

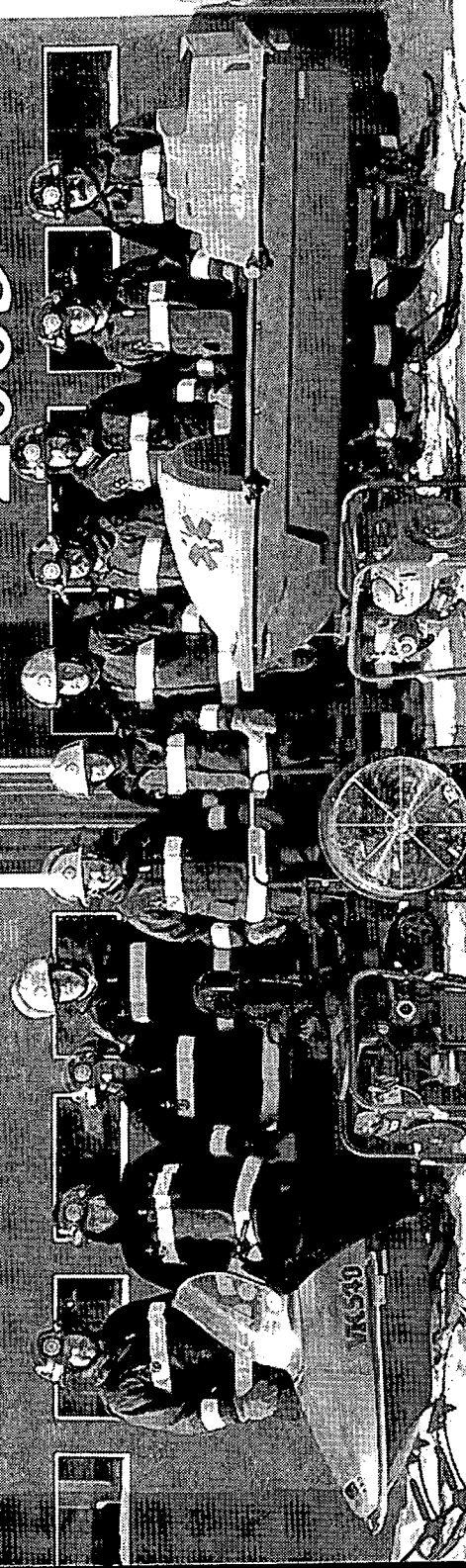
STATION
13

LOWELL FIRE DEPT

Annual Town & School Report

Town of Lowell, Vermont 2003

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,



COVER STORY:

The Lowell Fire Department, while wearing their new fire gear, proudly displays their new rescue sled, portable pumps and pressure fan.

Names from left to right:

Allen Charland, Raymond St.onge, Gerry Nick, Calvin Allen, Marc Sicotte, Alden Warner, Andre Tetreault Jr. (Flash), Brian Bonneau, Douglas Bonneau, Alain Pion, Robert Booth Jr.

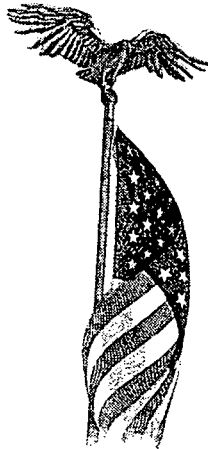
Missing from photo:

Robert Pion, Darren Pion, Jim Mount, Garrett Draper, Timmy Murphy

Annual Town & School Report

Town of Lowell, Vermont

*For Year Ending
December 31, 2003*



NOTE: Please bring this copy of the Town Report with you to town meeting.

Printed by Derby-Port Press, Inc., Derby, Vermont

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Town Officers

MODERATOR:	Alden Warner	2004
TOWN CLERK:	Nanette Bonneau	2004
TREASURER:	Pamela Tetreault	2004
SELECTMEN:	Richard Pion	2006
	Alden Warner	2004
	Dwight Richardson	2005
SCHOOL DIRECTOR:	Raymond Ostiguy	2005
	Carinthia Grayson	2006
	Cherryl Hammond	2004
UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR:	Sonja Blodgett	2004
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:	Pamela Tetreault	2004
1st CONSTABLE:	Wayne Richardson	2004
2nd CONSTABLE:	Martin Hammond	2004
AUDITORS:	Roland Pion	2006
	Frances Collins	2004
	Arlon Warner	2005
ROAD COMMISSIONER:	Reginald Pion	2004
LISTERS:	Carolyn Arel	2006
	Mark Higley	2004
	Laurent Jalbert	2005
TOWN AGENT:	Gerard Raboin	2004
GRAND JUROR:	Gilbert Hill	2004
LIBRARY TRUSTEES:	Regine Griswold	2005
	Gina Arel	2007
	Patricia Page	2008
	Gail Sicotte	2006
	Laura Gelo	2004
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:	Gilbert Hill	
	Alvin Warner	
	Roland Pion	
	Roger Stewart	
	Gaston Doyon	

OFFICERS BY APPOINTMENT

ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER	Cynthia Richardson
HEALTH OFFICER:	Martha VanTubergen
SERVICE OFFICER:	Mary Pion
FENCE VIEWERS:	Maurice Pion
	Robert Raboin
	Maurice Pion
FIRE WARDEN:	Floyd Griswold
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Bruce Pion
ZONING COMMISSION:	Doug Bonneau
	Kevin Hodgeman
	Maurice Pion
	Sam Thurston
	Delvin Warner

Warning

LOWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF LOWELL, VERMONT ARE HEREBY WARNED AND NOTIFIED TO MEET AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SAID TOWN OF LOWELL ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2004 AT 10:00 a.m. TO ACT ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES, VIZ:

"ARTICLES 2 through 6 WILL BE VOTED ON BY THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM, AT THE LOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. THE POLLS OPEN AT 10:00 a.m. AND CLOSE AT 7:00 p.m."

ARTICLE 1: To elect a MODERATOR for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: Shall the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate the sum of \$8,940,723.00 Dollars to defray its expenses and liabilities for North Country Union High School for the ensuing year to pay any balance left unpaid from the preceding year with a net assessment to the member towns and city of \$8,497,204.00 Dollars?

ARTICLE 3: Shall the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate a sum not to exceed \$20,000.00 to be placed in a reserve fund for the purchase of the Ross Ann Lyon property on Duchess Street, the property to be used as an adjunct classroom for Career Center Classes?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate a sum not to exceed \$60,000.00 to be placed in a reserve fund for the replacement of outdoor bleachers at the football athletic field?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate a sum not to exceed \$10,000.00 to be placed in a reserve fund for auditorium improvements?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate the sum of \$1,933,046.00 Dollars to defray its expenses and liabilities for North Country Career Center for the ensuing year and to pay any balance left unpaid from the preceding year with a net assessment to the member towns and city of \$226,266.00 Dollars?

ARTICLE 7: To HEAR and ACT upon reports of TOWN OFFICERS:

ARTICLE 8: To ELECT the following OFFICERS:

- A. SELECTPERSON for a three year term.
- B. TOWN CLERK for a three year term.
- C. TOWN TREASURER for a three year term.
- D. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a three year term.
- E. UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a three year term.
- F. LISTER for a three year term.
- G. ROAD COMMISSIONER for a three year term.
- H. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR for a one year term.
- I. 1ST CONSTABLE for a one year term.
- J. 2nd CONSTABLE for a one year term.
- K. AUDITOR for a three year term.
- L. TOWN AGENT for a one year term

M. GRAND JUROR for a one year term.
N. LIBRARY TRUSTEE for a five year term.

- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the voters of the LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT appropriate the sum of \$1,010,366.00 necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2004?
- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the voters of the LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT authorize the BOARD of SCHOOL DIRECTORS to BORROW money in anticipation of revenues for the purpose of paying current expenses?
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town appropriate the ASSESSMENT made to the Town of Lowell by the NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL?
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town appropriate \$42,500.00 plus STATE AID funding for WINTER ROADS?
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town appropriate \$42,500.00 plus STATE AID funding for SUMMER ROADS?
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town appropriate \$15,500.00 for the FIRE DEPARTMENT?
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town vote to maintain the METHOD OF COLLECTION OF TAXES as provided by Vermont State Statutes?
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town appropriate money for the COMMUNITY LIBRARY, and how much?
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town appropriate money for the LITTLE LEAGUE & T-BALL & JR. HOOP BASKETBALL teams and how much?
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town appropriate money for the REPAIRS and or REPLACEMENT of the TOWN BANDSTAND and how much?
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town appropriate \$3,460.00 to the ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT for law enforcement services and to direct the Select Persons to assess a tax over and above the budget sufficient to meet the same? This will be used for routine patrols, answering complaints, and investigating incidents. It will also cover administrative expenses, including salaries, vehicle, benefits, liability insurance, maintenance, gasoline, supplies, telephone cost, and crime prevention programs.
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,400.00 to the ORLEANS ESSEX VNA & HOSPICE, INC. for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurses Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency?
- ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town vote to appropriate a sum of money not to exceed \$309.96 to the NORTHEASTERN VERMONT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION for the planning, development, promoting and publicizing the resources of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties with other towns in the three counties?
- ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$775.00 to the NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICE, INC., to assist in maintaining services in mental health, mental retardation, family counseling, and services to children and the elderly, including 24-hour

emergency services?

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$300.00 to the ORLEANS-UPPER ESSEX CHAPTER of the AMERICAN RED CROSS?

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$150.00 to COUTTS-MORIARTY 4-H CAMP, INC. in Derby to be utilized for scholarships for youth from the Town of Lowell who wish to attend summer camp in 2004?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town appropriate the following sums:

- A. \$200.00 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES, INC.?
- B. \$131.00 to NORTHEASTERN VERMONT AREA AGENCY ON AGING?
- C. \$90.00 to VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING?
- D. \$50.00 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY ACTION YOUTH SERVICES?
- E. \$275.00 to STEP O.N.E.?
- F. \$50.00 to NORTHEASTERN VERMONT RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL?
- G. \$200.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY TRIAD?
- H. \$50.00 to JAY AREA LOCAL FOOD SHELF?
- I. \$300.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY CITIZEN ADVOCACY?
- J. \$50.00 to GREEN UP VERMONT?
- K. \$100.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY?
- L. \$90.40 to RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION?

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the HAZEN'S NOTCH ASSOCIATION?

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to assist the FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY of VERMONT, INC.?

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$140,000.00 for TOWN EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES (Selectmen's Account)?

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town authorize the SELECTMEN to BORROW money in anticipation of revenues for the purpose of paying current expenses?

ARTICLE 30: To do any other "NON-BINDING" business found necessary when met?

ARTICLE 31: TO ADJOURN.

SELECTBOARD:

Richard Pion, Chair
Alden Warner
Dwight Richardson

SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Cherryl Hammond, Chair
Carinthia Grayson
Raymond Ostiquy

Received for posting:
Nanette Bonneau - Town Clerk

Town Treasurer's Report

Financial Reports for the Town of Lowell have been prepared
by Pam Tetreault, Treasurer and Bookkeeper

Town Asset Overview

Year End Balances	12/31/02	12/31/03
Selectmen Account	109,723.51	119,450.06
Del Taxes Receivable	24,480.59	21,737.08
Road Account	48,775.76	42,299.80
Equipment Fund	9,326.35	9,309.87
Library Account	2,242.42	2,217.14
Restoration Fund	1,865.00	2,604.00
Reappraisal Fund	23,960.00	28,993.00
Bridge Fund	81,565.52	72,486.13
Town CD	38,335.01	38,749.09

Town Report of Indebtedness

Note for Grader - CNB	Principal	Interest
11/17/98	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 24,222.05
Payment as of 11/17/2003	<u>88,743.53</u>	<u>21,415.07</u>
To be paid off 11/17/2005	41,256.47	2,806.98

Note for Bridges - CNB		
1/26/99	200,000.00	52,798.63
Payment as of 12/31/2003	<u>89,050.73</u>	<u>37,354.07</u>
To be paid off 12/31/2009	110,949.27	15,444.56

Note for Fire Truck - CNB		
7/6/00	104,655.34	29,169.04
Payment as of 12/31/2003	<u>26,501.24</u>	<u>12,595.74</u>
To be paid off 5/3/2010	\$ 78,154.10	\$ 16,573.30

Treasurer's Tax Collection Report

TAXES LEVIED

Real-Estate & Personal Property - Total Value	\$ 36,693,245.00
Grand List - 1% of Total Value (Town)	366,932.45
Education Grand List	365,974.25

TAXES BILLED

Real Estate & Personal Property (Town)	230,800.93
Real Estate (School)	<u>436,241.16</u>
	667,042.09

TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR

General Property Tax	609,103.73
Delinquent to Tax Collector	<u>57,938.36</u>
	667,042.09
Current Use / Long Trail State Forest	<u>10,779.00</u>
Total Taxes	\$ 677,821.09

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

2003 Delinquent Tax	\$ 57,944.25
Paid Through 12/31/03	34,228.01
Paid Through 1/31/04	<u>6,349.49</u>
Balance Delinquent Tax	- 17,366.75
Interest & Penalty Due	<u>1,573.70</u>
Total Delinquent Tax	+ 18,940.45

2003 Tax, Penalty & Interest

Albrecht, Allan **	751.66
Bahooshian, Jack / Wildonger, Jacqueline	194.63
Bedard, Rene **	390.29
Callahan, James & Lois	694.48
Carlson, Richard & Wendy **	744.84
Clarke, Cheryl **	704.10
Cote, Marshall Estate	399.49
Ferguson, William Estate	227.39
Fleischer, Edward **	931.85
Green Mountain Chipping	704.39
Hall, Lyndell Estate	1,509.84
Hoffman, Dwayne **	332.24
Jackson, Alfred Jr	854.27
Joiner, Billy	344.17
Kittell, Lee	1,257.02
Labarron, Randy	403.59
Lessard, Robert	81.95
Mackenzie, Harold Estate	47.12
Morin, Joseph & Deborah **	359.33
Pion, Albert & Cynthia	2,462.41
Porter, Robert **	340.17
Powers, Wayne Estate **	261.64
Russin, Armand & Cynthia	88.07
Sawyer, George & Ann	251.98
Sherman, William	168.75
Smith, Richard & Sue-Ann **	478.64
St. Onge, Raymond	635.09
Staples, Heather	858.38
Villeneuve, Ardelle	1,189.79
Weslow, Edward **	<u>1,272.88</u>
Total Delinquent Tax Remaining	+ 18,940.45

Prior Estates

Cote, Marshall Estate	\$ 5,547.43
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1993 Through 2002

Respectively submitted by,
Pamela Tetreault, *Delinquent Tax Collector*

** Partial Payment

Summary of Money Voted

LOWELL TOWN & SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

March 6, 2003

State Education Property Tax (to be raised)	404,670.00	divided by 2002 Education Grand List (365,974.25)	RATE 1.106
Local Share Property Tax (to be raised)	31,419.00	divided by 2002 Education Grand List (365,974.25)	0.086
Municipal Property Tax (to be raised)	230,722.60	divided by 2002 Municipal Grand List (366,932.45)	0.629
		TOTAL TAX RATE	1.821

VOTED TOWN ASSESSMENTS:

878,200.00	Elementary School
379,031.00	North Country High School
1,701.27	NCUHS <i>added</i> Articles
<u>949.00</u>	NCUHS Career Center
1,259,881.27	Total Education
143,500.00	Select. Assess. - Town Liabilities
40,000.00	Winter Roads
40,000.00	Summer Roads
15,500.00	Fire Department
5,000.00	Library Assessment
3,360.00	Sheriff's Department
750.00	Little League T-Ball & Jr.Hoop
400.00	Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc.
245.60	Northeastern VT Development Assoc.
775.00	Northeast Kingdom Human Services
250.00	Step O.N.E.
90.00	Vermont Center for Independent Living
131.00	Northeastern VT Area Agency on Aging
50.00	NE VT Resource Assoc.
50.00	NEK Community Youth Service
200.00	NEK Learning services
300.00	American Red Cross
50.00	Jay Area Local Food Shelf
200.00	Orleans County Triad
50.00	Green Up Vermont
200.00	Hazen Notch Association
300.00	Orleans County Citizen Advocacy
+ 100.00	Orleans County Historical Society
251,501.60	

Less Municipal Surplus	-	10,000.00	
	-	<u>10,779.00</u>	Less Current Use & State
		230,722.60	

Selectmen's Proposed Budget - 2004

	2003 Budget	2003 Actual	Proposed Budget
Salary & Benefits	37,750.00	38,490.43	40,000.00
Insurance/Outside Professional	10,000.00	10,789.86	10,000.00
Office Expense	8,500.00	9,756.12	10,000.00
Snow Removal	1,750.00	1,085.00	1,750.00
Lawn Mowing	50.00	685.00	750.00
Utilities - Hall	5,500.00	5,394.97	6,000.00
Utilities - Garage	4,000.00	3,651.48	4,000.00
Utilities - Street Lights	3,500.00	3,919.46	4,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>12,870.00</u>	<u>21,445.39</u>	<u>13,120.00</u>
	84,620.00	95,217.71	89,620.00
 LINE ITEMS :			
Grader Pmt. & Int.	12,500.00	12,531.72	12,500.00
*(7 Yrs) + 9,500 Equip Fund			
Bridges Pmt. & Int.	15,000.00	15,000.36	15,000.00
*(10 Yrs) + 10,280 Bridge Fund			
Fire Truck Pmt. & Int.	11,000.00	11,310.14	12,500.00
*(10 Yrs) + 2,170.35 Fire Dept.			
Restoration Project	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
*\$26,000 less Rest. Fund			
Cemetery Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Roads & Bridges	7,000.00	9,660.92	7,000.00
Ambulance Assessment	7,380.00	7,380.00	7,380.00
	<u>58,880.00</u>	<u>61,883.14</u>	<u>60,380.00</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 143,500.00	\$ 157,100.85	\$ 150,000.00
 Less Surplus			10,000.00
 PROPOSED BUDGET			\$ 140,000.00

TOWN OF LOWELL

General Fund

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 78,544.28	\$ 109,723.51
<u>TAX REVENUE :</u>		
Property Taxes 2002 / 2003	621,144.62	619,882.73
Property Taxes 2003 / 2004 (prepay)	47.43	76.30
Delinq. Taxes 2002 / 2003	27,046.97	34,243.91
Delinq. Taxes 2001 / 2002 (Prior)	24,847.88	23,819.04
Delinq. Interest 2002 / 2003	401.30	470.91
Delinq. Interest 2001 / 2002 (Prior)	2,201.37	2,162.80
Comm. Delinq. Taxes 2002 / 2003	2,372.76	2,980.01
Comm. Delinq. Taxes 2001 / 2002 (Prior)	1,776.31	1,656.18
Tax Sale Escrow	244.03	-
Tax Sale Redemption to Town	-	458.26
Tax Sale Legal Fees & Publications	<u>2,250.79</u>	<u>1,361.41</u>
	682,333.46	687,111.55
<u>STATE REVENUE :</u>		
State - Local Fines	1,420.00	5,619.91
<u>LICENSES :</u>		
Dog Licenses	1,649.00	1,194.00
Dog Enforcement Fines	-	25.00
Beer License	350.00	350.00
Marriage License	<u>23.00</u>	<u>92.00</u>
	2,022.00	1,661.00
<u>FEES :</u>		
Recording Fees	6,183.90	8,101.50
Copying Fees	719.90	733.90
Certificate of Vital Stat	159.00	387.00
Green Mtn. Pass	6.00	-
Truck Weight Fees	85.00	120.00
Miscellaneous Fees	<u>20.37</u>	<u>20.00</u>
	7,174.17	9,362.40
<u>PERMITS :</u>		
Zoning Permits	695.00	415.00
Driveway Permits	<u>-</u>	<u>90.00</u>
	695.00	505.00
<u>OTHER REVENUE :</u>		
Interest on Checking- MM	2,474.63	1,667.71
School Treasury Service	4,375.00	4,000.00
Land Rent	300.00	300.00
Miscellaneous - HHHW Grant	<u>953.07</u>	<u>354.25</u>
	8,102.70	6,321.96
	\$ 701,747.33	\$ 710,581.82
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 780,291.61	\$ 820,305.33

DISBURSEMENTS**ROADS & BRIDGES :**

Road Signs	273.35	230.80
Bridges	<u>385.00</u>	<u>9,430.12</u>
	658.35	9,660.92

VOTED ASSESSMENTS:

Selectmen Assessment	133,216.95	147,439.93
Road Dept. Assessment	70,000.00	80,000.00
School Assessment	438,875.00	436,089.00
Fire Dept. Assessment	15,500.00	15,500.00
Library Assessment	5,000.00	5,000.00
Sheriff's Dept.	3,000.00	3,270.00
Little League - T-Ball	451.20	503.82
Orl.Ess.VNA & hospice	1,600.00	400.00
NE VT Development Assoc.	295.60	245.60
Adult Learning Center	200.00	200.00
NEK Mental Health	275.00	775.00
Step O.N.E.	225.00	250.00
VT Ctr Independent Living	90.00	90.00
NE Area Agency on Aging	131.00	131.00
NECKA Youth Services	50.00	50.00
American Red Cross	300.00	300.00
Jay Food Shelf	50.00	50.00
Orleans County TRIAD	200.00	200.00
Lowell Historical Society	-	-
Orleans Historical Society	100.00	100.00
Orleans Citizen Advocacy	300.00	300.00
Green Up Vermont	-	50.00
Hazen Notch Summer Camp	-	200.00
NE VT Resource Assoc.	<u>50.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
	669,909.75	691,194.35
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$670,568.10	\$700,855.27

TOTAL REVENUE	780,291.61	820,305.33
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	670,568.10	700,855.27
GENERAL ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$109,723.51	\$119,450.06

OTHER FUNDS

Trust - Archie Powers	\$ 8,921.50	\$ 9,165.16
Trust - Harding/Williamson	\$ 573.09	\$ 575.17
Town CD	\$ 38,335.01	\$ 38,749.09
Town CD - Bridges	\$ 81,565.52	\$ 72,486.13
Restoration Fund	\$ 1,865.00	\$ 2,604.00
Appraisal Fund	\$ 23,960.00	\$ 28,993.00

Selectmen's Account

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
REVENUE: Selectmen Assessment	\$ 133,216.95	\$ 147,439.93
DISBURSEMENTS		
<u>SALARY & BENEFITS :</u>		
Town Clerk	10,220.00	10,525.00
Town Treasurer	14,470.00	14,275.00
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	2,855.25	2,495.25
Selectmen	2,100.00	2,100.00
Listers	3,002.50	2,448.75
Auditors	108.00	72.00
Zoning Board-Permit Fees	805.00	415.00
Drive Way Permit Fees	-	90.00
Constable	-	-
Civil Board	138.75	140.25
Bookkeeper-Select/Roads	1,420.00	1,462.50
Zoning Board Meetings	1,233.77	510.00
Ballot Clerks	733.50	333.75
FICA Expense	2,517.73	2,423.65
Medicare Expense	585.27	566.70
Mileage	<u>570.45</u>	<u>632.58</u>
	40,760.22	38,490.43
<u>INSURANCE / OUTSIDE PROF. :</u>		
Legal	2,787.19	2,018.86
VLCT Dues & Fees	480.00	744.00
Workers Compensation	952.00	2,242.44
Unemployment	486.00	781.56
Property Insurance	1,777.00	3,554.00
Public Official Insurance	712.00	1,200.00
Liability Insurance	<u>121.00</u>	<u>249.00</u>
	7,315.19	10,789.86
<u>OFFICE EXPENSE :</u>		
Office Supplies	1,136.38	779.65
Postage	1,058.97	985.18
Checks	-	-
Advertising	1,291.04	1,254.75
Printing-Town Reports	1,500.00	1,325.51
Tax Bills	-	364.92
Dog Tags / Books	47.24	113.10
Dog License Fee-VT Treasurer	229.00	191.00
Marriage License-VT Treasurer	15.00	60.00
Cartographic	775.00	775.00
Software Agreement	135.00	1,095.00
Land Record Books - New	-	1,138.44
Vault Shelving	-	900.00
Seminars & Dues	170.00	300.00
Equipment/Furniture	272.81	-
Equipment Maintenance	<u>365.00</u>	<u>473.57</u>
	6,995.44	9,756.12

SNOW REMOVAL :

Town Hall	580.00	520.00
Fire Dept.	610.00	565.00
Gelo Park	<u>210.00</u>	-
	1,400.00	1,085.00

LAWN MOWING :

Town Hall	480.00	440.00
Bandstand	135.00	202.00
Mulch - Hall	-	<u>43.00</u>
	615.00	685.00

UTILITIES - TOWN HALL :

Phone - Hall	1,039.46	1,114.63
Electricity - Hall	1,685.61	1,286.55
Hall Cleaning	739.24	532.49
Fuel Oil - Hall	892.43	1,836.99
Repairs & Maint. Hall	585.80	420.31
Alarm System Maint.	<u>192.00</u>	<u>204.00</u>
	5,134.54	5,394.97

UTILITIES - GARAGE :

Phone - Garage	453.00	476.05
Electricity - Garage	801.62	823.34
Fuel Oil - Garage	1,276.51	1,691.26
Repairs & Maint. Garage	683.40	360.83
Water Rent	<u>300.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
	3,514.53	3,651.48

UTILITIES - STREETS :

Electricity - Street Lights	3,162.30	3,919.46
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MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE :

Comm.to Tax Collector	4,149.07	4,680.74
Tax Sale Property	2,731.85	-
County Tax	5,766.31	5,870.17
Irasburg Recycling	3,836.88	4,441.49
Hazardous Waste Plan	570.88	546.92
NVDA-Zoning Plan Bylaws	-	1,334.00
Solid Waste Implementation Plan	-	1,621.57
Dog Kennel / Food	8.89	49.50
Miscellaneous	22.00	338.00
Green Up Day - Removal	-	150.00
Land Settlement	-	<u>2,413.00</u>
	17,085.88	21,445.39

APPROPRIATIONS :

Grader Loan Payment + 9,500 Roads	12,500.00	12,531.72
Bridge Loan Payment + 10,280. Br Fund	15,000.36	15,000.36
Fire Truck Payment + 2,937. Fire Dept	10,543.49	11,310.14
Land Record Restoration Project	5,000.00	5,000.00
Ambulance Assessment	3,690.00	7,380.00
Mountain View Cemetery	<u>500.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
	47,233.85	52,222.22

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$133,216.95	\$147,439.93
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Road Department Account

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 47,736.19	\$ 48,775.76

REVENUE

State Aid to Roads	67,272.24	70,747.54
Snow Relief Grant	10,038.90	-
Highway Grant	29,396.77	-
Assessment for Summer Rds	35,000.00	40,000.00
Assessment for Winter Rds	35,000.00	40,000.00
Interest on Checking	519.00	333.71
	<u>177,226.91</u>	<u>151,081.25</u>

TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$224,963.10	\$199,857.01
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DISBURSEMENTS

SUMMER ROADS

Salary -Rd Comm. - Summer	\$ 7,188.00	\$ 7,530.00
Other Salaries - Summer	6,062.00	8,402.50
FICA Expense	752.14	958.08
Medicare Expense	175.93	224.11
Hired Equipment - Summer	28,068.00	25,682.50
Hired Equip.- Sweeper	1,080.00	1,200.00
Gravel	4,340.00	3,211.00
Chloride - dust control	2,208.00	1,896.00
Hot Mix	41,995.38	12,980.21
Culverts	2,873.20	3,363.80
Guide Rails	238.00	-
Use of Town Grader-Summer	5,650.00	5,175.00
Use of Town Loader-Summer	4,000.00	8,250.00
Beaver Trappings	150.00	143.00
Miscellaneous	63.50	-
Hired Equip.-Rd Ditching	-	-
Blasting Roads	-	-
	<u>104,844.15</u>	<u>79,016.20</u>

WINTER ROADS

Salary- Rd Comm.- Winter	9,159.00	10,356.00
Other Salaries - Winter	8,904.50	11,289.50
FICA Expense	1,189.34	1,371.79
Medicare Expense	278.23	320.88
Hired Equipment - Winter	35,900.50	36,086.50
Sand	2,065.00	2,520.00
Salt-Winter Roads	2,935.37	1,848.00
Sand Screening	2,581.25	3,080.00
Road Stakes	400.00	420.00
Town of Albany- Plowing	900.00	1,200.00

Road Account Continued...

Use of Town Grader-Winter	1,700.00	4,275.00
Use of Town Loader-Winter	5,325.00	5,750.00
Miscellaneous	<u>5.00</u>	<u>23.34</u>
	71,343.19	78,541.01

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS **\$ 176,187.34** **\$157,557.21**

TOTAL REVENUE	224,963.10	199,857.01
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	<u>176,187.34</u>	<u>157,557.21</u>
ROAD ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 48,775.76	\$ 42,299.80

PROPOSED ROAD BUDGET SUMMER	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 42,500.00
PROPOSED ROAD BUDGET WINTER	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 42,500.00

Equipment Fund

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 19,739.64	\$ 9,326.35

REVENUE

Interest	474.00	127.29
Use of Town Loader	8,725.00	14,000.00
Use of Town Grader	7,900.00	9,450.00
Use of Loader Taxpayer	30.00	20.00
Sale of Sander	50.00	-
Insurance Equip. Damage	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	17,179.00	23,597.29

TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE **\$ 36,918.64** **\$ 32,923.64**

DISBURSEMENTS

Grader Loan Payment	9,531.72	9,500.00
Grader Repairs	984.32	791.61
Loader Repairs	11,299.70	3,920.90
Sander Repairs	926.73	400.48
New Sander	-	2,600.00
Plow Blades & Shoes	2,043.87	650.02
Culvert Steamer Repair	-	162.68
Trimmer Repair	-	117.40
Grader Chains	-	1,178.00
Diesel	1,630.88	2,642.51
Grease	70.50	155.00
Propane Gas	(110.40)	-
Oil-Hydraulic Trans.	812.91	762.98
Miscellaneous	<u>402.06</u>	<u>732.19</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS **\$ 27,592.29** **\$ 23,613.77**

TOTAL REVENUE	36,918.64	32,923.64
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>27,592.29</u>	<u>23,613.77</u>
EQUIP. ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 9,326.35	\$ 9,309.87

Restoration Fund

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 757.00	\$ 1,865.00
REVENUE		
Assessment	5,000.00	5,000.00
Restoration Fees Collected	<u>968.00</u>	<u>1,286.00</u>
	<u>5,968.00</u>	<u>6,286.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 6,725.00	\$ 8,151.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
Restoration Expense	<u>4,860.00</u>	<u>5,547.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 4,860.00	\$ 5,547.00
TOTAL REVENUE	6,725.00	8,151.00
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>4,860.00</u>	<u>5,547.00</u>
RESTORATION END FUND BALANCE	\$ 1,865.00	\$ 2,604.00

Library Fund

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 2,019.98	\$ 2,242.42
REVENUE		
Assessment	5,000.00	5,000.00
Donation	<u>5.00</u>	<u>-</u>
	5,005.00	5,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 7,024.98	\$ 7,242.42
DISBURSEMENTS		
Librarian Salary	1,612.50	1,860.00
Library Assistant	150.00	105.00
FICA Expense	111.46	122.05
Medicare Expense	23.40	28.28
Books	2,281.17	2,375.44
Magazines	446.54	408.16
Supplies	91.49	60.35
Postage	66.00	66.00
	<u>4,782.56</u>	<u>5,025.28</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 4,782.56	\$ 5,025.28
TOTAL REVENUE	7,024.98	7,242.42
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>4,782.56</u>	<u>5,025.28</u>
LIBRARY ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 2,242.42	\$ 2,217.14

Thank you for your support and please visit your local Community Library.

Treasurer's Report of Public Money

The Archie Powers Memorial Trust at Community National Bank for the Town of Lowell Recreational Park was created in 1985. \$150.00 was added by the family this year. Interest from 1985-2003 is \$4,406.12 (only the interest may be used). \$1,267.66 was drawn out to complete the building at Gelo Park in 1997. This account has a balance 12/31/02 of \$9,165.16.

The bequest of Ina Harding Estate of \$300.00 for the care of Albert and Alpheus Harding burial lots was received 7/30/79 and deposited in the Chittenden Trust Co. Added to this account was the bequest of Marcia Williamson of \$100.00 received in 1990. This account has a balance 12/31/03 of \$575.17. At this time the treasurer and auditors concur that this account should be turned over to the Mountain View Cemetery as per the original intention of this account.

Town of Lowell CD at Community National Bank earned interest of \$414.08. This account has a balance 12/31/03 of \$38,749.09.

Town of Lowell Bridge Fund at Passumpsic Savings Bank earned interest of \$1,200.61. Withdrew \$10,280.00 for payment on bridges. This account has a balance 12/31/02 of \$72486.13.

Auditors' Report

We, the Auditors of the Town of Lowell found the books for year ending 12/31/2003 to be in good order and in balance with all Bank Reconciliation Statements. These books were audited by us on 1/29.2004.

Francis Collins
Roland Pion
Arlon Warner

Report of Dog Licenses

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF DOGS WERE LICENSES IN THE TOWN OF LOWELL DURING THE YEAR FROM JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 2003.

133 DOGS AT \$5.00	\$ 665.00
53 DOGS AT \$9.00	\$ 477.00
PENALTY	\$ <u>52.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,194.00

DOG ENFORCEMENT FINES	\$ <u>25.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 1,219.00

FEES PAID TO VT. STATE TREASURER:

(\$1 @ dogs)	\$ <u>186.00</u>
TOWN'S SHARE	\$ <u>1,033.00</u>

ATTEST; NANETTE BONNEAU
TOWN CLERK



REMINDER

**ALL DOGS 6 MONTHS & OLDER MUST BE LICENSED BY
APRIL 1ST, 2004**

Dog Licenses: \$5.00 each neutered or spayed or wolf/hybrid.
\$9.00 each not neutered or NOT spayed or wolf/hybrid
\$10.00 Kennel Permits (considered a business license and requires a special License in addition to Kennel Permit).
\$31.00 Special License (up to 10 animals plus additional charge of \$3.00 for each additional animal).
50% Penalty charged after April 1st, 2004

PLEASE NOTE

**All dogs, cats, ferrets & wolf/ hybrids must be vaccinated against rabies.
Rabies clinic will be held on**

**SATURDAY- MARCH 20TH, 2004
FROM 1:45 TO 2:45 P.M.**

**At the Lowell Fire Station by the Animal Medical Hospital
Licensing will be available at that time.**

(YOU MUST SHOW PROOF OF VACCINATION AT TIME OF LICENSING)

Please let your relatives, friends & neighbors know so as to save being charged penalties.

Lowell Town Clerk
Nanette Bonneau

TOWN OF LOWELL ~ DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the Town Selectmen of the Town of Lowell, Vermont that: Ordinance pertaining to keeping of dogs adopted by the Selectmen, of the Town of Lowell, April 8, 1997 be and is hereby enacted to read as follows:

SECTION 1. RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP:

- (A) No person shall, within the Town of Lowell, permit a dog owned by such person or under his or her keeping and control, to run at large, or be beyond the control of such person, on any street, sidewalk, park, common, playground, school property, or any other land used or occupied by another.
- (B) The owner or keeper of a dog in the Town of Lowell shall be responsible for restraining said dog from disturbing the peace and quiet, by barking, biting, howling or by other means.
- (C) Any owner or keeper of a dog who fails to control said dog pursuant to the provisions of this ordinance may be liable for the fines and penalties prescribed herein.

SECTION 2. ENFORCEMENT:

- (A) Any complaint in regard to an alleged violation of Section 1 (A) and/ or B of this ordinance shall be submitted to the Town Selectmen and/ or Constable whereon said person(s) shall investigate the complaint, and if such complaint is substantiated, take appropriate action in accordance with the provisions herein.

SECTION 3. PENALTIES:

- (A) Upon a violation of this ordinance, the pound-keeper or his designee or any town constable of the Town of Lowell shall issue to the known owner/keeper of said animal a written notice of the violation of this ordinance, by certified mail.
- (B) Upon the first violation, such notice shall consist of a warning that a subsequent violation of any section hereof shall make the owner/keeper liable for the penalties herein prescribed including possible fines and impoundment of the animal.
- (C) Upon the second violation, or any subsequent violation thereafter, the Town shall impose upon the owner/keeper a penalty of \$5.00 which shall be paid at the Lowell Town Clerk's Office within 72 hours in full satisfaction of the assessed penalty. In the event that such penalty is not paid within the period prescribed, the owner/keeper of the animal shall be subject to a court citation, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$100.00.

SECTION 4. APPEAL:

- (A) An owner/keeper of a dog may appeal any impoundment and the assessment of fees associated therewith upon written notice to the Town Selectmen within ten (10) days of said impoundment at which time the Selectmen shall schedule a date for a hearing on said matter within ten (10) days.

The foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Town Selectmen at a duly warned meeting of said Selectmen held on April 8, 1997 and will be effective on June 7, 1997.

Dated at Lowell, Vermont this 8th day of April A.D., 1997

Attest: NANETTE BONNEAU, Town Clerk

Approved: SELECTMEN OF LOWELL, VT.

GASTON DOYON, Chairman

RICHARD PION

ALDEN WARNER

In accordance with Title 24 VSA Section 1973, citizens has the right to petition for a vote to disapprove ordinance or amendments adopted by the Town Selectmen of Lowell by filing a petition signed by five per cent (5%) of the legal voters of said Town of Lowell within forty-five days following the adoption of such ordinances or amendments.

Questions regarding said ordinances or amendments or the process of petitioning for vote to disapprove same may be directed to the Town Clerk, Nanette Bonneau, at the office of said clerk at P.O. Box 7, Town Hall Building; Telephone: 802-744-6559

Lowell Town Clerk's Office: Received for Record: April 10, 1997 at 9:15 a.m. and recorded in Town proceeding Book -J-.

Attest: NANETTE BONNEAU, Town Clerk

LOWELL BOARD OF SELECTMEN SOLID WASTE PLANNING

To: ALL LOWELL RESIDENTS:

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection day, to be held at the New England Waste Services of Vermont, Inc. (NEWSVT) Landfill in Coventry, managed and coordinated by (NEWSVT), and paid for by towns reimbursing NEWSVT for the direct costs attributable to the collection day.

All residents from participating towns may attend to dispose to HHW. Residency will be proven through vehicle registration. Residents sharing a vehicle with another household must provide additional proof of residency. Businesses from these towns may dispose of hazardous waste at their own expense by making arrangements with NEWSVT for scheduling and pricing prior to the date of the event. Each household will be limited to 10 gallons and 20 pounds HHW.

On **Saturday, May 8, 2004 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.** and **Saturday October 16, 2004 between the hours of 8:30 a.m and 11:30 a.m.,** HHW will be accepted at the NEWSVT landfill in Coventry.

In implementing Lowell's Solid Waste Planning, Lowell has joined with Irasburg and Albany and will share in the cost of maintaining the RECYCLING CENTER.

Therefore – ALL LOWELL RESIDENTS WILL NOW BE ACCEPTED AT THE RECYCLING CENTER for disposal to RECYCLABLES.

PLEASE follow the enclosed instructions "VERY CAREFULLY" that we were provided by the Recycling Center.

No PROOF of RESIDENCY is required at this time. If in the future PROOF OF RESIDENCY is required the Town of Lowell will provide you with it.

Enjoy the use of the Recycling Center.

IRASBURG – ALBANY- LOWELL RESIDENTS RECYCLE

All recyclable items MUST be clean and dry. All items MUST be bundled or separated according to instructions. All items not prepared according to instructions will be returned to you. We ONLY take the items listed. We do NOT accept garbage. We are here to help you unload your vehicle and to help place your items in their correct bins. It only takes a few seconds to organize and prepare your items at HOME each day.

The recycling hours are Saturdays from 8:30am to 1:00pm. Please DO NOT leave your recycling items by the steps when the center is closed. If the hours are not convenient for you please feel free to call and we will make other arrangements. For all of you who have been following the instructions perfectly, our THANKS go out to you.

Tracy & Marguerite Sanville - 754-2143

Irasburg - Albany - Lowell Recycling Center

Location: Rte. 58, Near Irasburg Town Garage. Hours: Saturdays - 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY!!!

PLASTIC: Clear - #1 PETE Translucent - #2 HDPE Colored - #2 HDPE

1. We **DO NOT** accept any plastic that the mouths are wider than the bottoms regardless of the #'s on the containers.
2. All plastic **MUST** be washed with soap and water (not just rinsed out).
3. Must be clean and dry inside and out.
4. **NO COVERS!!!**
5. No oil containers.

GLASS: Colored -Clear -

1. Must be washed and dry.
2. Labels removed (if possible)
3. **NO COVERS!!!**

BROWN PAPER BAGS:

1. Folded (not crumpled into balls).
2. Stacked and placed inside of a paper bag.

MAGAZINES:

1. GLOSSY finish ONLY!!!
2. Dry
3. Can be stapled or glued.
4. Any flat (newspaper like finish) must be removed.

NEWSPAPER:

1. Dry.
2. Must be either tied tightly into bundles or stacked into a paper bag.

TIN:

1. Washed and dry.
2. Both ends cut out (if possible).
3. Flattened.
4. Labels removed (exception: Hunt's Tomato Sauce cans - labels printed on the tin).

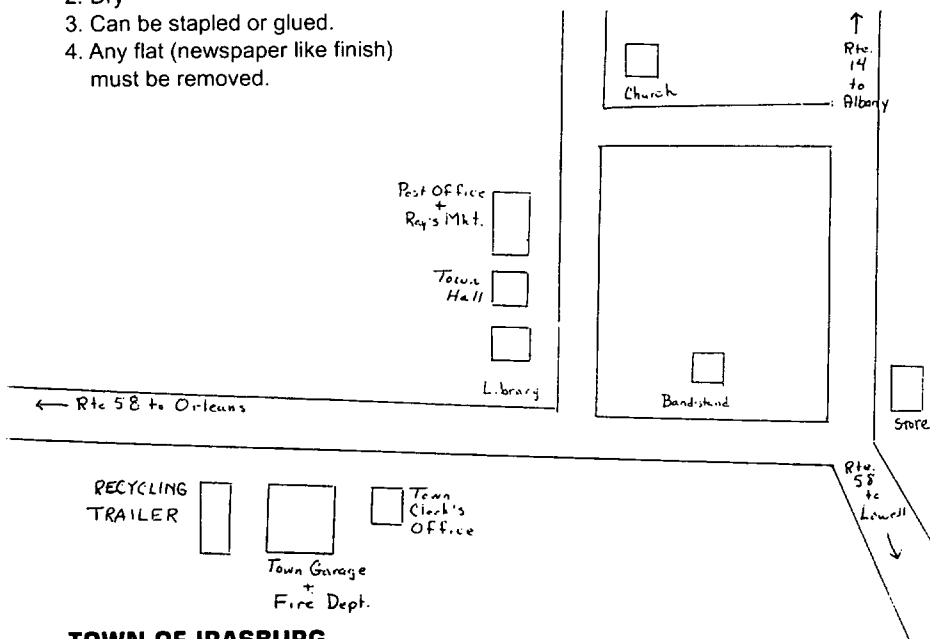
ALUMINUM:

1. Cans
2. Clean and dry.
3. Flattened.

CARDBOARD:

1. Must be clean and dry.
2. Folded and cut to fit into 4'x4' bins.

NO Styrofoam Accepted.



TOWN OF IRASBURG

Lowell Board of Adjustment and Planning

(Zoning Board)

The Lowell Zoning Board expects there will be an increase in building and development in the years just ahead. Please always feel free to talk to us about your concerns. Together we can help plan the future of Lowell.

Zoning Board meetings are open to the public. The regularly scheduled meeting time is the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 (7:30 in the summer). We will try to stick to this schedule, but because of our own members schedules we sometimes have to change the date. Please call any board member or call 744-6859 to confirm.

Please remember that all new buildings and dwellings and additions that add to the outside parameter of a building require a permit. Also a change of use, such as converting a residence or existing building into a store or rental unit requires a permit. Contact the Administrative Officer for the Zoning By-laws and permit application or pick them up from the Town Clerk.

Thank You,

Lowell Board of Adjustment and Planning Board (Zoning Board)

DOUG BONNEAU

KEVIN HODGEMAN

MAURICE PION

SAM THURSTON

DELVIN WARNER

BRUCE PION – Zoning Administrative Officer

Zoning Administrator's Report

PERMITS ISSUED:

NEW HOMES:	7	NEW HOMES W/GARAGE	1
HOME ADDITIONS:	3	MOBILE HOMES:	2
CAMPS:	2	PORCH ADDITIONS:	2
GARAGES:	1	GARAGE ADDITIONS:	
STORAGE BLDGS:	2	MISCELLANEOUS:	5
SUGARHOUSE:	0	CHANGE-IN-USE:	
BARNs	3	GRAVEL PIT	1
SUBDIVISION	2		

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Pion, Zoning Administrator



Forest Fire Warden Report

Anyone in the Town of Lowell wishing to have an open fire must first receive a "Written Burn Permit" from the local Fire Warden or Deputy Warden. All burn permits are free. This year there were 77 permits issued by the Fire Warden, Deputy Warden and the Chief of the Fire Department. The Chief of the Fire Department can only issue a permit when the Fire Warden or Deputy Warden can not be reached. There were 0 acres burned in the Town of Lowell.

We wish to thank everyone that took the time to get a permit before burning.

Respectfully submitted:

FLOYD J. GRISWOLD – Forest Fire Warden

GERRY NICK – Deputy Fire Warden

Lowell Fire Department Report

Year 2003 has been historical for our department. We were blessed with receiving 3 desperately needed grants. Our first, was a \$1,000. 50/50 Jeffords Grant. The 50/50 means that we had to match the amount, making a total purchase of \$2000. With this, we purchased 5 new fire pagers. Our second was a \$34,869. 90/10 (F.E.M.A.) grant, where our department had to pay only 10% of the purchase price. With this grant, we purchased 2 new portable pumps, a gas powered positive pressure fan, new fire gear for all of our firefighters, new hoses, nozzles and other miscellaneous fire fighting equipment. The third grant was a \$28,684 100% Homeland Security grant. This grant is for purchasing 3 new S.C.B.A.'s (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus), Updating the 3 that our department purchased with fund raiser funds 5 years ago, 3 new air bottles, and installing a new VHF radio in our rescue van. You'll note that this grant does not show in our financial report for this year. This is because we have not yet made the purchase, or received the funds. As soon as we get the F.E.M.A. grant finalized, we will pursue this grant. Our department was also donated a new rescue sled. This sled can have either skies or tires installed, thus making it an all-season benefit. Our department had the fortunate opportunity to purchase a used "work-style" snowmobile to pull this unit on winter snowmobile trails, and we have members with 4WD 4-wheelers for summer needs. We would also like to thank Bob Doherty from Westfield, who has graciously let us use his snowmobile trailer temporarily, until we can acquire one of our own.

We would like to once again, thank the town residents for their support, and especially thank Gary, Cindy and family at the Lowell General Store for continuing to sell our pull tickets (our only source of fund raising). Unfortunately, ticket sales have continued to decline every year, so please stop by the "Lowell General", and while your there, support your department, and have a little fun, by purchasing some pull tickets! Who knows? You might just walk out of the store with the items you went in to buy, and MORE MONEY in your pocket!

Respectfully submitted,
Alden Warner
Fire Chief

Lowell Fire Department- 2003

OPERATING ACCOUNT

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 5,036.81	\$ 4,770.85
REVENUE		
Town Appropriation	15,500.00	15,500.00
Interest (Checking)	24.64	45.86
Donations	1,950.00	
Services Rendered	<u>1,525.00</u>	-
	18,999.64	15,545.86
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 24,036.45	\$ 20,316.71
DISBURSEMENTS		
Building & Grounds General Maintenance	376.54	1,069.96
Fire House Supplies & Gas	475.33	19.00
Electricity	589.74	662.09
Heat	642.49	1,055.60
Telephone	484.23	467.67
Trash Removal	-	5.00
Insurance	5,661.00	3,051.00
Bank Charges	40.52	-
Postage	77.80	74.15
Labor	1,632.50	1,128.00
Training	175.00	300.00
Misc.	112.85	79.15
Dues & Memberships	308.00	210.00
Books & Subscriptions	112.00	95.95
Pagers & Radio Repair	1,208.88	508.50
Gear	83.79	9.98
Tanker Repair Loan to Bank	6,217.80	-
Pumper Payment to Town	-	1,750.00
New Equipment	1,067.13	1,237.89
Grant Match - New Equipment/Gear/Pagers	-	4,000.00
Equipment Repair	-	650.55
Diesel / Gas	-	412.08
Fire Extinguisher Repairs	-	<u>91.85</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 19,265.60	\$ 16,878.42
TOTAL REVENUE	24,036.45	20,316.71
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	<u>19,265.60</u>	<u>16,878.42</u>
OPERATING ENDING BALANCE	\$ 4,770.85	\$ 3,438.29

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FUND

	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Prior Balance	\$ 3,349.02	\$ 3,448.66
REVENUE		
Interest (Savings)	73.06	38.88
Fund Raisers	5,293.50	4,140.50
Donations	-	1,875.00
Services Rendered	-	615.00
Jeffords Grant	-	1,000.00
F.E.M.A. Grant	-	34,869.00
From Town Managed Fund (grant match)	-	<u>4,000.00</u>
	5,366.56	46,538.38
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 8,715.58	\$ 49,987.04

DISBURSEMENTS

Fund Raiser Expense	\$ 578.00	\$ 540.00
Bank Charges	-	50.70
Christmas Gathering	213.84	300.00
General Repair	1,538.08	266.80
Pumper Payment to Town	2,937.00	420.35
<u>Grant Assisted Expenses:</u>		
5 New Motorola Pagers	-	2,000.00
New Firemen Gear	-	18,946.00
2 New Portable Pumps	-	9,500.00
1 New Positive Pressure Fan	-	2,200.00
New Hoses, Nozzles & Misc. Adapters	-	8,097.00
Used Rescue Snowmobile	-	1,200.00
TV/VCR for Training	-	180.06
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 5,266.92	\$ 43,700.91
 TOTAL REVENUE	 8,715.58	 49,987.04
LESS DISBURSEMENTS	<u>5,266.92</u>	<u>43,700.91</u>
EQUIPMENT FUND ENDING BALANCE	\$ 3,448.66	\$ 6,286.13

Update Lowell Historical Society

The Lowell Historical Society (LHS) enjoyed a successful 2003, involving the Lowell community in the Museum and its activities. Of great success was the publication of *"Cookbook Treasures from the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont,"* the Lowell Historical Society's cookbook (\$15). Two editions of 250 copies each were printed as publicity in the *Burlington Free Press*, *Newport Daily Express*, the *Chronicle and Caledonian-Record*, as well as the *Northeast Kingdom Historical* magazine generated substantial interest that resulted in brisk sales.

The Lowell Historical Society and Museum held its Third Annual Open House on Saturday, September 13th welcoming community members from throughout the Northeast Kingdom. Local bluegrass musicians including Lowell community members Nancy & Delvin Warner and Patti Austin-Kirk & Phil Kirk and Alden Warner graciously provided spirited musical entertainment.

A number of Lowell Historical Society cookbooks were sold at the Open House event as well as the first edition of LHS magnets, "A birds-eye view of Lowell." The second edition of magnets, "Lowell Hotel and Park," is now available; the magnets cost \$2 each.

The Lowell Historical Society is looking forward to the renovation of the Town of Lowell's gazebo that will be rebuilt in the Spring of 2004; the original gazebo is honored in the LHS magnet, "Lowell Hotel and Park." The LHS has commissioned a new sign for the Town of Lowell that will be placed in Lowell's Common, in June 2004. There are plans for the beautification of the Lowell Common, which will include some landscaping with shrubs and annual and perennial flowerbeds.

With continued work, the Lowell Historical Society hopes to enrich Lowell's past, present and future by celebrating the community members' contributions to Lowell.

Lowell Historical Society 2003 - 2004 officers: Carolyn Arel, President; Sam Thurston, Vice President, Gloria Geoffroy, Treasurer; Patricia Sears, Secretary.

Submitted by Patricia Sears (for further information about the Lowell Historical Society call 744 6600 or email trish@kingdomcommons.com)

Lowell Historical Account

Prior Balance \$ 4,523.64

REVENUE: YEAR 2003

Membership Dues	115.00
Donations	125.00
Open House	283.00
Cookbooks Sold	2,701.50
Magnets sold, History of Lowell, ACHS	244.00
Interest	7.27
	<u>3,475.77</u>
TOTAL REVENUE & BALANCE	\$ 7,999.41

DISBURSEMENTS:

VT Historical Society Membership	\$ 35.00
Kingdom Historical Magazine	22.00
Derby Port Press (500 cookbooks)	2,335.00
Bear Graphics, (500 magnets)	358.21
Coping reports, paper, printer cartridge	77.80
Postage	46.50
Refund of 4 cookbooks	48.00
Money for Open House	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	\$ 3,022.51

HISTORICAL ENDING BALANCE \$ 4,976.90

Lowell Historical Society

In 2003 the Historical Society had Twenty-one (21) paid members. Dues are \$5.00 per year. \$15.00 company. These are paid in August or September. We are looking for new members in the future.

We are selling cookbooks that the Lowell Town's People past and present have sent in recipe's for. We have sold better than 300, and have more to sell. We are also selling magnets. The first 250 were an aerial view of Lowell in the early 1900's. The second one is of the Gazebo and the park, with the hotel across the road. The hotel burned quite a few years ago. We will be selling both at Town Meeting. If anyone is interested they can purchase them from Caroline Arel or Gloria Geoffroy.

We have another cabinet that the Newport Post Office in Newport gave us, also a few new artifacts from different people. If anyone has any pictures or artifacts we would appreciate them very much. We are willing to pay a small amount if needed.

We want to thank everyone who has shown an interest in the Historical Society. For bringing in pictures and artifacts.

Respectively submitted,

Gloria Geoffroy – Treasurer

LOWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LOWELL VITAL RECORDS

Record of Marriages (4)

GROOM	RESIDENCE	BRIDE	RESIDENCE	DATE
Andrew Joseph Morey	Lowell, VT	Lisa Marie Pion	Lowell, VT	7/19/03
James Hayden Smith	Lowell, VT	Jenny Lee Pion	Lowell, VT	8/9/03

Record of Births (8)

NAME	MOTHER	FATHER	DATE
Sage Ashling McCarthy	Heather Valli Staples	Bruce Edward McCarthy	01/14/03
Alexis Karla Pion	Andrea Renee Morey	Roger Armand Pion	02/19/03
Faith Amber Russin	Cynthia Ruth Russin	Armand Henry Russin	04/14/03
Ethan James Cota	Samantha Lynn Lane		05/29/03
Aiden Zachery Guebara	Sally Erin Prue	John Dwane Guebara	07/29/03
Destiny Rae Sorrell	Billie Jo Sorrell	Jesse William Sorrell	09/08/03
Danyelle Marie Pion	Christy Marie Pion	Darren Maurice Pion	09/25/03
Olivia Helene LeBlanc	Sara Anne Morse LeBlanc	Andre Robert LeBlanc	03/08/00
Nicholas Roger LeBlanc	Sara Anne Morse LeBlanc	Andre Robert LeBlanc	07/25/01

Record of Deaths (6)

NAME	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF DEATH	AGE	DATE
Clayton H. Hoadley Jr.	Lowell, VT	Burlington, VT	70	01/27/03
George Walter Sweet	Lowell, VT	Barton, Vt.	80	10/05/03
Travis Lee Richardson	Lowell, VT	Lowell, Vt.	26	11/25/03
Jacqueline Barbara Gosselin	Lowell, Vt.	Lowell, Vt.	68	11/29/03
Ryan Harley Langmaid	Lowell, Vt.	Lowell, Vt.	10	12/5/03

STUDENT ROSTER - OUTSOURCE EDUCATION *

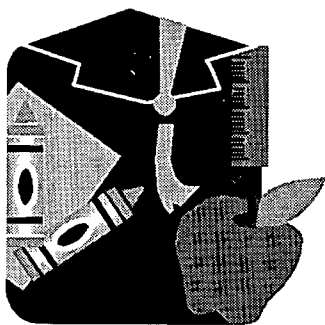
HOME SCHOOL (9)

Ladeau, Mariah Ashley
Morrison, David
Morrison, Gloria
Morrison, Jakob
Morrison, Kenneth
Morrison, Mia
Morrison, Ty
Taska, Ben
Taska, Hannah

PRIVATE SCHOOL (4)

Collins, Jonathon - St. Pauls
Collins, Scott - St. Pauls
Tetreault, Karla - Sacred Heart
Tetreault, Nicole - Sacred Heart

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School Reports

School Treasurer's Report

By Pam Tetreault, Town & School Treasurer

The Treasurer's records for the ending School Fiscal Year 2002-2003, for the Lowell School District had a balance of \$40,412.50 with an estimated receivable of \$20,381.00. Account balance includes all money allocated to the Lowell School District General Fund, Maintenance & Reserve Fund, 8th Grade Fund and Food Service Fund.

School Report of Indebtedness

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
School - VTR Municipal Bank		
5/8/88	\$ 256,326.64	\$ 173,009.65
Payment as of 12/31/2003	<u>215,635.05</u>	<u>168,364.65</u>
To be paid off 12/31/2006	40,691.59	4,645.00
School Addition		
8/2/95	350,000.00	190,505.32
Payment as of 12/31/2003	<u>160,000.00</u>	<u>128,225.32</u>
To be paid off 12/31/2015	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 62,280.00

School Auditors' Report

January 26, 2004

As of this date, we are still in the process of completing the audit for the year ended June 30, 2003. On January 12, 2004, we requested additional information and that information was received in our office January 23, 2004. We will complete our work as soon as possible. Unless we incur additional delays, our audit report should be available at Town Meeting; however, it will not be completed in time to be included in the Town's Annual Report.

Gene A. Besaw
Certified Public Accountant
Newport, Vermont

A Letter From The Lowell School Board

January 2004

Dear Neighbors,

2003 has been a busy year for your Lowell Graded School Board. We continued to support the efforts of the revitalized **F**riends of **L**owell **C**hildren and worked with them to begin the Lowell Gelo Park & Community Playground Improvement Project. FOLK is providing more information about their work and of course about the Project in another section of this report and again at Town Meeting. We encourage you to join their efforts in any way that you can.

Our school children continue to be among the highest scoring on statewide standardized testing. As you may be aware, federal legislation – No Child Left Behind (NCLB) mandates assessment of children on multiple levels. We are working to comply with those mandates while we focus on what we believe is the true purposes of assessment – to identify our children's needs and to celebrate their achievements. The math assessment scores continue to justify our investment in focusing professional development for our teachers and support staff over the past 4 years. This year we are moving our focus to literacy with the intent that our children's language, writing and reading skills will see similar strong development. We will provide copies of the assessment scores for the past 5 years during town meeting. You may also receive copies of that information after Town Meeting, by calling the school and requesting them.

In addition to the assessment requirements, NCLB legislation mandates changes in how our technology program is provided. During the past few years our technology coordinator was a support staff member who developed and implemented curriculum under the supervision of our certified teachers. NCLB requires that a certified teacher provide technology instruction with special endorsement in technology education. You'll note that our budget reflects this change in the increase in salary and associated costs. Our current technology Para-professional staff member will become a certified technology teacher by next fall. We are very fortunate that we do not have to change staff to meet this requirement.

The number of children requiring special education services has decreased though those who do need special education services require much more intensive services. This has significant impact on our local education budget. Federal and state laws make the school responsible for meeting special education needs yet federal and state funding to pay for special education remains at less than 55 % of the costs. You will note a line item in our budget for special education contract services. This line item pays for therapies and special education programs required for students with intensive needs. Based on the current and anticipated needs we feel this particular number is a very conservative cost projection.

We are entering our last year of the negotiated contract with the teachers. Salary lines include the contract's agreed upon increases. Just to remind you that we are part of the OENSU district wide negotiated contract. One of our Board members will represent Lowell on the negotiations team this fall.

Health care costs continue to increase well beyond the rate of inflation. You see those costs in this budget. In addition to health insurance – liability, workers com-

pensation, and other insurance costs are escalating. The insurance industry's costs associated with the tragedies of September 11th are the main factor in these increases. This issue is a national and even international issue. Unfortunately, we have no option but to continue to seek lowest costs by "shopping" aggressively for the best insurance packages – including price and to pursue group purchases of insurance by joining with other Vermont schools in efforts to reduce costs.

As we noted last year and the preceding year – this year and next will have the highest Lowell student population attending North Country Union High School. As secondary education is much more expensive to provide than elementary the increased number of students at NCUHS impacts greatly on our overall town combined school budget.

Surprisingly, while we are experiencing a significant increase in the number of high school students – the rest of the OENSU district schools are experiencing decreases. This results in Lowell having not only increased number of students but an increase in the percentage of Lowell students as compared to the entire NCUHS population. All of this results in an increase in the amount that OENSU assesses the town for our portion of the NCUHS budget.

You will also see additional line items in this year's budget for specific anticipated grant income and expense. In past years some of these anticipated grants were included in the budget and some were not. What was included was what was included in previous years – there was not really any other rationale as to why some things were in and some were not. We decided that all anticipated income and expenses should be included in the budget we present, even though the grant income can only be applied to specific expenses. So if we were to decrease the amount of expense related to grant funded activities we would also decrease the amount of income the same amount. The grant monies – both income and expense are not part of the figure that the Town authorizes. The amount to be authorized by you all during Town Meeting is the amount of money needed to be raised through the town and statewide property taxes.

As you may be aware, the Vermont Legislature passed legislation (ACT 68) that changed the funding formula for public education. The changes go into effect for the FY 05 fiscal year (the 04-05 school year). The new formula raises a statewide property tax of \$ 1.10 for residential and \$ 1.59 for non-residential property. Current pending legislation would lower the statewide property tax rate for residential to \$1.05 and to \$ 1.54 for non-residential. ACT 68 also set the student block grant at \$6,800 for each full time equivalent student. To calculate local taxes now you calculate the percentage that your cost per full time equivalent student is above the base rate of \$6,800. That percentage is then used to increase your tax rate from the \$ 1.10 or \$ 1.59 statewide rate. So, for example if our costs per full time equivalent student were 20 percent higher than \$ 6,800 than the property tax rate would be increased by 20%. Next that resulting number is multiplied by the Common Level of Appraisal factor. Our Common Level of Appraisal is currently about 91.6 % of statewide property value. While this seems complicated as we try to explain it now – it is less complicated than the funding formula under ACT 60. We've been "promised" that this legislation will be determined by Town Meeting Day so we can provide you with the correct information about our potential tax rate.

IF the legislation passes, the budget we've presented (combined with the high school and career center student assessments) will result in about the same school tax rate as last year. Again, we anticipate having firmer information in time for Town Meeting. If you have any questions in the meanwhile, please don't hesitate to call any of your School Board Members or attend one of our Board meetings. Our phone numbers are all in the phone book and our meetings are advertised at the school and town clerk's office. You may also call the school to find out how to get in touch with any and all of us.

We'd also like to inform you of work we anticipate doing this next year of a different nature. We are beginning a project to look at how well our Lowell students transition into North Country Union High School and what we can do while they are still at Lowell Graded School to help make that transition smooth and successful. We know that the more successful the transition to NCUHS the more successful the students will be overall during their high school years. We hope any interested parents, students and community members will join us as we look into this issue.

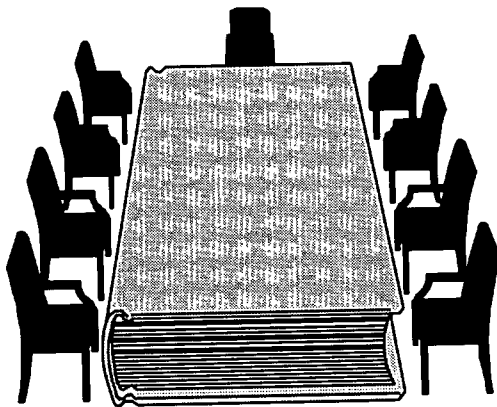
Finally, we encourage you all to become very informed about the work being done to explore options for the future of the North Country Workforce Development Center (currently called the Career Center). This Board has been very concerned about the continued discussions centered on building a facility to house the North Country Workforce Development Center in a separate location from the High School. We are concerned that a separate location will reduce the opportunities for students to benefit from its programs as well as drive the operating costs up. We will try to keep our community members informed and will invite the Work Force Development Board to hold information and discussion forums in our community.

Again, please don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have questions about the Lowell Graded School and/or our proposed FY 05 budget. We look forward to your support of Lowell's children during Town Meeting and always.

Cordially,

Cherie Hammond – Chair, Ray Ostiguy – Vice Chair
and Carinthia Grayson – Secretary

Lowell Graded School Board of Directors



Lowell Principal's Letter

In my 2002 letter to the Town Report, I mentioned that I was anxious to see if we had sustained the high level of achievement on the various statewide assessments. The pressure for school's to meet high quality standards of achievement is even more intense under the No Child Left Behind Act.

I'm pleased to report to you that since the inauguration of statewide testing in 1998, our students have continued to perform at a very high level. In fact, our '03 results in the Developmental Reading Assessment for grade 2 were again among the best in the state. This can also be said of our results for the grade 5 on the PASS Science Assessments and many areas of the New Standards Reference Exams administered to 4th & 8th graders.

The NSRE's indicate that our attention should now focus on gaps in student performance in English/Language Arts.

Last spring, our teachers completed the 4th and final year of their Math Initiative. This program was developed in 1998 when test scores showed that much improvement was needed. I am confident that we will next bring about school-wide improvement in English/Language Arts in the near future, while maintaining our high level of achievement in other areas.

Establishing a strong academic foundation is every school's primary focus. It is our intention to also provide students with a rich and diversified school experience by supplementing the regular curriculum with an array of meaningful, special highlights. We have been very fortunate to receive grant funding to support after school programs like Daily Homework Club, Saturday Teen Night, Arts & Crafts, Dance Classes, Painting & Drawing Classes and Summer Theater Camp. This year we began offering workshops and classes designed specifically for parents. These included the very successful "Refresher Math for Parents" and "The Parent's Guide to Internet Safety."

We feel that supplementing our academic curriculum with many special, high interest activities and events such as school spirit days, our student ski program, field trips, after school sports and other programs, all contribute to a rich and rewarding school experience for children.

In September, our teachers engaged students in a supplemental curriculum, which focuses on reducing incidents of bullying in school. Becoming a "bully proof" school is a long-range goal, which we take very seriously. It is our intention to continue to address this issue on a regular basis.

Please keep in mind that many of our best ideas for school improvement initiatives come from interested parents and other community members. Your suggestions and observations are always greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Scott Boskind

January 15, 2004

Certified Staff 2003-2004

Leanne	Barnard	Grades 5-7	\$40,993
Frances	Bernier	Special Education	41,293
Scott	Boskind	Principal	51,500
Michael	Brooks	Team Teacher Grades 5-8	28,293
Bonita	Deslandes	Team Teacher Grades 5-8	36,293
Patricia	DiPietro	Physical Education 20%	7,259
Sara	Doncaster	Music 20%	6,059
Anita	Gagner	Kindergarten 50%	17,147
Anita	Gagner	Preschool 50%	17,147
Suzanne	Hastings	Compensatory Education 50%	20,497
Margaret	Henn	Grade 3 & 4	46,993
Judy	Ide *	Classroom	15,147
Judy	Ide	Titles 50%	15,147
Jocelyn	Perron	Art 20%	\$5,059
Lorelei	Willis	Class Size Reduction Teacher 50%	15,647
Monica	Willis	Grade 1 & 2	40,993
Monica	Willis	Assistand Principal	283
Brenda	Machado	Nurse	

Non-Certified Staff 2003-2004

Robin	Messier	Para/Library Aide - 7hrs x 178	\$11,957
Torrie	Henn	Paraprofessional - 7hrs x 178	9,935
Susan	Piette	Preschool/Para Aide - 4hrs x 178	7,028
Heather	Greenway	Paraprofessional - 7hrs x 178	9,722
Jon	Bowser	Paraprofessional - 7hrs x 154	8,101
RoseMarie	Daigle	Paraprofessional - 7hrs x 178	9,726
Gail	Sicotte	Paraprofessional - 6.5hrs x 178	10,507
Sandy	Edwards	Secretary - 6.5hrs x 183	9,467
Roy	Palmer	Floor Maintenance	1,030
Anita	Joiner	Custodians- 22hrs x 38wks	6,111
Sue	Donnelly	Technology Instr. -7.5hrs x 185	21,725
Debra	Merill	Food Service 9hrs x 184	15,464
Gilberte	Pion	Food Service 3hrs x 175	4,925

LOWELL GRADED SCHOOL

Student Roster 2003-2004

Pre-School (9)

Chambers, Benjamin
 Charland, Jenna
 Eldred, Gabriel
 Limlaw, Kaitlin
 Matten, Colbi
 Pion, Darrek
 Pion, Jasmine
 Pion, Jordan
 Wright, Tyler

Kindergarten (11)

Bathalon, Trent
 Bessette, Cheyenne
 Charland, Nathan
 Chambers, Devlin
 Garfield, Richard
 Lucas, Katie
 Masi, Janey
 Pion, Anselme
 Richardson, Matthew
 Searls, Ellie
 Swanson, Jacob

1st Grade (12)

Bessette, Dylan
 Booth, Ethan
 Francis, Mariah
 Gosselin, Luke
 Muir, Tiah
 Parson-Grayson, Travers
 Petit, Victoria
 Pion, Jennifer
 Richardson, Alex
 Russin, Shania
 Warner, Keenan
 Wescom, Michalla

2nd Grade (7)

Backus, Isaac
 Chambers, Zacheriah
 Cortez, Tyrel
 Hill, Mariah
 Limlaw, Elizabeth
 Pion, Jason
 Raboin, Angie

3rd Grade (10)

Hammond, Katie
 Henn, Cierra
 Forrest, Bailey
 Limlaw, Jonathan
 Moffett, Sarah
 Pion, Brandon
 Richardson, Jason
 Sicotte, Alex
 Spoerl, Erin
 Wesolow, Taylor

4th Grade (8)

Cresenzi, Garrett
 Forrest, Taylor
 Parson-Grayson, Avery
 Ostiguy, Magen
 Raboin, Steven
 Wescom, Nicole
 Wesolow, Alan
 Winters, Tyler

5th Grade (9)

Backus, Nicholas
 Bessette, Donald
 Bessette, Kasey
 Blanchard, Michaelo
 Carrillo, Alexander
 Carrillo, Melissa
 Fernandes, Dino
 Hill, Bianco
 Murphy, Tyler

6th Grade (10)

Benware, Monica
 Booth, Virginia
 Chambers, Ryan
 Coburn, Roger
 Hill, Brianna
 Joiner, Larry
 LaBarron, Ryan
 Lowell, Heather
 Richardson, Kevin
 Warner, Kyle

7th Grade (13)

Callanhan, Ashley
 Collins, Morgan
 Cresenzi, Corey
 Forrest, Ryan
 Higley, Adam
 LaBarron, Kyle
 LeBlanc, Ashley
 Ostiguy, Aleshia
 Pion, Corey
 Raboin, Anna
 Richardson, Kristi
 Smith, Charles
 St. Onge Cassandra

8th Grade (10)

Blake, Dustin
 Chambers, Gregory
 Coburn, Brittany
 Coderre, Tonya
 Dumas, Ashley
 Girard, Mary
 Monfette, Daniel
 Palmer, Michaela
 Racicot, Rodney
 Varney, Christopher

Tuitioned to Albany (2)

Staples, Brandon
 Staples, Justin

NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Student Roster 2003-2004

Freshman (22)

Blake, Jamie
Bursey, Justin
Clark, Corey
Clark, Stephen M.
Coderre, Roland E. Jr.
Cresenzi, Matthew
Dumas, Brandi
Farrow, Stephen
Fernandes, Ashley
Jasch, Brodie
Joiner, Noble Wayne
LeBlanc, Christine
Limlaw, Joshua
Moodie, Britany
Pion, Matthew R.
Pion, Timothy M.
Quesnel, Anna M.
Raboin, Samantha
Smith, Corey
Stevens, Christina M.
Tetreault, Philip
Uhlendorff, Stephanie

Juniors (6)

Arel, Andrew Larry
Camley, Sherrine Lynn
Capen, Anthony
Limlaw, Daniel Bruce
Pion, Alain Michael
Richardson, Jody Michael

Sophomores (15)

Benware, Allauna Louise
Booth, Melvin
Camley, Samantha Rose
Carrillo, Jessica Florence
Holloway, Nathaniel
Langmaid, Shane P.
Messier, Sarah Marie
Monfette, Amber, Marie
Richardson, Hannah Margaret
Richardson, Michael J.
Servidas, David S.
Sicotte, Chelsey Rose
Sullivan-Canning, Madonna H
Tuttle, Bryant B.
Wood, Barry Arden

Seniors (11)

Callahan, Michael James
Fernandes, Laura Melissa
Godin, Bryen-Aimee Laurette
Guyette, Autumn L.
Henn, William Paul Jr.
Messier, Adam Robert
Pion, Ashley Renee
Pion, Gisele Lee
Pion, Joshua J.
Pion, Marc Norman
Smith, Richard William Jr.

LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Proposed FY 2005 General Fund Budget

	2002-2003 <u>Actual</u>	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>
REVENUE:			
1000 Local			
1110 Property Taxes-Current	\$ 38,222	\$ 44,353	\$ -
1322 Secondary Tuition Reg Ed	6,082	-	-
1510 Interest	3,219	3,000	3,000
1910 Rentals	-	-	-
1920 Donations	410	-	-
1990 Misc	4,642	-	4,000
Misc - Gold Medallion Award	-	-	-
1990 Tuition Revenue	-	6,082	-
1990 Reimbursement from J/W	-	-	-
Prior year Balance	-	18,556	-
Total 1000	52,575	71,991	7,000
2000 Subgrants			
2213 Best Grant	660	-	-
2242 Title II Competitive Grant	9,990	1,691	-
2247 Title IV-Safe & Drug Free	2,054	1,915	1,900
2250 Title I-Compensatory	32,417	32,000	32,000
2251 Title IIA Professional Develop.	2,512	-	-
2260 Title V-Innovative Education	833	3,031	3,000
2263 Titles IID -Technology Grant	2,621	-	-
2450 Title IIA Teacher Quality	35,394	-	42,000
2481 Medicaid Funding	14,860	10,000	10,000
2790 Miscellaneous Grants Received ..	1,006	-	-
Total 2000	\$102,349	\$48,637	\$88,900
3000 State			
3109 Homestead Revenue to School ..	400,653	404,899	227,747
3110 Ed. Spending Rev. from State	499,537	476,996	614,208
3112 Non-Resid. Prop.Tax To School ..	-	-	330,214
3114 Grant for Technical Centers	-	-	42,132
3115 Local Share Aid	29,730	36,682	-
3145 Small School Grant	67,349	66,400	65,000
3150 Transportation	27,732	28,000	28,000
3160 Hold-Harmless Capitol Debt	6,220	3,636	-
3201 Mainstream Block Grant	44,509	46,640	44,077
3202 Intensive Reimbursement	71,268	67,000	85,055
3203 Extraordinary	-	2,100	-
3204 Essential Early Education	5,236	5,200	4,934
3205 State Placed Students	5,454	-	-
Total 3000	\$1,157,688	\$1,137,553	\$1,441,368
4000 Federal			
Total 4000	-	-	-

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
5000 Other			
5400 Prior Year Adjustment	(396)	-	-
5720 Grants Received (VSAC)	9,000	-	-
5900 Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total 5000	\$ 8,604	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenues	\$1,321,216	\$1,258,181	\$1,537,268

EXPENDITURES:

1100 Regular Programs

110 Teacher Salaries	211,722	225,860	235,493
110 Art Salary	4,708	5,159	5,600
110 Music Salary	5,527	6,159	6,600
110 Physical Education Salary	6,517	7,259	7,800
110 School to Work Coordinator	-	500	500
120 Substitute Salaries	3,640	3,000	3,000
210 Health Insurance	29,081	32,700	36,788
220 FICA	18,611	18,929	19,966
230 Life Insurance	167	165	165
250 Worker's Compensation	489	841	1,279
260 Unemployment Insurance	111	140	426
270 Tuition Reimbursement	2,387	3,750	3,750
280 Dental Insurance	1,655	1,443	1,470
290 Long Term Disability	507	693	762
320 Contract Service	1,900	-	-
440 Copier Lease & Maintenance	4,544	3,500	4,500
561 Tuition - In State	26,800	28,000	18,000
580 Travel	14	-	-
610 Teaching Supplies	3,074	5,000	5,000
611 Copier Paper	656	500	500
613 Physical Education Supplies	60	350	350
616 Testing Supplies	-	300	300
640 Textbooks & Periodicals	2,078	2,500	2,500
641 Workbooks	44	3,000	3,500
660 Manipulative Device	-	250	250
730 Instructional Equipment	393	250	250
733 Furniture	872	1,000	1,000
738 Phys Ed Equipment	5	-	-
890 Misc	155	100	100
891 Student Activities (Wash/Grad/Jay)	1,154	1,176	1,176
892 After School Projects (Reimbursed)	66	-	-
893 Teen Night Activity . (Reimbursed)	-	-	-
Total	326,937	352,524	361,024

1196 Title II Teachers

110 Teacher Salaries	28,087	-	33,500
115 Aide Wages	-	-	-
210 Health Insurance	4,209	-	5,336
220 FICA	2,072	-	2,563

		2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
230	Life Insurance	22	-	25
250	Worker's Compensation	53	-	164
260	Unemployment Insurance	13	-	117
270	Tuition Reimbursement	-	-	1,000
280	Dental Insurance	193	-	150
290	Long Term Disability	63	-	98
890	Misc. Workshop	22	-	-
890	Vita Learn Grant	22	-	-
	Total *Title II A Grant Supported	34,755	-	42,953
	Total 1100	\$ 361,692	\$ 352,524	\$ 403,977
1211	Special Programs			
110	Teacher Salaries	37,587	40,143	44,000
115	Aide Salaries	34,750	29,566	31,891
120	Substitutes Salaries	-	-	-
210	Health Insurance	6,320	7,076	7,960
220	FICA	5,380	5,333	5,806
230	Life Insurance	22	25	25
240	Municipal Retirement	399	1,183	1,276
250	Worker's Compensation	205	136	216
260	Unemployment Insurance	63	14	58
270	Tuition Reimbursement	2,172	2,250	2,250
280	Dental Insurance	275	273	300
290	Long Term Disability	84	112	128
300	Contracted Service	-	-	27,500
440	Copier Maintenance	500	500	500
550	Printing (Advertising)	-	100	100
565	Tuition - Excess Cost	16,338	12,000	7,000
580	Travel	-	-	-
594	Excess Cost to VT Public LEA	-	-	-
610	Teaching Supplies	169	500	500
640	Textbooks & Periodicals	-	500	500
730	Instructional Equipment	-	200	200
733	Furniture	-	250	250
737	Computer Hardware	-	-	-
	Total (Reimbursed at 57%)	104,264	100,161	130,460
1212	Special Programs - Preschool			
100	Teacher Salary	15,794	17,147	18,500
115	Aide Salary	-	4,863	3,988
220	FICA	1,208	1,684	1,720
230	Life Insurance	11	13	13
240	Municipal Retirement	-	195	160
250	Worker's Compensation	37	82	82
260	Unemployment Insurance	12	85	85
270	Tuition Reimbursement	708	500	500
290	Long Term Disability	36	51	51
610	Supplies	383	200	200
733	Furniture	130	-	-
	Total (Medicaid & Local Funds)	18,318	24,820	25,298

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
300	EEE Local	329	6,200
301	EEE State/Federal	5,351	5,351
	Total	5,680	11,551
1250	Title I-Compensatory Education		
110	Teacher Salaries	20,497	21,500
210	Health Insurance	3,538	3,980
220	FICA	1,568	1,645
230	Life Insurance	13	13
250	Worker's Compensation	70	105
260	Unemployment Insurance	14	58
270	Tuition Reimbursement	500	500
280	Dental Insurance	137	150
290	Long Term Disability	57	63
610	Supplies	500	500
640	Textbooks	500	500
670	Computer Software	-	-
730	Instructional Equipment	-	-
733	Furniture	-	-
737	Computer Hardware	-	-
	Total (Title I Grant Funded)	27,394	29,014
1292	Title II - Teacher Development		
320	Training	1,070	1,070
		54	-
	Total (Grant Funded)	1,070	1,070
1293	Title IID - Technology		
325	Tech.Prof Development	-	-
670	Computer Software	-	-
737	Computer Hardware	-	-
	Total (Grant Funded)	-	-
1294	Title IV - Safe & Drug Free Schools		
320	Education Services	1,093	1,093
737	Computer Hardware	-	-
	Total (Grant Funded)	1,093	1,093
1296	Title V - Innovative Education		
110	Stipends	2,034	2,034
320	Education Services	-	-
	Total (Grant Funded)	2,034	2,034
1297	Title IID Tech Competitive		
300	Contract Services	-	-
737	Computer Hardware	-	-
810	Training	-	-
	Total (Grant Funded)	-	-
	Total 1200	\$ 162,251	\$ 200,520
	\$ 177,450		

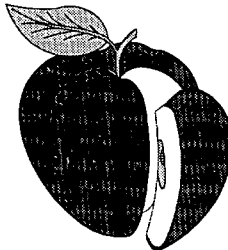
		2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
1400 Co-Curricular				
110	Salaries	1,500	1,950	1,950
220	FICA	115	149	149
250	Worker's Compensation	-	5	5
260	Unemployment Insurance	-	26	26
338	Contract Services (Referee)	520	350	550
610	Supplies	143	150	150
730	Equipment	171	300	1,500
810	Fees-Tournaments	-	150	150
	Total	2,449	3,080	4,480
	Total 1400	\$ 2,449	\$ 3,080	\$ 4,480
2134 Nurse				
324	Contract Nurse 30%FTE	9,020	10,355	11,118
324	Contract Nurse %FTE EPSDT	-	-	-
300	Contract Services O/T	-	-	-
610	Supplies	182	1,250	1,250
	Total (Funded in part by Grant)	9,202	11,605	12,368
2140 Psychological Services				
323	Testing Services	209	1,100	1,100
330	Contract Services	466	975	975
	Total	675	2,075	2,075
2150 Speech & Audiology				
323	Testing Services	-	500	500
332	Contract Speech 20% FTE	9,707	11,117	11,117
610	Supplies	330	100	100
	Total	10,037	11,717	11,717
2190 Gear Up Grant				
110	Stipends	9,000	-	-
	Total Gear Up Grant	9,000	-	-
	Total 2100	\$28,914	\$25,397	\$26,160
2200 Teacher Aides				
115	Aide Salaries	34,949	23,714	26,675
220	FICA	2,089	2,292	2,041
240	Municipal Retirement	654	500	596
250	Worker's Compensation	2	140	131
260	Unemployment Insurance	44	240	45
	Total	37,738	26,886	29,488
2213 Support Instructional Staff				
325	In-Service	660	250	250
328	In-Service SpEd	-	750	750
	Total	660	1,000	1,000
2219 VEHI Wellness Grant				
800	Wellness	500	-	-
	Total	500	-	-

	2002-2003 <u>Actual</u>	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>
2222 Educational Media/Library			
110 Teacher Salaries	-	-	-
115 Aide Salaries	5,117	5,975	6,125
220 FICA	391	457	469
240 Municipal Retirement	462	239	245
250 Worker's Compensation	11	26	26
260 Unemployment Insurance	6	44	44
610 Supplies	110	500	500
640 Books & Periodicals	1,656	1,800	1,800
733 Furniture/File Caddy	646	-	-
810 Dues & Fees	72	50	50
Total	8,472	9,091	9,258
2225 Computer-Assisted Instruction			
115 Teacher Salary	19,286	21,184	27,000
220 FICA	1,475	1,621	2,066
210 Health Insurance	-	-	10,411
240 Municipal Retirement	771	847	1,080
250 Worker's Compensation	42	90	132
260 Unemployment Insurance	13	60	197
270 Cont.Serv Technology	315	400	400
530 Internet Phone Line	1,676	1,600	1,600
531 Internet Service Provider	82	680	680
610 Supplies	47	300	300
612 Computer Supplies	1,119	500	500
670 Computer Software	-	750	750
730 Furniture	170	-	-
735 Internet Connection	224	-	-
737 Computer Hardware	1,030	1,000	1,000
Total	26,250	29,032	46,116
Total 2200	\$ 73,620	\$ 66,010	\$ 85,862
2311 Board of Education			
110 Salaries	500	1,000	1,000
220 FICA	-	115	115
810 Dues & Fees	700	700	700
890 Misc	235	200	200
Total	1,435	2,015	2,015
2315 Legal			
360 Legal Services	530	1,500	1,500
Total	530	1,500	1,500
2319 Other Board Expenses			
522 Liability Insurance	2,660	2,700	3,900
540 Advertising	999	700	700
550 Printing	-	-	-
890 Misc	-	-	-
Total	3,658	3,400	4,600

	2002-2003 <u>Actual</u>	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>
2321 Office of Superintendent			
332 Contract Service - NKHS SpEd ...	14,160	7,358	9,600
332 Contract Service - NKHS	-	-	8,198
331 Assessment	22,832	23,391	23,027
331 SpEd Directors OENSU	120	-	-
Total	37,112	30,749	40,825
Total 2300	\$42,735	\$37,664	\$48,940
2410 Office of Principal			
111 Principal Salary	50,000	51,500	52,700
112 Asst Principal Salary	275	275	275
114 Secretary Salary	8,257	9,222	10,448
210 Health Insurance	6,320	9,374	9,365
220 FICA	4,477	4,552	4,852
230 Life Insurance	22	25	25
240 Municipal Retirement	-	-	418
250 Worker's Compensation	111	250	250
260 Unemployment Insurance	26	120	120
270 Tuition Reimbursement	-	-	500
280 Dental	275	260	260
290 Long Term Disability	110	166	166
430 Equipment Repairs	-	100	100
530 Postage	500	400	400
580 Travel	500	500	500
610 Supplies	895	1,000	1,000
670 Computer Software	-	-	-
730 Equipment	2,771	-	1,000
810 Dues & Fees	132	250	250
890 Misc	524	50	50
Total	75,194	78,044	82,679
Total 2400	\$75,194	\$78,044	\$82,679
2520 Fiscal Services			
113 Bookkeeper Salary	-	-	-
220 FICA	-	-	-
250 Worker's Compensation	-	-	-
260 Unemployment Insurance	-	-	-
330 Contract Serv.(Town Treasurer) ..	3,750	4,000	4,000
330 Contract Serv. (Nemrc Support) ..	-	500	500
330 Contract Service Bookkeeping	9,500	9,500	9,750
523 Crime Insurance	-	-	-
530 Postage	-	-	-
580 Travel	125	-	-
610 Supplies	59	-	-
670 Computer Software	-	-	-
730 Equipment	-	-	-
733 Furniture	61	-	-
890 Misc	190	-	-
Total	13,685	14,000	14,250

	2002-2003 <u>Actual</u>	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>
2526 Audit			
370 Audit Services	60	3,500	3,500
Total	60	3,500	3,500
Total 2500	\$13,745	\$17,500	\$17,750
2600 Operations and Maintenance			
117 Maintenance Salaries	5,798	8,751	7,322
220 FICA	444	669	560
240 Municipal Retirement	-	-	251
250 Worker's Compensation	89	60	31
260 Unemployment Insurance	13	348	46
411 Septic Services	240	250	250
413 Water Testing	340	750	750
421 Trash Disposal	1,292	1,300	1,300
521 Property Insurance	992	1,000	1,000
531 Telephone	2,588	2,000	3,500
610 Supplies	3,856	3,000	4,000
622 Electricity	8,219	7,500	8,200
623 Bottled Gas	1,361	1,200	1,200
624 Heating Oil	6,386	4,000	5,500
730 Equipment	-	500	500
890 Miscellaneous Expense	90	-	-
Total	31,708	31,328	34,410
2620 Care and Upkeep Buildings			
422 Snow Removal (Roof)	-	-	1,500
431 Contract Serv.	3,121	5,000	5,000
432 Repair Parts / Materials	1,602	1,000	1,000
451 Construction Services	243	-	-
610 Supplies	59	-	-
619 Replace Carpet/Tile	3,670	-	1,200
730 Equipment	385	600	600
Total	9,080	6,600	9,300
2630 Care and Upkeep Grounds			
422 Snow Removal	1,110	1,050	1,050
422 Snow Removal (Emergency Exits)	-	-	400
424 Lawn Care	1,900	2,000	2,000
424 Shrubbery Maintenance	100	300	300
431 Contract Services	-	500	500
610 Supplies	30	100	100
736 Playground Equipment	72	500	500
Total	3,212	4,450	4,850
2640 Care and Upkeep Equipment			
431 Contract Services	315	100	100
610 Supplies	-	300	300
730 Equipment	-	-	-
Total	315	400	400
Total 2600	\$44,315	\$42,778	\$48,960

		2002-2003 <u>Actual</u>	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>
2711	Transportation to & from School			
431	Contract Services	42,173	41,600	41,600
	Total	42,173	41,600	41,600
2720	Transportation Co-Curricular			
510	School to Work	532	250	250
511	After School Grant	129	-	-
513	Field Trips	2,348	2,000	2,000
514	Athletic Trips	1,602	1,500	1,500
	Total	4,611	3,750	3,750
	Total 2700	\$46,784	\$45,350	\$45,350
2820	Public Information			
540	Advertising	-	-	-
550	Printing	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-
	Total 2800	-	-	-
5100	Debt Service			
830	Interest	16,472	14,557	12,642
910	Principal	33,046	33,046	33,046
	Total	49,517	47,603	45,688
	Total 5100	\$ 49,517	\$ 47,603	\$ 45,688
Total Elementary Expenditures		\$ 916,414	\$ 878,201	\$1,010,366
SECONDARY EXPENDITURES:				
1000				
564	NCUHS FY 2003 Assessment	387,202	379,031	475,161
564	NCUHS FY 2002 Added Articles ..	4,324	-	-
569	NCUHS Career Center Tuition	9,742	949	9,609
	Total 1000	401,268	379,980	484,770
5220	Payments to the Education Fund			
920	Technical Center Grant	-	-	42,132
	Total 5220	-	-	42,132
Total Secondary Costs		\$ 401,268	\$ 379,980	\$ 526,902
Total School District Costs		1,317,682	1,258,181	1,537,268
Total Revenues		1,321,216	1,258,181	1,537,268



Estimate

Three Prior Years Comparisons

ESTIMATES ONLY

District: **Lowell**
County: **Orleans**

LEA:
S.U.:

114
Orleans-Essex North

Current Estimate
FY2005
under Act 68

Estimate if
Act 68 is
Amended
FY2005

Expenditures

Elementary Budget (local budget approved in prior years)
S.U. assessment (included in local budget)
Deficit (if included in local budget)
+ Block grant paid by State to tech center in prior years

Act 68 local adopted budget

+ Union school or schools assessment & tech center tuition
+ Technical Center Grant
+ Deficit if not included in budget or revenues
+ Special programs expenditures (if not included in local budget)

Gross Act 68 Budget

Revenues

+ Local revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuition, surplus, etc., including Act 144 revenues)
+ Capital debt aid
+ Special program revenues (if not included in local budget)
- Deficit if not included in budget or expenditures

Total Revenues

Adjusted local revenues

Education Spending (Act 68 definition)

Equalized Pupils

Education Spending per Equalized Pupil

Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil (if any)

Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment

District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)
(\$7,689 / \$6,800)

Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized
(113.074% x \$1.10)

Household Income Percentage for income sensitivity
(113.074% x 2.0%)

LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Statement of Account Summary
2002-2003 Year End

FUND BALANCE 7/1/2002	\$ 18,556.01
PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS	-
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 18,556.01

REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,321,216.26
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	<u>1,268,165.35</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	\$ 53,050.91

FUND TRANSFERS

TO DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ <u>49,517.46</u>
TOTAL FUND TRANSFERS	\$ 49,517.46
NET GAIN OR (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 3,533.45
FUND BALANCE 6/30/2003	\$ 22,089.46
RESERVE FUND BALANCES 6/30/2003	
Building /Maintenance Reserve	\$ 7,743.03
FY2002-2003 Reserve Fund	\$ 18,783.34

8th Grade Fund Raisers
2002-2003

BEGINNING BALANCE @ 7/1/02	\$ 2,431.76
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REVENUE:

Bottle Returns	239.20
Dance	104.75
Town Meeting	288.68
Signature Fund Raiser	6,293.00
Chocolate Bars	5,478.90
Returned Wash. Trip	<u>1,056.00</u>
	\$ 13,460.53

EXPENDITURES:

Signature Fund Raiser	3,226.40
Chocolate Bars	2,750.00
Washington Trip	<u>9,244.90</u>
	\$ 15,221.30

NET BALANCE @ 6/30/03	\$ 670.99
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LOWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Food Service

June 30, 2003

7/1/02 FUND BALANCE \$ 12,564.75

REVENUE

1000 LOCAL
 1610 SALES TO STUDENTS 8,078.55
 1620 SALES TO ADULTS 2,213.65
 9000 MISCELLANEOUS 2.00
Total LOCAL **\$ 10,294.20**

3000 STATE

3450 STATE REVENUE - LUNCH 825.90
 3452 STATE REVENUE - BREAKFAST 655.06
Total STATE **\$ 1,480.96**

4000 FEDERAL

4450 FEDERAL REVENUE - LUNCH 21,281.76
 4450 FEDERAL REVENUE - LUNCH/PRIOR YR 269.25
 4452 FEDERAL REVENUE - BREAKFAST 11,930.66
 4452 FEDERAL REVENUE - BREAKFAST/PRIOR YR -
Total FEDERAL **\$ 33,481.67**
Total REVENUES **\$ 45,256.83**

EXPENDITURES

3110 FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

100 FOOD SERVICE SALARIES 14,674.40
 110 SUBSTITUTE SALARY 63.90
 113 BOOKKEEPER -
 114 FOOD SERVICE MANAGER 6,338.50
 220 FICA 1,612.36
 240 MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT 633.02
 250 WORKERS COMPENSATION 235.54
 260 UNEMPLOYMENT COMP. 20.61
 330 CONTRACT SERVICE 1,467.00
 456 EQUIPMENT REPAIRS 3,936.33
 530 POSTAGE 37.00
 580 TRAVEL 30.24
 600 FOOD & FOOD SERVICE SUPPLIES 19,923.87
Total EXPENDITURES **\$ 48,972.77**
Total ASSETS **\$ 57,821.58**
Less Total EXPENDITURES **\$ 48,972.77**
FUND BALANCE June 30, 2003 **\$ 8,848.81**

FOLK GROUP UPDATE

Friends of Lowell's Kids (FOLK) is a revitalized community organization whose mission is to bring together Lowell's children, their various forms of extended families and other members of Lowell's community to work together in pursuit of celebrating Lowell's excellent assets, increasing resources that will support students activities and making the school a primary resource for all of Lowell's citizens.

FOLK held its first fundraiser, Kitchen Tunk, in February 2003 and raised over \$100 that provided items necessary for the improvement and use of the Town of Lowell ice rink, located in Gelo Park, behind the Lowell Elementary School. Jeff Parsons of Lowell has been instrumental in leading this effort that includes community members Mark Higley, Ray Ostiguy and Michael Raboin.

FOLK and teachers at Lowell Elementary School are developing the QUEST Project, which is a combination natural history and trails exploration experience. This project will be started in Spring 2004.

FOLK initiated fundraising for the Lowell Park and Playground Project with the successful First Annual Hunter's Breakfast at the Lowell Elementary School. Supporters from the community, including visiting hunters, raised \$1,000 on Saturday, November 22, 2003 buying 100 breakfasts and hundreds of raffle tickets. All of these funds, as well as generous in-kind donations from local businesses and individuals, will count towards matching funds required by different grants that **FOLK** will be applying for in order to replace the current playground equipment and provide new landscaping.

Contributing to this celebration of community support for the Lowell Park and Playground Project were: Troy General Store, Newport's The Great Outdoors, Lowell General Store, Spates the Florist, Parro's Gun Shop, Berry Creek Farm, Hannafords, Kingdom Commons gift shop, Price Chopper, Flash's Fix-it Shop, Hilda Pion, Yankee Dollar Store, Uncle Bill's Restaurant in Eden, Sam Pion, Big Bear Realty, Hair with Flair, Richard Pion, Scribners Deli, Couture's Maple Shop, Magee Office Supply, Spirit of Vermont gift shop, Brault's, Eden General Store, Mr. O's and Norm Pion.

The members of **FOLK** who led this fundraising project to its success include Laurie Pion, Carla Raboin, Melissa Pion, Becky Wright, Stephanie Ostiguy, Frances Collins, Jeff Parsons, Glo Breisach, Cherie Hammond and Patricia Sears.

The Lowell Park and Playground Project, co-chaired by Frances Collins and Laurie Pion, commissioned a playground audit, supported by the Lowell Elementary School Board, and the results indicated an immediate need for replacing the equipment. Surveys by local business, Navigator Environmental Services, are being conducted in preparation for planning for the area.

The Playground Project's co-chairs have established the goal for building the new playground for the summer of 2005, in time for the 2005 – 2006 school year. To return these results, community investment in these ideas is essential. We need our angel supporters, parents and community members, to join FOLK! Do you want to make sure there's a SAFE and FUN place for your children, grandchildren and neighbors to enjoy? Can you turn community interest into money for this project? Will you give us your time and expertise for building the playground and landscaping the park? We need some of your time to make this dream come true! Contact Frances Collins (744-6856) or Laurie Pion (744-6433)! For further information about FOLK, please contact Patricia Sears at 802 744 6600 or trish@kingdomcommons.com.

NORTH COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Orleans-Essex North Supervisory Union

338 Highland Avenue, Suite 4 ~ Newport, Vermont 05855

Tel. 802-334-5847 / Fax 802-334-6528

Dear Fellow Citizens,

The North Country Schools/OENSU have met the annual yearly progress (AYP) expectations of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). This is no small feat, given the exceptionally high standards adopted in Vermont and the underlying basis of the law that is predicted to identify virtually all Vermont schools and supervisory unions as being in need of improvement within a decade. Even as the Texas miracle is being exposed as the Texas fraud, the North Country Schools continue to embrace the spirit of NCLB, as has been the case for the past decade. The North Country Schools/OENSU is dedicated to reaching a level of service where supports are in place to help every student attain his or her absolute potential.

Some people still ask, "Why refer to the supervisory union as the North Country Schools?" That is simple. Supervisory unions, like OENSU, were created to provide administrative support, basically to take care of the paperwork. Today, this supervisory union is a community of schools dedicated to working together to improve the learning opportunities for all of our students. The North Country Schools organization is about education, not bureaucracy.

The supervisory union supports the schools through a wide range of professional development. This includes developing authentic assessments for the social sciences, updating and improving curriculum, and implementing a six-year professional development cycle. The latter is designed to improve the knowledge base of every teacher and build a professional learning community in each school and across the supervisory union.

Working together and in collaboration with two other supervisory unions, the North Country Schools are implementing a new wide area network (WAN). This WAN allows data to be collected more efficiently, taking less teacher time. The WAN provides fast access to the Internet and the wealth of resources available there. Ultimately, the goal is to have every school be able to utilize interactive teleconferencing across the supervisory union. This will allow teachers and students to learn with those in other schools. Specific areas of strength for one teacher can be shared with classrooms across the district. On January 15th, a group of students from North Country Union Junior High School will be talking with NASA scientists, with special emphasis on the Mars expedition. In the very near future, such a special opportunity could reach into every one of our schools by way of the WAN and the Vermont Interactive Learning Network.

The North Country Schools' central office has been directly involved in the two major projects under way at the high school and career center. North Country Union High School is utilizing a federal grant to partner with a national organization called High Schools That Work. The goal of the project is to develop a stronger educational program that will be more motivating, relevant, and challenging. Through higher expectations and practical supports at the individual level, the

goal is to help every student to achieve the Vermont standards. The North Country Career Center is involved in a workforce development center project that holds the promise of providing far better services to students at Lake Region Union High School, a broader and more challenging array of opportunities for North Country students, and similar opportunities for adults in the region. These projects hold the potential to increase the secondary and post-secondary infrastructure in the county and maintain a cost/benefit ratio that can be supported into the future. All of the North Country Schools have a stake in these efforts.

A major issue that is under consideration by the Legislature is governance. This consideration is progressing on two fronts. First, there is discussion around the number of elected school boards that are really needed. Second, there is a major effort, funded by tax dollars, to move away from the control of public education by publicly elected boards and move toward public education designed for and partially controlled by business and industry. These are serious issues that may not be fully appreciated by voters because they are discussions that can easily be overlooked with the array of louder and more immediate issues that capture the focus of today's media.

The first governance discussion has implications for cost containment, organizational efficiency, and local control. Could each supervisory union be operated by one board with representation from each town? Consideration of this issue will produce interesting discussions, but really seems to be on the back burner. There is limited political benefit to decision makers to pursue this option.

The second option is a component of the workforce development center movement across the state. The Chittendon County center has the funding to run advertisements in major newspapers and on television touting the benefits of their project. The governance portion of the movement calls for transferring 40% of the votes on the center's board from publicly elected members to business and industry appointed members. This is a first step in transferring some control of public secondary education from the general electorate to business interests. In a state and nation where public education has been a cornerstone of equal opportunity and a unity of community, this kind of a change should be made thoughtfully, not as a little noticed sidelight of a major construction project. If you have taken the time to read this far in this letter, then you are the citizen who needs to understand this issue and bring it to the attention of your fellow voters for vigorous debate and serious reflection.

With the Vermont State Board of Education voting to support school choice and the Governor's calls for choice, this is another decision that needs to be made carefully. What are the implications for efficiency, a.k.a. cost containment? What impact will school choice have on small community schools? Will all schools available under a choice plan be expected to hire licensed teachers, provide the mandated curricular offerings, and generally operate under the same rules? Will all schools available under a choice plan be expected to maintain an open enrollment policy, including students with special needs? Again, this is an issue that needs thorough examination and consideration prior to adopting the idea.

Overall, our schools continue to provide excellent educational opportunities to those students who are willing to reach for them. Beyond that, today's educators are moving to the next level where the expectation is that every student will make that personal investment in the future and schools will put systems in place to promote that level of achievement. Our schools are almost at that higher level of expectations and moving there steadily.

Finally, thank you for the support you have shown in the past that has made the current level of student achievement possible. I hope that we, the teachers, para-educators, administrators, and other staff, have earned that level of confidence and support. We are dedicated to continuing improvement in the educational services that we deliver and to each and every child in this supervisory union.

Sincerely,
Rod Weston, Ed.D.
Superintendent

NORTH COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Orleans-Essex North Supervisory Union

Summary Report of Revenues and Expenditures

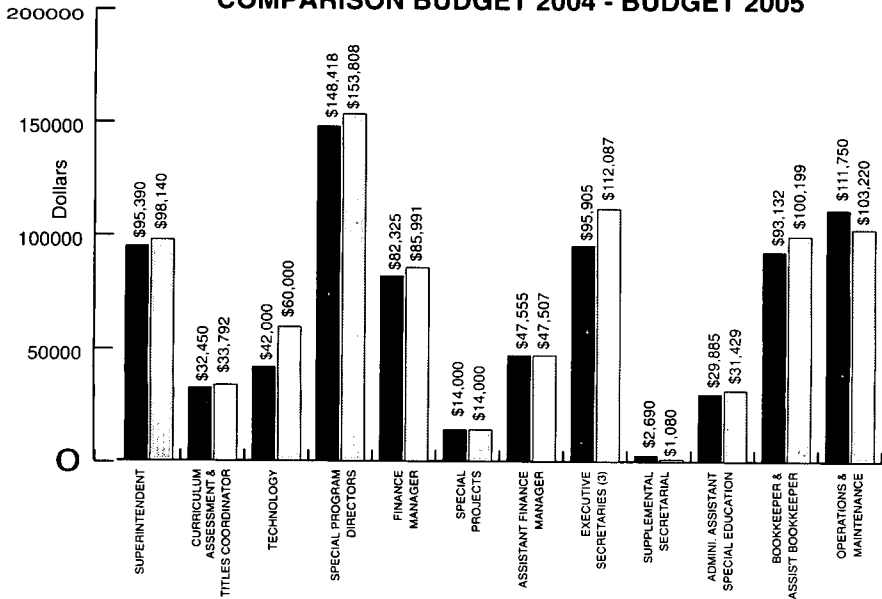
Year Ended June 30, 2003

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund
Revenues:		
Investment Income	\$ 10,271	\$ -
Assessments	487,222	126,134
Overhead Costs	54,703	-
Bookkeeping Services	176,140	-
Reimbursements	5,580	-
Private / Local	-	2,333,049
Restricted Funds - Local	-	271,755
Restricted Funds - State	-	2,701,300
Restricted Funds - Federal	-	-
Total Revenues	\$ 733,916	\$ 5,432,238
Expenditures		
Operations - OENSU	\$ 58,122	\$ 423,701
Direct Services to Students	75,024	797,301
Support Services to Students		689,292
Support Services	593,470	1,348,007
Restricted Funds - Distributed		
Brighton	-	101,575
Charleston	-	91,028
Coventry	-	117,007
Derby	-	236,181
Holland	-	71,648
Jay/Westfield	-	67,062
Lowell	-	104,373
Morgan	-	39,024
Newport City	-	168,556
Newport Town	-	108,983
North Country Union Junior High School	-	-
North Country Union High School	-	424,064
Sacred Heart	-	861
Troy	-	142,180
Early Childhood Program	-	319,311
EPSDT	-	42,052
Miscellaneous (District-Wide)	-	3,001
Total Distributed	\$ -	\$ 2,036,906
Total Expenditures	\$ 726,616	\$ 5,295,207
Excess of Expend. over Revenues	(7,300)	(137,031)
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	242,365	702,614
Fund Balances - End of Year	\$ 249,665	\$ 839,645

**North Country Schools/OENSU
GENERAL FUND - APPROVED BUDGET FY2005**

	Budget FY2004	Budget FY2005	Dollar Variance	% Variance
Superintendent	\$ 95,390	\$ 98,140	\$ 2,750	2.9%
Curriculum, Assessment & Titles Coordinator	32,450	33,792	1,342	4.1%
Technology	42,000	60,000	18,000	42.9%
Special Programs Directors	148,418	153,808	5,390	3.6%
Finance Manager	82,325	85,991	3,666	4.5%
Special Projects	14,000	14,000	-	0.0%
Assistant Finance Manager	47,555	47,507	(48)	-0.1%
Executive Secretaries (3)	95,905	112,087	16,182	16.9%
Supplemental Secretarial	2,690	1,080	(1,610)	-59.9%
Administrative Assistant Bookkeeper	29,885	31,429	1,544	5.2%
Bookkeeper & Assistant Bookkeeper	93,132	100,199	7,067	7.6%
Operation & Maintenance	111,750	103,220	(8,530)	-7.6%
Gross General Fund Budget	\$ 795,500	\$ 841,252	\$ 45,752	5.8%
Assessed To Towns	\$ 515,747	\$ 547,566	\$ 31,819	6.2%

COMPARISON BUDGET 2004 - BUDGET 2005



2004-2005 NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL

A Message from the Board of Directors

The Board and the Administration have worked diligently to put together a budget that will meet the needs of our school while respecting you, the taxpayer.

The proposed budget for this year reflects a 3.73% increase over last years budget, or a \$321, 298 increase. We had a fund balance of \$ 126,000 from 03-04 budget that will be returned to the taxpayers to offset next year's increase. When the fund balance is applied to the increase it reduces the new amount of money needed from the Towns to \$ 195,298 or 2.2% over last year. The basic block grant from the state to the Towns is expected to increase to around \$7,300 per secondary student.

We are in the final stages of negotiations with the teachers and support staff for a three-year contract and by the time you read this it should have been ratified. All sides were willing to evaluate our current health care package and see what could be done to save money, yet maintain the level of coverage that our employees deserve. We are going to a Blue Cross/ Blue Shield plan that has a \$1,000 deductible on a single plan, and a \$2,000 deductible on the two-person and family plans. The premium savings on this plan are in the \$400,000 range when combined for the High School, Junior High & Career Center. The school will self insure the portion of the deductible, and set this account up as a fund balance account so that any surplus can be put into this fund. Even if every person's deductible were paid, the school will still save money.

The Board will continue to work with the administration and staff to provide the most affordable yet comprehensive educational experience for your student. We cover the largest geographical school district in the state and offer all the amenities that other union high schools offer at a fraction of their price.

North Country Union High School Board of Directors

NCUHS / NCCC STUDENT COUNT AS OF 10/15/2003

TOWN	GRADE				Oct. 15	Oct. 15	Change	NCUHS	NCCC
	9th	10th	11th	12th	2003 Total	2002 Total			
BRIGHTON	17	15	18	20	70	70	0	57.06	12.94
CHARLESTON	10	7	12	6	35	40	-5	28.56	6.44
DERBY	76	59	71	58	264	267	-3	227.44	36.56
HOLLAND	10	10	11	7	38	40	-2	32.12	5.88
JAY	5	8	2	6	21	22	-1	18.12	2.88
LOWELL	21	16	7	11	55	46	9	45.56	9.44
MORGAN	8	10	9	8	35	34	1	29.19	5.81
NEWPORT CITY	50	61	69	62	242	257	-15	201.38	40.62
NEWPORT TOWN	18	29	19	24	90	95	-5	75.06	14.94
TROY	23	27	24	25	99	109	-10	81.69	17.31
WESTFIELD	2	5	6	8	21	27	-6	18.56	2.44
TOTAL	240	247	248	235	970	1007	-37	814.74	155.26
TUITION STUDENTS:									
COVENTRY	14	11	6	11	42	35	7	35.06	6.94
FERDINAND GORE	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0.5	1.50
MONTGOMERY	3	0	4	1	8	9	-1	6.31	1.69
NON-RESIDENT	4	5	1	2	12	0	12	12	0
TOTAL	21	16	13	14	64	46	18	53.87	10.13
GRAND TOTAL:	261	263	261	249	1034	1053	-19	868.61	165.39

NCUHS PROPOSED REVENUE

	AUDITED 2002-2003	BUDGET 2003-2004	PROPOSED 2004-2005
ASSESSMENTS			
Allocated Fund Balance	-	-	126,000
Regular Assessment	7,830,411	8,301,734	8,497,204
Total 02/03 Assessment:	7,830,411	8,301,734	8,623,204
 TUITION	 252,721	 232,691	 235,519
OTHER REVENUE			
State Aid -Driver Education	13,476	16,000	14,000
Care & Custody	6,265	-	-
Bus Field Trips	4,551	5,000	4,000
Building Rental	2,326	3,000	3,000
Earned Interest	51,601	56,000	56,000
Miscellaneous	22,693	5,000	5,000
Prior Year St of VT	2,704		
ROTC	45,885		
NCCC Contracted Services	268,583		
Total Anticip. Revenues:	418,084	85,000	82,000
Total Assessments, Revenues:	8,501,216	8,619,425	8,940,723
PROPOSED REVENUE HAS A 3.7 % INCREASE			

North Country Union High School

(Based on October 15, 2003 Student Count)

Assessment Per Town 2004-2005

	STUDENT COUNT	NCUHS FTE	REGULAR ASSESSMENT	NCCC FTE
BRIGHTON	70	57.06	\$ 595,098	12.94
CHARLESTON	35	28.56	297,862	6.44
DERBY	264	227.44	2,372,050	36.56
HOLLAND	38	32.12	334,990	5.88
JAY	21	18.12	188,980	2.88
LOWELL	55	45.56	475,161	9.44
MORGAN	35	29.19	304,433	5.81
NEWPORT CITY	242	201.38	2,100,261	40.62
NEWPORT TOWN	90	75.06	782,827	14.94
TROY	99	81.69	851,973	17.31
WESTFIELD	21	18.56	193,569	2.44
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS:	970	814.74	\$8,497,204	155.26

TUITION STUDENT COUNT - OCTOBER 15, 2003

	TUITION STUDENTS		TUITION AMT.	
COVENTRY	42	35.06	\$197,212	6.94
FERDINAND	2	0.5	2,813	1.5
MONTGOMERY	8	6.31	35,494	1.69
OTHER	12	12	\$0	
TOTAL TUITION:	64	53.87	\$235,519	10.13
Assessments & Tuition Total:	1034	868.61	\$8,732,723	165.39

NCCC PROPOSED REVENUE

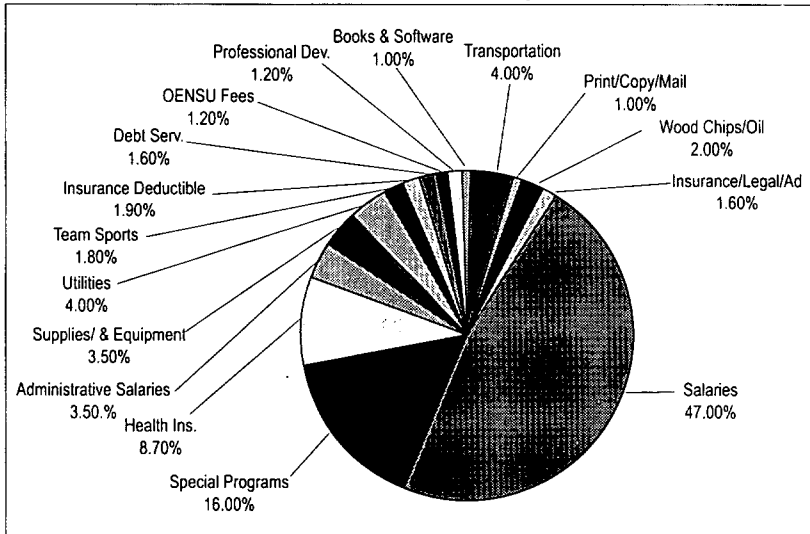
ASSESSMENTS	2002-2003 Actual	2003-2004 Operating	2004-2005 Proposed
Regular Assessment	\$ 173,637.00	\$ 22,607.00	\$ 226,266.00
State Tuition Reimbursement	981,749.00	1,023,114.00	987,700.00
02-03 Fund Balance			125,000.00
Total NCCC Assessment	\$1,155,386.00	\$1,045,721.00	\$1,338,966.00
OTHER REVENUE SOURCES			
Overhead Support Reimb.	\$ 392,715.00	\$ 409,173.00	\$ 395,080.00
Salary Reimbursment	51,431.00	50,659.00	51,000.00
Equipment Grant	17,075.00	10,000.00	25,000.00
Carl Perkins Grant	134,524.00	125,000.00	120,000.00
Earned Interest	8,717.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	(156.00)	-	-
Total Other Revenue	604,306.00	597,332.00	594,080.00
Total Revenues	\$1,759,692.00	\$1,643,053.00	\$1,933,046.00

NORTH COUNTRY CAREER CENTER Assessment Per Town 2004-2005

10/15/03 Student Count			6 Semester Rolling Avg. NCCC		
<u>Town:</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>FTE Avg.</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
ALBANY	5	3.1875	1.83	1.08	\$ 1,415.80
BARTON	6	3.375	6.67	3.8	\$ 4,981.52
BRIGHTON	21	12.9375	19.83	11.68	\$15,311.63
BROWNINGTON	1	0.75	0.83	0.49	\$ 642.36
BURKE	0	0	0.33	0.24	\$ 314.63
CHARLESTON	11	6.4375	14.33	8.49	\$11,129.77
COVENTRY	12	6.9375	13.33	7.57	\$ 9,923.72
DERBY	60	36.5625	57.5	33.37	\$43,745.63
FERDINAND	2	1.5	0.33	0.25	\$ 327.74
GLOVER	1	0.375	2.17	1.32	\$ 1,730.42
HOLLAND	9	5.875	12.33	7.1	\$ 9,307.58
IRASBURG	4	2.25	1	0.55	\$ 721.01
JAY	4	2.875	7	4.09	\$ 5,361.69
LOWELL	14	9.4375	12.5	7.33	\$ 9,609.09
MONTGOMERY	2	1.6875	1.17	0.65	\$ 852.10
MORGAN	10	5.8125	9.17	4.79	\$ 6,279.34
NEWPORT CITY	71	40.625	69.17	40.46	\$53,040.10
NEWPORT TOWN	23	14.9375	23.5	13.8	\$18,090.79
ORLEANS	1	0.75	2.33	1.39	\$ 1,822.19
TROY	29	17.3125	33.83	19.71	\$25,838.37
WESTFIELD	5	2.4375	7.33	4.32	\$ 5,663.20
WESTMORE	0	0	0.33	0.12	\$ 157.32
TOTALS	291	176.0625	296.81	172.60	\$226,266.00

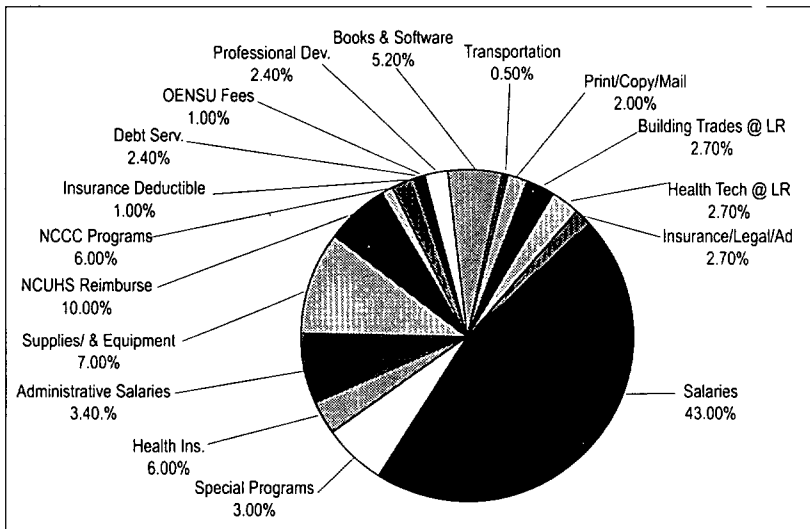
NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL

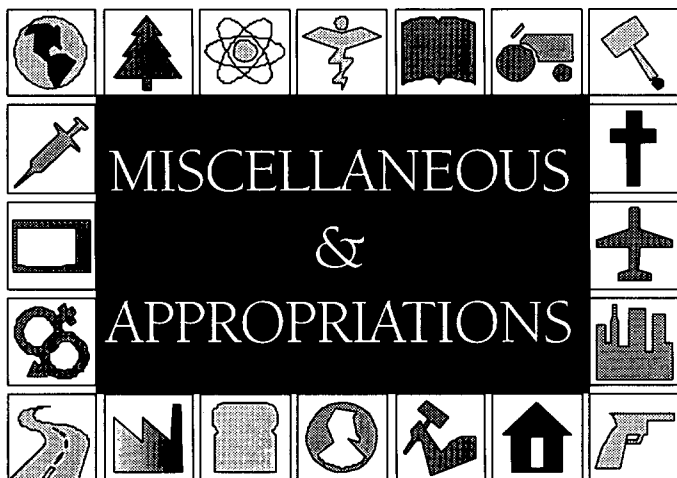
2004 - 2005 Budget



NORTH COUNTRY CAREER CENTER

2004 - 2005 Budget





MISSISQUOI VALLEY AMBULANCE SERVICE

3784 VT ROUTE 1011~PO BOX 101~TROY VT 05868

PHONE 802-988-9909 ~ FAX 802-988-9634

Missisquoi Valley Ambulance Service would like to thank everyone for their continued support in 2003. Community support and volunteers are the backbone of this organization.

2003 brought with it some crucial changes. Changes that will insure the longevity of our service to the area. We began by going to a full-time paid day crew. This transition has secured uninterrupted emergency care for our communities. With fewer and fewer daytime volunteers becoming available to respond, this became a necessity. MVAS has also been involved in planning and designing a new facility. This also has become a necessity. There is a minimum standards that the State of Vermont Department of Health requires we meet with regards to Training, Squad Facilities, Administrative Practices and Equipment. We can no longer meet these requirements without a new facility. As always we will appreciate any ones help with regards to grants or funding for this project.

The unimaginable events of September 11, 2001, have forced the Government to make grants available to Emergency Response Services for new Equipment and training. MVAS has been awarded one of these grants. These funds have allowed us to purchase new defibrillators that we will station in our outlying communities.

Missisquoi Valley Ambulance Service is again asking for an appropriation to help defray some of the costs of operation. We are going to stay with \$10.00 per capita for this year. We are committed to our communities to provide them with the highest level of care at the most reasonable cost. We wish everyone a safe and happy 2004.

Missisquoi Valley Ambulance Service
ANNUAL REPORT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For the year ending December 31, 2003

RECEIPTS:

Appropriations	\$ 24,930.00
Donations	0.00
Subscriptions	400.00
Interest	133.20
Billing	112,587.89
Miscellaneous	<u>246.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 138,297.09

DISBURSEMENTS:

Payroll & Taxes	\$ 54,000.00
Purchases-Equipment	982.50
Purchases-Squad Supplies	822.67
Diesel Fuel	3,673.99
Memberships & Subscriptions	118.45
Insurance	8,680.37
Advertising	322.60
Tax penalties & interest	722.24
Legal Fees	175.00
Squad- Training expenses	3,414.71
Squad- Functions / Meals	2,427.79
Billing Service	9,676.77
Ambulance Maintenance & Repair	16,158.65
Building Maintenance & Repair	217.75
Equipment Maintenance & Repair	31.06
Utilities	1,236.22
Office Expenses	2,303.05
Medical Supplies	7,254.54
Communications	1,808.15
New Facility Expenses	2,421.75
Fund Raising & Public Relations	<u>1,402.51</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 117,850.77

Net Receipts over (under)

Disbursements	\$ 20,446.32
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Fund Balances:

General Fund	\$ 8,178.53
Housing Fund	\$ 6,133.90
Ambulance Fund	\$ 4,089.27
Emergency Fund	\$ 817.86
Equipment Fund	\$ 817.86
Training Fund	\$ 408.90

Orleans County Sheriff's Department

2003 REPORT

The Orleans County Sheriff's Department provided patrol services to your Town during 2003. Through your financial support, the Sheriff's Department provided 92 hours of Patrol in the Town of Lowell and documented the following services:

1. Calls for Service: 21
2. Motor Vehicle:
 - a. Warnings: 27
 - b. Vt. Traffic Complaints: 26
3. Arrests: 1

The Sheriff's Department is seeking a 3% increase over last year's appropriation. We have been able to contain most of our costs of doing business this year, with the exception of escalating health insurance premiums. The increase we are asking for will cover the above plus a cost of living adjustment in Deputies salaries.

The Sheriff's Department also has new programs to offer your community this year. With the support of area businesses, we can offer a Child Identification Packet that is done professionally and maintained by the parents at no cost. We have also started a job shadowing experience for students that may be interested in a career in Law Enforcement. Interested students should contact their guidance counselors to arrange a job shadow. We hope to add more programs in the future that are of interest to your children and would welcome suggestions from you.

We appreciate your support and look forward to serving your community in 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance A. Bowen

Orleans County Sheriff

Service Report FY 2003

ORLEANS ESSEX

V.N.A. and HOSPICE, INC.

Orleans Essex Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) and Hospice, Inc. provides professional quality home health services to the residents of the 24 communities in Orleans and northern Essex counties. We serve the elderly, homebound and chronically ill through the VNA and homemaker programs, and the terminally ill through our Hospice program. Special programs include a variety of clinics available to the public. As a not-for-profit agency, we are locally controlled by a Board of Directors selected from the towns we serve. Our services are available to anyone in need regardless of their ability to pay and all clients are charged the same fee for the same service. We adhere to strict regulations, which prohibit the practice of charging more to a client who can afford services to compensate for those who cannot. All revenue, by law goes back into the Agency to provide, maintain, and improve services and programs.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Total Visits Provided to Residents of Lowell	391
Total Visits Hours provided – Town of Lowell	349
Total Number of Residents Served	24
Total Number of Residents who Participated in Clinics	7

Members of your community are in need of services daily and they receive them from the dedicated staff of the Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, seven days a week, 24-hours a day. The funds your community appropriates to our Agency allow us to continue providing much needed care to individuals without third party insurance and those unable to pay, and provide special programs open to all community members. The Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice is supported by donations, service fees, and the generosity of communities who realize that in order to continue providing high quality home health services to their family members, friends and neighbors, appropriations are desperately needed..

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Warner, *Executive Director*

NVDA – NORTHEAST VERMONT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

True to our mission, Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) worked hard during the past year to meet the economic development and planning needs of the region's municipalities and businesses. 2003 was our 53rd year of dedicated service to the people of the Northeast Kingdom.

Many of our projects were regional in nature and therefore benefited every single community in this region. A good example of this is the unmet transportation needs survey, which gauged the gap between the availability of and the need for transportation services in the Northeast Kingdom.

We also continued to provide essential technical services to town and city officials. This work included conducting transportation studies and traffic counts, including counts in the Town of Lowell; preparing, reviewing and commenting on municipal planning documents; certifying Municipal Plans; interpreting and explaining planning law to planning and zoning officials; and preparing GIS maps. In Lowell, NVDA helped the town with town plan and zoning bylaw adoption and subsequently approved the town plan. In addition we provided technical assistance with wind power issues. NVDA also continued to offer reliable and knowledgeable grant writing and grant administration services to a number of towns.

On the economic development front, the Charles E. Carter Business Resource Center in NVDA's St. Johnsbury-Lyndon Industrial Park was near completion at the end of the past year. The Business Resource Center provides warehousing and manufacturing space, as well as a technical & industrial training facility.

As in the past, in 2003 we continued to work closely with the Small Business Development Center to create and retain jobs throughout the Northeast Kingdom. To cite a few examples: We assisted Easton Hockey / EHM Production in Newport with a tax credit application, which will result in 60 jobs within a few years; we helped WT Solutions in St. Johnsbury to purchase industrial sewing equipment and to find a facility, thereby creating 50+ jobs; and we helped Chebe, a bread manufacturer in Orleans, to locate a production facility. NVDA also continues to work with Ethan Allen on the company's long term needs.

Companies that NVDA assisted in the recent past include MDA Gallet in Newport, which continues to grow and receive contracts for its high quality helmets from the US Army; Bogner of America, also located in Newport, which has diversified from being solely a garment manufacturer to a warehouse and distribution center for some large clothing companies.

Four business loans were approved from our revolving loan funds in 2003. NVDA also added a technical assistance grant program in order to help small businesses with a variety of projects. We approved twelve grants for small businesses in eight communities. Projects included marketing plans, patent applications, Act 250 application assistance and an architectural design.

We look forward to continue serving you in 2004, and we appreciate your much needed support.

Sincerely,
Steve Patterson
Executive Director

Northeast Kingdom Human Service, Inc.

The Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., is a private, not-for-profit organization serving Essex, Caledonia and Orleans Counties. It is organized and directed by local citizens who believe that Human Services should be cost effective and responsive to the needs of our local communities.

The State of Vermont contracts with NKHS to provide a broad range of services to individuals with severe and persistent mental illness, children with severe emotional disturbance and their families, and individuals with developmental disabilities including mental retardation and autism. Services are also offered to individuals with alcohol and drug problems by the Tri-County Substance Abuse Program, a division of NKHS.

NKHS provides emergency and out-patient services to individuals with various, less severe social, emotional and psychological problems. To the extent that these services are subsidized by state and local dollars, NKHS provides the services on a sliding fee scale based on the person's ability to pay.

Our Annual Report details the services we provide, and is available free of charge by calling (802) 334-6744, or by writing to NKHS, PO Box 724, 154 Duchess St., Newport, Vermont 05855.

Your appropriation is especially important to the delivery of our programs and services because it demonstrates community support and financial assistance. We greatly appreciate your interest and support.

FY 2003: SUMMARY OF SERVICES TO RESIDENTS OF: LOWELL, VERMONT

2000 Census Count for your town 738

Persons served 38

OUR REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IS \$ 1.05 PER CAPITA = \$775.00

Thank you for your support.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Inc.

We are the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy Program (formerly Northeast Kingdom Adult Basic Education). We provide on-demand home and learning center educational services to Lowell residents as well as to almost anyone in Caledonia, Essex or Orleans counties over the age of sixteen who wants to improve basic education skills. The program has full service learning centers in Newport and St. Johnsbury, part-time centers in North Troy, Island Pond, Hardwick and Lyndonville and home tutors who travel everywhere in the three counties. As always, demand for adult basic education services remains very high. In 2003, we provided over 19,000 hours of direct instruction to 948 students. We are currently serving 213 adults who are working on a GED or high school diploma. Some of our other students are studying for the Commercial Driver's License or working to improve job readiness or job skills. Our Drop-Out Recovery program allows adults to earn a competency based high school diploma at no additional cost to the high school. It has gained a strong following. We now have 7 people in the program and last year 3 earned their diploma. We also have seen an increase in G.E.D. testing.

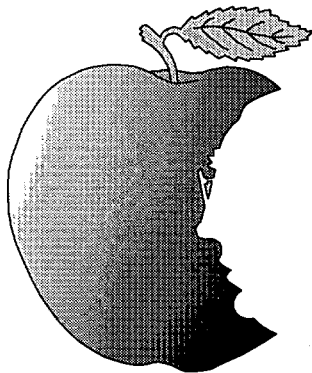
Your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy program will be helpful to us during the coming year. Our town monies are vital. Town funds are used for many program purposes. They help us pay the rent for our learning centers, and offer our students higher quality and more comprehensive instructional resources. Over the years, town funds have helped us purchase workbooks, instructional supplies, reference materials and instructional software. We hope you will continue your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Basic Education Literacy program.

We respectfully request an appropriation of \$200.00 for the coming year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

William V. Crenshaw
Executive Director



Northeast Vermont Area Agency on Aging

I would like to thank you for your past financial support; it has been greatly appreciated. In the coming year we will continue to serve senior citizens in Lowell in many ways. We are a private nonprofit agency. While our principal funding is through the Older Americans Act, we depend on Lowell's annual appropriation to help us achieve our goals.

The mission of the Area Agency on Aging is to help any person 60 and over to maintain a healthy, active life and to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Our professional advocates and case managers work closely with seniors to determine how to best meet their individual needs, which may include; offering assistance with Social Security, Medicaid, Food Stamps, fuel assistance, in home services and many others. There is no charge for services provided by the Agency.

Your past funding has allowed us to provide important services to Lowell seniors such as support of senior meals sites, delivery of meals to the homebound, health insurance counseling, transportation for medical and other appointments, legal services and companionship through the Senior Companion Program.

Despite cost increases, we feel we can maintain our current services in the coming year with a level-funding request, which would be \$131.00 from Lowell.

If you would like any additional information, please call me at (800) 642-5119

Lowell's continued commitment to the Area Agency on Aging is most welcome!

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Gordon, MSW, *Executive Director*

Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc.

COURT DIVERSION

Court Diversion is a community response to first-time juvenile and adult offenders. A Review Board comprised of community residents reviews cases after the offender has met certain program criteria. The Review Board designs a contract which specifies the conditions of the offender's participation. If the offender satisfactorily completes the contract, the State's Attorney dismisses the charges. The contract typically includes an apology and restitution to the victim, community service and other remedial, educational, or corrective services. Approximately 87% of those referred to Court Diversion successfully complete their contracts. In addition, Diversion is cost effective; it takes far less money to process a case through Diversion than through Court, and the diversion process is controlled by community people with vested interest in making sure there are not repeat offenses.

Six (6) Lowell residents completed ten (10) hours of community service, and made donations to community non-profit organizations in the amount of \$50.00.

Your support at Town Meeting is vital to the continuation of the program.

Sincerely,

Stephanie R. Bowen, *Diversion Coordinator*

Step O.N.E.

REQUEST FOR YEAR 2004 APPROPRIATION - \$275.00

Step O.N.E. provides free services to victim/ survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Orleans and northern Essex counties, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

People who have been battered, abused, or raped may call the hotline to speak with a trained advocate. Advocates are available to meet with individuals at the hospital or at a law enforcement agency to discuss safety options. Victim/Survivors may also call to make an appointment to meet with an advocate in our Newport, Island Pond, or Canaan offices. Guidance is offered in accessing emergency safe housing, social services and other community resources. Support may be provided for victim/survivors during court appearances. Follow up, supportive listening, support groups, educational materials, and information is also offered. For more information call 802-334-0148 or 1-800-224-7837.

In 2003 Step O.N.E. provided thousands of units of service to victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Orleans and northern Essex counties. Each new incident of violence requires a minimum of 6 hours of staff time to aid the victim/survivor.

We depend upon local support to provide the immediate help that victims and survivors need. It would be greatly appreciated if Lowell residents would please appropriate \$275.00 (Two Hundred and Seventy Five Dollars) to help with the costs that Step O.N.E. is facing. On behalf of the victim/survivors of domestic and sexual violence, Step O.N.E. staff and volunteers thank you for your past contributions. We ask for your consideration of this year's request; please help us continue to provide free services.

Respectfully,

Debra Zimmerman, *Director of Step O.N.E. Programs*

Northeastern Vermont Resource Conservation & Development Council

The Northern Vermont Resource Conservation and Development Council is a 29 year old network of volunteers dedicated to identifying problems and designing solutions which fit the needs of its own communities. RC&D is a unique program that helps people care for and protect natural resources in a way that will improve the area's economy, environment and living standards. We serve our clients by coordinating and facilitating technical and financial assistance to local communities, who initiate, sponsor, plan and implement projects.

Technical assistance through the RD&D is available, at no cost to the community. We would be happy to work with you on problems and challenges your community is facing and work together to find solutions. **We are glad to be a part of the Rural Fire Protection Dry Hydrant Grant Program, Agritourism, Better Backroads Grant Program and Natural Resources Education initiatives which have had significant impact on communities in Northern Vermont this past year.** Eligible projects cover many different areas including; community development; improvements to infrastructure and water quality; parks and recreation; and development of a diversified forest and agriculture industry. **The RC&D can also assist with finding financial resources and grant request to carry out planned projects.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Kaiser, *Chairperson*

Orleans County Triad

TRIAD is a community effort to bring law enforcement officials, senior citizens and volunteers together to increase safety for the Seniors, disabled and homebound through education and crime prevention.

Since we started TRIAD, our volunteers have made up Vials of Life for the refrigerators in case of an emergency. The vials consist of their name, address, date of birth, Doctor and their telephone number, nearest neighbor and relative with their telephone numbers, allergies, and a complete list of medications for the ambulance squads. We also have four-by-four reflector stickers for the bedroom windows for the fire departments. Last year, with our local support, we were able to purchase carbon monoxide detectors, first alert two-in-one emergency lights, big numbered telephones, folding canes, bath rails, replacement batteries for their smoke alarms.

For Christmas we were able to distribute 200 food baskets from Lowell, Westfield, Troy, North Troy, Jay and Newport Center. Everyone was very thankful and we received many thank you cards and phone calls.

This year we have installed 1 help unit from the North Country Hospital. This device so far has proven to be very effective in helping senior citizens in emergency situations.

We are a non-profit organization that receives support from our local voters and donations from area businesses and organizations. From Triad, we would like to thank everyone for helping us, all the many hours of volunteer time, donations, and generosity. TRIAD is always looking for volunteers, so if you would like to become a volunteer please give us a call at 744-2087, 334-6452, or 744-6517.

Thank You,
TRIAD Representative
TRIAD Volunteers

Orleans County Citizens Advocacy

Our Program was started in 1989 and our goal is for people with disabilities to be protected, heard, empowered, accepted and valued in our communities. Our non-profit organization operates with money raised at local fundraisers, like The Echo Lake Road Race, The Northeast Kingdom Lakes Century Bike Tour, and the Glover Day Barn sale, donations from businesses and individuals, and from Town appropriations. We no longer receive any federal or state grant money.

Without continued community support, we could not exist.

Barbara Delzio, *President*
Board of Directors

Jay Area Food Shelf and Clothing Center

Again thanks to the voters of each town who approved an appropriation at Town Meeting 2003. An amount of \$50 provides 500 pounds of food for those who need help. A very special thanks to the folks who donate time to fold and hang clothes, and helping move heavy boxes of food, and thanks to everyone who donates food or money. With continued support of voters and donations from area community members, the food shelf can continue to serve many people in the area when help is needed. The clothing is for anyone in the area or out of the area who wants or needs it.

For information on eligibility of the programs being offered (food shelf, commodities and CSFP boxes), please visit the food shelf site in the Jay Municipal Building, on Thursday or Friday during operation hours of 8 AM to 4 PM unless otherwise posted.

The present volunteers will continue to operate the programs that Beverly Priest worked so hard to provide to the area. She has served many families from each town and only she knows exactly what that number is. As many of you know Beverly fought and lost a courageous battle with cancer, during that struggle, she continued to focus on and devote her very thought to the operation of her food shelf. She will be greatly missed at the food shelf, but she realized she had some very great volunteers who helped her on Thursday and Friday, and even more volunteers showed up when the big deliveries of food needed to be unloaded.

In honor of Beverly those who wish to make a donation of money, can do so by sending a check to Jay Area Food Shelf, c/o Jay Town Clerk's Office, 1036 Vt. Route 242, Jay, Vt. 05859. All donations of food, money or time are greatly accepted and appreciated.

Beverly was the force behind starting and running these programs with a lot of hard work, and very little money, she gave generously of her own time. As people in the area lost jobs, she traveled far and wide in search of and received much extra free food in her endeavor to supply her programs, she was a very resourceful person. She made many trips to the legislature, to stick up for her beliefs and the beliefs of others. She was a asset to the area.

A comparative chart of people served, which Beverly has provided in the past, is not available this year.

Thanks to all who helped make the programs a success.

Frontier Animal Society of Vermont

The Frontier Animal Society of Vermont Inc. has been helping animals in the North-east Kingdom since 1993 and has just completed the construction of a beautiful shelter to ensure we continue our mission. We have no federal, state, or local funding and have, to this point, relied solely on donations and adoption fees. We now face monthly maintenance costs for our shelter and are hoping that local towns will help with these costs.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely

Betsy Hampton
FASV Board Member

Orleans County Historical Society

THE OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM

The Orleans County Historical Society owns and operates the Old Stone House Museum, a regional history museum in the Brownington Historic District. The Museum and Lawrence Barn are open for guided tours, from May 15 to October 15, Wednesday through Sunday. Orleans County residents receive an admissions discount at the Museum. The Museum's Visitors' Center and administrative office is open year-around and was the home of Alexander Twilight, the nation's first college graduate of African American descent. The Prospect Hill Observatory is open to the public from May 1 to November 1. The Society's research library and archives are open year-around and are available by appointment.

Each year the Museum sponsors a series of public events, including the Collectors' Fair, the Northeast Kingdom History Fair, the Antique Gas & Steam Engine Show, Time Travelers Day Camp, Heritage Craft Classes, as well as lectures and concerts and school-related programs. This year's Old Stone House Day, on August 15, 2004, will feature craft demonstrations, children's activities, a farmer's market, live music, and the Museum's open house. The event is free and open to the public.

Students from around Orleans County will be involved in a variety of Museum's educational programs this year, including a history fair, the cultivation of an heirloom vegetable garden, classroom presentation and re-enactment's, two field days, which include craft demonstrations and old time activities, and a history-based day camp. For more information, please call 754-2022, visit our website at www.oldstonehousemuseum.org, or write Old Stone House Museum, 28 Old Stone House Road, Brownington, Vt. 05860.

Rural Community Transportation

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. ("RCT") is a nonprofit corporation providing transportation to the elderly, handicapped and disabled in your community through a volunteer service. The drivers are reimbursed at the rate of .36 cents per mile for the use of their vehicles. RCT coordinates the trips and reimburses the drivers every two weeks for all the trips received. RCT has provided four hundred and fifty-two (452) trips for the residents of the Town of Lowell for the past year. With level funding from the state for over five years and the increased request for service, RCT needs your help.

We hope you will be able to assist with this request and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Mary E. Grant, *Executive Director RCT*

"Green Up" Vermont

GREEN UP DAY, MAY 1, 2004

Over thirty years strong. Green Up Day" is a special day when Vermonters clean and spruce up their communities. We were the first state in the nation to designate a day for such cleaning of the entire state. Working together, we can keep our unique Green Up spirit growing for Vermont.

Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization that promotes litter-free communities by supporting Green Up Day, civic pride and education.

Over 13,000 Vermonters participated in Green Up Day 2002, using over 30,000 Green Up bags, collecting over 200 tons of trash, piles of mixed metals and tires. Green Up Vermont arranged widespread promotional support in excess of \$25,000.

The success of Green Up for Vermont depends upon two essential ingredients. One is the combined efforts of individuals and civic groups who volunteer to make it all possible; and two, the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont.

With your town's help, we can continue our unique Vermont tradition of annually, taking care of our beautiful landscape and promoting civic pride so our children grow up with Green Up.

Careful use of resources minimizes Green Up's costs. The State appropriates funds that cover about 15% of our budget. The rest comes from gifts from towns, individuals and businesses. These funds pay for supplies, promotion and services of two part-time employees. We ask your community to contribute, according to population, to Green Up growing for Vermont.

Vermont Center For Independent Living

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a non-profit statewide agency dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, respectfully requests funding from the Town of Lowell.

Annual support from over 140 cities and towns across the State has enabled VCIL to assist Vermonters with disabilities to achieve dignified, self-determined lifestyles. We work to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform the general public about disability-related issues and the concept of independent living.

Direct services are available to residents of Lowell in a number of ways: counselors who work with residents of Lowell, often in their homes; grants for adaptive equipment; Meals On Wheels for People Under the Age of 60 With Disabilities; home access modifications; and advocacy work. Information and referral related disability issues is available via our toll-free number 800-639-1522 to all residents.

We provided services and programs to residents in FY03. Services range from \$100.00 to \$10,000.00 per peer (we do not use the term client). We are requesting \$90.00 from the Town of Lowell to support VCIL'S programs and services to people with disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sandra Nall, *Development Officer*

Hazen's Notch Association

We are writing to ask the voters of the Town of Lowell to approve a request for a contribution of \$200 to the Hazen's Notch Association Campership Fund in 2004..

In 2003 the voters at Lowell's Town Meeting approved a request for a contribution of \$200. The HNA pledged to match that amount through its own fundraising to make a total of \$400 available to students from Lowell to attend the HNA Summer Camp. The HNA did that. Two students from Lowell attended last year.

Each summer 150 children ages 6 to 15 attend 1-week camp sessions at the Hazen's Notch Association in Montgomery. Last year the HNA Campership Fund raised \$4,000 enabling 25 children from 17 towns to receive financial assistance from the HNA Campership Fund.

If voters approve this request for a \$200 contribution, the HNA will once again match that amount to allow students from Lowell to attend the Hazen's Notch Association Summer Camp. School administrators in the Lowell School may then recommend one or more students who wish to attend the HNA Summer Camp to receive partial or full financial assistance towards the camp fee. Camp fees are \$100 for the Day Camp, \$200 or \$250 for the Overnight Camp, depending upon age group.

Sincerely,

Rolf Anderson

President

Hazen's Notch Association

Big Read Wagon Bookmobile - Annual Report

9/01/01-9/30/03

The public libraries of the North Country Coalition of Libraries (NCCOL) started mobile library outreach service on the road through the *Big Read Wagon Bookmobile* as the van March 2002. The bookmobile arrived November 20, 2002.

Bookmobile circulation and programming far surpasses any prediction. We know use will increase because of the enthusiastic and positive response the bookmobile has received so far! It's fully stocked with brand new materials to fit local outreach needs. Randy, the bookmobile librarian, likes to tell the story of coming away from the outhouse at the Seymour Lake Fishing Access to find a line of people waiting to use the bookmobile.

The bookmobile is not a roving repository of books and materials, but a unique and wonderful resource. It promotes literacy and offers programs that encourage a love of reading and stories that help build language development and a desire to learn to read. From September 2002 through September 2003, 240 programs reached just over 3,000 people, an average of 18 programs per month! Two hundred nine of these programs were youth-oriented, reaching 1,993 children; the remaining 31 programs were offered to 516 adults.

Now, after the grant, the bookmobile is operating on its own with a proposed \$37,900 "bare bones" budget. Your local support is very important to grantors and donors. We encourage donations or in-kind donations to be made at any time of the year. We thank the taxpayers and the private donors for their generous support in the past. If you are fortunate enough to have a public library in your community, please fund it generously.

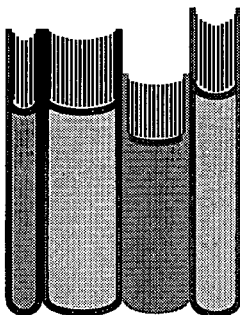
The bookmobile has flourished under the care of Persis Ensor, Clare Dolan and Hatteras Hoops. They have now left the bookmobile due to life changes or the end of the grant. Persis, the project assistant, was an instrumental and integral part of the grant. These people plus the other librarians made worthwhile and valuable contributions to bookmobile services. Thank you.

A survey we conducted found people happy with the bookmobile and some people wanted it to visit more often. To request the bookmobile to stop in any of the 14 towns, please call Cindy at 334-7902 or email bigreadwagon@yahoo.com. If anyone has suggestions about improving bookmobile services, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Karasinski
Project Director

Year	Total Clr.	# Adult	# Child	# People	# Site	# Miles
2002	5,503	1,718	2,775	4,493	502	8,289
2003	<u>6,634</u>	<u>1,774</u>	<u>2,781</u>	<u>4,555</u>	<u>642</u>	<u>9,871</u>
	11,587	3,492	5,556	9,048	1,144	18,160



Minutes

LOWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING- MARCH 4, 2003

Moderator called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Moderator led Pledge of Allegiance to the 'American Flag'.

ARTICLE 1: MODERATOR – 1 year

Motion made to nominate Alden Warner- seconded; carried by voice vote.

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES LISTED AT THE END OF MINUTES.

ARTICLE 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11: Moderator read all articles- Polls opened from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 12: REPORTS OF THE TOWN OFFICERS- Motion made to accept the report as written-seconded; carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 13: ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A. SELECTMAN for a three-year term.

Motion made to nominate Richard Pion-seconded; Clerk instructed to cast one ballot- so moved.

B. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a three year term.

Motion made to nominate Frank Crezensi-seconded; motion made to nominate Carinthia Grayson-seconded; Paper Ballot requested- F.Crezensi/32 C.Grayson/52 Spoiled/2
Total Votes Cast=86

MOTION MADE TO SUSPEND THE RULES and to allow MVAS spoke persons to speak (Nathan Borland & Deb Letourneau)- seconded; carried by voice vote.

Spoke persons stated that MVAS now has a FULL time paid crew; Also that MVAS was applying for ACT 250 permits for acquiring land which would be centrally located in Troy. It was also stated that the annual service subscription was \$25.00 and if service was provided to a subscriber they would not be billed. MVAS is asking \$10.00 per capita from the town of Lowell for their appropriation.

C. UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a one year term.

Motion made to nominate Sonja Blodgett- seconded; motion made to nominate Jody Benoit (withdrawn)- Voice vote carried.

D. LISTER for a three-year term.

Motion made to nominate Carolyn Arel-seconded; Clerk instructed to cast one ballot- so moved.

- E. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR for a one-year term.
Motion made to nominate Pam Tetreault-seconded; carried by voice vote.
- F. 1st CONSTABLE for a one-year term.
Motion made to nominate Wayne Richardson-seconded; Motion made to nominate Albert Pion-seconded; Paper ballot requested.
A.Pion =23 W.Richardson=62 Total=85 votes
- G. 2nd CONSTABLE for a one-year term.
Motion made to nominate Martin Hammond-seconded; carried by voice vote.
- H. AUDITOR for a three-year term.
Motion made to nominate Roland Pion-seconded; clerk instructed to cast one ballot- so moved.
- I. TOWN AGENT for a one-year term.
Motion made to nominate Gerard Raboin-seconded; carried by voice vote
- J. GRAND JUROR for a one-year term.
Motion made to nominate Gilbert Hill-seconded; carried by voice vote.
- K. LIBRARY TRUSTEE for a five-year term.
Motion made to nominate Pat Page-seconded; carried by voice vote.

MOTION MADE TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND GO TO ARTICLE 24 AHEAD OF ARTICLE 14- seconded; carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 24: ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT- A representative from the Sheriff's department answered questions from town residents. QUES.= Where do the funds go from the fines issued in town? ANS.= 10% of fines issued in the 35mph zone are paid to the town because the town adopted a 'Speed Ordinance'. QUES.= Why are speed checks done mainly just on Rte 100? More checks need to be done on Rte 58 West in the village. ANS.= Sheriff's Dept needs to hear this from the residents- as to where the need is. Resident stated that Rte 100 and Rte 58 intersection was VERY DANGEROUS and needed to be addressed. QUES.= How are 911 calls handled? ANS.= 911 calls automatically goes to the State Police Dept. then relayed to the Sheriff's Dept. to help assist State Police if needed.

Motion made to appropriate \$3,360.00- seconded; carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 14: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUDGET-DISCUSSION- QUES.= How much State Aid does Lowell receive? ANS.= Stated that Lowell is a receiving town and that the State Grant is \$5,566.00 plus a \$85.00 increase. Next years per student Block Grant is \$5,651.00. School

board member stated that they review the known factors and have presented a conservative budget making them accountable to the townspeople. Board member stated that each Kindergarten student receives .56% of the Block Grant and the Preschool student .46% of the Block Grant. QUES.= Budget shows everything in one lump sum- such as teachers salaries and insurance's. Can this be changed? ANS.= Board member stated that next year they would provide separate listings in their report. QUES.= Why the 17% increase? ANS-Board member stated that last year the estimate came in low; this year the teachers actual increase was 7%.

Spokesperson for the FOLK GROUP-(Friends of Lowell Kids) stated that events were being organized for activities for fundraisers for playground improvements, etc., and more parent involvement with the kids and the community.

MOTION MADE TO BREAK FOR LUNCH AND RE-CONVENE AT 1:00 p.m. -seconded; carried by voice vote. Moderator called meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Motion made to pass article as written- \$878,200.00- seconded. Motion made to amend amount to \$800,000.00- seconded. Voter called the question- seconded; voice vote carried. Shall the voters reduce the amount to \$800,000.00- voice vote; NO. Motion made to call the original question- seconded; carried by voice vote. Shall the voters raise \$878,200.00 for the Elementary School Budget- carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 15: SCHOOL DIRECTORS TO BORROW MONIES: Motion made to authorize the school directors to borrow monies in anticipation of revenues for paying current expenses- seconded; carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 16: NCUHS ASSESSMENT: Motion made for the treasurer to pay assessment to NCUHS- seconded; carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 17: WINTER ROADS: Request for appropriation of \$40,000.00 plus State Aid Funding- motion made to increase request by \$5,000.00- seconded; motion made to amend motion to raise \$40,000.00- seconded. Discussion on using more salt and less sand- pro's and con's considered. Motion made to call the question-seconded; voice vote carried. Moderator called the question- Shall the voters vote to reduce the \$45,000.00 to \$40,000.00 for the winter road budget? Voice vote -carried. Moderator called the original question- Shall the voters raise \$40,000.00 for the winter road budget? Voice vote -carried.

ARTICLE 18: SUMMER ROADS: Motion made to appropriate \$40,000.00 plus state aid-seconded; voice vote- carried.

ARTICLE 19: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Motion made to appropriate \$15,500.00- seconded; voice vote-carried.

- ARTICLE 20: METHOD OF COLLECTION OF TAXES: Motion made to accept the method of collection of taxes according to the Vermont State Statutes- seconded; carried by voice vote.
- ARTICLE 21: COMMUNITY LIBRARY: Motion made to appropriate \$5,000.00- seconded; carried by voice vote.
- ARTICLE 22: ELIMINATE BUSINESS EQUIPMENT TAX- Motion made to exempt the 1st \$10,000.00 assessment in business tax- seconded. Motion made to call the question- seconded; voice vote carried. Moderator called the question- Shall the voters exempt the 1st \$10,000.00 assessment in business tax- voice vote; carried.
- ARTICLE 23: LITTLE LEAGUE & T-BALL & JR. HOOP BASKETBALL- Motion made to appropriate \$250.00- seconded; amended to appropriate \$750.00 – motion made to call the question- seconded; voice vote- carried. Moderator called the question- Shall the voters amend the motion to \$750.00; voice vote- carried. Shall the voters appropriate \$750.00; voice vote – carried.
- ARTICLE 25: ORLEANS ESSEX VNA & HOSPICE, INC.- Motion made to appropriate 75% of \$400.00- motion within the motion made to raise the same sum as last year- \$400.00; seconded- voice vote- carried.
- ARTICLE 26: NVDA: Motion made to raise 75% of requested amount- motion made to amend to raise \$245.60- seconded; voice vote- carried.
- ARTICLE 27: NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICE INC.: Motion made to pass over article- seconded; voice vote- defeated. Motion made to appropriate \$275.00- seconded; motion made to amend to \$775.00- seconded; voice vote to amend motion -carried. Vote on motion to raise \$775.00- voice vote- carried.
- ARTICLE 28: AMERICAN RED CROSS- Northern Chapter: Motion made to appropriate \$300.00- seconded; voice vote- carried.
- ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town appropriate the following sums:
- A. \$200.00 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES
 - B. \$131.00 to NORTHEASTERN VERMONT AREA AGENCY ON AGING
 - C. \$90.00 to VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
 - D. \$50.00 to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY ACTION YOUTH SERVICES
 - E. \$250.00 to STEP O.N.E.
 - F. \$50.00 to NORTHEASTERN VERMONT RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
 - G. \$200.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY TRIAD
 - H. \$50.00 to JAY AREA LOCAL FOOD SHELF
 - I. \$300.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY CITIZEN ADVOCACY

J. \$50.00 to GREEN UP VERMONT

K. \$100.00 to ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Motion made to pass over the article-seconded; motion rescinded. Motion made to appropriate all monies except (K) -seconded; motion made to amend to include (K)- seconded; voice vote to amend motion- carried. Voice vote on motion to appropriate all monies as article was written-carried.

ARTICLE 30: HAZEN'S NOTCH ASSOC.: Ralph Anderson, spokesperson, stated that this is a non-profit organization and provides a summer camp opportunity for 35 towns for the last 9 years. Last year \$200.00 was allocated to Lowell so 2 children could attend. He stated that this year they would match a \$200.00 donation from the town so that 4 children could attend. Motion made to raise \$200.00; voice vote- carried.

ARTICLE 31: FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY of VT,INC.: Motion made to pass over the article-seconded; voice vote- carried.

ARTICLE 32: SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT: Board chairman, Richard Pion, requested budgeted amount of \$143,500.00. Motion made to appropriate \$143,500.00; voice vote- carried.

ARTICLE 33: SELECTMEN to BORROW MONIES: Motion made to allow select board to borrow monies in anticipation of revenues for paying current expenses- seconded; voice vote-carried.

ARTICLE 34: NON- BINDING BUSINESS: Discussion on the issue of repairing or replacing the existing bandstand at the town common. Question- Can a separation be made between the bandstand property line and the adjoining landowner; Possibly a fence and or flowers? Strong suggestion that if the bandstand needs replacing it should be a replica of the existing one with possibly a plaque depicting its history. Motion made to advise the selectmen to look into either replacing or repairing the existing bandstand- seconded; voice vote- carried.

Discussion : Selectmen were questioned about the issue of walking from the town office building to the school via a walkway being built as part of the conditional use permit granted to the town at the time of constructing the new building- board response stated that it never was built.

Discussion: WINDTOWERS- John Zimmerman, rep for ENXCO CO., stated that the company was looking for sites for windtower facilities. He stated that windtowers could provide local advantages to the town tax base as a multi-million dollar project. He also stated temporary wind measurement testing for 1 to 2 years was granted by the state with local approval. Nothing would be decided until more information and facts could be determined. More information would be made public when it becomes available.

Discussion: Residents questioned what happened to Verizon's interest in putting up a cell tower in Lowell? There has been no recent correspondence between Verizon's representative and the town.

Suggestion – Town should look into having a PA System available for annual town meetings

ARTICLE 35: TO ADJOURN. Motion made to adjourn- seconded; carried by voice vote. Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 p. m..

OUTCOME OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOTING:

ARTICLE 2: REVISED LOWELL ZONING BYLAWS-

IN FAVOR- 60 OPPOSED- 38 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 3. NORTHCOUNTRY UNION HIGH ASSESSMENT-

IN FAVOR- 48 OPPOSED- 49 BLANK- 01 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 4 . NCUHS- SCHOOL BUSES

IN FAVOR- 47 OPPOSED- 50 BLANK- 01 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 5: NCUHS –REPLACEMENT BLEACHERS-

IN FAVOR- 43 OPPOSED- 54 BLANK- 01 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 6: NCUHS- GYMNASIUM-

IN FAVOR – 41 OPPOSED- 56 BLANK- 01 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 7: NCUHS- AUDITORIUM SOUND SYSTEM-

IN FAVOR- 33 OPPOSED- 65 BLANK- 0 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 8: NCUHS-COMPUTER EQUIPMENT-

IN FAVOR- 52 OPPOSED- 45 BLANK- 01 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 9: NCUHS-SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS-

IN FAVOR- 44 OPPOSED- 54 BLANK- 0 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 10: NCUHS-BAND UNIFORMS-

IN FAVOR- 43 OPPOSED- 55 BLANK- 0 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ARTICLE 11: NCUHS- CAREER CENTER-

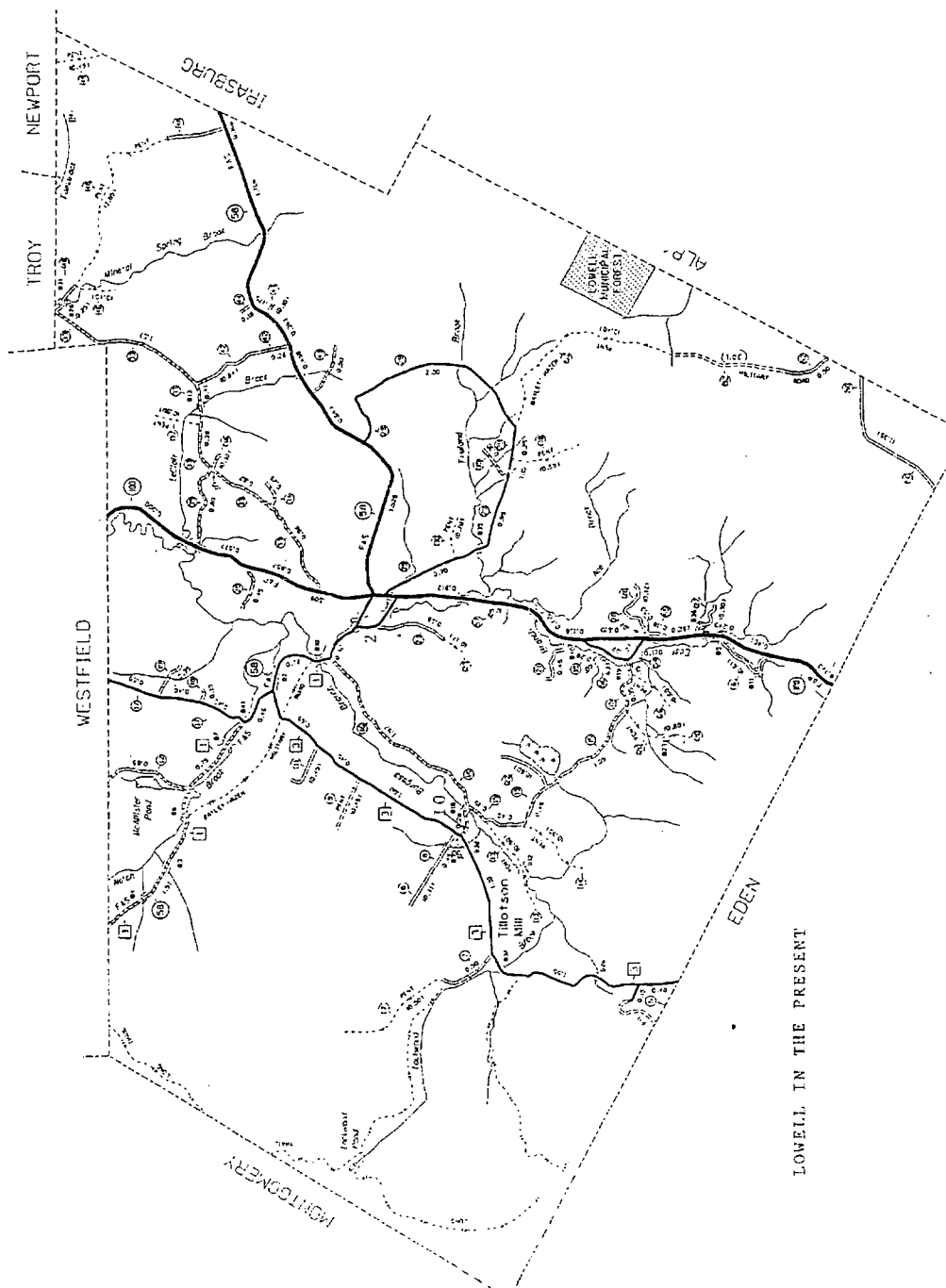
IN FAVOR- 48 OPPOSED- 50 BLANK- 0 TOTAL VOTES- 98

ELECTION OFFICIAL: Richard Pion

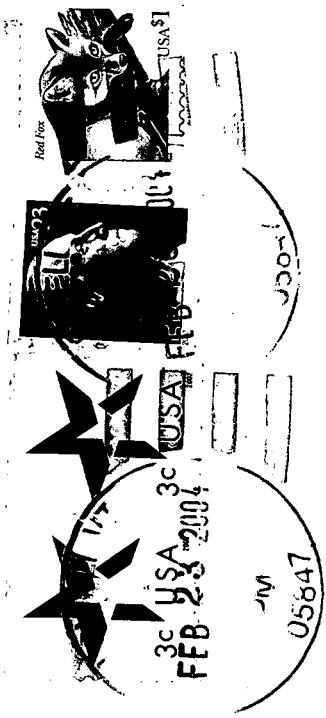
PRESIDING OFFICER: Nanette Bonneau

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AND RECORDED IN TOWN PROCEEDING BOOK-J-

ATTESTED BY: Nanette Bonneau – Town Clerk



LOWELL IN THE PRESENT



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