterial Study-2000	7,000.00	8,923.34	0.00
Operation Expense Debt Service	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
Reserve Funds	1,000.00	0.00	500.00
Other	0.00	27,185.85	0.00
Emergency Response System	0.00	39,627.12	0.00
State Fine - E.Coli 2000	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
TOTAL-Sewer Expenditures	123,400.00	207,207.89	132,100.00

BETHEL-ROYALTON SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Operating Statement

As of December 31, 2003

	<u>Budget 2003</u>	<u>Actual 2003</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>
SOLID WASTE REVENUES			
Interest Earnings	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sale of Recyclable Materials	32,000.00	17,733.39	20,000.00
Reimbursement Franchise Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00
Alliance Surcharge	60,000.00	62,373.20	60,000.00
Transfer from Mini Custody	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fees	546,000.00	654,250.73	658,000.00
Grant Receipts	3,000.00	5,882.09	0.00
TOTAL-Solid Waste Revenues	641,000.00	740,239.41	738,000.00
SOLID WASTE EXPENDITURES			
Labor	48,000.00	56,998.99	62,000.00
Administration Costs	7,000.00	8,379.94	15,000.00
Social Security	3,400.00	3,566.54	3,450.00
Medicare	800.00	803.93	775.00
Retirement	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance	11,300.00	12,246.54	13,000.00
Workmans Compensation	3,000.00	2,965.78	3,000.00
Insurance	1,300.00	527.00	750.00
Reimbursement-Royalton	100.00	0.00	100.00
Rental of Equipment	100.00	1,430.00	100.00
Electricity	2,100.00	1,795.24	2,000.00
Telephone	800.00	868.39	800.00
Heat	700.00	1,373.93	1,000.00
Uniform Rental	500.00	542.13	500.00
Building Maintenance	1,000.00	80.00	850.00
Equipment Operation	3,000.00	7,850.97	9,500.00
Repair of Scales	500.00	520.00	500.00
New Equipment	100.00	98.99	100.00
Bank Service Charge	0.00	0.00	0.00
Legal	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Supplies	2,000.00	1,402.11	2,500.00
Franchise Tax	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Tip Fee & Hauling	444,000.00	551,411.78	518,000.00
Hazardous Waste	4,000.00	8,385.32	4,000.00
Recycling	60,000.00	57,725.23	56,000.00
Labor Reimbursement-Bethel	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Recertification	5,000.00	5,103.27	5,000.00
Debt Service - Principal	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Interest	5,200.00	4,846.50	4,800.00
Cat Loader -- long term debt	12,000.00	13,672.57	13,675.00
Replacement Reserve Account	9,000.00	3,500.00	5,500.00
Other	100.00	4,263.45	100.00
TOTAL-Solid Waste Expenditures	641, 000.00	763,358.60	738,000.00

BETHEL-ROYALTON SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Comparative Financial Statement December 31, 2002 & 2003

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
ASSETS		
Cash on Hand in Checking Acct	\$ (6,853.56)	\$ (16,794.84)
Reserve Fund	0.00	3,500.00
Equipment	28,000.00	39,000.00
Land	40,000.00	40,000.00
Facility	750,000.00	750,000.00
Accounts Receivable	<u>75,989.50</u>	<u>25,015.03</u>
TOTAL- Assets	\$ 887,135.94	\$ 840,720.19
LIABILITIES		
Notes Payable	\$ 181,120.00	\$ 168,000.00
Accounts Payable	4,448.59	0.00
Cumulative Balance	0.00	6,884.50
906 Cat Loader (1/2 to Royalton)	<u>43,632.22</u>	<u>33,479.09</u>
TOTAL-Liabilities	\$ 229,200.81	\$ 208,363.59
NET ASSETS	\$ 657,935.13	\$ 632,356.60

TOWN GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT

Comparative Financial Statement December 31, 2002 & 2003

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
ASSETS:		
Cash on hand in checking account	\$ (304.77)	\$ 7,984.69
Cash on hand in sweep account	47,579.05	166.51
Interest Earned	1,574.54	1,677.72
Accounts Receivable:		
Delinquent Taxes (includes penalty & interest)	<u>145,534.19</u>	<u>158,862.39</u>
TOTAL-Assets	\$ 192,383.01	\$ 168,691.31
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 17,163.17	0.00
School Tax Payable	143,970.93	170,543.97
Notes Payable	1,599,179.90	964,517.01
Customer Overpayments	<u>133.11</u>	<u>2,326.00</u>
TOTAL-Liabilities	\$ 1,760,447.11	\$ 1,137,386.98
NET ASSETS	\$ (1,568,064.10)	\$ (968,695.67)

STATEMENT OF TOWN INDEBTEDNESS

As of December 31, 2003

The Town of Bethel participated in the 1999 bond sale of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (VMBB), and refinanced the loan by which the wastewater treatment system was originally constructed. The note formerly held by USDA Rural Development is now held by VMBB and the principal balance at the end of the year 2003 was \$380,000.00.

The Town of Bethel borrowed \$85,000.00 from the Chittenden Bank to pay for costs incurred with construction of the new fire station. The principal balance at year end was \$34,000.00.

The Town of Bethel has borrowed from its Revolving Loan Fund to pay for costs associated with operations over-runs of the wastewater treatment system during the year 2000. The principal balance at year end was \$74,803.29.

In year 2001, the Town acquired an "Eagle One" Freightliner pumper fire truck at a total purchase price of \$145,055.00 to be paid for by a 96 month lease-purchase plan. The principal balance at the end of 2003 was \$92,655.53.

The Town of Bethel has a loan from the Chittenden Bank for its share of funding of the Camp Brook Road Project, \$90,000 being the outstanding principal at the end of the year 2003.

In June 2003, the Town entered into a three year lease-purchase Agreement with Daimler Chrysler Services for the procurement of a 2004 Sterling cab & chasis (highway dump/plow truck). The principal balance at the end of year 2003 was \$19,358.19. (Payments are drawn from the Highway Equipment Fund.)

In July 2003, the Town entered into a five year Lease-purchase Agreement with Case Credit Corporation for the procurement of a Case 580 Super M Loader-Backhoe. The principal balance at the end of year 2003 was \$53,700.00. (This obligation to be paid as an annual operating expense of the Town General Fund and the Water Department.)

The Town of Bethel has an open line of credit with the Mascoma Savings Bank for operating expenses, the principal balance at the end of year 2003 being \$220,000.00. (This obligation is to be retired through revenues of the Town General Fund, the Water Department, Wastewater Department and Solid Waste Program.)

The Wastewater Treatment system owes \$60,000.00 to the Mascoma Savings Bank at the end of year 2003. (This Line of Credit will be re-paid from revenues of the wastewater treatment system.)

Capitol Construction costs for improvements to the Town's water supply system resulted in expenditure of \$663,753.89 of which \$33,194.54 is owed to the Mascoma Savings Bank for the chlorine Contact Chamber and \$604,723.39 is owed to the Vermont EPA for Water System upgrades. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the water supply system.)

The Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Program owed Chittenden Bank at the end of 2003 the principle amount of \$168,000.00 of which \$84,000.00 was the Town of Bethel's debt. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the Solid Waste Program.)

During 2002, the Towns of Bethel and Royalton financed the purchase of a used Caterpillar 906 wheel loader for use in the solid waste program. The purchase price is to be amortized over 5 years. The principal balance (1/2 Royalton) at the end of year 2003 was \$33,479.09. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the Solid Waste Program.)

ALL TOWN DEPARTMENTS

Financial Statement As of December 31, 2003

LIQUID ASSETS:

Cash on hand in checking accounts	\$ 7,984.69
Sweep Accounts	166.51
Interest Earned	<u>1,677.72</u>
Total Cash on Hand	\$ 9,828.92

INVESTED MONIES:

Savings Accounts:

Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 50,057.31
Economic Revolving Loan Funds	277,112.82
Bandshell Fund	969.02
Leaseland Fund	3,260.19
Richard Edmunds Memorial Fund	301.50
Tax Sale Fund	0.00
Wastewater Treatment Facility Reserve Fund	9,855.65
Solid Waste Reserve Fund	3,502.44
Act 60 Reappraisal Fund	37,399.44
Fire Dept. Building/Equipment Fund	1,955.78
Highway Equipment Trust Fund	7,169.58
Town Hall Expense Fund	2,403.15
Town Hall Restoration Fund	46,386.74
Andrew Johnston Playground Fund	<u>638.15</u>
Total Invested Monies	\$ 441,011.77

ADD ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES:

Delinquent Taxes (includes penalty/interest)	\$ 158,862.39
Sewer User Charges	33,098.06
Water Rentals	24,739.13
Solid Waste Billings	<u>25,015.03</u>
Total Accounts Receivables	\$ 241,714.61

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 692,555.30**

LESS LIABILITIES:

Water Chlorination Contact Chamber	\$ 33,194.54
Landfill (\$84,000.00 for Royalton)	168,000.00
Fire Station Construction	34,000.00
Sewer Construction	380,000.00
Water Bond Construction	604,723.39
2002 E-one American Eagle Pumper	92,655.53
228G Cat Loader	0.00
Waste Water - E-coli	74,803.29
906Cat Loader (\$16,739.55 for Royalton)	33,479.09
School Taxes Payable	170,543.97
Tax Anticipatory Note	220,000.00
Chittenden Bank Credit Line-Camp Brook Rd	90,000.00
Customer Overpayments	<u>2,326.00</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$ 1,903,725.81**

NET ASSETS **\$ (1,211,170.51)**

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED -- 2003

TOWN:

Appraised Value all Taxable Real Estate	\$ 100,565,540.00
Grand List Value (1% of Appraised Value)	1,005,655.40
Tax Rate of \$.69 Applied Against Grand List Yields	
Total Taxes to be Raised (\$ 1,005,655.40 x \$.69)	\$ 693,902.29

SCHOOL:

Appraised Value all Taxable Real Estate	\$ 100,704,690.00
Grand List Value (1% of Appraised Value)	1,007,046.90
Tax Rate of \$2.21 Applied Against Grand List Yields	
Total Taxes to be Raised (\$ 1,007,046.90 x \$2.21)	\$ 2,225,573.84

COMBINED:

Tax Rate = \$2.90	
Total to be Raised by Taxes	\$ 2,919,476.13

TOTAL TO COLLECT:

Collected Taxes	2,802,051.37
Delinquent	<u>117,424.76</u>

TOTAL	\$ 2,919,476.13
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STATEMENT OF TAXES COLLECTED IN 2003

(Does not include Fees & Interest)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TO COLLECT</u>	<u>COLLECTED & PAID TO TREASURER</u>	<u>UNCOLLECTED</u>
1998	\$ 1,014.12	\$ 998.99	\$ 15.13
1999	0.00	0.00	0.00
2000	1,878.65	1,668.43	210.22
2001	15,192.69	14,192.53	1,000.16
2002	111,446.01	87,957.84	23,488.17
2003	2,919,476.13	2,802,051.37	117,424.76
TOTAL	\$ 3,049,007.60	\$ 2,906,869.16	\$ 142,138.44

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS

As of December 31, 2003

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Total</u>
Anderson, Irene	186.29	47.61	233.90
Ashley, Edwin & Regina	615.44	2,073.59	2,689.03
# Ballou, Philip & Connie	1,101.58		1,101.58
Bedell, Jeffrey		599.05	599.05
Bennett, James & Janet		2,157.60	2,157.60
* Berry, Cynthia		1,884.69	1,884.69
Bilodeau, Michael		664.09	664.09
Blanchard, Edward		319.00	319.00
Booth, Bryan & Donna		17.25	17.25
Brown, David & Kelly	1,0345.40		1035.40
Capron, Carl & Barbara		528.18	528.18
Carr, Phillips Jr. & Gwendolyn		172.38	172.38
# Chambers, Ronald		441.98	441.98
Champany, Todd & Laurie		1,866.01	1,866.01
Chandler, Sylvia	1,471.32	2,122.80	3,594.12
Clarke, Robert W. & Jennifer		963.56	963.56
Clough, Ruth	1,891.40	2,728.89	4,620.29
Cornell, Steven & Florence		2,279.40	2,279.40
# Cruz, Edward	1,268.10		1,268.10
Cyr, Carmella		539.40	539.40
Daniel, Michael & Valerie	3,829.04	5,524.49	9,353.53
Davis, Joan		30.27	30.27
Davis, Lee J Calvin		249.73	249.73
Dobson, David & Laura		884.00	884.00
Dohrn, Peter & Shawn		3,693.91	3,693.91
Dolan, Ruth Napp	1,234.14		1,234.14
Drury, Peter & Pamela		1,309.43	1,309.43
Dundas, Dennis		30.89	30.89
Eddy, Estate of Jean		4,015.12	4,015.12
Farnham, Kent & Theresa	575.40	1,150.09	1,725.49
Ferris, Paul		2,328.34	2,328.34
Ferris, Paul		161.60	161.60
Fleming, Perry & Wendy	420.43		420.43
Floyd, James III & Lisa		2,569.40	2,569.40
Frank, Cole T.		202.26	202.26
Frechette, David & Lisa		1,073.00	1,073.00
Gallagher, Cornelius & Felder, Marion		532.80	532.80
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		1,681.1	1,681.81
	<u>13,628.54</u>	<u>44,842.62</u>	<u>58,471.16</u>

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS-continued

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Total</u>
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		3,938.20	3,938.20
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		892.29	892.29
Gifford, John P II		4,109.98	4,109.98
Goon, Joel		3,213.20	3,213.20
Griffin, Mary		1,902.80	1,902.80
Harrington, Mark & Angela	607.07	824.32	1,431.39
Hein, William		790.86	790.86
# Hewett, Gregory		712.72	712.72
Hicks, William & Elizabeth	605.86	234.89	840.75
Hill, Scott A.		225.50	225.50
Killian, Edgar & Kathy		793.70	793.70
Kondi, Albert		26.56	26.56
Korsu, Kenneth & Marietta		827.25	827.25
LaFlamme, Susan ...	1,199.40	4,466.00	5,665.40
Lafromboise, Brian & Kristin		1,751.21	1,751.21
# Larmie, Peter & Heidi	205.02		205.02
Lewandoski, Keith & Rebecca		1,180.30	1,180.30
# Lewis, David & Bethany	389.94	562.60	952.54
Lewis, Donald & Linda	15.13		15.13
Lewis, Samuel & Bonnie		2,260.05	2,260.05
Locke, Frank & Dona		1,232.18	1,232.18
Manning, Michael		435.93	435.93
Mason, James & Rollins, Rhonda		652.37	652.37
McCullough, Kirk & Meredith	858.88	2,682.49	3,541.37
Mears, George		1,448.62	1,448.62
Miller, Laura & Edward	1,298.69	1,394.89	2,693.58
# Mongeur, Rose M		759.13	759.13
Morse, Shawn & Cook, Carol		1,057.17	1,057.17
# Murray, David & Diane		867.42	867.42
Naples, Phyllis		1,686.17	1,686.17
Needham, Warren & Sharon		490.64	490.64
Nichols, Ann		183.77	183.77
# Niculescu, Viorica		2,044.49	2,044.49
Oakes, Randy & Deborah		942.00	942.00
Oleshewski, Heather		175.96	175.96
Olsen, Robert J.		995.14	995.14
Palmer, Charlotte & Douglas	125.22	606.09	731.31
# Perron, Fred		5.87	5.87
Pingree, Thomas		1,133.89	1,133.89
RTRA Properties		2,621.06	2,621.06
RTRA Properties		2,970.24	2,970.24
Rambo, John & Shirley		302.13	302.13
Reynolds, Sherry		603.29	603.29
# Rogers, James		<u>692.40</u>	<u>692.40</u>
	<u>5,305.21</u>	<u>54,695.77</u>	<u>60,000.98</u>

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS-cont

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>Total</u>
*Rogers, Lewis		1,867.47	1,867.47
Rogers, Lewis		826.49	826.49
Rogers, Steven		476.78	476.78
Rousseau, David		690.96	690.96
Senecal, Susan & Pingree, Thomas	586.56		586.56
*Sewel, Daniel & Kathleen		129.24	129.24
Slack, Chad & Casey	983.20	327.97	1,311.17
Snelling, Jason & Jolene		2,354.80	2,354.80
Soule, Thomas & Karen		1,883.23	1,883.23
Tabor, Clarke & Annette	1,272.32	1,376.97	2,649.29
Tucker, Todd & Sylvia		408.84	408.84
Valley Equipment Sales	72.87	309.81	382.68
Vargo, Steven & Marie	639.13	3,869.01	4,508.14
Ward, Bryan & Charlotte	1,065.30	747.77	1,813.07
Ward, Elmer L. III	1,160.55		1,160.55
Wiessel, James & Margarette		5.06	5.06
Zisselberger, Gary & Karin		2,607.09	2,607.09
Miscellaneous		4.88	4.88
	5,779.93	17,886.37	23,666.30
 TOTALS	 24,713.68	 117,424.76	 142,138.44

* paid in full (at time of print)

+ partial payment

% bankruptcy

paid in full by owner at time of sale

DELINQUENT WATER & SEWER ACCOUNTS

As of December 31, 2003

The Board of Water/Sewage Disposal Commissioners has determined that accounts overdue by 120 days as of December 31, 2003 will be listed in the Annual Town Report.

Allen, David & Kristey	222.08
Ashley, Edwin & Regina	2,499.47
Brown, David & Kelly	330.90
Clough, Ruth	990.38
Cornell, Steven & Florence	1,258.56
Diamond, Ronald & Christine	811.07
Frank, Cole T.	1,699.04
Geulmette, Denise	363.30
Gifford, John P. & Janice	1,240.38
Goon, Joel	2,749.08
Holmes, Henry & Sandra	1,731.67
Knapp, Gail & Mary	2,720.74
Lewis, Donald & Linda	3,244.78
Newell, Bruce	621.44
Nichols, Ann	1,807.80
Palmer, Charlotte & Douglas	1,438.40
Patch, Todd & Sonya	506.08
Piella, Michael	247.97
Rogers, Edward & Suzanne	2,937.00
Rogers, Lewis	495.12
Rogers, Sarah	206.51
Slack, Chad & Casey	1,014.66
Snelling, Jason & Jolene	506.08
Soule, Karen & Thomas	482.73
Staff, Jeffrey & Jennifer	1,489.42
Tabor, Clarke & Annette	372.36
Valley Equipment Sales	1,469.94
Voci, Joe	206.51
<u>Zisselberger, Gary & Karen</u>	<u>413.82</u>
TOTAL	34,077.29

2003 DOG LICENSES

213	Spayed & Neutered Dogs @ \$5.00 each	\$ 1,065.00
96	Spayed & Neutered Dogs @ \$7.00 each	\$ 672.00
67	Males & Females @ \$9.00 each	\$ 603.00
19	Males & Females @ \$13.00 each	\$ 247.00
2	Males & Females @ \$5.00 each (1/2 year)	\$ 10.00
2	Neutered & Spayed @ \$3.00 each (1/2 year)	<u>\$ 6.00</u>
TOTAL		\$ 2,603.00
	Less Town Clerk's Fees	796.00
	Less State Fees	<u>398.00</u>
PAID TO THE TOWN OF BETHEL		\$ 1,409.00

2003 LIQUOR LICENSES

FIRST CLASS:		
	Tozier's Restaurant	\$ 100.00
	The Bethel Depot, Inc.	\$ 100.00
SECOND CLASS:		
	Champlain Farms	\$ 50.00
	Locust Creek Mobile	\$ 50.00
	Bethel Central Market, Inc.	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
TOTAL		\$ 350.00
	Less Town Clerk Fees	<u>- 25.00</u>
PAID TO THE TOWN OF BETHEL		\$ 325.00

ACT 60 REAPPRAISAL FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/03	\$29,154.48
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Received from State of Vermont	8,085.00
Interest Earned	<u>159.56</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$37,399.44

**FIRE DEPARTMENT
BUILDING AND/OR EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND**

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/03	\$(12,000.00)
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	12,000.00
Donations	1,205.78
Truck Sale (64' Dodge Van)	<u>750.00</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 1,955.78

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/1/03	\$ 18,853.86
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	40,000.00
Interest Earned	<u>66.44</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	
2004 Sterling Truck	
-Cab & Chassis	10,173.81
-Body & Hydraulics	22,773.00
CAT 928G Loader (final payment)	<u>18,803.91</u>
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 7,169.58

RICHARD EDMUNDS MEMORIAL FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/1/03	\$ 299.88
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest Earned	<u>1.62</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 301.50

TOWN HALL RESTORATION FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/03	\$30,144.71
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	15,000.00
Donations	1,101.00
Interest Earned	<u>141.03</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$46,386.74

ANDREW JOHNSTON PLAYGROUND FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Beginning Balance as of 9-12-03	\$ 552.40
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Donations	85.00
Interest Earned	<u>.75</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12-31-03	\$ 638.15

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY RESERVE FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/03	\$ 9,656.00
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest	199.65
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 9,855.65

TOWN HALL EXPENSE ACCOUNT

As of December 31, 2003

Beginning Balance as of 7/11/03	\$ 2,398.92
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest	<u>4.23</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 2,403.15

SOLID WASTE RESERVE FUND

As of December 31, 2003

Beginning Balance as of 10/31/03	\$ 3,500.00
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest	<u>2.44</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$ 3,502.44

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
TOWN OF BETHEL, VERMONT
DECEMBER 31, 2003**

Checkbook balance on hand 01-01-03 **\$ 232.95**

ADD RECEIPTS:

Income from Investments	7,877.94	
Perpetual Care	1,432.00	
Redeemed Investments	<u>4,472.69</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>\$13,782.63</u>

NET INCOME **\$14,015.58**

LESS DISBURSEMENTS:

Treas., Town of Bethel School Dist. (Whitcomb)	3,535.43	
Treas., Town of Bethel School Dist. (Clark)	434.82	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Bass Park)	32.57	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Cox Fund)	32.59	
Treas., Christ Church (Bundy)	19.71	
Treas., Christ Church (Bundy principal)	1,050.00	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Fairview)	2,070.33	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Cherry Hill)	1,488.30	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (E. Bethel)	86.29	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Lympus & Gilead)	72.36	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Legion Band Shell)	29.11	
Whitcomb School (Tucker Fund)	72.26	
Bank service charges	13.79	
Administration expense	15.00	
Safe deposit box rent	<u>20.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 8,972.56</u>

Checkbook balance on hand 12-31-03 **\$ 5,043.02**

The total of the portfolio as of 12-31-03 is \$ 259,422.58 this is up \$ 5,938.33 from a year ago. The total return on investments was 3.04% based on year end values. I expect that the total income from investments for the year of 2004 will again be less due to the market conditions and the interest rates.

Breakdown of Investments:

Bank Deposits	\$ 141,836.06	55%
Mutual Funds	94,868.06	37%
Stocks	19,498.89	7%
Loans	3,219.57	1%
 Total	 \$ 259,422.58	 100%

Carroll F. Ketchum, Clerk

TOWN OF BETHEL CEMETERY FUNDS

In Town Treasurer's Account

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Cash Balance in Checking Account Jan. 1	\$ 1,014.73	\$ 370.42
Add Receipts:		
Trustee of Public Funds	5,906.68	4,212.33
Sale of Lots	240.00	288.00
Perpetual Care	444.00	432.00
Corner Stones	0.00	168.00
Town of Bethel	7,700.00	15,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>210.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE	\$ 15,515.41	\$ 20,495.75
Less Disbursements		
Fairview	5,552.85	7742.55
Cherry Hill	5,577.70	7572.15
East Bethel	1,737.00	2183.25
Lympus	154.60	202.35
Gilead	1,061.50	1309.95
Corner Stones	0.00	100.00
Perpetual Care	444.00	432.00
Commissioner	300.00	300.00
Miscellaneous	<u>317.34</u>	<u>434.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 15,144.99	\$ 20,276.25
Cash Balance in Checking Account Dec. 31	<u>370.42</u>	<u>219.50</u>
TOTAL	\$ 15,515.41	\$ 20,495.75

ITEMIZED SUMMARY OF CEMETERY DISBURSEMENTS - 2003

Fairview Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	\$ 7,742.55
Cherry Hill Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	7,572.15
East Bethel Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	2,183.25
Gilead Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	1,309.95
Lympus Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	202.35
Perpetual Care	432.00
Miscellaneous	434.00
Corner Stones	100.00
Cemetery Commissioner	<u>300.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 20,276.25

STATE OF VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	\$ 278.75	07-17-03	Agency of Transportation	\$ 19,978.56
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	731.25	07-17-03	Agency of Transportation	2,372.51
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	101.25	07-17-03	Agency of Transportation	10,790.43
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	12,875.63	08-28-03	Judiciary	35.00
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	794.38	09-16-03	Judiciary	173.00
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	1,236.23	09-23-03	Agency of Transportation	23.71
1-13-03	Agency of Transportation	651.42	09-23-03	Agency of Transportation	31,500.00
1-15-03	Agency of Transportation	19,920.71	09-23-03	Agency of Transportation	182.25
1-15-03	Judiciary	2,372.51	09-23-03	Agency of Transportation	215.56
1-15-03	Agency of Transportation	10,798.37	09-23-03	Agency of Transportation	4,418.44
2-24-03	Agency of Transportation	99.99	10-15-03	Agency of Transportation	10,790.43
3-10-03	Agency of Transportation	123.08	10-15-03	Agency of Transportation	19,978.56
3-10-03	Agency of Transportation	218.25	10-15-03	Agency of Transportation	2,372.51
3-10-03	TAX-EEGL Assistance	39.58	10-23-03	Agency of Transportation	59.15
3-17-03	Agency of Transportation	70,295.07	10-28-03	TAX-Current Use	37,866.00
3-17-03	Agency of Transportation	185.63	11-05-03	TAX-Pilot Reimbursement	238.00
3-20-03	Agency of Transportation	8,085.00	11-12-03	Judiciary	769.40
04-15-03	Agency of Transportation	10,798.37	11-17-03	Judiciary	128.00
04-15-03	Agency of Transportation	2,372.51	12-02-03	Agency of Transportation	6.00
04-15-03	TAX-Railroad	19,919.71	12-05-03	Agency of Natural Resources	1,571.00
05-12-03	Agency of Transportation	1,101.17	12-09-03	Judiciary	74.00
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	31.85	12-26-03	Environmental Conservation	3,649.25
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	59.15			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	93.73		TOTAL	\$ 312,460.71
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	70.25			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	78.35			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	18.20			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	45.50			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	28.21			
05-15-03	Agency of Transportation	72.80			
05-16-03	Agency of Transportation	70.98			
05-29-03	Environmental Conservation	139.00			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	70.98			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	21.84			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	37.31			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	69.16			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	41.86			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	21.84			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	28.21			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	172.50			
06-23-03	Agency of Transportation	34.58			

VITAL STATISTICS 2003-MARRIAGES

<u>Name of Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Name of Bride</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place of Marriage</u>
Jeffrey L. Sherwin	Bethel	Claudia Galasso	Bethel	01-04-03	Manchester
Michael John Manning	Bethel	Amy Stiker Vorce	Bethel	02-10-03	Royalton
Alan Gregg Smith	Bethel	Gwendolyn D. Rossbach	Bethel	05-10-03	Randolph
Mark Penta	Bethel	Erica M. Stanson	Bethel	05-24-03	Bethel
Leonard J. Glendinning	Bridgeport CT	Kathleen A. Angelica	Bridgeport, CT	06-21-03	Royalton
Eric Lee Edelstein	Bethel	Jennifer Jill Anker	Bethel	06-26-03	Bethel
James T. Hart	Bethel	Carol A. Gaudette	Bethel	06-28-03	Bethel
Guy Thomas Best	Bethel	Minh Ngoc Thi Nguyen	Bethel	06-28-03	Bethel
peter C. Nikolaidis	Bethel	Anne C. Taggart	Bethel	07027-03	Bethel
Keith Alan Hodgdon	Bethel	Karyn S. Lawrence	Bethel	08-02-03	Bethel
Jody L. White	Bethel	Betty A. Brown	Bethel	09-06-03	Barre
Michael W. Piela	Bethel	Leslie K. Brown	Bethel	09-20-03	Bethel
Kevin Daniel McGinty	Bethel	Karen M. Davis	Bethel	10-11-03	Bethel
Jeremi Brian Lyford	Bethel	Sadie Marie Griffin	Bethel	10-11-03	Bethel
Ryan Gary Slack	Bethel	Marianne Pothier	Bethel	11-08-03	Bethel
Ralph Prestion Allen	Bethel	Mimma Scorsone	Bethel	11-22-03	Bethel
Brad C. Palonen	Bethel	Kristen Amy Judkins	Bethel	11-29-03	Bethel

VITAL STATISTICS 2003-BIRTHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME</u>	<u>MOTHER'S NAME</u>
Kristina Morgan Salls	January 7	Randolph	Samuel Salls, Jr.	Rachel L. Sibley
Noah James Merriam	February 5	Randolph	Frederick Merriam	Jacqueline LaRocque
Toni Anne Turner	February 23	Randolph	Brett Turner	Karen Russo
Sofia Isabella Burrell	March 20	Randolph	Tyson Burrell	Sibeles Bermudez
Fiona Ann Leahy Vaillancourt	April 8	Randolph	Robert Vaillancourt	Debra Leahy
William James Floyd IV	April 11	Randolph	William Floyd III	Lisa Manning
Andrew David Lewis	October 29	Randolph	Jason Lewis	Sally P Scheindel
Jamesen Michael Roussel	November 3	Randolph	Michael Roussel	Kristy Burrell
Liam Peter Brennan	November 13	Randolph	Timothy Brennan	Elizabeth Hayslett
Thomas James Dubowsky	November 14	Randolph	Seth Dubowsky	Claudia Gomez
Kyle James Young	November 22	Randolph	Robert Young	Nicole Carr
Daniel Thresher	December 17	Randolph	Timothy Thresher	Andrea Lamson
Kailey Lynn Smith	December 25	Randolph		Tracey L. Smith

VITAL STATISTICS 2003-DEATHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Beatrice W. Eckson	94	July 7	Barre, VT	Bethel
Reta B. Whitaker	72	August 29	Randolph, VT	Bethel
Edward R. Mattson	73	October 2	Randolph, VT	Bethel

VITAL STATISTICS 2003-BURIALS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BURIAL</u>
Betty A. Bowen	March 18, 1922	January 3	Lebanaon, NH	Fairview
Willis F. Stoddard	April 1, 1917	February 18	Hanover, NH	Fairview
Ethel E. Bloomfield	August 30, 1905	March 9	Hanover, NH	Fairview
Loretta Gerrish	55	May 3	Berlin, VT	Fairview
Gladys Leah Baker	86	April 23	Pittsfield, VT	Fairview
Michael Tucker	42	May 18	Burlington, VT	Fairview
Mildred T. Butterfield	November 19, 1919	June 6	Randolph, VT	Fairview
Arlene L. Ashley	October 11, 1925	June 4	Stockbridge, VT	Cherry Hill
Dorothy Jane Byam	December 6, 1935	June 12	Randolph, VT	Fairview
Edith A. Adolph	December 11, 1933	September 7	Unity, NH	Fairview
Eileen Louise Valdez	September 27, 1955	September 15	Amherst, NH	Fairview
Leonard N. Thresher	November 25, 1924	September 24	Randolph, VT	Fairview
Frances Vina Plummer Scammell	84	October 12	White River Jct, VT	Cherry Hill

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE SERVICE

Mission Statement

The members of White River Valley Ambulance Service shall provide appropriate and timely pre-hospital critical care and transport for the sick and injured within the communities of Barnard, Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield, Granville, Pittsfield, Randolph, and Stockbridge.

We will maintain a high standard of care and will continually strive to improve our service through offering continuing education and outreach as it pertains to the communities' safety and wellness.

Our membership remains committed to the advancement of the Emergency Medical Service system and how this system can benefit the communities we serve.

Accomplishments for the Year 2003:

White River Valley Ambulance service was named Ambulance Service of the Year at the Vermont EMS Conference held in Burlington in April of 2003. The service has the honor of having its name engraved on a plaque that hangs in the offices of the Vermont Department of Health in Burlington. Governor Douglas was on hand at the conference and spoke to conference attendees.

Also honored, was WRVA paramedic Eric Hebert. Eric was named the Paramedic of the Year at the EMS conference. Additional WRVA employees receiving awards were Jeff Cochran and Jason Osborne. Both employees received a scholarship towards continuing education in emergency medicine.

The service applied for and received over \$90,000 in Homeland Security money this year. Due to the magnitude of grant money available we were able to replace all three of our cardiac monitor/defibrillators with 12 lead technology, purchase airbags and other rescue equipment, purchase additional paramedic equipment and upgrade mobile and portable radios. These equipment purchases allow for a decrease in the equipment reserve line item for the 2004 budget.

A grant was also received from the Mascoma Savings Bank Foundation towards the purchase of a Ski Doo snowmobile which complements our rescue sled and trailer donated by local snowmobile clubs. This allows for an immediate response to snowmobile emergencies; an important asset in our area which is heavily populated with VAST trails. Local clubs have also contributed towards the purchase.

The ambulance service continues to hold first aid and CPR courses for community members, businesses, daycares and local fire departments. Presentations were held at area schools to familiarize the children with what to expect in an emergency and who will come to help them. This allows children to look at the ambulance and equipment in a relaxed and fun fashion. The goal of the program is to make an emergency situation less traumatic to the child and to gain their trust when an emergency arises. Visits to local senior centers and daycares were also scheduled. An EMT course was held in the spring with approximately 20 graduates.

The department, along with Vermont Ambulance District #8, aided in the distribution and training of all area fire departments and the Randolph Police Department in the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's). Each fire department in the service area and the Randolph Police Department is now carrying an AED in their vehicles and will respond to cardiac arrest calls. This early intervention will save precious minutes and allow for more positive outcomes for our patients, especially in the outlying areas such as Pittsfield and Brookfield. We thank them for their civic mindedness and community support.

Call volume has increased by 27%. Calls to the eight communities served are as follows: Barnard 27, Bethel 167, Braintree 61, Brookfield 43, Granville 3, Pittsfield 21, Randolph 917, and Stockbridge, 39. The service responded to 118 requests for mutual aid.

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE - 2000-2004 BUDGETS						
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	SALES					
301	Base Rate/Paramedic Intercept	216425	223,800	230514	279,936	346935
302	Oxygen	15000	16,968	17477	17028	23101
303	Mileage	125920	104,268	107396	121152	165014
304	Waiting Time	1125	648	667	338	679
305	IV/Medication Therapy	7875	5,500	5775	16387	30058
306	Mast Trousers	780	0	0	0	31209
307	Cardiac Monitoring	11250	14,400	14832	17137	945
308	Defibrillation/External Pacing/Cardioversion	2000	348	500	562	2279
309	EOA/Combitube/Endotracheal Intubation	325	300	500	847	1500
310	Extraction	5000	1284	1500	3000	9500
311	OB Kit	50	0	0	0	0
320	Other	6515	6515	0	0	0
	Billing Service Revenue	0	0	3600	8500	9500
	Membership Program	0	0	7000	8000	6500
330	Municipal Participation	189786	277,084	304,814	301642	329859
390	Less Write Off's	-91100	-91,880	-94636	-108775	-178176
	Total Sales/Participation	490931	559,315	599,939	665754	769403
	COST OF SALES					
401	Medical Supplies	3000	3,000	4500	4500	4500
402	Oxygen	500	500	900	900	1000
403	Attendants Wages	168804	181,593	190673	229060	288000
404	Overtime	18000	20,000	23862	31750	35000
405	Part Time Wages	15000	15,000	41,000	23,550	30000
406	Volunteer Wages	10000	10,000	10,000	6000	12,000
407	Gasoline & Registrations	4500	5800	6900	7000	9500
408	Vehicle Maintenance	200	200	500	750	2500
409	Vehicle Repairs Unit 1	2000	2000	1000	1000	500
410	Vehicle Repairs Unit 2	500	1000	2000	2000	1000
411	Vehicle Repairs Unit 3	2000	3000	1000	1000	750
412	Vehicle Repairs Rescue	500	500	1000	1000	1000
		<u>225004</u>	<u>242593</u>	<u>283335</u>	<u>308510</u>	<u>385750</u>
	OPERATING EXPENSES					
509	Janitorial Supplies	500	300	350	400	400
510	Supplies	1200	1000	1100	1000	1200
511	Garage Tools	300	300	400	500	1000
512	Freight & Postage	2000	2000	2400	2750	2750
515	Administration	61516	66,060	69363	74604	84,500
519	Occupational Physicals	400	200	200	200	0
521	Service Agreements	1150	3200	3500	3500	4100
522	Pager Service	3200	250	250	100	150
525	Rubbish Removal	250	250	275	275	300
526	Heat	1275	1500	1500	1900	2300
527	Electricity	4700	5200	5300	5600	6000
528	Cable/Internet	60	60	60	960	1400
529	Telephone	5000	6500	10,100	10100	9000
530	Building Repairs	2500	2000	5000	2000	2000
531	Radio Repairs	500	500	750	750	500
532	Equipment Repairs	1000	1000	1000	1000	500

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Development Review Board (DRB) is responsible for reviewing permit applications under Bethel's zoning and subdivision bylaws. The DRB grants conditional use permits, variances, site plan approvals. The Development Review Board also ensures that applicants adhere to the planning and design standards of the town's subdivision regulations.

During 2003 the DRB issued 6 variances and 1 conditional use permit and approved 2 subdivision applications. Although the process is quite simple, it does take time. In order to avoid any delays in your projects, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the Town Manager to determine what approvals are necessary and what timeline may be required for ultimate approval.

The DRB will schedule meetings, as necessary, on the first and third Tuesday of the Month.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets regularly at the Bethel Town Offices on South Main Street at 7:00PM on the third Tuesday of each month. Other special meetings may be held from time to time to further work on various projects.

Most of 2003 was dedicated to the task of revising the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinances, this being done with the assistance of the Regional Planning Commission. To date a "finalized draft" is on file at the Town Office and public hearings set to begin adoption proceedings.

As always the Commission is in need of active members to help with their efforts toward betterment of our future. Anyone who is interested in joining the Commission can contact the Bethel Town Manager at the Town Offices, or call at 234-9340. Your help is a necessity for the future of your Town!!!

COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The Bethel Council on the Arts is best known as the producer of a summer series of outdoor Concerts on the Green celebrating local and regional talents. The Bethel Band Shell has long served our community as a charming spot in the heart of town for twilight concerts and other entertainment. The Bandshell was kept lively once again during the summer of 2003. With generous support from local businesses, the Bethel community, and the Vermont Council on the Arts, we welcomed *Jazzberry Jam* for a late June evening of cool jazz, and the rock, boogie, and blues band *Sweet Pea Crossing* in July. We made two stops to the Band Shell in August, once as the *Vermont Independent School for the Arts* shared the impressive talents of its students and again when *Cynthia Payne Meyer* captivated a crowd with her storytelling.

The Bethel Council on the Arts was pleased to provide discounted tickets to the *Vermont Symphony Orchestra's Independence Day* celebration at the Three Stallion Inn in Randolph. Through reliance on group discounts and local business support, the opportunity to enjoy this outdoor symphony concert was made available to more members of the Bethel community. This continued the Council on the Arts' commitment to bringing Bethel to the symphony.

In July the Randall Drive-In joined with the Council on the Arts to once again celebrate the art of American film with a free showing of *Saturday Night Fever*. Bethel is one of just two communities in the state with an operating drive-in theatre, and the Council was thrilled to once again utilize this unique, treasured local resource.

Our summer series came to a jubilant close on September 6th as we welcomed the *Jeanne McCullough Band* back to the Band Shell. The Bethel Council on the Arts was pleased to sponsor this entertainment following the community potluck on the green.

The following community members participated on the Bethel Council on the Arts during the 2003 season:

James Bannister
Kellie Burke

Tom Burgos
Becky Lewandoski

Bennett Law
Amy Perez
Gretchen Williams

We welcome you to join us! Call Bennett Law at 234-9344 for information on our meeting schedule.

BETHEL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The year began with the Legislative Breakfasts being held on the last Monday of Jan., Feb., March and April. Several of the Legislators from Windsor and Orange Counties were present at these breakfasts.

Spring of 2003, the membership committee, saw the completion of the membership packets; as well as the "Experience Bethel" brochures. These brochures can be picked up in any of the area businesses.

At the annual meeting, the BBA was honored to have Governor James Douglas as the speaker for the evening. This was well attended in spite of the weather.

In May, the Bethel Business Association initiated the completion of the town's five Cemetery signs made of Bethel White Granite, carved by Phil Paini and placed respectively. Also at this time the Noble Beckwith, Post 66, Bethel Rotary and Bethel Business Association worked together to purchase new American Flags and yellow ribbons for all the light poles on Main Street in support of the troops overseas.

September being the beginning of the new school year, it also brought the students of WHS Senior High to the 2003 Imagination Festival. The BBA donated medals to be awarded to the best teams to meet the requirements of this year's theme.

The BBA sponsored the annual street sweep and clean-up at Peavine Park finishing up with a cook-out for the workers. We also held the Christmas decorating contest and put up lights down town.

Ellen T. Nobile, Bethel Business Association, President

TEEN SCENE

Teen Scene welcomes the 7th through 12th Grade youth of Bethel, Stockbridge, and Pittsfield to our activities, which include drop-ins, dances, bus trips, and other social events. Teen Scene is always drug and alcohol-free, always a great place to be! In the past year, we have started to do most of our programs away from school, believing that it is great to have a change of scenery once in a while. Plus, our school building is so popular, it is often easier to head "off-campus."

Teen Scene's biggest hit of the year continues to be our annual Forward Festival StreetDance. Drop-ins or trips happen once or twice a month, and usually include a visit to VTC, and then some other spot ... maybe the skateboard park in Lebanon, or a shopping mall, or the movies. In an attempt to encourage a place & time for the arts, we have tried several 'Is coffeehouse' nights at school - a chance for teens to hang out, socialize, and enjoy some open-mike entertainment!

We strive to be a positive force in the school and our community; our efforts have included donations to the school for worthy projects, such as Cass' Holiday Celebration, the Governor's Youth Leadership Conference, and a full day of resiliency training for the 7th Grade Class. We encourage our young people to make good choices in their lives with Prom Promise and Graduation Reward, both of which award a winning participant \$ 1 00 when they choose to stay away from drugs and alcohol on prom and graduation nights.

Teen Scene limits major fundraising efforts to our biannual Telephone Directory and we remain grateful for our advertiser's support of this project. The less fundraising we have to do, the more energy we can put into the activities we plan for our teens!

Our gratitude to everyone who believes in Teen Scene and supports us throughout the year: parents & teens, school & community leaders, teachers & our own Board Members, and all who volunteer their time and talents to help the teens in our communities. We appreciate the continued monetary support that Bethel is able to give us-by helping the teens, you are helping your own town.

RECREATION CENTER

The Bethel Recreation Center has another successful year with 96 season passes sold, and a daily average of 50 patrons. The greatest number of patron for a single day this summer was a whopping 171 (a very busy day for the staff!!!!)

The Staff devoted an ample amount of time organizing several fund raising events in order to raise money to start a "Playground Fund" in Memory of Andrew Johnston. The Swim-a-Thon, which will become an annual event, proved successful for the first time out. The staff felt that some additional advertisement will increase the success rate for next year. In addition they also created "collection cans" which were distributed and maintained in several area businesses and organized a bottle donation drive that continues to generate money for the fund. Congratulations to this years staff for a successful summer season!!!!



VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

Report to the Town of Bethel

Vermont Adult Learning is an educational non-profit which serves individuals age 16 and older who are out of school and in need of basic reading, writing, and math skills, GED preparation, English as a second language, and help with specific goals such as getting a driver's permit or a commercial driver's license. Home tutoring, group study, and classes are offered throughout the county. In addition to adult basic education services, Vermont Adult Learning offers the Adult Diploma Program, FUTURES workshops, Getting Ready to Work projects, Bridge to College classes, and family literacy programming in many areas of Vermont

During fiscal year 2003, we served 11 residents of Bethel with 413 hours of direct teaching service.

We thank the voters for their support in past years. Anyone interested in our program may call 885-5502.

ACORN

AIDS Community Resource Network
White River Jet., VT

We provide several services to our clients. These include counseling services to HIV positive people, we started a new support group for positive people with HIV negative partners. We do referrals to other agencies such as The Haven, The Listen Center, Headrest, etc. We help with financial situations, try to find housing, help with payment of heating, phone and electric bills.

We offer Volunteers to help with transportation to and from doctors appointments, hospital visitation and help with day-to-day tasks. We offer a monthly home delivery service of food and personal products to our clients homes. We offer education to local schools, churches and any organizations that want current, up to

date HIV/AIDS information. For more information acorn@valley.net or 603-448-8887.



Life Skills
for WOMEN

Life Skills For Women-Bethel is a nonprofit organization which offers opportunities to women to learn new skills that are necessary in today's work force and in daily life. Some of the training offered to participants are decision making and goal setting skills, communication skills, both oral and written and parenting skills as the need arises. This fall we offered a Rebound course at the RAVC in which atleast one Bethel student attended. Our financial support comes from area churches, local businesses and generous individuals. Our Life Skills class is meeting on Monday mornings, women from any town in the valley are welcome to attend, but many come from the Bethel and Randolph population.

PO Box 18, Bethel, VT 05032

(802) 234-5669

SOUTH ROYALTON AREA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

The South Royalton Area Senior Center (S.R.A.S.C.) is a Corporation and serves the Towns of Bethel, Sharon, Royalton and Strafford and is partially supported by each of these Towns. Other funds come from the Central Vermont Council on Aging and various fund raising events.

There are two meal sites, one in Royalton (the Academy Building) and one in Strafford (Barrett Hall). Seniors from many other towns in the area come for the noon meal, which provides for one-third of the daily nutritional requirements.

Other services provided through the Center are home delivered meals, foot clinics, blood pressure clinics, transportation to the meal sites and distribution of USDA commodities. The distribution of commodities is also a service for low income families. There were a total of 10,787 meals served this year. There were four very enjoyable trips taken this year: (1) St. Patricks Day Party at the Indian Head Resort in NH; (2) Lipizzans in North Hero, VT; (3) Maine Cruise; (4) Dinner & Show plus a Christam Lights Spectacular in MA. Susan Huff continues to do an excellent job as our Director and Louise Caron and Linda Ducharme are still our wonderful cooks. We are also blessed with faithful volunteers.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired has been providing service, training and support to Vermonters with blindness or visual impairment since 1926. Our outreach includes one-on-one intensive work with children, their families and teachers, educational Winter and Summer Camps for children and young adults; Individual and group rehabilitation training and peer support for adults; orientation and mobility training; access to and training on adaptive equipment and technology. We provide a range of volunteer services including transportation, in-home assistance and companionship, and Braille transcription.

All services are provided without charge so that no one goes without needed assistance due to financial constraints. With offices based in Brattleboro, Burlington, Montpelier, and Rutland, we serve Vermonters of all ages in every corner of the state. During our 2001 fiscal year we provided assistance and support to over 1,300 Vermonters, including five residents of Bethel, helping them to achieve independence and become contributing members of society. Thank you for enabling us to be an effective alternative for persons facing blindness or visual impairment.

If you would like additional information about the services we provide, or volunteer opportunities in your area, please call our Montpelier office toll free at (877) 350-8838.

SAFELINE

800-NEW-SAFE / 1-802-639-7233

Business Office: 802-728-5647

Safeline, Inc.

P.O. Box 446

Randolph, VT 05060

Safeline@Together.net

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Agency for all of Orange County and the five upper towns of Windsor County of Central Vermont. We not only are the primary crisis service provider for Orange and Upper Windsor County, but are members of Sexual and Domestic Abuse Task Forces in the state as well as a member of the Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Our Crisis Hotline can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the above numbers. Trained Advocate,, are available at no charge at anytime day or night. For additional information please contact our office at 728-5647.

HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION SERVICES OF SOUTHEASTERN, VT

- Outpatient counseling and case management for children, adults and families.
- Community support services, vocational services and counseling for residents with serious and persistent mental illness and developmental disabilities.
- School-based clinical and support services for children and families.
- 24-hour emergency services,
- Drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation,
- Psychological Assessment
- Psychiatric Assessment and Treatment

HCRS is committed to providing subsidized treatment to a percentage of uninsured residents.

24-hour emergency services are available to all consumers regardless of ability to pay.

WINDSOR COUNTY PARTNERS Mentors for Youths

Windsor County Partners matches qualified adult volunteer mentors with boys and girls, ages 10- 17, for one year. Teachers, guidance counselors, and social service agencies refer children to us because they lack positive role models and the opportunities to develop interests and hobbies at home. For these youths, participation in a mentoring program can be a new path to finding a productive place in their community.

Our role is to match youths with adult mentors who are trained and guided by our agency to identify and build on their strengths. Each mentor spends at least three hours a week with a child sharing activities, teaching new skills, and developing lasting friendships. Mentoring partnerships are monitored on a regular basis by the agency. Last year we held three workshops and ten activity events.

Last year we supported 39 mentoring partnerships. We also took steps to begin to build our capacity to serve more youth, and to plan for future growth of our program. We instituted new policies in regard to our volunteers and their Partnerships to better ensure the safety of children in our program, including the requirement for an FBI criminal background check for all mentors.

Thank you for supporting our mentoring services. Your continued support will provide guidance and friendship for the youths of Bethel. For more information about our mentoring services, please call 800-491-5 1 0 1.

CLARA MARTIN CENTER COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES 728-4466

The Clara Martin Center, a non-profit community mental health center, has been serving the greater Orange County area since 1966.

The Clara Martin Center's programs serve children, families, and individuals coping with behavioral challenges, emotional stress, mental illness, alcohol and other drug problems. Services are confidential and include (but are not limited to):

Counseling	Free Walk-in Clinic
Psychiatric Services	Help with job training
Respite Care	Alcohol & other drug treatment
Education for families	School-based & Home-based services
24-Hour emergency system	Short term crisis intervention
Community resource assistance	

Central Vermont Council on Aging

The Central Vermont Council on Aging is a private, non profit organization that supports elders to remain independent as long as possible in their own homes and communities. Services include case management, information and referral, community and home delivered meals, senior center services, transportation and a number of volunteer opportunities for people of all ages.

Bethel's Case Manager is Kathryn Schenkman. The Council on Aging contracts with South Royalton Senior Center for the provision of community and home delivered meals for seniors. Noontime meals are served Tuesday and Thursday at the Academy Building. Home delivered meals are also delivered to the homes of elders who cannot get out to the mealsite. Transportation is provided under contract with the local transportation authority. Under this agreement, rides are provided to elders to get to and from mealsites, medical appointments and shopping.

Other services such as legal assistance, health insurance information and referrals to other agencies can be provided by calling the senior helpline at 1-800-642-5119. We appreciate the support for programs and services for central Vermont elders from the Town of Bethel.

Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC)

Report to the Citizens of Bethel

Since 1965, Central Vermont Community Action has served low-income residents within nine towns in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland counties with programs and services designed to help families work toward better lives. This year, CVCAC worked with nearly 9,000 individuals in 4,700 households through the Child Care Food Program, Community Economic Development Programs, the Emergency Fuel Program, Family/Community Support Services, Farmworkers, Head Start and Early Head Start, Weatherization, Welfare-to-Work, and Working Wheels.

Our work is focused on offering long-term support to families trying to get out of poverty, while providing short-term assistance to those facing poverty's most immediate effects. CVCAC is proud of its work in the last year, during which we have considerably expanded and strengthened our family services and economic development programs. We will continue to work collaboratively with community groups as we face the challenges of the next few years.

CVCAC helped 146 individuals in 56 Bethel families with program services and emergency assistance. 8 children benefited from the subsidized meals provided to a day care home; several people were helped through the Emergency Fuel Program and 15 family members were helped through weatherizing their homes, 1 person was helped through the Farmworker Program; 1 person participated in the Working Wheels Program and 3 people participated in the Welfare to Work Program, 1 person participated in the Vermont Community Leadership program and 2 individuals participated in our Community Economic Development programs.

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING SUMMARY FOR TOWN REPORT

The Vermont Center for Independent Living teaches people with significant disabilities how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services for living more independently. We also conduct public education and systems change activities that promote the full inclusion of disabled people into community life.

VCIL served 8 Bethel residents with disabilities during FY 2003 by utilizing the following programs/services:

Information & Referral	Home & Community Access Program
Meals on Wheels	Sue Williams Freedom Program
Benefits to Work Counseling	Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program

VISITING NURSE ALLIANCE OF VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE

Report to the Town of Bethel

The Visiting Nurse Alliance is like the local police and fire departments - a strategic part of the community's safety net - with services that must be continuously available to anyone in need. The need varies dramatically from month to month and year to year. The VNA provides a comprehensive range of care, requisitioned by hospital staff and physicians, for everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

We value the continued partnership with the Town of Bethel to help us meet your residents' home care, hospice and family health needs. Town funding accomplishes the following:

Enables your family, friends and neighbors to remain independent and at home as they receive skilled clinical care during times of injury, recovery from surgery or accidents, disability, whether for short-term and chronic illness. For many such patients, many are addressing multiple medical, emotional and social issues at the same time.

Provides emotional support plus pain and symptom management during terminal illness. Hospice care extends to family members as well. More and more patients want to be at home during their end of life, and through hospice they have that control.

Provides community-wellness programs and assistance to young families at risk. Clients range from fathers and/or mothers who want to be more effective parents through learning parenting skills or providing a balanced diet; infants who require hi-tech health care; and children who grow and learn through play groups that offer interaction with other children.

STAGECOACH

Stagecoach Transportation Services, Inc., is organized as a private, non-profit corporation to provide transportation services to the elderly, handicapped, and general public of Orange and northern Windsor Counties. In fulfilling this mission the Stagecoach continues to provide a range of public transportation services to Bethel including:

- 1) Twice weekly service for Bethel residents to the So. Royalton Senior Citizen Center nutrition program;
- 2) Arranging rides daily using volunteer drivers for medical appointments and prescription pick-up's at Gifford Hospital, Gifford Family Services, Dartmouth-Hitchcock, and other regional medical facilities;
- 3) Scheduled route service for shopping and appointments to Randolph, Rochester, South Royalton, West Lebanon and Rutland; and
- 4) Special Event transportation for town groups; and

In Bethel, Stagecoach services are mostly used by senior citizens residing within the village and persons without transportation needing to get to medical services.

Bill Green has represented Bethel on the Board of Directors for the past year. We would appreciate his appointment being renewed by the Selectboard for 2004.

We would like to thank the town for the support provided in 2003. Information and questions regarding Stagecoach services can be made by contacting us at 728-3773.

TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION 2003 YEAR-END REPORT

During 2003, the Regional Commission continued to provide technical expertise and resources for municipal officials as well as advocated for members' needs with the State Legislature and with state and federal agencies. We function as staff for many of our towns and most of our work was initiated at the request of Selectboards, Planning Commissions, and other town officials. Major accomplishments for this past year included:

Regional and Local Transportation Planning - The Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) worked with member municipalities on numerous local transportation projects. Two Rivers' staff wrote many Transportation Enhancement Grants and assisted our towns in procuring design engineers, processing requisitions for payment, and organizing public meetings for local input - Two Rivers helped projects get built. This office also assisted communities as they worked their way through the environmental permitting process on transportation projects.

Local Technical Assistance - Over the past year, we provided advice and support to all town officials on a wide range of activities. This included grant writing and administration, assistance on town plan revisions, ordinance development, GIS mapping, transportation planning, and Act 250 development review. The TRORC Region once again received the largest share of municipal planning grants statewide. This allowed our towns to conduct the planning necessary to respond to changes in state and federal requirements.

Emergency Planning Activities - The Regional Commission's emergency management planning program continued to be funded by FENIA and the Department of Homeland Security. Projects focused on all-hazards planning associated with natural and man-made disasters. Our staff helped write and coordinate many of the \$800,000 First Responder Grants for safety equipment received by our towns.

Economic Development Planning - In 2003, the Regional Commission continued working on a \$200,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant to assess the level of contamination on many sites throughout our Region. Once the level of contamination is known, the Regional Commission will help towns locate funding sources for clean-up. Additional federal dollars are being sought to continue this program. In addition, TRORC spent considerable time obtaining and maintaining the eligibility of our Region for federal economic development administration money. This resulted in over \$800,000 for the Town of Randolph.

We value your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year. Please contact us if you have any questions.

GMEDC ANNUAL REPORT - October 17, 2003

Throughout the year, GMEDC was an active participant in bringing the Randolph DuBois & King (D&K) project closer to reality. The project will establish the Vermont Technical College's (VTC) business incubator and a new downtown Randolph office building. GMEDC provided a key component of the funding by structuring a \$216,000 assumption agreement that was originally advanced to the Connecticut River Valley Revolving Loan Fund from Rural Development. GMEDC voted to assume the loan and then advance the needed funds to the Randolph Area Community Development. This strategic approach provided the critical piece to the project's financing structure and enabled the D&K project to proceed. This project represents the first in our region that has been funded through the US Department of Commerce. We met with the US Undersecretary of Commerce during his August visit to the VTC campus and participated in the October D&K groundbreaking ceremony in Randolph. During these ceremonies, GMEDC's Diane Murphy received special recognition for her *'exemplary performance dealing with the grant administration process'*.

Directors face significant challenges in fulfilling their responsibilities to oversee the activities of modern Economic Development/Investment Companies. Changes in the marketplace have created a more competitive and demanding environment. As a consequence, the role director has grown in importance and complexity. Directors must take an active role in governing, monitoring, and evaluating the company's business activities and risks. Directors must also balance the needs of the community, the interests of the clients/members, and the image of the company. In late summer early fall, we initiated the process of recruiting and nominating 7 directors with significant community leadership and business experience. Messrs. Fred Thomas, Peter Johnson, Matt Rucy, Hod Palmer, Dick Podolee and Ed Childs officially join the GMEDC board at our annual meeting scheduled for October 21, 2003. We are delighted to welcome these community/business leaders.

In June, Governor Douglas signed the Vermont \$105 million Jobs Bill into law. We were delighted that the Jobs Bill included a component to provide \$25 million for a new capital pool of mezzanine level investment called the Vermont Opportunity Fund. This fund is being designed to provide capital to existing businesses for job creation. Recent research indicates strong regional market support for the development of this early stage capital pool to assist growing companies. GMEDC is eager to work with entrepreneurs that need early stage financing. Successful entrepreneurs are building companies that are being positioned to provide job security, economic growth and stability to the region. GMEDC will assist strategically in fueling that economic growth and we applaud the Governor's efforts in this important area of economic development.

We organized municipal and corporate visits for senior representatives of the Douglas administration throughout the late summer and into the fall. These sessions were designed to provide a forum for discussion and an opportunity for listening. We will continue to facilitate such meetings. We arranged for a briefing by China experts at the Tuck School for Secretary of Commerce. This luncheon briefing took place prior to the Secretary's departure for China on a trade mission designed to explore strategic exporting possibilities. We are pleased that Commissioner Quinn joined us when we presented our board resolution to Peter White the son of our principle founder Craig W. White in recognition of his father's leadership in the 1982 formation of GMEDC.

GMEDC is actively assisting in the capital formation process for a new company, Vermont Plywood L.L.P. (VP). The company was recently formed to purchase and operate the former Chesapeake facility in Hancock. We have introduced qualified investors and are involved in structuring the due diligence process. At a public hearing held on October 14, 2003, the town of Hancock enthusiastically supported the project and initiated the application process for a \$750,000 community block grant to demonstrate their commitment. Proceeds of this grant will be loaned to VP and used for working capital and the purchase of equipment. VEDA, USDA and banking companies are completing their due diligence. The economic impact of the success of this pending acquisition is significant; plant employment currently approximates 50 jobs, which is down from 90 when the plant was at full capacity. GMEDC is a leading candidate to administer the \$750,000 community block grant.

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NOTES

TOWN OF BETHEL SURVEY

In an effort to better understand the sentiment of the Citizens of Bethel, The Selectboard is offering the following survey. Please take a few moments to consider the questions below and give us your feedback in the spaces provided. You are encouraged to include additional pages if necessary. Once completed, you may either drop the survey off or mail it to the Town Offices, or bring it with you to Town Meeting.

1. Should the Town be more directly involved in the area of economic development? _____ Yes _____ No
Comments:

2. Should the Selectboard investigate the feasibility of locating the Town Offices in the upper level of the "old" Town Hall? _____ Yes _____ No
Comments:

3. In your opinion, what area(s) should the Selectboard focus on during the next 3-5 years?
Comments:

4. As a Bethel Citizen, what do you see as our greatest strengths and weaknesses?
Strengths:

Weaknesses:

5. Of the services offered by the Town of Bethel, in your opinion, which is (are) the most important?

Least important?

6. Any other Comments??

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE ...The Town Clerk's Office is open to the public:

Monday--8 AM - 4 PM (closed for lunch 12:30 -1)

Tuesday -- 8 AM - 12 PM

Wednesday -- Closed

Thursday -- 8 AM - 4 PM (closed for lunch 12:30 - 1)

Friday -- 8 AM - 12 PM

Telephone: 234-9722 Fax: 234-6840 E-mail: bethel@together.net

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE...The Town Manager's Office is open to the public:

Monday - Friday -- 9 AM - 5 PM (closed for lunch 12 -1)

Telephone: 234-9340 Fax: 234-6840 E-mail: bethel@together.net

SELECTMEN...The Board of Selectmen meet at 6 PM on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Town Offices at 134 South Main Street.

FIRE DEPARTMENT...The Bethel Volunteer Firemen meet regularly every other Monday at the Fire Station at 6:30 PM.

BUILDING PERMITS...Subdivision of land, construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alterations, relocations, and enlargements require permits obtainable from Zoning Administrator Delbert Cloud at the Town Manager's Office.

BETHELSCHOOL BOARD...The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5 PM at the School.

WATER DEPARTMENT...The Water Department services 352 homes and businesses combined, from (2) gravel packed wells and (2) 250,000 gallon reservoirs.

ORGANIZATIONS:

American Legion - meets the 1st Wednesday of each month

Bethel Business Association - meets the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of each month

Masons - meet the 2nd Thursday of each month

Rotary Club - meets each Monday

So. Royalton Senior Citizens - serves lunch to Senior Citizens every Tuesday & Thursday at the Royalton Academy Building in Royalton at 12 - noon

BURNING PERMITS...Burning permits are required. Contact Fire Chief, Ray Forrest at 234-9727

TO REPORT A FIRE: 234-9812

TO CALL POLICE: 234-9933

TO CALL AMBULANCE: 728-9600

**The Town of Bethel
134 South Main Street
Bethel, VT 05032**

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STATE LIBRARY
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Please bring this book with you to the Annual Town Meeting on March 2, 2004 at 10:00 AM