

**READING, VERMONT
TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT
2020 ANNUAL REPORT
For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020**



Informational Meeting Monday, February 22, 2021

6:00 PM via Zoom and Telephone Only

**Town of Reading Annual Meeting and
Windsor Central Unified Union School District**

Australian Ballot Voting

Tuesday, March 2nd, 7:00 AM—7:00 PM

At the Reading Town Hall

Please READ !!!!!!!!!

Due to the Covid-19 situation there is NO in person Town Meeting this year.

There will be an ***informational*** meeting held on
Monday, February 22, at 6 P.M.
via ZOOM and telephone ONLY!

The connection code for ZOOM will be announced with
Front Porch Forum, bulletin boards and the Town website.

Please e-mail questions that you would like answered regarding the articles
on the warning or any of the reports to ***readingvermont@comcast.net***

Voting on the **Town** warning articles will be done with Australian Ballot. The
Town Australian Ballot will be mailed out to all active voters. Details on how
you can vote your ballot will be included with the ballot.

If you would like to vote the Windsor Central Unified Union School
District ballot, you will need to request an absentee ballot or vote in
person on March 2nd. To request an absentee ballot, please call
484-7250 or email readingvermont@comcast.net.

PLEASE CALL THE TOWN OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS
484-7250

Cover Photo

Compliments of *Hall Art Foundation*
Nigel Hall's *Within and Without II* (1999)

www.hallartfoundation.org

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Town of Reading Phone Directory
Ambulance, Fire or State Police Dial 911

Elementary School	484-7230	www.resvt.org
Fire Department	484-3473 (fire)	
Fire Warden	484-0094 Nate Willard	802-384-2101 Greg Smith
Game Warden	802-722-4600	Dispatched by State Police
Library	484-5588	www.readinglibrary.org
Listers	484-7258	Email: rtownhall_464@comcast.net
Post Office	484-5994	
Public Works Dept	484-5122	
State Police	802-722-4600	Non Emergency Out of Westminster
Town Office	484-7250	www.readingvt.govoffice.com
Zoning Administrator	802-296-1124	rkallen@myfairpoint.net

Meeting Schedule Location, date & time can vary. Refer to monthly posted meeting agenda

Cemetery Commission	4th Wednesday	6 pm at Reading Town Hall
EC Fiber	2nd Tuesday	7 pm -1st Floor of VT. Law School
Energy Committee	3rd Thursday	7 pm at Emergency Services Building
Fire & Rescue Department	1st Tuesday	7 pm at Emergency Services Building
Fire Dept. Auxiliary	1st Monday-Qtrly	6:30 pm at Emergency Services Building
Green Space Committee	3rd Thursday -Qtrly	6:00 pm at Library
Library Trustees	Last Tuesday	6 pm at Library
Parent Teacher Organization	1st Tuesday	5:30 pm at Reading School
Planning & Zoning Commission	1st Monday	7 pm at Reading Town Hall
Reading All-Terrain Sportsman	2nd Wednesday	7 pm at Emergency Services Building
Recreation Commission	2nd Wednesday	6 pm at Library
Selectboard	2nd Monday	6 pm at Reading Town Office
Snowmobile Club, Little Ascutney	2nd Thursday	7 pm at 65 Malagash Road (Sept - April)
WCUUSD	1st Monday	6:30 pm—Location see meeting agenda

Reading Town Office

PO Box 72 - 799 Route 106
 Reading, VT 05062
 Open Monday - Wednesday
 8 am to 4 pm
 Thursday 7:30 am—3 pm

Reading Public Library

PO Box 7 - 717 Route 106
 Reading, VT 05062
 Open
 Tuesday - 12 to 3 pm, 4 to 7 pm
 Thursday - 10 am to 5 pm

Town Clerk Fees

Burn Permit	No Charge
Certified Copies	\$10.00
Civil Marriage License	\$60.00
Copies of Vital Records	\$10.00
Dog License must be registered by April 1st	
Males / Females	\$13.00
Neutered / Spayed	\$9.00
Replacement Tag	\$3.00
New Dog after 10/1	\$9 / \$7
After 4/1 add late fee	\$2.00 / \$4.00
Green Mountain Passport	\$2.00
Overweight Truck Permits - issued by Selectboard	\$10.00
Recording in Land Records per page	\$15.00
Transfer Station Coupons	\$17.50 / \$35.00
Transfer Station Window Sticker	
Property Owner	1st sticker free - 2nd \$5.00
Renter	\$5.00
Uncertified copies/land records	\$1.00
Vault Time per Hour	\$4.00

Robinson Hall Fees

Kitchen	\$75.00
Dining Room	\$75.00
Auditorium	\$150.00
Civic Organization Fees For Hall	
Kitchen	\$25.00
Dining Room	\$25.00
Auditorium	\$50.00

Zoning Permit Fees

Accessory	\$35.00 + .04 psf
Board of Adjustment Hearings	\$200.00
Boundary Line Adjustment	\$60.00
New House	\$60.00 + .04 psf
Pools/Ponds	\$100.00
Signs	\$15.00
Site Plan Review	\$200.00
Subdivision Application	\$200.00

Selectboard Permits

Driveway Access Permits - issued by Selectboard	\$20.00
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**Town of Reading, Vermont
General Information
Chartered July 6, 1761**

Town Owned Real Estate	Parcel Id	Acres	Town Ordinances, Effective Date	
Amsden Property	1236	6.57	Animal Control	5/6/1998
Cemetery, Amsden	1217	2.6	ATV Amended	5/9/2011
Cemetery, Baileys Mills	1214	0.83	Driveway Amended	12/8/2014
Cemetery, South Reading	1216	0.39	Health Amended	1/9/2006
Cemetery, Spear	1213	0.93	Highway Amended	4/9/2007
Cemetery, Swain	1218	0.38	Town Plan Amended	1/12/2015
Cemetery, Weld/Sawyer	1215	1.28	Winter Road	12/9/1996
Claude Bartley Memorial Field	1202	3.99	Zoning Amended	7/08/2019
Fire Services Building Lot	1224	5.93		
Former Reading Christian Church	1204	0.19	Highway Mileage	Map of 10/2014
Indian Stones Site, Felchville	1209	2.52	State -	7.479 miles
Library, Gilbert A. Davis	1207	0.2	Class 2 -	9.100 miles
Reading Elementary School ***	1220	5.69	Class 3 -	30.240 miles
Robinson Hall, Felchville (Trust)	1211	0.64	Class 4 -	14.760 miles
Stone School House, S. Reading	1208	0.38	Total Miles -	61.579 miles
Town Garage, Center Road	1203	5.34		
Town Green, Felchville	1205	0.25		

Town Owned Timber Rights

Evarts Lot, 101.66 acres
Land is State owned

Acreage

Total Town Acreage - 19,132.76 acres
State Owned Acreage - 6,808.39 acres
Town Owned Acreage—38.11 acres

2010 Census

666 (2010 Population and Housing
Estimate)

Altitudes Above Sea Level

Felchville - 754'
South Reading - 1274'

Felchville Cemetery Assoc. Owned Property

Felchville Cemetery, Parcel 1219 1.15 acres

Historical Society Owned Property

Universalist Church, Parcel 1221 .19 acres
Stone Chimney, Parcel 1210 .68 acres

South Reading Meeting House Association

Stone Church, Parcel 1212 .39 acres

Registered Voters - 552

As of 12/30/2020

Transfer of deed occurred in August 2020

**WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
TOWN OF READING, VT.**

Pursuant to Act 162 of 2020, the legal voters of the Town of Reading, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Reading Town Hall on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, during the polling hours of 7 am to 7 pm, for the purpose of transacting during that time, voting by Australian ballot:

March 2, 2021 – Australian Ballot Questions

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following Town Officers for the ensuing year: Town Moderator, Selectperson, Listers, Auditors, Trustee of Public Funds, Library Trustee, Cemetery Commissioner

ARTICLE 2: Shall the voters set the date and time, by which the Town property taxes must be paid and received by the Town Treasurer, to be Thursday, November 4, 2021 by 5:00 P.M? (No Post Marks)

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters elect the Town Treasurer as Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of the Town of Reading vote to appropriate the amount of \$662,460 (Six Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Dollars) to be raised by taxes for the Selectboard's Budget beginning July 1, 2021?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the voters appropriate \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) to Aging in Place Reading-West Windsor for localized elder care?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the voters appropriate \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars) to Ottauquechee Health Foundation for health and wellness services?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters appropriate \$800 (Eight Hundred Dollars) to Pentangle Arts for affordable arts programming?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters appropriate \$750 (Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars) to Spectrum Teen Center for connecting teens to the community?

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ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters appropriate \$4,000 (Four Thousand Dollars) to Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT & NH for in-home healthcare services?

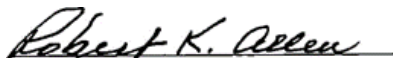
ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters appropriate \$200 (Two Hundred Dollars) to Volunteers in Action for assistance to those with special needs?

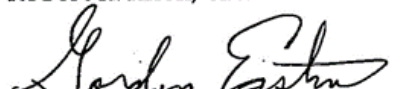
ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters appropriate \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars) to Windsor County Mentors for youth mentorships?

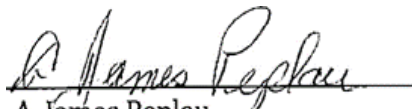
ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town of Reading vote to add two (2) additional members to the Selectboard for terms of two (2) years each?

Dated this 18th day of January, 2021

By the Selectboard of the Town of Reading, VT:


Robert K. Allen, Chair


Gordon Eastman


A. James Peplau

Article 1 Elected Officials

MODERATOR

Peter Vollers **2021**

TOWN CLERK

Calista Brennan **2023**

TOWN TREASURER

Calista Brennan **2023**

SELECTBOARD

Gordon Eastman **2021**

Robert Allen 2022

A. James Peplau 2023

LISTERS

Penny Allyn **2021**

Dick Sullivan (Resigned) 2022

Neil Muirhead (Appointed) 2022

John Fike 2023

TOWN AUDITORS

Rayna Bishop **2021**

Jim Waterfall 2022

Charline Hagar (Resigned) 2023

Marion Pickielnok (Appointed) 2023

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

James Bartlett **2021**

Liesbeth Kozlowski 2023

Curt Allen 2023

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Libbet Downs **2021**

Vanessa Maxham 2022

Janet Malcolm 2023

Heather Evans 2024

Bill Bakker 2025

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Adam Kozlowski **2021**

Susan Goodhouse 2022

Tim Bishop 2023

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Rayna Bishop **Feb.** 2021-2024

Robert J. Hartnett Jr 2024

Jonathan Springer 2024

Mary E. Springer 2024

Steven D. Vogl 2024

Elected during general election

TOWN GRAND JUROR

Jonathon Springer **Repealed**

2021 ***

TOWN AGENT

Kenneth Norcross **Repealed**

2021 ***

Voted on by Australian Ballot

Windsor Central Unified Union School District

School Board Members

Adam Ameele 2022

Anna Sessa 2023

*** Not required anymore

Appointed Officials By Selectboard 2020

Planning Commission/ZBA	Term	Recreation Commission	Term
Stephen Strait	2021	Lisa Kaija	2021
Kurt Voight	2022	Gerry Marletta	2022
Kevin Kaija	2023	Lisa Morrison	2022
Ken Cox	2024	Kelsey Coyle	2023
Kathy Callan-Rondeau	2025	Stephen D'Agostino	2023
Fire Chief		Green Spaces Committee	
Gary Vittum		Ann Rubright	
Deputy Fire Chief		Stephen D'Agostino	
Curt Allen		Heather Evans	
		Jean Goldsborough	
E911 Coordinator		Lisa Kaija	
Curt Allen			
Gary Vittum		Animal Control	
		Vacant	
Emergency Director		Tree Warden	1 Year
Gary Vittum		Kristopher Blanchard	2021
Road Foreman		SWCRPC	1 Year
Glen Towne		Kathy Callan-Rondeau	2021
Memorial Day Administrator	1 Year	Solid Waste Mgmt. District Rep	1 Year
Patrick McLean	2021	James Peplau	2021
ECFiber Committee	1 Year	Energy Committee	1 Year
John Malcolm	2021	Kevin Kaija	2021
		William Bakker	2021
SWCTAC Representative		Adam Ameele	2021
Gordon Eastman		Rob Macri	2021

Appointed Officials by Other

Assistant Town Clerk by Town Clerk	3 Year	Esther Allen	2023
Assistant Treasurer by Treasurer	3 Year	Esther Allen	2023
Local Deputy Registrars by Town Clerk	1 Year	Tim Bishop	2021
(plus local funeral directors)		Susan Goodhouse	2021
		Adam Kozlowski	2021
Zoning Admin by Planning Commission	3 Year	Robert Allen	2021
Fire Warden by State Fire Commissioner	3 Year	Nathan Willard	2022
Fire Warden Asst. by State Fire Commissioner		Greg Smith	2022
Health Officer by VT. Dept. of Health		Mary Springer	2023
Librarian by Library Trustees	Hired	Tony Pikramenos	

Town Financial Reports

Auditors Report

The Reading Auditors have examined the financial records of the governmental activities and fund information of the Town of Reading.

Rayna Bishop

Jim Waterfall

Marion Pickielnok

January 2021

Town of Reading Selectboard's Report

The Selectboard's budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, requests \$662,460.00 to be raised by taxes to support the general expenses of the Town. Monies requested in special articles are not included in this amount. The total amount for special appropriations, if approved by the voters, will be \$7,750.

The Selectboard wants to sincerely thank all of the department heads for getting their budget requests to the board in a timely manner. We have been able to get the budget put together using e-mail, text messages, and phone calls to stay socially distanced.

Many changes are in place for the 2021 "Town Meeting". Due to COVID restrictions regarding the size of in person meetings, social distancing, and most importantly the safety of our citizens, the Selectboard voted at the December Selectboard meeting to use the Australian Ballot method for voting on all of the Articles that would have normally been voted 'from the floor' at Town Meeting. That vote will be Tuesday March 2nd. This vote will be done similar to the general election vote in November. You will get your ballot in the mail and it can be returned to the Clerk's office anytime through March 2nd or you can bring it with you and put it in the ballot box yourself, or use it to vote at the poll in person. DO NOT throw it away if you intend to vote. Additionally, in order for people to ask questions and get more information on any subject in the Town Report an informational meeting will be held Monday night February 22nd via Zoom and in-person at 6:00PM in the multi-purpose room at the Reading Elementary School. There will be some limitations on the entry point and we will be restricted to the multi-purpose room and the two bathrooms downstairs.

The pandemic also created other changes as well. The Robinson Hall remained open throughout the year because of the Post Office located there, however initially the Town Clerk conducted business remotely. When the Town Office reopened, it was, and continues to be via appointment only. There is a 'lock box' in the lobby for drop off of information not requiring direct interaction with the Clerk.

Calista, partnered with MunciPay to create a system for credit card and e-check payments for property tax payments. This has helped residents and non-residents immensely to be able to pay their taxes on-line. The information is on the Town's website.

All of the new and many of the old Reading Land Records are now on-line and can be accessed through the towns website. Work continues to add the old records to the database. This has helped to greatly reduce the need for visitors in the Town Office, thereby reducing the flow of traffic in and out of the building and office. Again, this is just one more way to keep people safe and efficient. Companies that do deed research like this option as it saves them travel time and time out of the office.

Record restoration was done again this year so now our older Grand List records are now preserved for the years 1781 up through 1919. We will continue the preservation process until all records are done, however the remaining records are in much better condition, thereby allowing us to get more of the records completed at a lower cost.

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Because of the pandemic, the Department of Transportation, District 4, as well as most State Offices have and continue to work remotely. We did apply for a re-paving Grant for the Tyson Road however almost all grant requests were postponed for 2020. That said, Reading is still sitting in the bottom 3rd of the Towns in the district to receive any money toward repaving grants. (We are 20th out of 30) With the current allotment of money from the State of Vermont, the district is only able to help approximately the top 10 towns that apply. Because we do not anticipate getting any grant money for years to come, the Selectboard decided to borrow the money to repave the Tyson Road from the Plymouth Town Line to the village of South Reading. The repayment of this loan will just offset the money we have been budgeting for repaving in the Town Budget.

Grants from a couple of other programs were also delayed in 2020 and only released late in the year. We did receive a grant to continue our program of stone lining ditches on some of the hills in town, however it was awarded too late to do any work in 2020, therefore we will do it in the late spring/early summer of 2021.

Based on receiving approval at last year's Town Meeting to borrow the money necessary to finish the siding project on the Robinson Hall, we sent out RFQ's and received two proposals. Work was estimated to start in March of 2020 and be completed by the fall of 2020; however, COVID interrupted this schedule as well. Work was eventually started and the outside on the south side of the building is complete. The work continues on the north side as weather permits, and the contractor hopes to have the outside, including the east end, complete by April, again depending somewhat on the weather. There is still much work to be completed inside the building. The window cases are being worked on off site and will be brought to the hall and installed. The loan payments for this project will offset the money we have budgeted in the past in the Robinson Hall Restoration line.

The Selectboard would like to thank all of the people that stepped up when this pandemic hit, by making and distributing personal protective items for residents as well as delivering food and necessary items for individuals and families in need. Some of that work continues today and will for some time into the future. We would like to recognize everyone individually, however there are many and probably some we don't even know about and we would not want to miss anyone. A big THANK YOU too all.

One last and very important thank you goes out to Mary Springer, Reading's Health Officer for all of the work she has done keeping the Selectboard as well as the residents informed about the status of the pandemic and safety measures that should be followed. Initially that was happening with an update to the Board almost daily and it was very much appreciated.

Don't forget the informational meeting on February 22nd. Get your questions to the board ahead of time on the articles being voted so that we can provide as much information to the voters as possible. Don't forget to vote on March 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted
Selectboard of Reading
Robert Allen
Gordon Eastman
James Peplau

Article 4

Town of Reading Proposed Budget FY 2022

	Budget FY 2020	Actual FY 2020	Budget FY2021	Actual 12/31/2020	Budget FY 2022
INCOME					
1 Beginning Balance	\$55,000.00	\$8,338.33	\$50,000.00	\$146,804.97	\$10,000.00
2 State Aid/Other Income					
3 Class 2/Class 3 State Aid	\$83,300.00	\$85,495.14	\$84,000.00	\$65,892.14	\$84,000.00
4 Grants-Retreatment	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8 Grants - Highway Department	\$0.00	\$48,360.00	\$0.00	\$6,307.06	\$0.00
9 Grant-Planning	\$0.00	\$3,884.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10 Grant - Energy Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,150.00	\$0.00
13 Lister Reappraisal	\$5,500.00	\$5,149.00	\$5,200.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00
14 Land/Current Use	\$130,000.00	\$129,230.00	\$129,000.00	\$133,720.00	\$134,000.00
15 Zoning Permits	\$1,500.00	\$1,230.50	\$1,000.00	\$2,064.14	\$1,500.00
18 Zoning Fines	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
19 Emp Cont.- Health Ins	\$7,700.00	\$8,934.77	\$8,000.00	\$4,752.00	\$8,350.00
21 Workman's Comp Rebate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
22 TC Recording Fee	\$6,000.00	\$5,594.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,313.00	\$5,000.00
23 Vault Time	\$150.00	\$165.00	\$150.00	\$212.50	\$250.00
24 Restoration fund	\$700.00	\$1,921.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,932.00	\$2,000.00
25 Dog Licenses	\$700.00	\$749.00	\$700.00	\$70.00	\$700.00
26 Liquor Licenses	\$300.00	\$255.00	\$255.00	\$115.00	\$255.00
27 Copier Receipts	\$1,800.00	\$921.50	\$1,200.00	\$963.00	\$1,200.00
28 Marriage Licenses	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
29 Green Mt. Passports	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
30 Fish & Wildlife	\$100.00	\$89.50	\$100.00	\$44.50	\$100.00
31 Motor Vehicle fees	\$50.00	\$15.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
32 Weathersfield Dump Tokens	\$200.00	\$185.00	\$0.00	\$365.00	\$360.00
33 Civil Highway Fines	\$15,000.00	\$17,993.01	\$15,000.00	\$12,337.63	\$15,000.00
35 Interest-Checking	\$600.00	\$9,463.17	\$4,500.00	\$1,787.25	\$2,500.00
36 Reading Informer	\$2,000.00	\$1,575.00	\$2,000.00	\$150.00	\$1,500.00
37 Truck Permits	\$200.00	\$215.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
38 Taxes Collected	\$0.00	\$598,962.10	\$0.00	\$558,322.70	\$0.00
39 In Lieu of Taxes	\$45,000.00	\$46,057.40	\$46,000.00	\$46,154.40	\$46,000.00
40 Del.Tax Int. Earned	\$8,000.00	\$5,314.27	\$4,000.00	\$3,370.62	\$4,500.00
41 Del.Tax Collected	\$0.00	\$73,123.74	\$0.00	\$62,353.66	\$0.00
42 Tax Sale Property Sold	\$0.00	\$575.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
43 Town Sign Donations	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
44 Food Shelf Rent	\$0.00	\$2,300.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
45 Misc. Income	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,083.93	\$500.00
50 TOTAL INCOME	\$365,350.00	\$1,056,405.63	\$360,705.00	\$1,059,775.50	\$323,215.00
SHORT TERM BORROWING					
60 Truck Loan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
62 Robinson Hall Restoration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
63 Tyson Road Pavement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00	\$0.00
64 TOTAL BORROWING	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00
70 GRAND TOTAL INCOME	\$365,350.00	\$1,056,405.63	\$360,705.00	\$1,409,775.50	\$323,215.00

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Town of Reading Proposed Budget FY 2022

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	EXPENSES	Budget FY 2020	Actual FY 2020	Budget FY2021	Actual 12/31/2020	Budget FY 2022
100	COST OF GOVERNMENT					
101	Town Clerk/Treasurer Salary	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$15,525.00	\$32,000.00
103	Ass't Clerk/Treas.Salary	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$9,500.00	\$3,056.00	\$9,500.00
104	Health Insurance TC/TT	\$18,000.00	\$20,243.88	\$19,500.00	\$12,681.50	\$20,400.00
105	Selectboard	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
107	Listers	\$27,815.00	\$20,586.48	\$27,215.00	\$12,951.43	\$30,375.00
108	Auditors	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
109	Moderator	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
110	Fire Chief	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
111	E-911 Coordinator	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
112	Zoning Administrator	\$1,000.00	\$1,025.00	\$1,000.00	\$655.00	\$1,000.00
114	Health Officer	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$600.00
115	Town officials-FICA	\$4,200.00	\$4,004.20	\$4,600.00	\$2,215.91	\$4,500.00
116	General Liability Insurance.	\$4,500.00	\$4,077.00	\$4,500.00	\$2,837.00	\$4,500.00
117	Public Officials/EPL Insurance	\$1,200.00	\$873.00	\$900.00	\$873.00	\$900.00
118	Bond Insurance	\$450.00	\$419.00	\$450.00	\$400.00	\$450.00
119	Workman's Comp. Insurance.	\$350.00	\$374.00	\$400.00	\$210.00	\$350.00
120	Office Supplies	\$2,400.00	\$2,402.85	\$2,400.00	\$2,097.62	\$3,000.00
121	Telephone	\$1,200.00	\$1,218.59	\$1,200.00	\$638.58	\$1,200.00
122	Postage	\$250.00	\$226.26	\$250.00	\$210.40	\$300.00
123	Office Equipment	\$4,000.00	\$4,440.00	\$10,000.00	\$9,922.88	\$6,000.00
124	Computer Support	\$6,000.00	\$5,561.19	\$9,000.00	\$10,557.85	\$10,000.00
125	I T - Web Site Hosting	\$600.00	\$575.00	\$600.00	\$520.00	\$600.00
126	Records Restoration	\$15,000.00	\$14,977.74	\$10,000.00	\$8,692.00	\$7,500.00
127	Printing & Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$740.14	\$1,200.00	\$279.00	\$1,000.00
128	Town Reports	\$1,500.00	\$1,444.90	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
129	Town Reports-Postage	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
130	Legal Fees	\$500.00	\$50.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
131	Election Workers	\$400.00	\$165.74	\$700.00	\$553.74	\$400.00
132	Planning Commission	\$500.00	\$513.90	\$1,500.00	\$170.90	\$1,500.00
134	Reading Informer	\$8,000.00	\$7,041.28	\$8,000.00	\$4,167.61	\$8,100.00
135	Recreation Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
136	Misc. Expense	\$1,500.00	\$45.00	\$2,000.00	\$77.90	\$500.00
137	VLCT	\$1,819.00	\$1,819.00	\$1,893.00	\$1,893.00	\$1,893.00
138	SWCRPC	\$833.00	\$832.50	\$833.00	\$832.50	\$899.00
139	SWCRPC - Grants	\$0.00	\$11,273.27	\$9,700.00	\$3,635.43	\$2,000.00
140	County Tax	\$10,000.00	\$8,908.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
144	COVID Expense	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,439.46</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>
150	TOTAL COST OF GOVERNMENT	\$156,317.00	\$156,562.92	\$175,841.00	\$102,693.71	\$171,392.00

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Town of Reading Proposed Budget FY 2022

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		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
200	PUBLIC SERVICE	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY2021	12/31/2020	FY 2022
201	Weathersfield Transfer	\$18,635.00	\$18,635.00	\$18,635.00	\$0.00	\$18,635.00
202	Reading Fire & Rescue Department	\$33,552.00	\$29,584.83	\$35,750.00	\$11,536.39	\$38,850.00
203	Fire & Rescue - W/Comp.	\$1,600.00	\$1,219.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,219.00	\$1,300.00
204	Fire & Rescue - Liab & Vehicle Ins.	\$3,600.00	\$3,460.00	\$3,600.00	\$2,617.00	\$3,000.00
208	Ambulance Service	\$7,635.00	\$7,630.50	\$8,000.00	\$3,663.00	\$8,000.00
209	Emergency Dispatch/Repeater Fees	\$12,000.00	\$14,591.90	\$13,000.00	\$6,295.90	\$13,973.00
210	Windsor County Sheriff	\$36,000.00	\$38,168.20	\$40,000.00	\$19,369.00	\$40,000.00
211	Streetlights	\$3,000.00	\$2,687.04	\$3,000.00	\$1,366.39	\$2,800.00
212	Robinson Hall	\$20,000.00	\$16,918.34	\$20,000.00	\$8,297.45	\$18,000.00
213	Robinson Hall Restoration	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	\$73,995.66	\$0.00
214	Town Garage	\$10,000.00	\$10,458.60	\$10,000.00	\$2,445.62	\$10,000.00
215	Food Shelf Building	\$2,500.00	\$1,967.69	\$2,500.00	\$1,129.21	\$2,000.00
216	Property Insurance	\$10,000.00	\$10,236.00	\$10,500.00	\$9,116.00	\$10,000.00
217	Amsden Property	\$250.00	\$520.00	\$250.00	\$390.00	\$400.00
218	Green Space Committee & Grounds	\$500.00	\$490.00	\$1,200.00	\$740.00	\$1,200.00
219	Memorial Day	\$200.00	\$144.85	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
220	Library	\$14,000.00	\$13,537.96	\$13,900.00	\$7,110.57	\$13,900.00
221	Librarian	\$18,300.00	\$18,762.04	\$18,400.00	\$9,548.01	\$18,400.00
222	Memorial Field	\$1,200.00	\$1,319.59	\$1,200.00	\$900.00	\$1,300.00
223	Indian Stones Site	\$800.00	\$920.00	\$800.00	\$780.00	\$800.00
224	Green Up Day	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
225	Town Cemeteries	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$11,100.00	\$11,100.00	\$8,300.00
226	Welcome to Reading Signs	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
230	TOTAL PUBLIC SERVICE	\$241,847.00	\$204,326.54	\$248,410.00	\$171,694.20	\$211,533.00
300	EQUIPMENT USE					
301	Grader-1986 Deere	\$4,000.00	\$2,663.08	\$4,000.00	\$217.11	\$4,000.00
302	Loader-2010 Kawasaki	\$5,500.00	\$2,411.31	\$5,500.00	\$302.25	\$5,000.00
303	Truck #1-2014 International	\$9,000.00	\$20,471.33	\$9,500.00	\$8,217.87	\$9,500.00
304	Truck #2-2019 Western Star	\$8,500.00	\$7,792.53	\$9,000.00	\$5,216.82	\$9,000.00
305	Truck #3-2015 Ford	\$5,300.00	\$3,392.35	\$5,300.00	\$3,201.62	\$5,300.00
306	Snowplows	\$4,500.00	\$4,853.63	\$4,500.00	\$720.05	\$4,000.00
307	Sanders	\$3,000.00	\$2,959.10	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
308	Saws	\$500.00	\$11.98	\$500.00	\$125.05	\$500.00
309	York Rake	\$1,000.00	\$1,054.80	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
310	Radio Repairs	\$500.00	\$738.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
311	Misc. Supplies	\$3,500.00	\$2,956.16	\$3,500.00	\$1,317.65	\$3,500.00
312	Diesel Fuel	\$25,000.00	\$22,805.35	\$30,000.00	\$7,407.00	\$30,000.00
313	Oil & Lube	\$1,500.00	\$1,338.18	\$2,000.00	\$931.57	\$2,000.00
314	Shop Tools	\$500.00	\$432.90	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
315	Equipment Insurance	<u>\$4,000.00</u>	<u>\$3,276.00</u>	<u>\$3,500.00</u>	<u>\$1,977.00</u>	<u>\$3,500.00</u>
316	TOTAL EQUIPMENT USE	\$76,300.00	\$77,156.70	\$82,300.00	\$29,633.99	\$81,300.00

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Town of Reading Proposed Budget FY 2022

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	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021	12/31/2020	FY 2022
320 GENERAL MAINTENANCE					
321 Class 2-Labor	\$12,000.00	\$3,892.25	\$14,000.00	\$6,085.38	\$14,000.00
322 Class 2-Contract.Labor	\$0.00	\$1,990.00	\$0.00	\$18,590.00	\$2,000.00
323 Class 2-Materials	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,553.90	\$7,000.00
324 Class 3-Labor	\$40,000.00	\$45,336.55	\$42,000.00	\$24,504.51	\$42,000.00
325 Class 3-Contract.Labor	\$25,000.00	\$36,150.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
326 Class 3-Materials	\$34,000.00	\$34,319.29	\$35,000.00	\$11,208.75	\$35,000.00
327 Class 4-Labor	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
329 Class 4-Materials	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
330 Equipment Rental	\$12,000.00	\$9,375.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,670.00	\$12,000.00
331 State General Permit for Roads	<u>\$1,600.00</u>	<u>\$1,350.00</u>	<u>\$1,600.00</u>	<u>\$240.00</u>	<u>\$1,350.00</u>
332 TOTAL GENERAL MAINTENANCE	\$133,100.00	\$139,913.09	\$138,100.00	\$77,852.54	\$140,350.00
340 WINTER MAINTENANCE					
341 Class 2-Winter Labor	\$13,000.00	\$6,277.88	\$14,000.00	\$3,228.58	\$14,000.00
343 Class 3-Winter Labor	\$39,000.00	\$46,342.13	\$40,000.00	\$10,347.88	\$40,000.00
344 Class 3-Winter Contracted Labor	\$5,000.00	\$3,680.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
345 Elementary School Winter	\$1,000.00	\$519.80	\$1,000.00	\$61.95	\$1,000.00
346 Fire Department - Winter	\$1,000.00	\$540.10	\$1,000.00	\$41.30	\$1,000.00
347 Salt	\$32,000.00	\$33,444.84	\$35,000.00	\$9,743.38	\$35,000.00
348 Sand	<u>\$35,000.00</u>	<u>\$33,910.84</u>	<u>\$35,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,551.85</u>	<u>\$35,000.00</u>
349 TOTAL WINTER MAINTENANCE	\$126,000.00	\$124,715.59	\$131,000.00	\$24,974.94	\$131,000.00
360 OTHER HIGHWAY					
362 Retreatment-Contracted Labor	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$344,087.12	\$0.00
363 Retreatment Materials	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
364 Dust Control Labor	\$1,500.00	\$1,330.55	\$1,500.00	\$341.30	\$1,500.00
365 Dust Control-Materials	\$5,500.00	\$4,650.00	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00
366 Bridges/Culverts-Labor	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
368 Bridges/Culverts-Materials	\$4,000.00	\$4,548.40	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
370 Road Signs	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$991.86</u>	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$214.64</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
371 TOTAL OTHER HIGHWAY	\$92,000.00	\$11,520.81	\$90,000.00	\$344,643.06	\$13,000.00
380 FRINGE BENEFITS					
381 Social Security	\$12,000.00	\$11,269.42	\$12,000.00	\$5,343.10	\$12,000.00
382 Vacations	\$8,000.00	\$8,499.90	\$8,000.00	\$8,271.98	\$8,500.00
384 Holidays	\$4,600.00	\$4,396.60	\$4,800.00	\$2,696.25	\$4,700.00
385 Sick Leave	\$3,500.00	\$4,122.70	\$3,500.00	\$2,622.50	\$4,000.00
386 Health Insurance	\$65,000.00	\$69,134.70	\$66,800.00	\$40,879.58	\$70,000.00
387 Workman's Compensation	\$11,500.00	\$10,966.00	\$11,000.00	\$10,207.00	\$11,000.00
388 Unemployment Insurance	\$500.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$208.00	\$200.00
389 Retirement Contribution	\$4,400.00	\$4,505.51	\$4,400.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
390 Uniforms	\$1,700.00	\$1,754.72	\$1,700.00	\$1,227.82	\$1,700.00
391 Conferences/Training	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$153.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$55.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>
392 TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	\$112,700.00	\$114,902.55	\$113,900.00	\$71,511.23	\$117,100.00
399 TOTAL HIGHWAY	\$540,100.00	\$468,208.74	\$555,300.00	\$548,615.76	\$482,750.00

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Town of Reading Proposed Budget FY 2022

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	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY2021	12/31/2020	FY 2022
400 SHORT TERM BORROWING					
405 2019 Truck Loan	\$50,000.00	\$50,243.08	\$22,000.00	\$17,050.97	\$0.00
406 2019 Truck Loan Interest	\$2,500.00	\$1,327.16	\$1,000.00	\$100.19	\$0.00
407 Robinson Hall Restoration					\$35,000.00
408 Tyson Road Pavement					\$85,000.00
409 TOTAL BORROWING	\$52,500.00	\$51,570.24	\$23,000.00	\$17,151.16	\$120,000.00
410 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES					
415 Robinson Hall Emergency Generator	\$7,800.00	\$8,469.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
415 TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$7,800.00	\$8,469.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
420 TOTAL TOWN EXPENSE	\$998,564.00	\$889,137.66	\$1,002,551.00	\$840,154.83	\$985,675.00
430 TOTAL INCOME	\$365,350.00	\$1,056,405.63	\$360,705.00	\$1,409,775.50	\$323,215.00
440 TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$633,214.00	\$167,267.97	\$641,846.00	\$569,620.67	\$662,460.00
450 SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS					
451 Visiting nurses	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	
452 Windsor County Partners	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	
453 Pentangle	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	
454 Spectrum Teen Center	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	
455 Volunteers in Action	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
460 Health Care & Rehab	\$707.00	\$707.00	\$707.00	\$707.00	
462 Woodstock Area Job Bank	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
466 Welcome to Reading Signs	\$30,000.00	\$14,006.00	\$0.00	\$14,800.00	
470 TOTAL SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$37,257.00	\$20,463.00	\$8,257.00	\$22,057.00	
480 Grand Total Raised by Taxes	\$670,471.00		\$650,103.00		
Balance Forward		\$146,804.97		\$547,563.67	
SCHOOL TAXES					
Paid to School		\$1,408,433.00		\$1,566,680.00	
Paid to State		\$308,667.26		\$90,723.00	
TOTAL SCHOOL TAXES		\$1,717,100.26		\$1,657,403.00	

End Town Budget

Please see pages 50—57 for information regarding the
special appropriations requested for FY'22

Asset & Liability Report

Real Estate		Values as of June 2020	
Amsden Property		\$	82,500.00
Cemetery, Amsden		\$	6,600.00
Cemetery, Baileys Mills		\$	2,100.00
Cemetery, South Reading		\$	1,000.00
Cemetery, Spear		\$	2,400.00
Cemetery, Swain		\$	1,000.00
Cemetery, Weld		\$	3,200.00
Indian Stone Site 2 Acres		\$	13,800.00
Reading Christian Church Building		\$	219,800.00
Reading Elementary School		\$	2,486,200.00
Reading Library		\$	472,800.00
Stone School House		\$	302,600.00
Town Ball Field		\$	71,000.00
Town Garage		\$	441,800.00
Town Green		\$	17,100.00
Town Hall		\$	989,296.00
Sub-Total Real Estate		\$	5,113,196.00
Fire & Rescue Department			
Fire & Rescue Building -	2006	\$	566,100.00
Fire Fighter Equipment		\$	120,000.00
Truck - Forestry Utility -	1982	\$	6,500.00
Truck - Pumper- International -	1992	\$	40,000.00
Truck - Pumper - Pierce -	2007	\$	263,118.00
Forestry Trailer -	2010	\$	4,500.00
Truck-F550 Rescue Vehicle -	2016	\$	147,902.00
Sub-Total Fire & Rescue		\$	1,148,120.00
Road Maintenance Equipment			
Grader - Deere -	1986	\$	24,000.00
Loader - Kawasaki -	2010	\$	91,950.00
Sanders		\$	2,600.00
Snowplows		\$	5,000.00
Truck - International -	2014	\$	69,500.00
Truck - Ford 1/2 Ton 550 -	2015	\$	41,700.00
Truck - Western Star -	2019	\$	155,560.00
Welder, Torch, Saws, & Misc. Tools		\$	10,000.00
York Rake		\$	1,000.00
Sub-Total Equipment		\$	401,310.00
Administrative Equipment			
Elementary School		\$	400,000.00
Listers Office		\$	1,500.00
Town Kitchen & Main Room		\$	5,600.00
Town Office		\$	5,900.00
Sub-Total Admin Equipment		\$	413,000.00
Total Assets		\$	7,075,626.00

Cemetery Commission
Town Owned Cemeteries Financial Report
7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020

Balance as of 7/1/19

Checking Account	<u>\$16,051.78</u>	
Total		\$16,051.78

Receipts

Town of Reading - Budget	\$13,000.00	
Grant from VOCA	\$675.00	
Plot Sales	\$500.00	
Interest Earned	\$200.28	
Donation - VT Overland	<u>\$235.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$14,610.28

Disbursements

Cemetery Maintenance Mowing Only	\$8,296.66	
Stone Maintenance	\$2,550.00	
Amsden Garden Project	\$286.50	
Weld Cemetery Gate	\$3,910.00	
Tree Work	\$800.00	
Plot Sales Transfer to restricted funds	\$510.00	
Cornerstone Purchase	\$250.00	
Stone Cleaner	<u>\$380.00</u>	
Total Expenses		\$16,983.16

Balance as of 6/30/20**\$13,678.90**

Funds restricted due to donor requirements:

Bailey's Mills stone work -- \$5,000

Town Cemeteries

Amsden—Old portion and new (lots available for sale)

Bailey's Mills

Buck Cemetery

Shedd Cemetery

South Reading Cemetery (lots available for sale)

Spear Cemetery

Swain Cemetery

Weld (Sawyer) Cemetery

Delinquent Tax Report as of January 5, 2022

Amounts Due Include Interest and Penalties

2018 - Delinquent Taxes		
Parcel ID#	Name	
3047	Walsh, Kirby	
Total for 2018		\$928.51

2019 - Delinquent Taxes		
Parcel ID #	Name	
1026	Ballou, Jason & Amy	
2067	Hernon, Brian P	
3047	Walsh, Kirby	
Total for 2019		5,702.80

2020 - Delinquent Taxes		
Parcel #	Name	
1013	Stevens, Matthew	
1026	Ballou, Jason & Amy	
1044	Burke, Jeanette L	
1138	Pierce, Douglas	
1151	Hodgkinson Family	
1192	Reading Heights LLC	
2008	Grindlay, Jeffrey C	
2012	Ford, David W Jr	
2057	Spittle, Laura	
2067	Hernon, Brian P	
2216	Murray, Todd	
2218	Koelling, Dvora	
2245	Taylor, Mark	
2262	Curtis-Murphy, Emily	
2280	Rivait, Thomas & Sarah	
3002	Johnson, Charles	
3003	Voisine, Shane P	
3047	Walsh, Kirby	
Total for 2020		52,314.76

Grand Total All Delinquent Taxes		\$58,946.07
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READING GREEN SPACES COMMITTEE

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

7/1/2019	Starting Balance		\$930.18
Income			
	Interest Earned	\$12.03	
	Wreath Sale	\$400.00	
	Grant	\$500.00	
	Town Mtg Food Sales	\$73.57	
	Donation Rec Comm	<u>\$550.00</u>	
	Total Income		\$1,535.60
Expense			
	Flowers	\$257.92	
	Topsoil	\$445.00	
	Gift Certificate	<u>\$100.00</u>	
	Total Expenses		<u>\$802.92</u>
6/30/2020	Balance in Checking		\$1,662.86

Calista Brennan

Reading Recreation Commission

Financial Report

7/1/2019—6/30/2020

7/1/2019	Starting Balance		\$3,436.11
Income	Interest Income	\$48.13	
	Donation Fright Night	\$49.00	
	Concert Ticket Sales	\$1,781.00	
	Ducky Derby Sales	\$2,145.00	
	Total Income		\$4,023.13
Expense	Donation to Green Up	\$50.00	
	Donation to Safari	\$50.00	
	Bunny Hop	\$60.50	
	Movie License	\$300.00	
	Concert Expense	\$334.16	
	Fright Night	\$396.83	
	Audio Equipment	\$399.00	
	Concert Donation to Ottauquechee Health	\$550.00	
	Concert Donation to Food Shelf	\$550.00	
	Concert Donation to Green Space Committee	\$550.00	
	Ducky Derby	\$647.40	
			\$3,887.89
6/30/2020	Balance in account		\$3,571.35

Calista Brennan

Reading Library Treasurer's Report

William Bakker

Total funds allocated to Library	\$ 32,300.00
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Library Expenses

Salary	18,388.76	
Approved overtime	373.28	
Materials	2,607.49	
Programs	591.55	
Technology	1,975.08	
Supplies	1,832.94	
Maintenance	125.48	
Postage	366.77	
Electricity	1,205.91	
Phone	934.22	
Heat	1,901.79	
Septic	477.50	
Elevator Inspection	402.50	
Groundskeeping	427.00	
Workshops & Travel	161.88	
Dues & Journals	199.00	
Cleaning	360.00	
Fees, Interest, Refund	(31.15)	
Total Expenses	\$ 32,300.00	
Balance	\$ 0.00	

Library Checkbook Balance	As of July 1, 2019	\$ 20,972.10
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Income

Donations-Annual Appeal	4,750.00
Programs	74.97
Interest (CD and checkbook)	335.99
Petty Cash Transfer	30.00
Total Income	5,190.96

Expenses

Appeal Letter Mailing	586.13
Postage	22.00
Supplies	1,272.89
Total Expenses	1,881.02

Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$ 24,282.04
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Other Accounts

Interest bearing CD (Gift of Marjorie Swain)	\$ 5,000.00
Petty Cash	\$ 34.25
Davis Trust Accts (as of 12/31/19)	\$ 4,826.19
Petty Cash	\$ 4.25

The 2020 Reading Listers' Report

The Year 2020 is a year that we will not soon forget. The pandemic has affected everyone, the infections, and loss of life numbers have been staggering "Zoom" took on a whole new meaning. Face masks, social distancing. online learning, working from home, and virtual meetings became the norm. All these events have offered challenges for the Reading Listers, but we have been able to adapt in order to produce an accurate and up to date 2020 Reading Grand List on time.

The Listers want to thank a number people who provided help and assistance in meeting our assessing responsibilities:

- Calista Brennan Reading Town Clerk /Treasurer who set up new communications procedures that maintained an orderly flow of information between our two offices
- Reading Parcel Owners that answered our letters, e-mails, and phones calls to update parcel information
- New Residents who provided the Listers with information and feedback about sales and value
- Our Tech Vendor who worked remotely to resolve system problems, and complete updates

A Snapshot of 2020

- Majority of parcel inspections were completed in the fall for 2019
- Spring inspections completed before the March lockdown
- Photos were taken during these inspections
- Change of appraisal packets included information required by Statute and photos were included to illustrate changes.
- • Phone and email information was also provided for communication and dialogue with parcel owners
- Real Estate virtual sales tours have been a great help in updating parcel information
- After meeting Statute times and dates, the Listers completed the Grand List and it was sent to the Town Clerk
- After submitting the GL, the Listers have been updating parcel transfers, inspecting building permits, and preparing for 2021

Respectfully submitted by,
John Fike
Penny Allyn

Listers Explanation of 2020 Grand List				
Fair Market and Listed Value of Real Estate and Personal Property				
Category	#Units	Municipal	Homestead	Non-Residential
Residential I	148	\$24,722,500	\$17,643,100	\$7,079,400
Residential II	209	\$98,040,300	\$40,337,900	\$57,702,400
Mobile Homes L	8	\$701,300	\$250,800	\$450,500
Vacation Homes I	17	\$702,600	\$54,000	\$648,600
Vacation Homes II	20	\$2,918,800	\$184,000	\$2,734,800
Commercial	6	\$957,700	\$75,800	\$881,900
Utilities-E	1	\$2,331,900	\$0	\$2,331,900
Farm	4	\$8,512,100	\$1,292,700	\$7,219,400
Woodland	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	99	\$13,546,100	\$18,800	\$13,527,300
Total	512	\$152,433,300	\$59,857,100	\$92,576,200
Personal Property				
Cable	1	\$180,590		\$180,590
Machinery & Equipment	12	\$914,705		
Total	13	\$1,095,295		\$180,590
Total Municipal Grand List	525	\$153,528,595	\$59,857,100	\$92,756,790
Education Grand List				
Homestead Education		\$55,112,745	X 1%	\$551,127
Non-Residential Education		\$71,849,713	X 1%	\$718,497
Total Educational Grand List				\$1,269,625

Listers Explanation of 2019 Grand List				
Fair Market and Listed Value of Real Estate and Personal Property				
Category	#Units	Municipal	Homestead	Non-Residential
Residential I	149	\$24,730,600	\$16,582,500	\$8,148,100
Residential II	208	\$97,760,300	\$39,111,300	\$58,649,000
Mobile Homes L	8	\$701,300	\$250,800	\$450,500
Vacation Homes I	17	\$702,600	\$54,000	\$648,600
Vacation Homes II	18	\$2,696,000	\$184,000	\$2,512,000
Commercial	6	\$911,100	\$75,800	\$835,300
Utilities-E	1	\$2,250,000	\$0	\$2,250,000
Farm	4	\$8,507,900	\$1,302,400	\$7,205,500
Woodland	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	100	\$13,739,800	\$18,800	\$13,721,000
Total	511	\$151,999,600	\$57,579,600	\$94,420,000
Personal Property				
Cable	1	\$194,008		\$194,008
Machinery & Equipment	12	\$1,023,861		
Total	13	\$1,217,869		\$194,008
Total Municipal Grand List	524	\$153,217,469	\$57,579,600	\$94,614,008
Education Grand List				
Homestead Education		\$53,029,045	X 1%	\$530,290
Non-Residential Education		\$73,228,531	X 1%	\$732,285
Total Educational Grand List				\$1,262,576

Robinson Hall Maintenance Account			
Beginning Balance:		7/1/2019	\$75,735.31
Receipts:	Post Office Rent	\$5,847.00	
	Hall rentals	\$225.00	
	Interest Earned	\$920.00	
	Generator Reimbursement		
	General Fund	\$4,935.00	
	Expenses paid by Town	<u>\$16,918.34</u>	
	Total Income		\$28,845.34
Disbursements:	Electricity	\$1,782.16	
	Propane & Oil	\$5,502.04	
	Maintenance	\$7,392.76	
	Restoration Project	\$23,796.44	
	Mats Rental	\$983.15	
	Miscellaneous	\$337.42	
	Security/Fire Protection	\$682.00	
	Supplies Cleaning	<u>\$366.81</u>	
	Total Expenses		\$40,842.78
	Ending Balance	6/30/2020	\$63,737.87
Restricted Funds For Restoration Project		\$2,797.79	
Calista Brennan			

Robinson Hall Trust Annual Report			
Interest Earnings & Fund Balance			
Year End	YE 2018	YE 2019	YE 2020
Ending Date	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12/31/2020
Beginning Trust Principal Balance	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Beginning Savings Account Bal.	\$3,454.83	\$3,495.06	\$3,570.03
Total Beginning Balance	\$8,454.83	\$8,495.06	\$8,570.03
Interest Earned	\$40.23	\$74.97	\$55.89
Payment to Town	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Savings Balance	\$3,495.06	\$3,570.03	\$3,625.92
Reserved to avoid monthly service fees	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Available to the Town	\$3,245.06	\$3,320.03	\$3,375.92
Ending Trust Principal Balance	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Ending Savings Balance	\$3,495.06	\$3,570.03	\$3,625.92
Total Fund Balance	\$8,495.06	\$8,570.03	\$8,625.92
Robert K. Allen., Trustee			

Special Town Funds

Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020

CLAUDE W. BARTLEY MEMORIAL FUND

Balance 07/01/19	\$324.16
Interest	<u>\$3.69</u>
Balance 06/30/20	\$327.85

SUSAN E. ALLEN FUND

Balance 07/01/19	\$5,129.60
Interest	\$56.06
Checks	(\$500.00)
Deposits	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance 06/30/20	\$4,685.66

SUSAN E. BARTLET FUND

Balance 07/01/19	\$634.65
Interest	<u>\$7.25</u>
Balance 06/30/20	\$641.90

LOUIS DIVEN FLAG FUND

Balance 07/01/19	\$1,802.12
Interest	\$19.64
Flags purchased	(\$507.72)
Donations	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance 06/30/20	\$1,314.04

Calista Brennan

Trustee of Public Funds
Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020

Indian Stones Permanent Fund (CD)

Balance as of 7/1/19	\$12,402.48
Interest Income	\$233.17
Maint of Stone	<u>\$0.00</u>

Balance as of 6/30/20	\$12,635.65
Restricted Funds	\$5,000.00

Lumber Trust (CD)

Balance as of 7/1/19	\$28,210.65
Interest Income	<u>\$485.00</u>

Balance as of 6/30/20	\$28,695.65
Restricted Funds	\$23,035.00

Town Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust (CD)

Balance as of 7/1/19	\$24,609.47
Interest Income	\$467.07
Plot Sales	<u>\$510.00</u>

Balance as of 6/30/20	\$25,586.54
Restricted Funds	\$23,478.03

S. Reading Cemetery Loveland Trust (CD)

Balance as of 7/1/19	\$21,757.29
Interest Income	<u>\$409.04</u>

Balance as of 6/30/20	\$22,166.33
Restricted Funds	\$20,000.00

Historical Society CD # 1

Balance 7/1/19	\$20,382.31
Interest Income	\$350.41
Transfer to RHS	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance as of 6/30/20	\$20,732.72

Historical Society CD # 2

Balance 7/1/19	\$25,493.45
Interest Income	\$475.87
Transfer to RHS	<u>-\$2,500.00</u>
Balance as of 6/30/20	\$23,469.32

Respectfully submitted Trustees

James Bartlett

Curt Allen

Liesbeth Kozłowski

Taxes Voted Fiscal Year 2019-2020
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ARTICLE 6	Selectboard's Budget	\$ 633,214.00
ARTICLE 7	Town Hall Siding Project Loan ***	\$ 120,000.00
ARTICLE 8	Welcome to Reading Signs	\$ 30,000.00
ARTICLE 9	HCRS, Health Care & Rehabilitation	\$ 707.00
ARTICLE 10	Woodstock Job Bank	\$ 300.00
ARTICLE 11	Pentangle Arts Council	\$ 800.00
ARTICLE 12	Spectrum Teen Center	\$ 750.00
ARTICLE 13	Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT & NH	\$ 4,000.00
ARTICLE 14	Volunteers in Action	\$ 200.00
ARTICLE 15	Windsor County Partners	\$ 500.00

Homestead Education Tax Credit	\$ 247,757.53
School tax retained by Municipality	\$ 1,434.21
School Local Share Tax High School & Elementary	\$ 1,408,433.00
School State Wide Tax	\$ 308,667.26
TOTAL TAXES VOTED	\$ 2,756,763.00

**Statement of Taxes Raised
Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

GRAND LIST:	Municipal Grand List	\$ 1,271,720.37
	Homestead Grand List	\$ 530,290.45
	Non-Residential Grand List	\$ 73,149.31

Municipal Tax Rate	0.5272
Homestead Education Tax Rate	1.5691
Non-Resident Educational Tax Rate	1.5489

GRAND LIST	Municipal	1,271,720.37 X .5272 =	\$ 670,450.98
(Rate per \$100)	Homestead	530,290.45 X 1.5691 =	\$ 832,078.75
	Non-Res.	73,149.31 X 1.5489 =	\$ 1,133,006.89
	Total Grand List		\$ 2,635,536.62

TAXES VOTED:	\$ 2,756,763.00
TAXES ASSESSED:	\$ 2,635,536.62
Amount taxes assessed versus taxes voted	\$ (121,226.38)
***	\$ 120,000.00
	\$ (1,226.38)

*** The loan amount of \$120,000 was not used to calculate the municipal tax rate
The loan was not taken out until 2020-21. (\$1226.38)

Town Clerk Report

Dog Licenses Issued 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

Type	Quantity	Funds Collected	
Spayed	85	\$	765.00
Neutered	74	\$	664.00
Males	12	\$	156.00
Females	<u>9</u>	\$	<u>113.00</u>
Total	180	\$	1,698.00
Late Fees		\$	10.00
Less State Fees Paid		\$	<u>(900.00)</u>
Retained Fees		\$	808.00

Fees Collected Fiscal Year 2019 2020

Copy & Fax	\$	921.50
Dog Registrations	\$	749.00
Fish & Wildlife	\$	89.50
Green Mountain Passport	\$	10.00
Informer Advertisements	\$	1,575.00
Liquor License	\$	255.00
Marriage License	\$	50.00
Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$	15.00
Recording & Vault Time	\$	5,759.00
Transfer Station Stickers	\$	<u>185.00</u>
Total Fees Collected	\$	9,609.00

Town Clerk Report
Land Records Recorded Fiscal 2020

Assignments	3
Boundary Line Adjustment	3
Certificate of Non-Redemption	1
Complaint of Foreclosure	1
Consent of Members	1
Corrective Quit Claim	1
Current Use	2
Death Certificate	1
Discharge	25
Easement	2
Indenture	1
Judgement Decree	3
Lease to Buy Option	1
Lien	3
Mortgage Deed	19
Notice of Redemption	2
Order Confirming Sale	1
Power of Attorney	5
Quit Claim Deeds	13
Resolution	3
State Driveway Permit	1
Tax Sale Report	1
Tax Warrant	1
Warranty Deed	18
Wastewater Permit	3
Zoning	11
Total Recordings	126

Town Organizations Reports

ECFiber 2020 Report

Reading is a member of ECFiber, Vermont's first Communications Union District. ECFiber is owned by its 24 member municipalities, but under Vermont law the District's operations, capital expenditures, etc. cannot be subsidized from local taxes.

Now more than ever, high speed internet has become as essential as electricity for many of us. It has allowed us to stay connected (albeit digitally) to our workplaces and families in today's socially isolated world. Thankfully our town realized the importance of high speed internet before COVID-19 surfaced, and was one of the 23 towns which joined together to create ECFiber to do something about it back in 2008. After nearly 13 (long) years of waiting we are coming down to the home stretch.

As of December Reading has 46 customers connected, and our new hub behind the fire station is now complete/online. Additionally, construction in town - meaning hanging the fiber on the poles - is about 90% complete, and slated to be done by the end of year. You may have seen our contractor Eustis Cable around town performing the work.

Customer installations are starting very soon in the Bailey's Mills section of Reading. Installations will continue with the rest of the town through the winter, with a goal of having everyone connected by springtime. COVID and weather has unfortunately hindered us from meeting our initial goal of connecting all of Reading by the end of 2020. For those of us (including your delegates) who have been waiting many long years for this service, these remaining weeks/months will be here before we know it.

If you have already signed up for service there is nothing else you need to do at this time. ECFiber will contact you when they are ready to do an initial survey of your premise and then move forward with installation.

If you haven't already subscribed for service please do so at www.ecfiber.net.

Respectfully,

Reading ECFiber delegates

John Malcolm

Gerry Marletta

Bill Bakker

Reach us at reading@ecfiber.net

Website: www.ECFiber.net | Office: (802) 763-2262 | Email: support@ecfiber.net
 Delegate: John Malcolm | 802-356-0114 | reading@ecfiber.net

Felchville Cemetery Report

The Felchville Cemetery is Reading's 'other' cemetery. The Cemetery Association was incorporated November 3, 1858 dedicated to "those who were dying in the growing village of Felchville."

There are three trustees in charge of upkeep of the cemetery and sale of burial plots. Official business is carried out at the Annual Meeting of the Association held on the last Tuesday in April each year. Anyone who owns a burial plot or has relatives buried at the Felchville Cemetery is eligible to participate as a member of the Association.

There are still a number of cremation plots available for Reading residents. For more information, contact one of the three trustees.

Audrey Halpert, Trustee, Chairperson	484-7376
Howard Sanderson, Jr, Trustee/acting treasurer	484-5548
Nathan Willard, Trustee	484-0094
Jane Cleveland, Secretary	484-9630

Forest Fire Warden's Report

There were **99** burn permits issued this year. Due to your cooperation we experienced no out of control burns.

By state law, if you wish to burn natural wood or debris outdoors, you must obtain a burn permit from the Town Forest Fire Warden. **It is mandatory that a permit be received each time you burn on the day you plan to burn.** They are obtained from the Town Fire Warden. Permits can only be issued for burning brush or scrap, untreated lumber. Remember, burn barrels are illegal!

Thank you for your cooperation so we may continue to prevent forest fires.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Willard

Forest Fire Warden
484-0094

Gregory Smith

Assistant Forest Fire Warden
802-384-2101





GREEN UP VERMONT

Celebrating 50 Years

P.O. Box 1191

Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191

(802)229-4586, or 1-800-974-3259

greenup@greenupvermont.org

\$75.00 has been added to the Selectboard's budget in general funds to cover the cost of Green Up Day.

Green Up Vermont celebrated its 50th Anniversary of Green Up Day on May 30, 2020. Although 99% of all events were cancelled due to Covid-19, Green Up Day was successfully executed with social distancing by 14,000+ volunteers, cleaning up over 241 tons of litter, and 9,000 tires statewide. It is imperative for all of us to keep building awareness and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment. Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride and engagement.

Support from municipalities is essential to our program. Funds help pay for administration, supplies (including 65,000 Green Up trash bags), promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, poster and writing contests, and a \$1,000 scholarship.

Early awareness initiatives for Green Up Day tripled the number of submissions to our annual poster art and writing contests and produced 184 applicants for our first scholarship. We were able to offer "Greener" bags made with 70% post-consumer waste; add a Green Scuba team to clean in Lake Champlain; and had over 100 editorial stories in the news as well as a national mention in the *Washington Post*.

Donations can be made to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at [**www.greenupvermont.org**](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Visit our website and follow us on Facebook (@greenupvermont) and Instagram (greenupvermont).

Green Up Day, May 1, 2021

"Marie" Mary Anderson has been our Green Up Day Volunteer coordinator since 1999—22 years.

Thank you for getting us out on the roads to Green Up Reading.

Memorial Day Committee's 2020 Report for the Town of Reading

The Memorial Day Committee ensures that Reading's fallen veterans and those who died while in defense of our freedom are honored during the last Monday in May, known as Memorial Day.

Brief History of Memorial Day

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of former Union soldiers and sailors, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), established 'Decoration Day' as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Major General John Logan declared it should be May 30. The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery.

It was not until after World War I, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American Wars.

Quote from John F. Kennedy

*"Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans, born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage, and unwilling to witness or permit the slow undoing of those human rights to which this nation has always been committed, and to which we committed today at home and around the world." Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that **we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.** Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate - **And so my fellow Americans, as not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.**" (January 20, 1961).*

The tradition at Arlington, is called "flags in" placing flags one foot away and centered in front of the graves. These exact sized flags are placed in the selected cemeteries listed below in Reading. These are purchased annually by the Town and placed at:

- ◆ Swain Cemetery on Brown School House Road;
- ◆ Sawyer Cemetery on Weld Cemetery Road;
- ◆ South Reading Cemetery on Malagash Road;
- ◆ Amsden Cemetery on Hurricane Hill Road;
- ◆ Spears Cemetery on Spears Cemetery Road;
- ◆ Bailey's Mill Cemetery on Bailey's Mills Road;
- ◆ Buck Cemetery off Route 106.

Additional flags are placed at the Town Hall Veteran's Monument, Bartley Field Monument and those markers near the grave stones that were either veterans or been part of a service auxiliary.

Respectfully Submitted,

MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

Patrick McLean



Cemetery Commissioners' 2020 Report

The Cemetery Commissioners' detailed Annual Report can be found on the town website and includes a detailed list of annual accomplishments, budget, and upcoming projects for the next three years.

Never has the fiscal year for which we are providing updates felt like so long ago! The last half of the year (and each month since) was tough on everyone. Everyone's life changed after COVID-19 became a global pandemic in late-February/early March of 2020. As infection rates steadily increased, quarantine and social distancing guidelines became more commonplace. The disease affected personal safety while at the same time affecting many people's economic safety as the recommendations to slow the spread also kept many of our community's small businesses from normal operations. This year the Commissioners would like to focus our gratitude on everyone out there working their hardest to keep people safe, while still providing vital services to those more at risk - our groundskeepers, delivery staff, fuel delivery, maintenance teams, road workers, civil servants of town and state government, and of course our health care workers. Everyone has made sacrifices, but some have made more than others and we are grateful for you.

Here are a few modest Cemetery accomplishments for this year:

- A headstone repair workshop was held in South Reading Cemetery and over the course of two days repaired another 25 headstones.
- Eagle Scout applicant Sam Blanchard and his Boy Scout Troop 220 created a flower garden around the new Amsden Cemetery flagpole.
- Weld Cemetery had a new black steel gate installed.
- Kris Blanchard reacted quickly to remove a hazard tree in South Reading cemetery that was threatening a neighboring property on Park Circle. Thank you, Kris!
- Commissioners visited and cleaned remote Buck Cemetery. It was noted that the Revolutionary soldier (Simeon Buck) had been honored with a flag and we believe Patrick McClean deserves a special thank you for this service to the town. Commissioners would also like to thank Curt Allen of Spring Brook Farm for allowing us access to the cemetery.
- Zampini and Son completed their 3rd year of their three-year contract for maintenance and mowing of the cemeteries. After reviewing bids Zampini and Son was awarded the next contract beginning in 2021. Dino's crew does excellent work and we are glad to have signed them up for another three years.

Feedback is always welcome. Please let us know how we are doing and if you have any good ideas to help beautify, preserve, or draw favorable attention to our town cemeteries. Pollinator gardens? Mowing with sheep? Green burials? All ideas are welcome.

Want more information or to become involved in Reading's cemeteries? Here are some ideas:

- Directions to Reading's cemeteries can be found on the town website under 'Government' à 'Cemeteries of Reading'. Much of the information recorded on the grave stones themselves can be found on the Find a Grave website (www.findagrave.com).
- Adopt-a-Cemetery – from mowing, trimming, stone cleaning, stone repair, photography, transcriptions, record keeping, and donations – there are needs suited to all skill levels, ages, and abilities.
- Come to one of our annual, hands-on head stone repair workshops!
- Talk with a Cemetery Commissioner – our names and phone numbers can be found on the town website.

We encourage everyone to visit at least one of these unique public places to appreciate the value they add to our town. Put it on your VT bucket list! Cemeteries are unique places of remembrance, history, craftsmanship, and solace.

Respectfully submitted by the Town of Reading Cemetery Commissioners,

Adam Kozlowski (Chair)	2021 Susan Goodhouse	2022 Tim Bishop	2023
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Reading Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department

Annual Report of 2020

Another year has gone by and we want to thank you for all your continued support. Without this support, Reading Vol. Fire & Rescue would not be possible, again THANK YOU.

As of this writing for the year 2020 Reading Fire & Rescue responded to 69 calls.

At the present time Reading Fire & Rescue has 22 members. Currently the department has 5 certified firefighter 1, 4 certified firefighter 2, 4 EMR's, 4 EMT's and 3 AEMT's.

Major purchases for this past year: MSA multi gas meter charging and calibrating station. Two sets of structural firefighter gear , and equipment needed for response during COVID 19.

As many of you know the majority of this year has been a very trying time for emergency services as well as the entire community due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic , Reading Fire and Rescue continues to respond to all calls with members wearing respiratory protection mask, gloves and eye protection to reduce the chances of spreading the virus. We respectfully request that if we should respond to a call for you or your family that you would please wear a mask for your protection and ours regardless of whether you have the virus or not during this difficult time. This is a very scary time and if we all work together with the proper protection hopefully we can BEAT this. Thank you.

Officers of the Department:

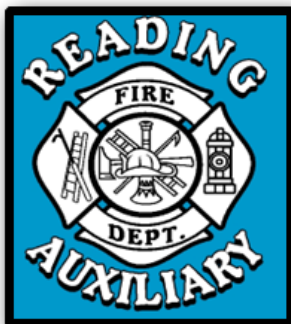
- ♦ Chief: Gary Vittum
- ♦ Deputy Chief: Curt Allen
- ♦ Asst. Chief: Don Scullin
- ♦ Captain: Eric Joyal
- ♦ Lieutenant: Greg Smith
- ♦ EMS Director: Don Scullin
- ♦ Secretary: Deb Scullin
- ♦ Treasurer: Ashley Maxham
- ♦ EMS Training Officer: Molly Brockman
- ♦ EMS Equipment Officer: Eric Joyal
- ♦ Moderator: Gary Vittum

Please remember that **SMOKE DETECTORS** and **CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS** do save lives so please install these two important detectors in your home.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Vittum

Chief – Reading Fire and Rescue



Reading Fire Department Auxiliary

Hello Reading Residents,

Things have been quiet for the auxiliary in 2020. Due to Covid-19 we have suspended in person meetings to keep everyone safe. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and make changes accordingly. We are fully stocked and ready to safely support the department if they need us.

We did assist the department during a missing person search. We provided food for the command center which was at the fire station. This was our only active call for 2020.

I hope everyone continues to stay safe and healthy. The auxiliary hopes to resume some of its projects in 2021. The gardens around the fire station and hopefully another fire safety day later in 2021.

Kate Allen- President

Mary Vittum- Vice President

Esther Allen – Secretary/Treasurer

READING HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE
2020 ANNUAL REPORT

We kicked off our year on February 15, 2020 with our annual business meeting. Following the business meeting, membership and guests enjoyed a "Road Kill" pot luck buffet. After the meal, Deborah Lee Luskin, novelist and guest speaker from the Vermont Humanities Speakers Bureau presented a program titled "Getting from Here to There: A History of Roads and Settlement in Vermont".

2020 was a year of making history for the entire country. March found us all in a precarious situation with the on slot of the Covid-19 virus. Our governor, Phil Scott, and his heads of many agencies did an amazing job of stopping the spread of the virus with the Stay Home – Stay Safe directive. Unfortunately, this meant no programs, no open building, no December craft fair, no meetings. "No" was the word for 2020.

We did however, make use of not being able to host programs, by continuing renovations at the museum. The major project this year included tearing out the old kitchen area and creating an office/research library room. Jim Bennett, Bob Allen, Diane Bennett, Charline Hagar, Calista Brennan and I masked up and socially distanced to tear out old plumbing and old cabinets. The floor was painted, walls painted, new (old) door was installed, new outlets installed and shelving built to complete the room. The old sink was up-cycled to a home in Caven-dish that was being renovated. The people were thrilled to have it. After this, we were able to move our collection of photos and papers back to the museum. Jim, Diane and Calista had a work morning to work on the gardens in front of the museum adding perennials that will come back each year.

Stephen applied to the Weston A. Cate Fellowship sponsored by The Vermont Historical Society. VHS awards a \$1200 fellowship every other year to encourage research in Vermont history. The fellowship supports research for one calendar year in any aspect of Vermont history and is open to all individuals. The grantee is expected to complete research and writing on his or her topic within the period of the fellowship. A final product, normally an essay or research article, is expected at the conclusion of the fellowship period.

Inquiries for family information came in from the John Ladd family regarding the location of where their families lived in Reading back in 1827. The Ladd Place was referenced on our Jeep Ride in 1990. Using early maps and deeds it appears that this property was on, what is now, the Kenneth Sturm property. We are able to learn much about our history by doing these types of research and we help people all across America.

The descendants of Elwin Hugh Copeland, who was a mail carrier in Reading, have spread family member ashes in Reading over the years. We received a donation of a 1934 Old Time Ball dance card from Jon Potnam one of the family members. The Copeland Farm was on the Jenne Road and is now owned by Sophia Evett and Brian Cali.

I supplied photos and research into the William Townsend family to a lady from California. She is writing a book about Dennis Townsend, one of William's 18 children! Dennis was a school teacher who developed the Townsend Folding Globe in 1870; two of which we have in our collection.

Our annual craft fair normally held in December had to be cancelled so we ran a raffle of a holiday topiary tree made by Diane Bennett. Our winner was Jonathan Springer and we raised \$150. Thank you to everyone that purchased a ticket.

.....continued from previous page

2021 will find us in the organizing stage, digitally scanning and preserving photos and records to make it much easier to do research for people. Jim has plans for organizing the tools and creating cubby displays. We have an old wood door that came from the house formerly owned by Cyril & Bessie Hodgeman. What is unique about this door is that it was signed and dated by family and friends that came to visit. Names date back to 1913. It is a genealogy of sorts of the family. Jim has built a frame that will hold the door and make it a free-standing display so that people can read the many names on it.

I would like to offer a sincere thank you to the many people who give to make our success possible.

- Members who continue to pay their dues even though they might not ever get to Town.
- The generous people who have donated money to the society through sustaining memberships and cash donations.
- Garrett Mulder for lighting the Universalist Church windows so that those traveling through the village can enjoy the beauty of these stained-glass windows that date back to the 1860's.
- Peter Vollers and Vermont Overland for a substantial cash donation.
- Liesbeth and Adam Kozlowski for donating Suncommon solar credits to offset our power bill.
- People who buy using Amazon Smile (Visit smile.amazon.com to learn how Amazon will donate to the Reading Historical Society for all your purchases).

And finally, to the entire Reading Historical Society Board for being there to support the activities of the Society: Jim Bennett, VP; Liesbeth Kozlowski, Treasurer; Charline Hagar, Secretary; Bob Allen, Sam & Eleanor Grice, Stephen D'Agostino, and Calista Brennan, board members.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Allen

President, Reading Historical Society

Want to make a donation or join the Historical Society

Complete this form and make your check payable to: ***Reading Historical Society***

Mail To:

Liesbeth Kozlowski
750 Stone Chimney Road
Reading, VT 05062

I don't wish to become a member, but would like to make a donation to your efforts of preserving Reading's history. \$ _____

Membership Options - please select one

INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 _____ INDIVIDUAL SENIOR CITIZEN \$10.00 _____

FAMILY \$20.00 _____ SUSTAINING \$100.00 _____

INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBER \$200.00 _____

Member (s) Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Reading Planning Commission Zoning Board of Adjustment

Reading's Planning Commission (PC) meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Monday of each month in the Town Hall Dining Room. Occasionally, when our meeting falls on a holiday, we meet at an alternate time and alert the public through our meeting minutes, a notice on the town's website, and a notice in the Town Hall. We also use the Front Porch Forum to keep the public informed of our schedule and activities. The business of each meeting is outlined in an Agenda that we post no later than the Wednesday before that meeting. We also deliver a copy to the Town Clerk for posting in the Town Hall and on the website. Please read the minutes to follow the work of the Commission and attend a meeting if you have any questions or concerns. If you prefer to contact us online, our email address is readingvt.plancomm@gmail.com.

New challenges for everyone this year have been the Covid-19 pandemic and how to continue with the business of the world in as normal a way as possible. The PC started meeting online using ZOOM on June 1, 2020. The format has not been ideal for dealing with contentious matters but it has allowed Commission member to work safely on the Town Plan rewrite and the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) to address a Conditional Use application. It has also made it easier for the public to participate in all these activities. Since the meetings are recorded, everyone can review the details of the discussions at any later time.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) and the Planning Commission have the same membership but address different issues in town. The ZBA meets as needed to hear requests for conditional use permits or variances. We warn ZBA hearings at least fifteen days in advance in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Rules. The ZBA met once during 2019. It held a public hearing on August 3, 2020 for a Conditional Use and Flood Hazard Review of a parking lot and footbridge proposed by the Hall Art Foundation. The PC also conducted a Site Plan Review for the project. While the project passed all the town reviews, the PC and ZBA realized afterwards that the hearing had not been properly warned. Before the Boards met in September to reopen the hearing, the Hall Art Foundation decided to withdraw its permit applications.

On December 2, 2019 the Commission held a public hearing to readopt the 2015 Town Plan as an interim measure while they finished their rewrite of the document. At the end of the hearing the PC vote to send it on to the Select Board (SB) for its Public Hearing and approval, which occurred on January 13, 2020. Jean Goldsborough started serving as our recording secretary for the February 3, 2020 meeting. Her interest in zoning issues and the Town Plan rewrite, plus her IT background has made her a valuable asset to the Commission. At the February meeting, the PC presented its Town Plan rewrite schedule to the public, reviewed the results of the fall 2019 Survey and asked the two residents who attended for other concerns. To gather more information for the Town Plan, the Commission invited the public, local business owners, local realtors, the Reading Listers, the Select Board and school board members to the March 9, 2020 meeting to discuss "Future Trends" in Reading. The topics for discussion included changes to the overall and school population, real estate trends, changing property values, affordable housing, and local employment opportunities. The Listers and Jason Rasmussen from the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) presented a great deal of useful data; unfortunately only two members of the public were there to hear it. The April and May meetings were cancelled due to the pandemic but members worked from home reviewing drafts of Town Plan chapters that Jason had distributed electronically. The Commission started meeting remotely in June using the ZOOM platform and will continue meeting that way into the future. Jason has hosted the meetings and records them. Jean includes the link to the recorded meetings in her written minutes. The public can review drafts of the Commission's work at <https://swcrpc.org/reading-town-plan/>

RPC chairman – Stephen Strait

ZBA chairman – Ken Cox

Reading Public Library Annual Report FY 2020

Trustees: Vanessa Maxham, Chair; Bill Bakker, Treasurer; Janet Malcolm, Secretary; Libbet Downs; Heather Evans. The board meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., currently via Zoom.

The library subscribes to the Vermont Online Library. This allows patrons access to more than four dozen databases containing information on health, business, science, genealogy, and the arts. Universal Class, an online continuing education service, is also available to patrons, who can take up to five non-credit courses at a time. The library provides e-books and digital audio books through Listen Up Vermont. Passes for Billings Farm, the Precision Museum, the Vermont History Museum, VINS, and ECHO Lake Aquarium & Science Center can be checked out, as well as passes for thirty-five Vermont state parks and eight Vermont historical sites. The library's access point runs continuously, so folks can bring their devices to the library yard and get a speedy fiber-optic connection whether we're open or not. We also provide a cable connection in Puddledock Park.

We are members of the Catamount consortium, comprising twenty libraries big and small around the state. All of us use the same web-based management system, which provides improved services to patrons 24/7. You can search our catalog from home. You can also see what books you have out and when they're due, and can renew them if you wish. You can check your reading history, get tips on other books you might like, create reading lists of books to read, make suggestions for books you'd like us to consider buying, and receive email notifications about overdue books and about books waiting for pick-up. And you have direct access to the 400,000-plus items belonging to Catamount libraries. If we don't have the book you want but someone in the consortium does, you can request the book with a few keystrokes and it will be mailed to Reading Library for pickup.

Until Covid struck, the building was used as a meeting space for local groups WRAP, the REC, the Green Spaces committee, a comic book club, and Aging in Place. We also had a couple of visits from elementary kids involved in an after-school program. Programs prior to and during Covid included meetings of a silent book club, three outdoor movies co-sponsored with the REC, a seed-lending library, a library herb garden, pumpkin-carving at the school with the kids, and a candy give-away with pumpkin display on Halloween. Whenever possible, we have offered home delivery and curbside services, interlibrary loans, and a pop-up computer station on the library porch. We are now maintaining a Little Free Library (built, donated, and installed by Karl Hanson) in the front yard. Enjoy.

Cordially,

Tony Pikramenos, Librarian

Hours: Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tuesdays 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. (closed 3:30 - 4)

Thursdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (closed 1:30 - 2)

Phone: 484-5588. **Mail:** P.O. Box 7

E-mail: reading.public.library@comcast.net.

Web: www.readinglibrary.org.

Reading Recreation Commission Report

The Pandemic Curtailed—But Didn't Stop—the Recreation Commission

The year 2020 started strong for Reading Recreation Commission. Less than two weeks into the year, we held our first Winter Concert. It was a great success, as was February's event. Unfortunately, the pandemic shut down the remaining concerts in the series. The Recreation Commission was one of the four beneficiaries of the series, but the board members decided to donate its share to the other beneficiaries.

The Reading Recreation Commission was thrilled to donate \$550 each to the Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf, the Ottauquechee Health Foundation, and the Reading Green Spaces Committee.

The Rec Commission canceled events it usually held through the spring and into August. However, when things were mild with the pandemic, the Commission managed to have some socially distanced events, including several Puddledock Park Parties. At those events, we held the Ice Cream Social, Art in the Park, and three outdoor movies.

The Rec Commission took over the Wreath Sale for this year, and it was a great success. It donated the proceeds of that event, over \$300, to the Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf. The Commission also put up the Town Tree in Puddledock Park. Though there was no tree lighting ceremony, the Rec was happy to do its part to light up Vermont.

The Reading Recreation Commission is grateful to everyone who came to our events, who showed support for what the Rec does, and who donated to and bought tickets for the Ducky Derby.

The Reading Recreation Commission is using its time wisely as we all wait for the pandemic to be a thing of the past. The commissioners are taking all the energy, positive feedback, and lessons learned since the reboot of the Commission in 2017, especially from last year, to come back strong with new and exciting events in 2021.

Stephen D'Agostino, chair

Lisa Kaija, Secretary

Lisa Morrison, Treasurer

Gerry Marletta

Kelsey Coyle

Zoning Administrator's Report

During the calendar year of 2020 there were 42 various permits issued. The summary is below.

Zoning Permits

5 Garages	1 Car Port	1 Pergola	3 Greenhouses
1 Pond	1 Cabin	2 Barns	1 Large Raised Garden
1 Deck	1 Sap Storage Tank	1 Lean to for Storage	
2 Chicken Coops	1 House Addition	1 New House	
1 Dog House and Run	2 Lot Boundary Line Adjustments		
5 Sheds (2 Wood sheds, 1 Run-in horse shed, 2 Storage sheds)			
1 Natatorium (Swimming Pool with Pool House)			
11 Signs (10 were directional Signs for the ATV/Snowmobile Clubs)			

This has been an active year for Zoning Permits. There were many small do-it-yourself projects, probably due to the many people being at home due to the COVID Pandemic. Starting in 2021 all permits will be listed on the Town Web Site. There will be those that are in the 15-day waiting period and subject to public input, and those that are beyond the 15-day period and approved for construction. All permits will be archived after one year which is the time the permit is good for. If extensions are approved beyond that time frame by the ZA they will be listed as well.

In late 2020, five (5) Zoning violations were discovered with buildings and or additions constructed or being constructed without a permit. Landowners were notified and assessed a \$100 fine as well as being required to stop work and file a permit. All landowners quickly responded, paid the fine, and submitted a request for a permit. All of which were approved. With that said, it is the landowner that is responsible for being sure all permits are in place for a project, large or small, before construction starts. Determining if a permit is required is very easy, just call the Zoning Administrator and describe the project. Some contractors are telling people 'oh a permit is not needed for this project'. Double check, permits are required for every 'ground cover' project.

The Planning Commission is now updating the Town Plan. A Grant was applied for in late 2020 to support the cost of having some outside help from the SWCRPC, now officially known as MARC (Mount Ascutney Regional Commission). At this time meetings are being held via a Zoom link. Interested citizens should monitor the Planning Commission minutes and attend meetings via computer or telephone when you have an interest or comment on chapters of the Plan that will be discussed. Once the Town Plan is revised, public hearings held, and it is adopted the commission will look at the Zoning Ordinance to see if changes need to be made to remain in line with the new Town Plan.

Copies of all Town ordinance's and regulations are available at the Town Office.

Submitted by Robert Allen,

Zoning Administrator

(802) 296-1124 or rkallen@myfairpoint.net

Welcome to Reading signs are complete!

By now, you may have noticed the 4-brand new “Welcome to Reading” signs. If you haven’t seen all 4, go for a drive! Installation took a bit longer than expected and faced several delays due to the pandemic. You can find them at the northern border of town on Rte. 106, just north of the Indian Stones on Rte. 106, inside the Amsden Cemetery on Rte. 44, and at the bus turnout on Tyson Road.


And a special THANK YOU to several people who helped make this a success - to the property owners, the Lynches and the Spittles, for allowing the sign placement on their land and to Bob Allen for doing some literal “heavy lifting” and getting the sites ready for installation. Thank you to Dave Appleton for donating his time and equipment to remove some large trees to improve the view of one of the signs. And a big THANK YOU to our donors, whose support gave this project that extra push needed to make it a reality.

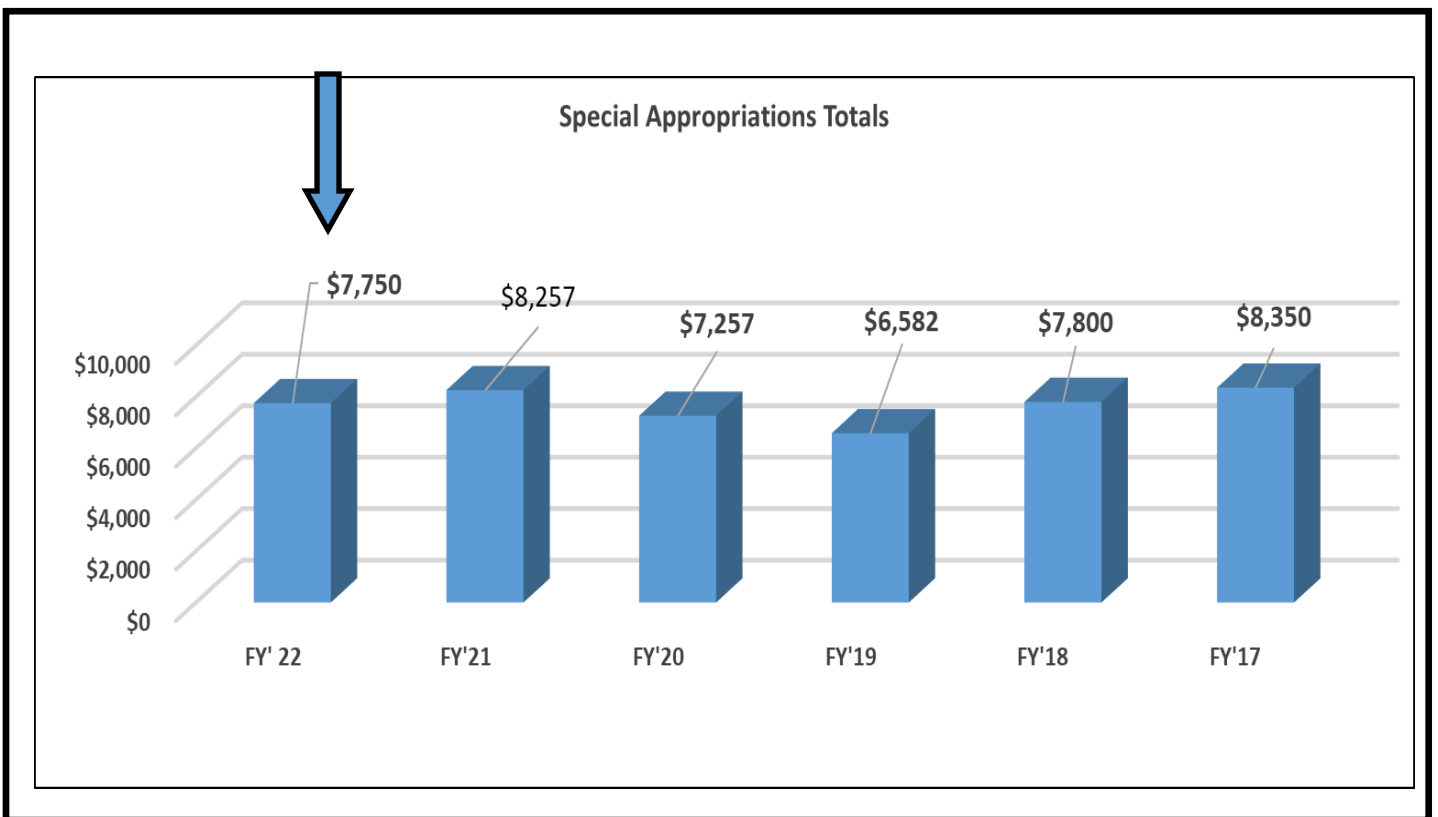
Sincerely,

Town Sign Committee – Bill Bakker, Mary Vittum, Gary Vittum, Erika Marletta, and Esther Allen



Special Appropriations Reports

Organization	Article	Amount Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Requested	Amount Requested
		FY' 22	FY'21	FY'20	FY'19	FY'18	FY'17
Aging In Place Reading-West Windsor	5	\$500	0				
HCRS - Health Care & Rehabilitation		\$0	\$707	\$707	\$707	\$0	\$0
Ottawaquechee Health Foundation	6	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0			
Pentangle Arts Council	7	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$0	\$800
Spectrum Teen Center	8	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$750
Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT-NH	9	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$3,900
Volunteers In Action	10	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$175	\$175
Windsor County Mentors	11	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Woodstock Job Bank		\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Total Requested		\$7,750	\$8,257	\$7,257	\$6,582	\$7,800	\$8,350
Increase/Decrease over previous budget year		 (\$507)	\$1,000	\$675	(\$1,218)	(\$550)	(\$682)



**Article 5 Shall the voters appropriate \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars)
to Aging in Place Reading-West Windsor for localized elder care?**

Reading-West Windsor Aging in Place

PO Box 2, Brownsville, VT 05037

The Reading-West Windsor Aging in Place committee has been meeting for several years to help establish a way for older adults to stay in their homes as they age. Our mission emphasizes promoting awareness of local services, striving to connect volunteers with their aging neighbors, and strengthening intergenerational bonds within the community.

In the past few years, we have published two editions of our *Resources for Seniors* handbook (available on the two towns' websites, and also in hard copy at the town offices), and have connected with local agencies that support our mission. We have a referral line (802-952-0097) that people can call for advice and help. In addition, we have worked with our local elementary schools to foster relationships between seniors and children (e.g., a pen pal program), and have connected numerous seniors with appropriate local agencies.

With the support of the Upper Valley Community Nursing Project and the Community Health/Mt. Ascutney Hospital Senior Workgroup, we are getting close to hiring a part-time community nurse for Reading and West Windsor. When safe to do so, the nurse will be able to offer clinics (for example, blood pressure checks, foot care, etc.) and will develop long term caring relationships with seniors who need help in the areas of health, home safety, and general wellbeing. The nurse will be aware of local resources and work with doctors and families, as needed. The pandemic has served to highlight the crucial need for localized care and intimate knowledge of our aging population. We think that as the nurse gets to know members of our communities, more and more people will become aware of our organization, leading to more support for our initiatives, and identification of other needed services to benefit our seniors.

In addition to supporting a community nurse, we would also like to offer community programs on topics relevant to aging at home, and we hope to develop a working roster of volunteers to provide companionship, help problem solve, and assist with a variety of home management needs.

We are in the process of making grant applications and to date have been assured of receiving enough funding to begin the process of hiring our nurse. Having recently received our official 501.3c non-profit status, we will soon begin a fundraising campaign so that we can be assured of employing the nurse through 2021 and in upcoming years. Thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

Reading-West Windsor Aging in Place Board of Directors

Sara Norcross

Chairperson

Supporting seniors wanting to age at home.

Sara Norcross
Chair
Reading

Lee Monro
Vice Chair
West Windsor

Elizabeth Burrows
Secretary
West Windsor

Edwin Johnson
Treasurer
West Windsor

Jane Philpin
Reading

Esther Allen
Reading

Barbara Gerstner
West Windsor

Article 6 Shall the voters appropriate \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars)
to Ottauquechee Health Foundation for health and wellness services?

OTTAUQUECHEE HEALTH FOUNDATION

Who We Are:

The Ottauquechee Health Foundation (OHF) strives to improve the health and well-being of people who live in our core towns through grants, community partnerships, education opportunities and support of wellness initiatives. We believe accessible health and wellness care is a vital part of any community.

We assist in the health and wellness needs of the core towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Hartland, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Quechee, **Reading**, and Woodstock.

OHF's backbone programs, Good Neighbor and Homecare Grants, continue to be utilized extensively by those in need, especially during the COVID-19 health crisis. These programs have shifted to accommodate the increased and diverse needs of the communities OHF serves. Year to date, the foundation has received 199 grant inquiries totaling over \$185,000 in funding request from residents of its nine core towns. The foundation expects to exceed its current granting budget for 2020, and we fully expect to continue to provide pandemic relief into 2021.

About OHF's Good Neighbor Grant (GNG) program

Our GNG program makes grants on behalf of individuals who are unable to pay for their health and wellness needs that are not covered by health insurance such as dental care, physical therapy, counseling, hearing aids, eyeglasses, and more. Assistance is based on financial need and applicants must live in the OHF catchment area.

In 2020, OHF provided 11 grants to Reading residents totaling over \$6,000. This equates to approximately 4% of our overall granting budget. Town support from Reading in the amount of \$1000 is invaluable to us and allows us to better serve the Reading Community. Thank you!

Additionally, OHF continues to provide services from the our Homecare Grants Program, as well as other wellness offerings, to the Reading Community. These programs are all part of our commitment to providing access to health and wellness services while supporting overall community health. Together we can indeed create stronger, and healthier communities.

Our Funding Sources:

Our funding comes through bi-annual appeal donations, town appropriations, targeted program fundraising, grant writing, a modest draw from our investments, and fundraising events.

How to Contact OHF:

Ottauquechee Health Foundation (OHF)
802-457-4188 | www.ohfvt.org
PO Box 784 | 30 Pleasant Street | Woodstock, VT 05091

Tayo Kirchhof
Executive Director
director@ohfvt.org

Beth Robinson
Grants Coordinator
grants@ohfvt.org

Article 7 Shall the voters appropriate \$800 (Eight Hundred Dollars)
to Pentangle Arts for affordable arts programming?



**Pentangle Arts
Report to the Town of Reading
December 2020**

We are grateful to the Town of Reading for its support of our mission to make our area a more vibrant, creative, and stimulating place to live. This year we respectfully request \$800. These funds are essential to cover the operating expenses especially as we forecast a spring 2021 reopening of the theatre and a robust 2021-2022 Season.

This past summer we were able to salvage some of our summer season by presenting nine free concerts and eight outdoor movies. We were thrilled to offer programming free of charge for audiences of all ages.

In sum, we noted that:

Our capacity audiences at each Music by the River concert reflected the community's desire to gather safely and find joy in the uplifting effects of the arts.

Our thought-provoking documentary screenings such as John Lewis: Good Trouble served as apt reminders of the opportunity to expand our social justice and equality footprint.

Our September Movie Series offered patrons the chance to view box office favorites in an outdoor setting enhanced by wonderful weather and Woodstock scenery.

We are confident with a vaccine now in sight we hope to open the movie operation, and open the theatre for community programs and rentals, in late spring or early summer. Our free Summer Music By the River Series will again take place on the North Chapel Lawn through July and August.

We thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact us if you have any questions about Pentangle Arts and the Woodstock Town Hall Theatre.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alita Wilson
Executive Director (802) 457-3981

Article 8 Shall the voters appropriate \$750 (Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars)
to Spectrum Teen Center for connecting teens to the community?

Spectrum Teen Center

The Spectrum Teen Center would like to thank the Town of Reading for the generous support we have received over the years. We are always very grateful for the continued support. The Spectrum Teen Center has now been serving teens for 24 years in grades 9-12. In 2017, we opened our program up to middle school students. Our program serves teens from the towns that make up the Windsor Central Supervisory Union. We are under the umbrella of the WCSU.

In 2017, we took our programming out into the community. We found that connecting teens with their wider community helped teens experience new social settings, events, and activities, in a variety of venues creating new and different experiences. It helps teens establish relationships with area businesses and establishments while providing a safe environment and strengthening their connections within their community.

Over the past year, we were able to offer Miniature Golf/Pizza Night where teens play mini golf, ate pizza and enjoyed being outdoors. Each month, we continued to collaborate with Artistree Community Arts Center where together we featured "Branch Out Teen Nights" which are offered throughout the school year. We were able to offer several pizza nights at Pizza Chef where our average attendance is typically 25-40 teens. We collaborated in a number of teen movie nights at the Town Hall Theater with Pentangle, offered a night of swimming at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center and a night of Galactic Bowling at Rutland Bowlerama and more! These are *some* examples of the types of events that we offered. All these events are provided for **FREE!!!!!!**

In the fall and winter of 2019, we provided over 15 FREE events for teens. Unfortunately, due to the lockdown, we had to stop in person events for the spring. We have resumed programming this fall following all the guidelines put in place. Teens are really appreciating our events in a time where most are feeling isolated.

Due to the Coronavirus, we were not able to hold our two largest fundraisers, which are the John Langhans Road Race and the gate donations at the July 4th Fireworks celebration. This has greatly impacted our revenue for our program. Since we cannot hold any large fundraising events in the near future, town appropriations are going to be more helpful than ever.

Thank you for supporting our program!

Enthusiastically,
Heather Vonada & Joni Kennedy
Co-Directors
70 Amsden Way



Article 9 Shall the voters appropriate \$4,000 (Four Thousand Dollars)
to Visiting Nurse & Hospice of VT & NH for in-home healthcare services?

VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH

Home Health, Hospice and Maternal Child Health Services in Reading, VT

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is one of the oldest and largest non-profit providers of in-home healthcare services in the region. VNH is committed to providing the highest quality care throughout all stages of life, from maternal child care to end of life hospice care, and everything in between. Providing individuals and families with the care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care.

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

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 VNH made 406 homecare visits to 29 Reading residents. This included approximately \$19,053 in unreimbursed care to Reading residents.

Home Health Care: 352 home visits to 25 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.

Long-Term Care: 12 home visits to 1 resident with chronic medical problems who need extended care in the home to avoid admission to a nursing home.

Hospice Services: 42 home visits to 3 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.

Additionally, residents made visits to VNH wellness clinics at local senior and community centers throughout the year, receiving low- and no-cost services including blood pressure screenings, foot care, cholesterol testing, and flu shots. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic we were forced to suspend these services in March. Since then, we have been rethinking our community wellness programs to find a way to continue to offer them following the pandemic.

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

Sincerely,



Hilary Davis, Director External Relations and Service Excellence

888-300-8853

Article 10 Shall the voters appropriate \$200 (Two Hundred Dollars)
to Volunteers in Action for assistance to those with special needs?

Volunteers in Action

2020 Town Report

Volunteers in Action is in its 23rd year of serving those who are elderly or living with disabilities in Reading. With the help of our network of volunteers we are able to offer rides to those without transportation, bring food or prescriptions to those who have trouble leaving their home, and foster a strong community bond through meals, knitting circles, warm conversations, and good will.

We work with 5 volunteers from the town of Reading who help transport their neighbors to appointments, grocery stores, or any other needed travel within 30 miles. Before the height of the pandemic, we were able to bring together 208 Upper Valley neighbors at 8 Community Meals. We also work alongside other nonprofit groups such as Willing Hands, Senior Solutions, and Aging in Place Groups, whose partnerships are invaluable to our community impact.

2020 has been a particularly trying time due to the covid-19 pandemic. For the health and safety of our neighbors and volunteers, we had to temporarily suspend many of our offerings such as transportation. Still, Volunteers in Action persevered, focusing on meal distribution efforts and offering support where we could. We coordinated Meals on Wheels volunteers who packaged and delivered over 50 meals monthly to Reading residents who have difficulty leaving their homes. We also partnered with the Vermont Food Bank as part of the Veggie Van Go program, which distributed local food to over 350 families in the Windsor county area monthly.

It is with the support of towns like Reading, that we can persist in times of adversity and continue to connect neighbors with needs with people who care. On behalf of the neighbors who received a helping hand from Volunteers in Action, we are grateful to the town of Reading for your on-going support and volunteerism. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Anna Caputo
Program Coordinator

Volunteers in Action can be reached at (802) 674-5971
or email our program coordinator at anna.caputo@mahhc.org
Support

ViA may be able to offer support through:

- Transportation · Friendly Visits · Telephone Check-in
- Minor Home Repair · Shopping Assistance

Article 11 Shall the voters appropriate \$500 (Five Hundred Dollars)
to Windsor County Mentors for youth mentorships?



PO Box 101 • Windsor, VT 05089 • 802-674-5101 • info@wcmentors.org • www.wcmentors.org

Town Narrative - Reading **For July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020**

For nearly 50 years, Windsor County Mentors has been creating and supporting mentoring relationships between caring adults and youth to help them thrive. By doing so, we create opportunities for the youth of Windsor County to realize their potential as healthy, responsible decision-makers. Mentoring offers vulnerable youth opportunities to share experiences with reliable adults to widen their vision of themselves, helping them to become confident, contributing members of their community.

WCM offers both school- and community-based mentoring partnerships, free of charge, to any Windsor County child between 5 and 18 who could benefit from a long-term, trusting relationship with an adult in their community.

In FY 2020, WCM served and supported 42 school- and community-based mentorships, with children from 16 towns (including two mentorship in Reading). Collectively, these mentors volunteered over 1900 hours. Our mentees were distributed among 16 Windsor County public schools.

Our surveys demonstrate the positive effects of mentoring:

- Mentors (96%) would recommend mentoring to a family member, friend, or colleague.
- Mentee parents (100%) said their child is hopeful about his/her future.
- Mentees (82%) reported having a mentor has made a difference in his/her life.

WCM employs three regional outreach coordinators around Windsor County, assuring that we are able to grant each town the attention it deserves.

Financial support from Windsor County towns helps ensure the well-being of children and their families.

For more information on our mentorships, find us on Facebook, visit our website www.wcmentors.org, or contact us at ProgramsWC@outlook.com 802-674-5101. WCM thanks the voters of Reading for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Matthew Garcia

Executive Director

Miscellaneous Agency Reports



ANNUAL REPORT
SENIOR SOLUTIONS
(COUNCIL ON AGING FOR SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT, INC.)

Senior Solutions -- Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. -- has served the residents of Reading and Southeastern Vermont since 1973. We have offices in Springfield (main office), White River Junction and Brattleboro. Our mission is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults. Our vision is that every person will age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

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

Information and Assistance: 56 Calls and Office Visits. Our HelpLine (1-802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376 toll-free) offers information, referrals and assistance to seniors, their families and caregivers.

Medicare Assistance: 11 Calls and Office Visits. Reading residents received assistance with Medicare issues through our State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Our SHIP program provides Medicare education and counseling, "boot camps" for new Medicare enrollees and assistance in enrolling in Part D or choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Social Services: We provided 8 elder residents with in-home case management or other home-based assistance for 50.50 hours to enable them to remain living safely in their homes. Often minimal services can prevent nursing home placement.

Nutrition services and programs: 9 Reading seniors received 482 home-delivered meals through Springfield Area Senior Meals Inc. Unfortunately, these funds do not cover the full cost of providing meals, so local agencies must seek additional funding. Senior Solutions does not use Town funds to support the senior meals program.

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

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

Volunteer Visitors: Senior Solutions recruits, screens, trains and supports volunteers of all ages.

Special Assistance and Other Services: 6 residents of Reading received Special Services. Senior Solutions provides flexible funds that can help people with one-time needs when no other program is available. Senior Solutions supports a variety of other services including health, wellness and fall prevention.

Submitted by Carol Stamatakis, Executive Director.

Southeastern Vermont Community Action

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community-based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965. Our mission is to *empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty; provide opportunities to thrive; and eliminate root causes of poverty*. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Family Services (crisis resolution, fuel, utility, housing and food assistance), Micro-Business Development, Vermont Matched Savings (asset building & financial literacy), Ready-for-Work (workforce development), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, VT Health Connect Navigation, Thrift Stores, and a Community Solar program.

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

- **Tax Preparation:** 3 households (3 people) received tax credits & refunds totaling \$11,779 and services valued at \$636
- **Family Services:** 3 households (4 people) received 16 services, valued at \$135 (crisis resolution, financial counseling, nutrition education, forms assistance, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services)
- **Fuel & Utility Assistance:** 3 households (4 people) received 12 assists valued at \$2,907

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

Stephen Geller, Executive Director

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

91 Buck Drive

Westminster, VT 05158

(800) 464-9951 or (802) 722-4575

sevca@sevca.org

www.sevca.org



Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Soon to be Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC)

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

During FY20, the dues from member towns contributed about 3% of the SWCRPC's annual budget of \$1,047,372. The town dues assessment of \$833 was determined on a \$1.25 per person based upon 2010 Census data. The remaining revenues were derived from federal, state, and other funding sources.

The SWCRPC offers member towns a broad range of services, including assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, water quality, emergency management, data, mapping, and other planning activities. In FY20, the SWCRPC provided the following services to the Town of Reading: assisted the Planning Commission to prepare Town Plan updates; assisted with preparing a Local Emergency Operations Plan; assisted with emergency management planning; provided technical assistance with roadway drainage issues; and provided information and technical assistance on Federal and State programs related to the response and recovery from Covid-19.

We would like to thank town appointed representatives Kathy Rondeau, Gordy Eastman and Robert Allen who have served on the SWCRPC Board and Committees this past year.

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

Thomas Kennedy, AICP
Executive Director

We will be changing our name by year's end to
Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC)
You will find our new website at marcvt.org
Thank you for your patience as we make this transition.

POSTAL ADDRESS:	PHYSICAL ADDRESS:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
PO Box 320	Ascutney Professional Bldg.	Phone: 802-674-9201
Ascutney, VT 05030	38 Ascutney Park Road	Fax: 802-674-5711
	Ascutney, VT	Email: ctitus@swcrpc.org

Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District

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

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org



The District was chartered in 1981 and currently serves fourteen Vermont towns. Each member municipality appoints a representative and an alternate to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Reading's representative is Jim Peplau. The alternate position is vacant.



All food scraps were banned from the landfill as of July 1, 2020. To help residents divert their food scraps from the trash, the District has offered backyard composting workshops for several years but had to cancel them in spring 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, Ham Gillett made a video about the subject, which can be seen at <http://okemovalee.tv/virtual-composting-workshop>. The Weathersfield Transfer Station accepts food scraps (including meat and bones) for free.



Four hundred and thirty-two people brought household hazardous waste (HHW) to the District's two collections in FY20, including twelve Reading residents. We are planning to construct a permanent HHW facility in Springfield in 2021 which will be open for six months of the year, eight to ten hours a week. Before that facility is operational, we will probably hold at least one HHW event in 2021 – date and time to be determined.



Bring unwanted paint year-round to Aubuchon Hardware in Windsor, and Sherwin-Williams or Bibens in Springfield during regular business hours and dispose of it for free (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty – bring unlabeled, rusty, or leaky cans to an HHW event).

AA, AAA, C, D, 9v, hearing aid, coin cell, tool, and rechargeable batteries are accepted at the Weathersfield Transfer Station for free. Batteries are "special recycling" and do NOT go in with other recycling.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy
District Manager

Mary T. O'Brien
Recycling Coordinator

Ham Gillett
Outreach Coordinator

The Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf

Submitted by Sara Norcross, R-WW Food Shelf Board Secretary on 12-30-20 (I can be reached at home at 484-5097. My e-mail is: kbsnorcross@gmail.com)

The Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf has been supplying, since 2000, food and donated clothing, free of charge, to local families in need. The Food Shelf is located in the Old Stone Schoolhouse in South Reading (3456 Tyson Road). It is open on Mondays (2-4pm) and Thursdays (4-6pm), except on major holidays and school snow days.

We serve residents of Reading, West Windsor, and also surrounding towns without a food shelf of their own, such as Cavendish. In this era of Covid-19, we are offering curbside service and have suspended our used clothing offerings for the time being. We also make food deliveries to a handful of people.

The food shelf offers canned, frozen, and packaged foods, dairy products, fresh produce when available, and frozen meats. Toiletry items, household products, and pet food are also offered when available.

The Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf strives to ensure that all members of the community have adequate amounts of nutritious food and that it is provided to them in a manner that preserves their dignity. Additionally, the Food Shelf assists families in applying for 3SquaresVT, the state food stamp program, as well as other local funds that emerge to help people in crisis.

The Reading-West Windsor Food Shelf keeps expenses low due to its all-volunteer workforce and the low-cost space and utilities provided by the Town of Reading. Food expenses are kept to a minimum (consistent with providing an excellent selection and quantity of nutritious food) by:

1. Maximizing the amount of free and low-cost food that is obtained from the Vermont Food Bank.
 2. Receiving produce from individuals who plant extra rows in their gardens for RWWFS; we have also regularly acquired produce through Food Bank pick-up sites, and generous produce donations from Woodstock Farmers Market and Willing Hands.
 3. Accepting donated eggs and locally grown meat from community farmers;
 4. Arranging with local stores to purchase their goods at cost or near cost;
 5. Maintaining relationships with a local church and synagogue that donate food and personal hygiene products;
 6. Accepting donations as appropriate from area residents (e.g. canned food that has not expired).
- By providing food to those in need, the Food Shelf provides a safety net and a helping hand to our most at-risk neighbors. Our mailing address is Reading – West Windsor Food Shelf, Inc., PO Box 384, Brownsville, VT 05037.

THRIFT STORE

We regret that due to Covid-19, the thrift store is temporarily not in service or accepting donations.

If you have questions, please call me at 484-5097 or call Tish Lewis at 802-952-1068

Sincerely, Sara Norcross, Food Shelf Board Member



State of Vermont
Department of Health
Springfield Office of Local
Health

[phone] 802-289-0600
[toll free] 888-296-8151
HealthVermont.gov

Springfield District, 2021

At the Vermont Department of Health our twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. More info on your local health office can be found here: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>

COVID-19

2020 has been a challenging year for Vermonters. However, the Vermont Department of Health has been recognized as a national leader in managing the virus. This is what the Health Department has done in your community:

- **COVID-19 Testing:**
Since May 2020, the Health Department has provided no-cost Covid-19 testing. Through November 17, 2020, the Vermont Department of Health has held 509 testing clinics, testing 40,796 Vermonters. This important work helps to identify the spread of Covid-19 and is just one of the many ways your Health Department is promoting and protecting the health of Vermonters.
Statewide, 224,284 people have been tested as of November 30, 2020
- **COVID-19 Cases:**
As of November 25, 2020, Vermont had the fewest cases of COVID-19 and the lowest rate of cases per 100,000 population of all 50 states.
Statewide, as of November 30, 2020, there have been 4,172 cases of COVID-19

Even more up-to-date information can be found on the Health Department's website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/currentactivity>

Additional Programs

In addition to the COVID-19 response, the Health Department has programs such as influenza vaccinations and WIC.

- **Flu Vaccinations:** Protecting people from influenza is particularly important in 2020, as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19. (Data is as of November 17, 2020)
 - ◊ Approximately 213,000* Vermonters have been vaccinated against the flu this season *(Due to technology outages, flu vaccinations given are underreported by approximately 25%-33%.)
- **WIC:** The Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Education and Food Supplementation Program remains in full effect, though much of the work that was done in person is now being done remotely through TeleWIC. (Data is as of October 20, 2020)
 - ◊ 11,308 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont, either in traditional format or TeleWIC

Learn more about what we do on the web at www.healthvermont.gov
Join us on www.facebook.com/healthvermont
Follow us on www.twitter.com/healthvermont

Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

About the League. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state. The most recent audited financial statements are posted on our website, vlct.org/about/audit-reports, and show that our positive net position continues.

Member Benefits. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 139 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- **Legal, consulting, and education services,** including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. In 2020, VLCT's timely legal and technical assistance included answering more than 4,000 legal questions and publishing guidance, templates, research reports, and several new groups of FAQs explaining how municipalities can implement the state's COVID-19 requirements. To support Vermont's towns and cities in responding to the pandemic, VLCT quickly researched, assembled, and distributed important information about fiscal impacts, grant opportunities, and how to adapt town operations, hold public meetings remotely.
- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials** who carry out their duties required by state law, as well as pertinent statewide topics. In response to the pandemic, the League provided online trainings, a virtual week-long conference, and timely announcements and information from state officials about how to comply with requirements and access to funding and assistance.
- **Representation before the state legislature and state agencies,** ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to achieve tangible results on pressing issues such as responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, road and bridge repair, cybersecurity, housing and economic growth, renewable energy, emergency medical services, equity and inclusion, and ensuring the quality of our drinking water. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.
- **Access to two exceptional insurance programs.** The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Employment Resource and Benefits (VERB) Trust provides unemployment insurance, life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products to members at a competitive price. Both programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are *only* available to VLCT members.
- **Access to a host of educational and informative materials and member conferences,** including a news magazine, handbooks, reports, articles, and events that all focus on the needs of local government and provide additional educational and networking opportunities.

At the heart of all these activities is VLCT's commitment to serving as a good steward of member assets, and we are proud of the progress we continue to make in that effort. Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions, and to access resources that can help each official and employee carry out the important work of local government. For a comprehensive list of member benefits and services, please visit vlct.org/memborguide to download the VLCT Member Guide.

**TOWN OF READING
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES February 29, 2020**

The Town of Reading, Annual Town Meeting was held on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at The Reading Elementary School at 9:30 am.

The Moderator, Peter Vollers, called the meeting to order at 9:35 am and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Moderator reviewed the rules for speaking and voting for non-residents and addressing the moderator for questions.

109 registered voters checked in.

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for the Town ensuing year. Jon Springer nominated Peter Vollers. Gordy Eastman seconded the nomination. John Fike moved to close nominations, Jim Peplau seconded and nominations were ceased. Mr. Peter Vollers was elected. Peter Vollers appointed Jon Springer as parliamentarian for the meeting.

Article 2: To see if the voters shall set the date and time, by which the Town property taxes must be paid and received by the Town Treasurer, to be Wednesday, November 4, 2020 by 5:00 P.M. (NO POST MARKS). Robert Allen moved to have Article 2 be accepted and Jim Peplau seconded. The Article was adopted.

Article 3: To see if the Town will elect the Town Treasurer as Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the ensuing year. Robert Allen moved to have Article 3 be accepted and Jim Waterfall seconded. The Article was adopted.

Article 4: To elect all other Town Officers, as required by law:

- **Town Clerk for a three (3) year term.**

John Fike nominated Calista Brennan. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close nominations Jon Springer seconded. The motion passed. Jon Springer moved to have the clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Calista Brennan for Town Clerk for a three-year term. Bob Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed, the clerk cast one ballot, and Calista Brennan was elected.

- **Town Treasurer for a three (3) year term.**

Bob Hartnett nominated Calista Brennan. No other nominations. Jon Springer moved to close nominations. Jim Peplau seconded. The motion passed. Jon Springer moved to have the clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Calista Brennan for Town Treasurer for a three-year term. Jim Peplau seconded the motion. The motion passed, the clerk cast one ballot, and Calista Brennan was elected.

- **SELECTPERSON for a three (3) year term.**

Lisa Kaija nominated Stephen D'Agostino. Jon Springer nominated incumbent James Peplau. John Fike moved to close nominations. Robert Allen seconded. Both candidates addressed the assembly stating their qualifications for office. Several people addressed the assembly on behalf of each

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candidate. Paper ballot was taken. 55 for James Peplau; 52 for Stephen D'Agostino; 1 spoiled and 1 blank. Total votes 109. James Peplau was elected.

**** While the votes were being counted, Representative Charlie Kimbell and Senator, Alison Clarkson addressed the assembly regarding bills that are being worked on in the state house.**

- **LISTER for a three (3) year term.** Penny Allyn nominated John Fike. No other nominations. Jon Springer moved to close nominations Gordy Eastman seconded. The motion passed. Tim Bishop moved to have the clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for John Fike for Lister for a three-year term. Jon Springer seconded the motion. The motion passed, the clerk cast one ballot, and John Fike was elected.
- **AUDITOR for a three (3) year term.** Esther Allen nominated Charline Hagar. No other nominations. Jon Springer moved to close nominations Tim Bishop seconded. The motion passed. Jim Peplau moved to have the clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Charline Hagar for Auditor for a three-year term. Jon Springer seconded the motion. The motion passed, the clerk cast one ballot, and Charline Hagar was elected.
- **TOWN GRAND JUROR for a one (1) year term.** Esther Allen nominated Jon Springer. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close nominations, Gordy Eastman seconded. Jon Springer was elected.
- **TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS for a three (3) year term.** Esther Allen nominated Curt Allen. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close nominations, Gordy Eastman seconded. Curt Allen was elected.
- **LIBRARY TRUSTEE for a five (5) year term.** Vanessa Maxham nominated Bill Bakker. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close nominations. Jon Springer seconded. Bill Bakker was elected.
- **TOWN AGENT for a one (1) year term.** Esther Allen nominated Ken Norcross. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close the nominations. Jon Springer seconded. Ken Norcross was elected.
- **CEMETERY COMMISSIONER for a three (3) year term.** Adam Kozlowski nominated Tim Bishop. No other nominations. Jim Peplau moved to close nominations, Gordy Eastman seconded. Tim Bishop was elected.

ARTICLE 5: To act on the reports of The Officers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Robert Allen moved to accept the Article. Jim Peplau seconded. No questions were asked regarding the reports. Article 5 was adopted.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town of Reading will vote to appropriate the amount of \$633,211 (Six Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Eleven Dollars) to be raised by taxes for the Selectboard's Budget beginning July 1, 2020. Robert Allen moved to accept the article. Jim Peplau seconded. Robert Allen spoke to the Selectboard budget stating that an adjustment would be needed. During the budget process, the interim town manager of Weathersfield indicated there would be a change in the method of assessing Reading's fee for the use of the Weathersfield transfer station.

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The new assessment would reduce the cost to the Town, so line item 201 in the budget was reduced from \$18,635 to \$10,000. Subsequently, the Weathersfield Selectboard decided to hold off on any changes to the assessment to Reading for the 2020/2021 fiscal year. Based on this, line item 201 must be increased back to \$18,635. This results in increasing the amount to be raised by taxes to \$641,846.00. Ray Johnson asked for clarification on the cost of the vehicle sticker and the dump tokens.

Hazel King made a motion to amend the amount of the budget by \$25,000. Motion seconded by Ray Johnson. Discussion followed. Robert explained that the board had worked very hard to 'hold the line' with the budget amount while working to approve more monetary requests from town committees. He also spoke to the needs of highway work required to meet deadlines of the State Municipal Roads General Permit and line item costs in the budget that the board cannot control, such as certain assessments and insurance costs. Discussion was closed and the amended budget was put to a vote. The no's outweighed the aye's. Motion was defeated.

Robert Allen made a motion to amend the article to increase the budget by \$8,635 to \$641,846. Jim Peplau seconded. Motion was put to a vote and aye's carried.

ARTICLES 7 – 12: Appropriations for special funds.

Lisa Kaija made a motion to suspend the rule and take up Articles 7 – 12 that add up to \$6,457, to be voted on as one article and increase the articles by \$800 for Pentangle and \$1,000 for the Ottauquechee Health Foundation. Changing the total of special funding to \$8,257. Jean Goldsboro seconded. Moderator, Vollers ruled this motion out of order because according to Vermont Statutes, articles can only be added to the warning with the appropriate legal petitions filed by the deadline. Lisa Kaija then made a motion to overrule the moderator, seconded by Jean Goldsboro. A vote was taken on the motion to overrule and the ayes had it. Discussion followed why the petitions had not been filed as required. Lisa stated that in the future the petitions would be filed as required. People spoke in favor and against the amendment. Robert Allen cautioned the assembly about opening this up to potential additions being made that had not been duly warned. Jon Springer called the question. The motion to suspend the rule and increase the articles to \$8,257 was voted on. Motion carried.

Article 13: Other business.

Anna Sessa introduced herself as the candidate running for the WCMUUSD board seat from Reading. She spoke of her interest in the school and willingness to help us move forward.

Jean Goldsboro questioned why the Reading School was still on the list of Town Assets. Robert Allen explained it is still there because the property transfer paperwork has not been filed from the WCMUUSD to the State and Town.

Hazel King suggested that an assistant to the Selectboard be created so that new people could learn what is required of being a selectperson.

John Malcolm spoke about ECFiber increasing its presence in Reading to help improve internet access for residents. There is an information meeting being held on March 5, 2020.

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Steve Strait spoke about the work that the planning commission is doing for rewriting the town plan. There will be a public discussion at the regular meeting of the planning commission on March 9, 2020.

Adam Amalee feels that a lot of growth is needed in Town.

Kristen Hurd asked the Selectboard to consider changing the night of their meeting so that it doesn't conflict with the WCMUUSD board meetings. Peter Semen stated more people would like to attend the Selectboard meetings. Rayna Bishop stated that the WCMUUSD is considering changing their meeting night so the board should have that information first.

Robert Allen spoke to the issue of change in Reading and feels that change will come with the increase in connectivity to the internet which allows more people to work from home; the lack of cell service is another issue to be resolved.

John Fike thanked Esther Allen for the great job done on the 2019 Town Report.

Abby Rowlee was thanked for giving us one of her beautiful photos for the cover of the town report.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Peplau. Seconded by Gordy Eastman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted by Esther E. Allen Date: March 3, 2020

Peter K. Vollers

Peter K. Vollers, Moderator

Robert K. Allen

Robert K. Allen, Selectboard Chair

School Reports

Detail reports for the proposed budgets of
 WCUUSD: Windsor Central Unified Union School District
 and the
 WCSU: Windsor Central Supervisory Union
 can be found on the school website at **www.wcsu.net**

BUDGET INFORMATIONAL HEARING

The legal voters of Windsor Central Unified Union School District are warned and notified that an **Informational Hearing** will be held online via audio/video conferencing on **Thursday, February 25, 2021**, commencing at **6:30 P.M.**, for the purpose of explaining the 2021-2022 proposed budget.

Meeting information and Zoom link can be found on the WCSU website at **www.wcsu.net**.

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

Windsor Central Supervisory Union

The financial records are being audited by RHR Smith & Company
 for the year ending June 30, 2020.

Copies of the completed audit, when available, may be requested by calling the
 Director of Finance and Operations at 802-457-1213, extension 1089.

**WARNING FOR
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
WINDSOR CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The legal voters of Windsor Central Unified Union School District, comprising the voters of the Towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock, are hereby warned and notified that an **Informational Hearing** will be held via audio/video conferencing pursuant to Act 92, on Thursday, February 25, 2021, commencing at 6:30 P.M., for the purpose of explaining the 2021-2022 proposed budget.

Pursuant to Act 162 of 2020, the legal voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District are hereby warned and notified to meet at their respective polling places hereinafter named for the above-referenced towns on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, during the polling hours noted below, for the purpose of transacting during that time voting by Australian ballot.

The voters residing in each member district will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their town as follows:

Barnard Town Hall	10 am – 7 pm	Plymouth Municipal Building	10 am – 7 pm
Bridgewater Town Clerk's Office	8 am – 7 pm	Pomfret Town Offices	8 am – 7 pm
Killington Town Hall	7 am – 7 pm	Reading Town Hall	7 am – 7 pm
Woodstock Town Hall	7 am – 7 pm		

MARCH 2, 2021 – AUSTRALIAN BALLOT QUESTIONS

Article 1: The legal voters of the specified towns designated within this itemized Article shall elect the following:

- Barnard: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Bridgewater: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Bridgewater: one school director to assume office upon election and serve the remaining year of a three-year term or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Killington: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Plymouth: one school director to assume office upon election and serve the remaining year of a three-year term or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Plymouth: one school director to assume office upon election and serve the remaining two years of a three-year term or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Pomfret: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Pomfret: one school director to assume office upon election and serve the remaining two years of a three-year term or until their successor is elected and qualified

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Article 2: Shall the voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend **Twenty-Two Million Seven Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars (\$22,755,638)**, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$18,784.13 per equalized pupil. This projected spending is \$654,112 or 2.96% higher than spending for the current year.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District authorize the board of directors under 16 V.S.A. §562(9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?

Article 4: To elect an uncompensated Moderator who shall assume office upon election and shall serve for a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

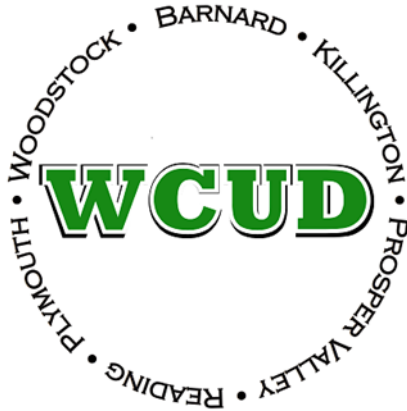
Article 5: To elect an uncompensated Clerk who shall enter upon their duties on July 1 following their election and shall serve a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

Article 6: To elect a Treasurer, to be compensated \$6,500.00, who shall enter upon their duties on July 1 following their election and shall serve a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

Dated the 4th day of January, 2021.

Bryce Sammel

Signature, WCUUSD Chair [on file]



WINDSOR CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors

TOWN	NAME	EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
BARNARD	Pamela Fraser	pfraser@wcsu.net	March 2022
	Bryce Sammel	bsammel@wcsu.net	March 2021
BRIDGEWATER	Matthew Hough	matthewhough@wcsu.net	March 2021
	Sarah Adams	sadams@wcsu.net	March 2021(2022)
KILLINGTON	Jim Haff	jhaff@wcsu.net	March 2023
	Jennifer Iannantuoni	jiannantuoni@wcsu.net	March 2021
PLYMOUTH	Jay Moore	jmoore@wcsu.net	March 2021 (2023)
	Joshua Linton	j.linton@mail.com	March 2021 (2022)
POMFRET	Bill Overbay	boverbay@wcsu.net	March 2021 (2023)
	Bob Coates	bcoates@wcsu.net	March 2021
READING	Adam Ameele	aameele@wcsu.net	March 2022
	Anna Sessa	asessa@wcsu.net	March 2023
WOODSTOCK	Keri Bristow	kbristow@wcsu.net	March 2021
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Windsor Central Supervisory Union

Administrative Office

70 Amsden Way

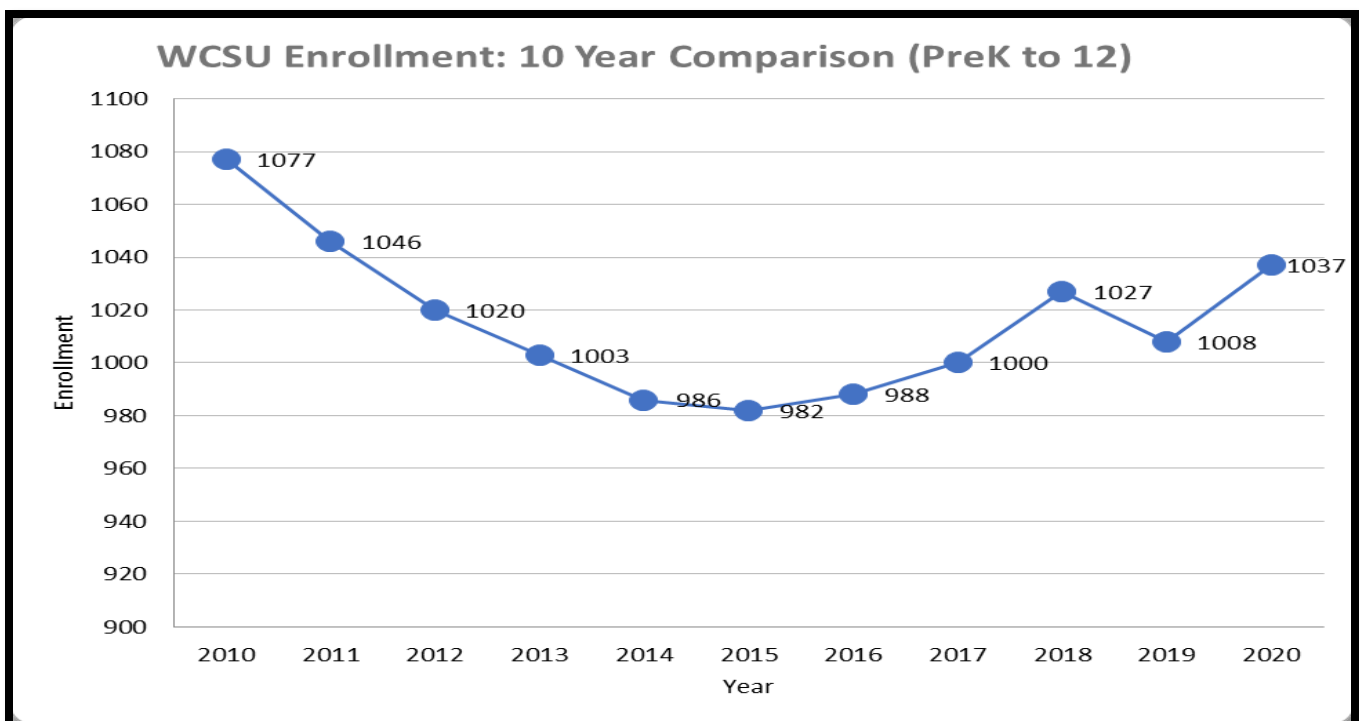
Woodstock, VT 05091

802-457-1213

Website: www.wcsu.net

Sherry Sousa, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Windsor Central Supervisory Union													
Enrollment Report as of December 1, 2020													
Elementary School Enrollment	On-Site PreK	K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Total PreK-6				
Barnard Academy	8	8	11	9	9	7	9	11	72				
Killington Elementary School	19	9	19	12	13	12	20	22	126				
Reading Elementary School	10	3	7	6	5				31				
Woodstock Elementary School	29	37	47	28	39	44	43	38	305				
TOTAL ELEMENTARY	66	57	84	55	66	63	72	71	534				
Secondary School Enrollment -WUHSMS													
Grade 7	77	MS TOTAL 154		WCUUSD resident students = 917 Tuition students from sending towns = 113 Act 129 VT High School Choice = 4 State Placed = 3									
Grade 8	77												
Grade 9	94	HS TOTAL 349											
Grade 10	73												
Grade 11	94												
Grade 12	88												
TOTAL SECONDARY	503	TOTAL WCSU ENROLLMENT							1037				



READING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2020-2021 school year at Reading Elementary School began with great anticipation. Students and staff returned to school wearing facial coverings and observing social distancing protocols to remain safe and healthy. Despite the challenges of teaching and learning during a pandemic, the students, faculty, and staff all returned to campus with enthusiasm and excitement. We are proud that we have been able to provide safe and engaging in-person instruction for students this year four days per week. Students attend school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday with Wednesday as a remote learning day.

For the 2020-2021 school year, Reading Elementary School is a PreK to Grade 3 school with 31 students. To keep the school a safe and healthy place to learn, students are met at the door each morning for a temperature check and health screening questions. Students learn English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies with their classroom teachers. The core educational program is enriched with instruction from Unified Arts Teachers in Music, Visual Art, and Physical Education. Social and Emotional learning is supported by a Clinical Social Worker to provide a foundation for safe and positive learning.

Teachers working in the Windsor Central Virtual Elementary School (WCVES), set up their teaching spaces in the Reading Elementary School library. The RES library was transformed into a virtual school. We secured faster internet speed and technology for teaching. The virtual elementary school on the Reading Elementary School campus serves the learning needs of over 60 students from across the district in grades Kindergarten through grade 6.

Reading Elementary School continues to be a leader in stewardship focused Place-Based Education. Students go outside to learn from nature every day in all sorts of weather. The campus is in an ideal location with access to forest, river, meadow, and farms. This fall was a beautiful season for outdoor learning at Reading Elementary School. To increase outdoor learning, the district provided tents for outdoor classrooms and we also used our permanent Outdoor Classroom daily. The Preschool class used a classroom tent in the school courtyard, close to the building and playground. The headquarters for the K-1 class was the permanent Outdoor Classroom in the large field behind the playground. The 2-3 class used a classroom tent adjacent to the field and the North Branch of the Black River where the students frequently observe wildlife in action and conduct experiments.

Preschool students explored the change of seasons through a study of trees and leaves. They made leaf rubbings and crafted windsocks decorated with leaves. The K-1 students spend each afternoon outdoors focused on science in the field and forest. The K-1 teacher, who participated in a graduate-level Project Based Learning course over the summer, designed a study of porcupines that incorporated scientific observation, reading, writing, math and art. The 2-3 class studied interdependent relationships in the field ecosystem. Each student developed a seed collection and invented devices to mimic different modes of seed transport and tested them on the river. In addition, our partnership with The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) continued to provide top quality scientific learning opportunities for students.

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This year, the Reading Elementary School Open House was held outside in the outdoor learning spaces. Students in all grades displayed their nature based art and learning projects. Our physical education teacher led socially distanced movement activities. And each class created a pumpkin for the Annual Pumpkin Raffle.

Thanks to the Barbour family and the abundant pumpkin harvest this year, all Reading Elementary School students and some of the district's Virtual Elementary School students engaged in pumpkin carving led by our Visual Arts Teacher and the Reading Town Librarian. Their work was displayed at the Reading Town Library.

Reading Elementary School continues to remain safe and healthy. Our custodian works throughout the school day to clean and disinfect all high touch points in the building a minimum of three times. Teachers thoroughly clean student desk surfaces after snack and lunch and then disinfect the desks at the end of the school day. Students are adept at washing their hands thoroughly and wearing masks both indoors and outdoors. Our School Nutrition program is served daily. For 2020-2021, both breakfast and lunch are available to all students free of charge.

The strength of Reading Elementary School comes from the community support and engagement. A huge thank you to Brownsville Butcher and Pantry for making RES the beneficiary of its Friday "Supper Club". The faculty, staff and administration at RES are very grateful for the continued support of the Reading community. Although we could not hold our annual Thanksgiving luncheon and the holiday concert this year, we plan to continue these traditions when we can be together again safely. The Reading community continues to support this incredible small school. Your support is recognized and appreciated by those of us who work with and for your children. We have a vibrant community of little learners who thrive in our school and town community. Without the support of the entire community, including business owners, volunteers, and donors, we would not be able to provide all that is needed to support the learning and growth of students. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at Reading Elementary School, thank you for continuing to share your time, talents, and care to grow and nurture our youngest citizens.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Lawler, Principal



READING: Three Prior Years Comparisons

Tax Rate Calculations

Three Prior Years Comparisons

Tax Rate Calculations

Town: Reading (estimated)				
County: Windsor		Merged	Merged	Merged
SU: Windsor Central		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
Expenditures				
	Local Budget	18,095,833	22,101,525	22,755,638
	Gross Act 68 Budget	18,095,833	22,101,525	22,755,638
Revenues:	Local Revenue - grants, donations, tuition, surplus	3,190,219	5,204,694	5,918,390
	Capital debt aid for eligible projects	-		estimated
	Education Spending	14,905,614	16,896,831	16,837,248
Equalized Pupils (Act 130 count is by school district)		828.38	904.88	927.71
	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	17,994	18,673	18,149
	Excess Spending Threshold	18,311	18,756	18,789
	Final Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	17,994	18,673	18,149
	Estimated Equalized Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.6899	\$1.7158	\$1.6863
		<i>based on yield \$10,648</i>	<i>based on yield \$10,883</i>	<i>based on yield \$10,763</i>
	Less: merger incentive	\$1.6299 (-0.06)	\$1.6758 (-0.04)	\$1.6663 (-0.02)
	Final Equalized Education Tax Rate	\$1.6299	\$1.6758	\$1.6663
	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	102.91%	105.42%	108.83%
	FY22 Estimated Actual Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.5691	\$1.5705	\$1.5311
		<i>based on \$1.00</i>	<i>based on \$1.00</i>	<i>based on \$1.00</i>
		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
	Homestead Tax Increase from FY21	\$1.5691	\$1.5705	\$1.5311
				FY2022 Homestead Property Tax Dollar increase (\$0.0394)

Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$10,763 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$12,825 for a base income percent of 2.74% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.73. **New and updated data could change the education spending per equalized pupil and the estimated homestead tax rate.**

Percentage Increase

927.71 equalized pupil
-2.51% pupil
0.94% 915 equalized pupil

WCUUSD FUNCTION CODE SUMMARY

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	FY21 Budget	FY22 Proposed Budget	Change Increase (Decrease)	
1100 Regular Instruction Program	\$8,557,442.25	\$8,688,082.09	\$130,639.84	planned salary/health insurance increases
1200 Special Education	\$2,761,267.94	\$3,020,916.00	\$259,648.06	planned salary/health insurance increases and planned out of school placement increase
1300 Vocational Tuition Local	\$115,000.00	\$120,750.00	\$5,750.00	
1400 Athletic Programs	\$561,562.42	\$567,264.67	\$5,702.25	
2100 Student Support Services	\$26,065.94	\$15,686.00	-\$10,379.94	Salary budgeted in 4 areas
2120 Guidance Services	\$696,953.94	\$769,607.00	\$72,653.06	extra counselor added; offset by reduction of paraeducators and Medicaid reimbursement money
2130 School Nurse Services	\$318,365.56	\$350,540.00	\$32,174.44	nurse position added to TPVS budget
2140 Psychological Services	\$230,037.32	\$201,660.00	-\$28,377.32	Special Education psych counseling K-12 reductions due to greater capacity
2150 Speech and Other Therapy Services	\$270,836.14	\$332,450.00	\$61,613.86	budgeting on the high end for a 1 replacement (higher salary and family health)
2160 Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Visions Services	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$1,000.00	Physical therapy contracted services
2190 Other Student Services	\$11,600.00	\$11,600.00	\$0.00	Student assistance counselor
2210 Improvement of Instruction	\$347,505.72	\$293,250.00	-\$54,255.72	Federal Grant removed from the local budget
2220 Library Services	\$290,769.12	\$296,031.00	\$5,261.88	
2230 Technology Services	\$546,123.30	\$592,471.78	\$46,348.48	planned salary/health insurance increases and fee increases
2310 School Board	\$22,910.00	\$25,750.00	\$2,840.00	
2315 Legal Services	\$35,000.00	\$33,000.00	-\$2,000.00	
2317 Audit Services	\$65,000.00	\$40,000.00	-\$25,000.00	reduction in audit fee
2320 Superintendent's Office	\$629,932.01	\$606,775.00	-\$23,157.01	early retirement health insurance paid in FY21
2410 School Administration	\$1,281,439.99	\$1,315,437.00	\$33,997.01	planned salary/health insurance increases
2420 Director of Instructional Support Services	\$288,014.49	\$294,059.00	\$6,044.51	
2510 Fiscal Services	\$123,000.00	\$90,000.00	-\$33,000.00	does not affect programming; unused budgeted line from FY21
2520 Director of Finance and Operations	\$508,436.79	\$534,581.98	\$26,145.19	planned salary/health insurance increases
2540 Planning, Research, Development	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$500.00	
2600 Building and Grounds	\$2,379,101.68	\$2,452,984.60	\$73,882.92	planned salary/health insurance increases and custodial position added to TPVS
2700 Transportation	\$692,225.00	\$688,807.00	-\$3,418.00	Special Education 7-12 decrease
2900 Other Support Services	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
3100 Food Services	\$720,215.81	\$790,937.00	\$70,721.19	planned salary/health insurance increases and food services position added to TPVS
4700 Building Improvements	\$283,314.00	\$283,314.00	\$0.00	
5000 Debt Services	\$79,906.61	\$78,684.00	-\$1,222.61	HS/MS Bond
5500 Sub-Grants	\$245,000.00	\$245,000.00	\$0.00	
Total Expenses	\$22,101,526.03	\$22,755,638.12	\$654,112.09	

Summary Page

	FY21	FY22	Difference
Grand Total Expenses	\$22,101,526.00	\$22,755,638.00	\$654,112.00
			2.96%
The above difference is based on the following			
Salaries and Insurance	\$306,500.00		due to 2.5% increase in salary and 9.8% increase in health
TPVS operating costs to reopen	\$208,252.00		includes additional staffing and maintenance costs
Special Education Costs and other	\$139,360.00		increases for out of school placement and other departmental increases

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THE SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The District began the 2020-2021 School Year in the midst of a global pandemic. In July the Collaboration Team, a group of teachers, administrators, parents and students, came together to create our plan for returning to campus. The group recommended for the start of school an alternating day model where most students had two days of in-person instruction in our schools and three days of remote learning. All elementary schools provided in-school instruction for four days per week for grades kindergarten through second. On Wednesdays when all students were involved in remote learning, staff addressed planning and preparation for this new model, accessed colleagues for coordination of instruction, met virtually with parents and external teams, and engaged in professional development. Some students were present for more days to allow for double dosing of material, providing interventions, and addressing the needs of parents who are Essential Workers including medical professionals and teachers in the Windsor Central District.

Some parents choose a fully remote program based on their personal health and safety concerns. Four district elementary teachers and academic coaches were identified to develop curriculum, provide remote instruction and assess student progress for all of the elementary schools. The Middle and High School students accessed coursework through the Virtual High School, a platform that the school was familiar with.

In November when the Governor's Order changed to allow elementary students to be within 3 feet of each other, Principals evaluated their buildings capacity to accommodate more students. Barnard Academy, Killington Elementary and Reading Elementary now have all students on campus for 4 days per week at all grades. Woodstock Elementary was not able to include more students on campus due to the size of their classrooms and the total number of students in the building. WES teaches and administration have developed other means to maximize the in school experience for their students.

When asked, faculty and students are appreciative of the opportunity to be in school together and not remote. The loss of contact with peers and educators was felt deeply by our students. They wish to remain in school as much as possible. Teachers and administrators are reviewing student data to assess the impact of our Hybrid Model on student outcomes. Plans are in place to address learning loss that may have occurred.

In response to the National Racial Justice movement, the WCSU Leadership Team and Board published their statements on Anti-Racism that committed to rejecting all forms of racism and committing to treat all people with dignity. Members of the Leadership Team secured a grant from Mt. Ascutney Hospital to begin the work of actively engaging in this conversation with faculty, staff, administrators, the Board and students to develop responsive policies and programming. In addition, Director of Instructional Technology Raph Adamek is working with Dartmouth College students to collect the experiences of our students of color and to engage our high school students in identifying evidence of cultural bias and racism in our schools and communities. The Middle and High Schools also have active QSA and Social Justice groups.

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The administration and Board recognize that this is a commitment that will take many years to achieve, and that starting at the self-awareness level, is the first step.

The Board and Administration have not wavered in their commitment to reopen the Prosper Valley School. While the school has been closed, time has been dedicated to completing a deep analysis of the issues with the building, remediating those problems, and looking forward to bringing students back. In December, the Board approved the reallocation of budgeted money to begin the final stages of renovation including removing surfaces impacted by the mold, and replacing flooring. The Campus Configuration group of Board members, faculty and community members are discussing which students should return to this campus based on the enrollment data, parent interest and the need to reduce the number of students at Woodstock Elementary School. The building will be ready for students in August of 2021.

I know I am looking forward to the time that we can all return to our campuses without the concerns of Covid-19. I believe that we have all been greatly impacted by our experiences brought on by the pandemic and that we will never take for granted the simple pleasures of being in our schools with students and colleagues. What was commonplace, is now highly valued. What we longed for a break from, we can't wait to have back.

Woodstock Union High School and Middle School received [GreatSchools.org's 2020 College Success Award](https://www.greatschools.org/2020-college-success-award/). The College Success Award recognizes and celebrates high schools that demonstrate excellence in ensuring students are prepared to succeed in college and ultimately careers. WUHSMS is one of 2,158 schools in 29 states across the country to be honored with the Award, which is based on data indicating how our school prepares students to succeed after high school, including whether they enroll in college, are ready for college-level coursework when they get there, and persist into their second year.

Sherry Sousa, Interim Superintendent of Schools

WINDSOR CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

As we enter into our fourth year as a unified Board of seven member towns, it's needless to say COVID-19 has been at the center of this past school year's planning. Our teachers and administrators have worked tirelessly to create systems to educate our students as safely and effectively as possible under these trying conditions. The entire district saw an increase in enrollment due to students new to the area, but also saw some decrease in enrollment due to those that either needed to or preferred home-study during a pandemic. We continue to learn and adapt to this environment while also moving forward with required business and initiatives that will help propel the District forward. We continue to set goals and implement plans to serve students in all of our member towns in an excellent and equitable manner. Our Portrait of a Graduate and Strategic Plan--both of which were adopted by the Board in June 2019--guide the board and structure our activities. These documents provide the district with a set of goals for our students and our district, and a road map for how to achieve these goals.

In July, Interim Superintendent Sherry Sousa began a one-year contract while a national search is being pursued to fill the position. Barnard Academy has had its first year as a new member of the now-unified district. The Prosper Valley School is being remediated with the goal of being used again for the fall of 2021. The board has tasked a configuration working group to study and recommend a best use for the building. The High School/Middle School Working Group continues to study the financial feasibility of a possible master plan for the MSHS, with the intention of concluding the study in the coming months so as to be able to make decisions about a recommended course of action. Ahead of the Districts creation of the racial justice coalition, the Board released a statement on racism and has contracted with Writing Wrongs LLC, to assist the District in developing an anti-racism policy.

The Windsor Central Unified Union School District Board voted to approve a \$22,755,638 budget for the FY22 school year. It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved by voters, will result in education spending of \$18,149 per equalized pupil. This projected spending is \$654,112 or 2.96% higher than spending for the current year.

Two primary drivers of the FY22 budget increase are a health insurance cost increase of 9.8% and 2.5% salary increases for our staff. These two items have resulted in an addition of \$306,500 to the budget. After creating a more equitable system-wide salary grid for our teachers over the past few years, we sought to do the same for our staff, making salary adjustments that allow all staff across the district to be paid equitably.

The majority of the remaining proposed budget increase includes investments in our Buildings and Grounds maintenance line item, which will allow us to maintain our district schools. Additionally, the district will be investing \$208,252 into operating The Prosper Valley School facility and making it a functioning building again.

Finance Committee Chair Ben Ford and members Anna Sessa, Jen Flaster, Bill Overbay, Interim Superintendent Sherry Sousa, and Finance Director Dan Fitzpatrick worked hard to prepare a proposed budget to present to you that accurately reflects our efforts to contain our costs, increase our revenue, and work within the constraints imposed by the State. They have worked hard to maintain our standards of academic excellence while also managing fiscal responsibility. We know that it is your money we are spending when we craft this budget and we do not take our responsibility lightly.

The board thanks the taxpayers of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Reading, Plymouth, Pomfret, and Woodstock for supporting our schools and for helping us to create and maintain an environment that yields remarkable achievement in our students. Our children reap the benefits of being educated in a place where the teachers and staff take such pride in their work and where a community supports and recognizes their success.

WCSU Instructional Support Services

The Instructional Support Services faculty actively work to meet the needs of their students. This year, like no other, we used our creativity to develop programming as well as intervention spaces due to restrictions related to COVID-19. Programming for hybrid and fully remote learning options were developed for all students who receive services as part of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), so that services could readily shift between these models as needed and without delay. At Woodstock Elementary and Woodstock Union High/Middle School, the gymnasiums were transformed into intervention spaces for students who receive specialized instruction. Further, faculty engaged in training with highly skilled instructors, coursework in specialized instruction, and a monthly Professional Learning Community, in addition to ongoing collaboration with colleagues.

The innovative BEST grant funding is being utilized to support WCSU implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS), a state-wide effort designed to help school teams form a proactive, school-wide, systems approach to improving social and academic competence for all students. Additional faculty, staff, and administration will be attending PBIS specific tiered training as well as the PBIS summer institute to further develop our practices and implementation across the district. Mt. Ascutney Hospital grant funds allowed us to expand our practices by purchasing the Second Step Advisory License for our middle school students. This program is a key resource addressing the social and emotional needs of our students. As a result of the pandemic, at the middle school, all Wellness classes are presented online. The interactive online capacity of the program allows for these challenging conversations to occur with classmates even though they are not physically in a classroom together. Further, these grant funds enabled us to purchase materials for “Buddy Boxes” for our mentorship program, providing mentors and mentees quality activities for engagement in person or remotely. Having access to a caring adult is critical, particularly during this pandemic. Further, WCSU continues to utilize Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS), a framework for reducing challenging behaviors by teaching children the skills they lack while building relationships with adults in their lives. BEST grant funding will be utilized to train additional educators so this practice continues to expand throughout the district. To support this work, faculty trained in CPS meet monthly to collaborate, enhance, and expand their practices.

The Director of Instructional Support Services collaborates with several groups in order to support students and families. Three of which include the Local Interagency Team (LIT), the Community Assets Resources and Empowerment (CARE) team, and the Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators (VCSEA). The LIT is a group which meets monthly to help coordinate and implement Coordinated Services Plans as well as identify, assess, and address service system needs at the local level. The CARE team is a group that represents members of the school community and agencies from all of our towns that support families and individuals, including partnership with Mt. Ascutney Hospital. The purpose of the group is to identify and provide resources for individual family needs and greater community issues that cannot be solely addressed by school resources. VCSEA is a statewide non-profit organization that provides support through professional development, networking, information sharing, and legislative advocacy. During our monthly meetings we focus on education policy and instructional programming to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

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Several of the Director of Instructional Support Services' collaborative initiatives include: developing an elementary level handbook for Educational Support Team (EST) processes for academic, behavior, social-emotional, speech-language and/or fine motor concerns; working with specialists and faculty to develop shared strategy documents for implementation of Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) to provide targeted support for students who are struggling; analyzing our current special education programming to find creative ways to bring students back from outside placements; and working with literacy specialists to implement evidence-based practices to refine and improve our instructional practices and programs as well as how we can create MTSS in literacy. In addition, WCSU was awarded a \$20,000 grant through Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center as a result of collaboration between Superintendent Sherry Sousa, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Jennifer Stainton, Student Assistance Counselor Annie Luke, and Director of Instructional Support Services Gina Rocque. This grant project became the catalyst for the district's new Racial Justice Coalition, whose goal is to create a culture that is impartial, unprejudiced, and nonracist within and among faculty, students, administration, and the greater WCSU community.

We offered our annual Summer SOAK program and through generous donations were able to offer programming for free, thus eliminating the financial impact on families. However, due to the pandemic and direction from the state, the format and structure of our program had to adapt by limiting groups to 25 people, including instructors; no longer using busses; and following newly developed COVID-19 safety protocols. Our program ran on three campuses, WES, RES, and BA. Instructors did an amazing job using the communities in which they were located to take adventures in the outdoors and enjoy the beautiful environment in which we live. Our focus shifted from academic support to social-emotional well-being. Given that students had not been in school or with others in a social setting for almost four months, many felt stress of the unknown and/or isolation. The goal was to help students return to being part of a community and prepare them for the return to school in the fall, new social norms of mask wearing, physical distancing, and daily health checks.

Our department believes in ongoing professional learning opportunities. Many educators are participating in the professional development opportunity provided by Dave Melnick of Northeast Family Institute, including 2 special educators and 2 paraprofessionals. Participants are taking a graduate course that addresses the impact of chronic traumatic stress on developing children and adolescents. This is important work to help educators best address the needs of students exposed to toxic stress, with the goal of increasing not only theoretical understanding but learning innovative strategies best suited to meet students' individual needs. Through IDEA grant funding, 10 educators participated in the annual Learning Differences conference. Further, the district's Director of Learning Opportunities and School Psychologist are participating in a professional development opportunity to learn how to improve the use of cognitive and academic evaluation results to deepen understanding of varied learning disability profiles and the Response to Intervention (RTI) model, which supports the state's and district's development and implementation of MTSS.

Instructional Support Services at WCSU focuses on a range of supports to address students' individual needs, from academic to social-emotional to being a community member. I am privileged to work with a group of dedicated educators committed to diversifying and individualizing the opportunities that we provide our community and how we are creative with our existing resources.

Respectfully submitted

Gina Rocque

Director of Instructional Support Services

Report of the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Curriculum development, local assessment systems and needs-based professional development for educators are critical areas for ensuring equitable and high quality learning experiences for all Windsor Central students. Thank you for your support of this new district-level position, in place as of July of 2020. It is an important role for the long-term work needed to coordinate systems that can address these critical areas.

During a short timeframe in the Fall of 2020, and in light of pandemic-induced system stressors, Windsor Central faculty reconceptualized the nature of their work. They modified spaces in their classrooms to meet health requirements, increased the amount of time they spent outside with students, collected strategic data to understand how to best meet the educational needs of each student, modified curricula in light of fewer minutes of contact time, increased social and emotional connections, and, in some cases, took on completely new jobs altogether so our students could be on campus as much as possible. I thank every teacher for their dedication to educating our students with incredible care and thoughtfulness during this time.

The Windsor Central Portrait of a Graduate (PoG) continues to gain meaning through the work of two groups of teachers this year. The PreK-12 Deeper Learning Catalyst Group, facilitated by MS/HS Literacy Instructional Coach Audrey Richardson and HS Science Teacher Tim Brennan, is exploring student Deeper Learning as a mechanism for obtaining PoG outcomes. In addition, our team of Elementary Unified Arts teachers, facilitated by Art Teacher Lisa Kaija and Spanish Teacher Elaine Leibly, is connecting each of their subjects to PoG outcomes. In the next few months this group will create a visual representation of these connections that will hang in every Windsor Central elementary school.

Two in-house credit-bearing professional development opportunities leveraged the expertise of faculty this year. First, Virtual Elementary School teacher and instructional coach Shayna Kalnitsky engaged early elementary teachers in a 3-credit, semester-long deep dive into project-based learning using the text *Young Investigators: The Project Approach in the Early Years* (Helm & Katz, 2016). Each teacher participating in this course developed and implemented a project in their classes that leveraged their learning. Second, Special Education Literacy Specialist Julie Brown taught a 1-credit course in the early months of 2021 titled, *With Literacy and Justice for All: A Community of Educators Engaging with Language and Literacy Research*. In this course, teachers, administrators, and paraeducators took a close look at the research on how to teach reading, and the implications for equity and opportunity for Windsor Central students. Beyond these two offerings, over 100 professional learning opportunities were accessed by Windsor Central faculty during 2020 in topics that included online learning, racial justice, and foreign language acquisition, to name a few.

After school needs-based professional development for teachers focused in two major areas in the Fall of 2020: student data and curriculum. Teachers of Math and English Language at all grade levels spent meeting time evaluating locally collected assessment data. Meetings focused on the implications of the data for classroom differentiation, student supports, and curriculum shifts. Middle and High School meetings were facilitated by Department Chairs. Elementary-level meetings were facilitated by Teachers and Instructional Coaches Kristen Hubbell, Shayna Kalnitsky, and DeVeau Sleeper, which happened via Zoom. Districtwide teacher comfort with Zoom meetings has opened a doorway to increased teacher collaboration by grade level, allowing teachers located in geographically distanced school locations to meet on a regular basis.

Ensuring that resources are available to support the programs of Windsor Central Supervisory Union is also a role of the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. Title I and II Grants continue to support the needs of students academically at risk by funding the salaries of interventionists and instructional coaches. In addition, the Title IV Grant supports safe and healthy schools. A mid-cycle waiver to Title IV allowed Windsor Central to strengthen technology infrastructure by increasing the percent of students accessing 1:1 technology in grades K-2. In the fall I was able to join Superintendent Sherry Sousa, Director of Student Support Services Gina Rocque, and Student Assistance Counselor Annie Luke in bringing in a Prevention Network Grant through the Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center for \$20,000. This grant will help Windsor Central take critical steps towards realizing the goals of the School Board and Administration to unveil and address systemic racism and social justice issues in our schools.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Stainton, EdD,
Windsor Central Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Woodstock Union High School and Middle School

Principal's Report

All of us have stories of the challenges and disruptions we experienced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the significant adaptations made to our daily lives to support our students' education. Many of my stories from the past year are about closing our campus in March, but another story I like to tell is about the Woodstock Union High School and Middle School community's resiliency. Our students, faculty, and staff did a remarkable job transitioning school operations to a remote setting. From Food Services to Arts programs, the pairing of ingenuity and determination kept our programs intact. The 2020 Graduation was one of the most unique celebrations of a graduating class in our school's long history. It was incredible to experience Woodstock's streets lined with people (socially distanced) showing pride in our graduates and feel the support and care this community has for its students. Thank you for always being there for WUHSMS students.

In the fall of 2019, we launched the five-year Windsor Central Strategic Plan. At the heart of the plan is the Portrait of a Graduate which defines the skills, knowledge, and personal habits critical to students' future success. The Vermont Agency of Education honored our work developing and implementing this approach to learning by nominating Woodstock Union High School and Middle School to be included in the Canopy Project's national database of innovative schools. We look forward to deepening our connections with schools across the country and growing our capacity to serve our students with an outstanding education. Here are some highlights from the 2019-2020 school year:

Academic excellence: has enduring understanding of essential concepts in academic domains.

Woodstock Union High School was ranked "Third Best" among Vermont high schools by U.S. News and World Report.

Woodstock Union High School was one of ten Vermont high schools to receive a College Success Award from GreatSchools.org.

The College Board named Woodstock Union High School to the AP Honor Roll for Expanding Opportunity and Improving Performance of AP Students. We were honored to be approved to offer the AP Capstone in 2021-22, and beginning with the Class of 2023, students will be eligible to earn an AP diploma.

Heather Vonada, math teacher, received the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Critical Problem Solving: makes judgments and decisions based on evidence and reasoning.

We continued our multi-year partnership with the NuVu Innovation School and onsite innovation studio engaging students in solving complex challenges using creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration.

Self-Direction: develops intrinsic initiative and responsibility for learning.

Supported by our Center of Community Connections, more than twenty students completed independent studies of their own design in settings ranging from Dartmouth College labs, classrooms, local businesses, and the national park.

Skillful Communication: *communicates for a range of purposes and with a variety of audiences.*

Woodstock students received awards from the Vermont Arts Council, Poetry Out Loud, and Senator Bernie Sanders's 2020 State of the Union Essay Contest.

Twelve members of the Class of 2020 met rigorous standards to have the Seal of Biliteracy affixed to their transcripts.

The Yoh Theatre Players successfully adapted the spring play to be a fully online performance.

Stewardship: *demonstrates responsibility for local and global communities.*

Woodstock Union High School and Middle School continued its longstanding collaboration with the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park that provides students with opportunities to contribute to the park's stewardship mission.

Students in the Interact Service Club traveled to Panama to complete service projects in local schools and orphanages.

Two eighth grade students were selected and served as legislative pages in the Vermont Statehouse.

Over one hundred students traveled to the Flynn Theatre to hear Representative John Lewis speak, including what he described as his 'simple message,' 'When you see something that is not right, not fair, you have a moral obligation to do something.'

We strive to prepare all students for success and break down barriers to accessing post-secondary learning. Throughout the 2019-20 school year, the Counseling Department worked to enhance its program delivery including a full redevelopment of the department website. This year, to ensure that we are serving our students with the most current best practices, the department is aligning its services with the American School Counselor Association's standards. In March, we will participate in the SAT School Day and offer the test free of charge to all students in the eleventh grade.

Finally, I want to share that while we continue to grapple with the impacts of the ongoing pandemic on learning, I have the utmost confidence in the faculty and staff to provide our students with an excellent education. From the start of the year, these professionals pushed themselves to create engaging learning environments within the parameters of our current health and safety guidelines. This year, we have seen campfires used to teach students about the qualities of matter and energy, musicians digitally piecing together individual performances to create a group ensemble, and every type of lesson one can imagine taught outside. The Strategic Plan and Portrait of a Graduate will continue to guide our work along with a focus on supporting students in their recovery from this challenging pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,

Garon Smail, Principal