



LEICESTER, VERMONT 2020 TOWN REPORT

January 2020 – December 2020

INFORMATIONAL HEARING:
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021
7:00PM (REMOTE)

TOWN MEETING VOTE:
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021
10:00AM – 7:00PM

Town of Leicester
44 Schoolhouse Road
Leicester, VT 05733
WWW.LEICESTERV.T.ORG

TOWN INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER

(802) 247-5961 x 3
LEICESTERV.T@COMCAST.NET

Monday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Tuesday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm

AUDITORS

LEICESTERAUDITORS@COMCAST.NET

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

(802) 247-5961 x 2
LEICESTERLISTERS@COMCAST.NET

Tuesday 9:00am - 12:00pm

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

(802) 247-5961 x 1
(802) 465-8098
LEICESTERZONING@COMCAST.NET

By Appointment

RECYCLING: 1st & 3rd Saturday of month 9:00am - 12:00pm at Town Garage

REGULAR MEETINGS

Held at Town Office

SELECTBOARD

1st & 3rd Monday of month at 6:30pm

ZONING BOARD

2nd & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm
As required

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm
As required

CEMETERY COMMITTEE (Apr - Oct)
2nd Thursday of month at 6:30pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

(AS OF 1/1/2021)

Julie Delphia	Town Clerk/Treasurer	247-5961	Beth Ripley	Del. Tax Collector	247-0075
Diane Benware	Selectboard Chair	247-3786	Jeff McDonough	1 st Constable	247-5212
Tom Barker	Selectboard Member	247-3160	Mike Rakowitz	2 nd Constable	247-3281
Brad Lawes	Selectboard Member	465-8065			
John Rouse	Selectboard Member	247-3135	Ricky Nicklaw	Fire Warden	247-8357
Ron Fiske	Selectboard Member	247-4856	Chree Perkins	Health Officer	465-8335
Arlan Pidgeon	Road Foreman	247-6361	Keith Arlund	Zoning Admin	310-1928
Brad Lawes	Road Commissioner	465-8065			
Dianne Harvey	Assessor Assistant	247-5961	Carly Lehrer	Animal Control	282-3777

A **Drop Box** is located under the bulletin board on the front of the Town Office. Payments and correspondence may be placed in the **Drop Box** at any time.

44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733 Tel: (802) 247-5961 WWW.LEICESTERV.T.ORG

FRONT COVER: Leicester, VT *Photo by Julie Delphia*

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CHANGES TO THE TOWN REPORT

Due to changes in legislation and the consolidation of the RNESU schools, the Leicester Town Report is separate from the School District Report. The Town Report is compiled and distributed by the Town, and the School District Report is compiled and distributed by the Otter Valley Unified Union School District (and RNESU).

The OVUUSD report will be distributed by the OVUU Board. They have asked that we include a few reports in our Town Report this year. These reports can be found at the end of this Town Report.

If you have questions regarding this change, or with the Town Report, please contact Julie Delphia, Town Clerk, at (802) 247-5961 x 3.

LEICESTER TOWN OFFICIALS

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Auditors

Vacant	March 2023
Deb Miner	March 2021
Donna Pidgeon	March 2022

Delinquent Tax Collector

Elizabeth Ripley	March 2021
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Justices of the Peace

Cheryl Morrison	February 2021
Diane Benware	February 2021
Hilary Hatch	February 2021
Thomas Barker	February 2021
Greg Bernhardt	February 2021

Moderator

Richard Reed	March 2021
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Town Clerk

Julie Delphia	March 2023
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Town Treasurer

Julie Delphia	March 2023
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Selectboard

Diane Benware, Chair (3)	March 2022
Ron Fiske (2)	March 2022
Brad Lawes (3)	March 2021
John Rouse (3)	March 2023
Thomas Barker (2)	March 2021

HIRED TOWN OFFICIALS

Administrative Assistant to the Assessor

Dianne Harvey	Hired
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Road Foreman

Arlan Pidgeon	Hired
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Zoning Administrator

Keith Arlund	Hired
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APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS Term Expires

Cemetery Sexton

Donna Pidgeon	March 2021
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Emergency Management Coordinator

John Rouse	May 2021
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Energy Coordinator

Jeremy Gildrien	May 2021
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First Constable

Jeff McDonough	March 2021
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Forest Fire Warden

Richard C. Nicklaw	June 2021
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Regional Planning Representative

Diane Benware	June 2021
Vacant	June 2021

Road Commissioner

Brad Lawes	March 2021
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Second Constable

Mike Rakowitz	March 2021
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Solid Waste Representative

Richard Reed	March 2021
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Tree Warden

Arlan Pidgeon	March 2021
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Health Officer

Chree Perkins	August 2022
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Zoning Board of Adjustment

Jay Michael (2)	November 2022
Donna Swingleton (3)	November 2022
Suki Fredricks (3)	November 2022
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2023
Bill Shouldice (2)	November 2022

Planning Commission

Jay Michael (2)	November 2022
Donna Swingleton – Chair (3)	November 2022
Suki Fredricks (3)	November 2022
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2023
Bill Shouldice (2)	November 2022

LEICESTER TOWN REMOTE INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOTICE

The Selectboard for the Town of Leicester will hold a public informational hearing by electronic means on March 1, 2021 at 7:00pm to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2021 Town Meeting Warning.

Information on how to access the remote hearing:

- By telephone: Dial **1 646 558 8656**. When prompted enter the hearing ID: **818 2639 1090**.
- By computer: Join meeting by clicking here **<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81826391090>**. You may be prompted to enter a hearing ID: **818 2639 1090**.
- By smartphone, tablet, or other device: Download and open the Zoom app. You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the meeting ID: **818 2639 1090**.

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Hearings" (below) to understand how t electronic hearings will be managed. If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) to Julie Delphia at leicestervt@comcast.net

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote hearing software in advance of the meeting. If you have difficulty accessing the hearing, please call (802) 247-5961 x 3 or email leicestervt@comcast.net.

AGENDA

Times are approximate and may vary.

- 7:00pm: Call to Order
- 7:00pm: Pledge of Allegiance
- 7:05pm: Additions or deletions to the agenda
 - Public comment
- 7:05pm: Review and discuss Article I: To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year
 - Public comment
- 7:10pm: Review and discuss Article II: Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of \$746,435.68 to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year... (see warning on Page 4 for breakdown)
 - Public comment
- 7:25pm: Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)
- 7:30pm: Entertain motion to adjourn hearing

INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT FOR REMOTE HEARINGS

Remote Public Informational Hearing

The public informational hearing will be conducted remotely via electronic means. The public will also be able to access and participate in the remote hearing by dialing in through telephone.

Accessing the Hearing

Please refer to the hearing notice and agenda for information on how to access the remote hearing. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting "room" until granted access to the hearing. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the hearing.

Participation

The Selectboard will follow its agenda and allow public attendees to participate through voice (audio) means where feasible or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

Initially, the hearing host/organizer will mute all participants. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the Selectboard Chair.
Please review the following guidelines:

- The Chair will invite comment:
 - during the time designated on the agenda for public comment;
 - during any open public comment period, if applicable; and
 - other times as determined by the Chair.
- When a participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state their name before commenting.

When the Selectboard adjourns the hearing, the host/organizer will end the electronic hearing by turning off/closing the remote hearing software. Attendees will be automatically disconnected.

Minutes and other public records that were part of the hearing will be made available in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting and Public Records Laws.

To learn more about Remote Public Hearings and the Open Meeting Law, please visit the Secretary of State's Municipal Assistance webpage at <https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/>.

LEICESTER TOWN MEETING WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are warned and notified to meet at the **Leicester Town Office** in said Town on **March 2, 2021** between the hours of **10 AM and 7 PM** when the polls will be open to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

Article I: To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year:


A Moderator for a one (1) year term
A Selectboard Member for a three (3) year term
A Selectboard Member for a two (2) year term
An Auditor for the remaining two (2) years of a three (3) year term
An Auditor for a three (3) year term
A Delinquent Tax Collector for a one (1) year term

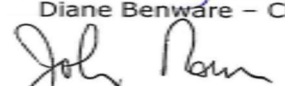
Article II: Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of **\$746,435.68** to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year, divided as follows:


General Town Expenses	\$ 310,845.68	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 289,275.26
Highway Expenses	\$ 435,590.00	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 296,946.70


Note: Selectboard will set the tax rate at a later date.

Leicester Selectboard:


Diane Benware – Chair (2022)


John Rouse (2023)


Tom Barker (2021)


Ron Fiske (2022)


Brad Lawes (2021)

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by January 31, 2021. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. SAMPLE BALLOTS will be posted by February 10, 2021.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to olvr.sec.state.vt.us.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at mvp.sec.state.vt.us. The latest you can request ballots for the Town Meeting Election is the close of the Town Clerk's office on March 1, 2021. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the town clerk's office before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

ON ELECTION DAY:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new registration form.

- If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

If you are a first-time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

NO PERSON SHALL:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS: Go to the entrance checklist table. Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official. An election official will give you a ballot. Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc." To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for. WRITE-IN candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

CHECK OUT: Go to the exit checklist table and state your name in an audible voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

CAST YOUR VOTE by depositing your voted ballot in "Voted Ballots" box.

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

LEICESTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOWN RECEIPTS

Balance, Jan. 1, 2020		50,838.25
Selectboard Loans	280,000.00	
Transfers	<u>49,466.28</u>	
Total Loans & Transfers		329,466.28
Current Taxes for Town & School	2,542,259.70	
Delinquent Taxes, Interest & Penalty	118,703.02	
Zoning Fees	2,150.00	
Licenses & Fines	4,493.71	
Tax Allocation	335,000.00	
Grants	64,243.98	
Other	<u>10,492.50</u>	
Total Income		<u>3,077,342.91</u>
TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS		3,457,647.44

TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

Loan Repayment	280,000.00	
Transfers to Restricted Funds	24,680.00	
Schools	2,196,074.81	
Tax Allocation for State	530,000.00	
Payments covered by Restricted Funds	49,466.28	
Selectboard Orders & Appropriations	<u>365,770.93</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		3,445,992.02
Ending Balance Dec 31, 2020		11,655.42

LEICESTER HIGHWAY SUMMARY

HIGHWAY RECEIPTS

Balance Jan 1, 2020		6,499.71
Transfers to Highway Funds	126,000.00	
Current Taxes for Highway	369,540.29	
Weight Permits	945.00	
State Aid - Highway	86,332.10	
Reimbursement Income & FEMA	0.00	
Grants	<u>6,710.00</u>	
Total Income		<u>589,527.39</u>
TOTAL HIGHWAY RECEIPTS		596,027.10

HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

Transfer to Restricted Funds	60,000.00	
Allocation	0.00	
Selectboard Orders	<u>460,633.80</u>	
TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS		520,633.80
Ending Balance Dec 31, 2020		75,393.30

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

Tax Rate:	Homestead	Non-residential	
Town	0.1341	0.1341	
Town Highway	0.2023	0.2023	
Veteran Exemption	0.0012	0.0012	
Education	1.3541	1.5835	
Total Tax Rate	1.6917	1.9211	
Grand List	1,826,213.00		
Taxes billed:			
Town	1,826,213.00 x 0.1341	244,895.03	
Highway	1,826,213.00 x 0.2023	369,443.07	
			614,338.10
Education Taxes:			
Veteran's Exemp.	1,826,213.00 x 0.0012	2,191.36	
Homestead	782,564.00 x 1.3541	1,059,670.01	
Non-Residential	1,048,253.99 x 1.5835	1,659,910.27	
			2,721,771.64
Total Taxes Billed			3,336,109.74
Less State Rebates			332,093.50
Balance to be collected			3,004,016.24
Taxes Accounted for as Follows:			
2020 Current Taxes		2,890,958.08	
2020 Payments from Previous Year		148.93	
2020 Delinquent Collected		57,098.77	
2020 Delinquents Outstanding		55,810.46	
Total			3,004,016.24

NOTE: Tax amounts vary from 2020 budget requirements due to Grand List changes after tax rate was set.

	% of Property Tax Town vs. Education			
	Homestead Property Tax Bill			
	2020	2019	2018	2017
Town & Highway	19.9%	20.2%	19.1%	18.5%
Education Homestead	80.1%	80.7%	81.2%	81.5%

	% of Property Tax Town vs. Education			
	Non-Residential Property Tax Bill			
	2020	2019	2018	2017
Town & Highway	17.5%	17.1%	16.8%	17.0%
Education Non-Residential	82.5%	82.9%	83.2%	83.0%

BUDGET COMPARISON

	2020	2021	Difference	
Budget Town	305,695.16	310,845.68	5,150.52	
Budget Highway	<u>439,540.00</u>	<u>435,590.00</u>	<u>-3,950.00</u>	Highway
Total	745,235.16	746,435.68	1,200.52	Difference
			0.16%	% Difference

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD ORDERS RECEIPTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in General Fund	70,639.62	70,639.62	50,838.25	50,838.25	11,655.42	After receivables/payables
Loans and Transfers:						
Selectmen's Loans		160,000.00		280,000.00		Tax Anticipation Loan
Transfer from Restricted Funds		34,623.77		49,466.28		See Funds Page 16
Tax Account Allocation Refund		315,000.00		335,000.00		Allocated for State Ed pmt
Grants & State Direct Deposits						
Grant Income		11,988.00		64,243.98		See Grant Info Page 22
State DD Reappraisal Fund		6,757.50		6,715.00		See Funds Page 16
TOTAL LOANS AND TRANSFERS	0.00	528,369.27	0.00	735,425.26	0.00	
Fines, Fees & Licenses:						
Civil Fines from Sheriff Patrol		144.50		1,895.71		Register your dog by April 1st See report page 21
Dog Licenses / Fines	2,500.00	2,896.00	2,600.00	2,508.00	2,500.00	
License - Liquor / Junkyard	70.00	65.00	65.00	90.00	65.00	
TOTAL FINES, FEES, & LICENSES	2,570.00	3,105.50	2,665.00	4,493.71	2,565.00	
Taxes:						
Current Taxes - Town		211,850.29		244,841.91		
Current Taxes - Education		2,092,928.16		2,272,145.83		
Tax prepayments		148.93		1,285.30		
Current Use		10,015.00		10,504.00		
Delinquent Taxes, Interest, Penalties		99,228.44		118,703.02		Penalty pays DTC
Education Tax True-Up/Municipal Adj		4,750.08		5,220.05		
Railroad Tax	23.00	381.61	350.00	381.61	350.00	
Fed Bureau Land Mgt - PILOT	6,500.00	7,906.00	7,000.00	7,881.00	7,000.00	
TOTAL TAXES	6,523.00	2,427,208.51	7,350.00	2,660,962.72	7,350.00	
Zoning:						
Zoning Permit Fees		1,600.00		2,150.00		Fees offset Zoning expense
TOTAL ZONING	0.00	1,600.00	0.00	2,150.00	0.00	
Other Income:						
Reimbursement: Insurance 19, GMP 20		628.00		1,600.00		Heat Pump Rebate
Interest on Checking		6,108.85		2,176.50		
Rental of Town Hall/Meeting House		140.00				
Other		49.50		1.00		
TOTAL OTHER	0.00	6,926.35	0.00	3,777.50	0.00	
TOTAL INCOME	9,093.00	2,438,840.36	10,015.00	2,671,383.93	9,915.00	
TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS	79,732.62	3,037,849.25	60,853.25	3,457,647.44	21,570.42	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD ORDERS DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Loans:						
Loan Payments		160,000.00		280,000.00		Tax Anticipation Loan
Transfers:						
Transfer to Records Restoration	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Clerk Education/Software		965.00		965.00		See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Cemetery Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Building Repair Fund		9,500.00			5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Professional Audit Fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Reappraisal Fund	5,000.00	11,757.50	5,000.00	11,715.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Allocated Funds:						
Transfer to Tax Account		335,000.00		530,000.00		State Education Tax Pmt
Payments covered by Restricted Fund Transfers:						
<i>Buildings</i>				21,950.92		See Funds Page 16
<i>Reappraisal</i>		19,800.00		21,049.41		See Funds Page 16
<i>Cemetery</i>				5,500.00		See Funds Page 16
<i>Clerk Software</i>		4,841.27				See Funds Page 16
<i>Records Restoration</i>		9,982.50		965.95		See Funds Page 16
LOANS AND TRANSFERS TOTAL	17,000.00	563,846.27	17,000.00	884,146.28	22,000.00	
Auditing:	1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00	
Salaries		536.25		510.00		
AUDITING TOTAL	1,000.00	536.25	1,000.00	510.00	1,000.00	
Selectboard:	4,000.00		4,000.00		4,000.00	Rate set by Auditors
Diane Benware, Chair		1,000.00		1,000.00		
Brad Lawes		750.00		750.00		
Ron Fiske		750.00		750.00		
Ken Young/John Rouse		750.00		750.00		
Tom Barker		750.00		750.00		
Selectboard Secretary	2,100.00	2,160.00	2,200.00	1,980.00	2,200.00	
SELECTBOARD TOTAL	6,100.00	6,160.00	6,200.00	5,980.00	6,200.00	
Listing:	3,000.00		3,000.00		3,000.00	
Salaries		2,223.75		2,742.50		
Consulting	6,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00	3,000.00	6,000.00	Contract with NEMRC
Tax Map Update	3,500.00	4,053.25	3,512.00	3,512.50	3,512.00	Update & Maintain Maps
LISTING TOTAL	12,500.00	9,277.00	12,512.00	9,255.00	12,512.00	
Recycling:						
Solid Waste	11,146.08	11,158.08	13,078.08	13,004.08	14,100.00	ACSWD Increase
RECYCLING TOTAL	11,146.08	11,158.08	13,078.08	13,004.08	14,100.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD ORDERS DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Buildings Expenses:	10,500.00		10,500.00		10,500.00	See Funds Page 16
Meeting House						
Town Office		945.93		11,241.86		Replace Roof, Maintenance
Town Hall				14,013.50		New Siding
Fuel:						
Meeting House	3,000.00	2,955.98	3,000.00	2,203.88	3,000.00	
Town Hall	1,000.00	1,002.39	1,000.00	1,093.88	1,000.00	
Grounds Care:						
Cemetery	6,000.00	6,115.22	6,000.00	5,500.00	6,000.00	
Office ,Town Green, Fern Lake Access	6,500.00	5,680.00	6,500.00	4,985.00	6,000.00	
TOTAL BLDGS & GRNDS EXPENSES	27,000.00	16,699.52	27,000.00	39,038.12	26,500.00	
<i>Note: Clerk fees for recording, vault usage, and licenses are set by State Statute. Depending upon the types of transactions, total fees collected can vary greatly year to year. These fees are paid by individuals or firms based on the statute fee schedule posted at the Town Office. Fees collected in 2020 not otherwise identified in this report, were \$19,501.</i>						
Town Clerk / Treasurer / Assistant:						
Town Clerk, Julie Delphia	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	11,000.00	
Treasurer, Julie Delphia	11,500.00	11,500.00	11,500.00	11,500.00	12,000.00	
Clerk / Treasurer Training	1,000.00	35.00	1,000.00	35.00	1,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Assistant	4,250.00	4,166.25	4,250.00	3,892.50	4,250.00	
CLERK / TREAS / ASSIST TOTAL	27,250.00	26,201.25	27,250.00	25,927.50	28,250.00	
Office Expenses:						
Cleaning Services	600.00	599.00	600.00	599.00	600.00	
Cleaning Supplies	200.00	28.84	200.00	197.91	200.00	
Computer Tech Support / License	1,539.19	3,816.39	2,000.00	1,604.65	2,000.00	
Copier	1,500.00	1,366.45	1,500.00	1,372.50	1,500.00	
Office Supplies	3,000.00	2,520.91	3,000.00	2,761.12	3,000.00	
Postage	2,400.00	2,134.01	2,400.00	2,211.93	2,400.00	
Printing	2,500.00	2,490.00	2,500.00	2,152.12	2,500.00	
Town Web Page	500.00	475.00	500.00	570.00	600.00	
Disaster Recovery / Maintenance:						
NEMRC Annual Support	1,460.81	1,460.81	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	NEMRC Contract
NEMRC Disaster Recovery Contract	1,300.00	1,266.78	1,300.00	1,304.78	1,500.00	NEMRC Contract
Monthly IT Maintenance & Security	1,800.00	1,863.73	2,200.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	Annual Maintenance Contract
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES	16,800.00	18,021.92	21,200.00	21,074.01	22,600.00	
Insurance:						
Property & Casualty	12,473.00	12,473.00	11,797.00	11,797.00	11,584.00	Figures are actuals for 2021
Workman's Comp	4,101.00	4,101.00	4,464.00	4,558.00	5,046.50	Figures are actuals for 2021
INSURANCE TOTAL	16,574.00	16,574.00	16,261.00	16,355.00	16,630.50	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD ORDERS DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Zoning:						
Zoning Administrator	1,500.00	1,494.33	1,500.00	791.00	1,500.00	Partial Offset by zoning fees
LHMP Match Fee					2,537.50	Grant Match Hazard Mitigation
Recording Fees		270.00		345.00		
Printing	1,000.00	382.68	1,000.00	332.33	500.00	
Secretary	1,500.00	236.25	1,500.00	116.25	500.00	
ZONING TOTAL	4,000.00	2,383.26	4,000.00	1,584.58	5,037.50	
Utilities:						
Electricity	5,600.00	5,131.58	5,600.00	4,474.63	5,000.00	
Telephone	1,600.00	1,937.13	2,000.00	1,990.85	2,000.00	
UTILITIES TOTAL	7,200.00	7,068.71	7,600.00	6,465.48	7,000.00	
Public Safety:						
Addison County Humane Society Contract	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	Annual Contract
Law Enforcement Expenses	1,000.00	627.00	1,000.00	7,962.90	1,000.00	
Animal Control	1,900.00	119.30	1,900.00	500.00	750.00	
Dog Census						
<i>Dog Licenses - Tags</i>		346.73		310.32		Covered by Dog Income
<i>Dog Licenses - State Fees</i>		1,210.00		1,060.00		Covered by Dog Income
<i>Dog Licenses - Clerk Fees</i>		484.00		430.00		Covered by Dog Income
Fire Protection Contract - BFD	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	See Fire Chief's Rpt Page 24
Fire Warden - Richard Nicklaw	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	
Health Officers	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	47,950.00	47,587.03	47,950.00	55,063.22	46,800.00	
Other Expenses:						
Trash Removal - Bullock Rd	150.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	
<i>Delinquent Tax Collector - Beth Ripley</i>		6,786.11		8,048.83		Covered by DTC penalty
Elections / Payroll & Supplies	1,500.00	876.00	2,100.00	2,193.69	2,100.00	
Grants:						
Milfoil Grant to LDFLA		11,988.00		29,371.00		See Grant Info Page 22
COVID Grants				34,872.98		
Writing & Research Grant	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Interest / Bank Fees	500.00	856.66	500.00	2,263.26	0.00	Offset by Interest Income
Legal Fees	4,000.00	2,619.40	4,000.00	265.00	3,000.00	
Miscellaneous	200.00	300.00	200.00	3.50	200.00	
Town Moderator	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	
Payroll Liability:						
Payroll Tax Liability - FICA / Medicare	10,000.00	9,841.01	10,000.00	8,780.10	10,000.00	
Workshops / Training - Town Officers	500.00	30.00	500.00		500.00	
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	17,500.00	33,447.18	18,100.00	86,448.36	16,600.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD ORDERS DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Assessments:						
Addison County Humane Society	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	Animal Holding Facility
Addison County Regional Planning	1,419.00	1,419.00	1,425.60	1,425.60	1,425.60	On per capita basis
Addison County Tax	10,000.00	6,853.49	10,000.00	8,521.50	10,000.00	County tax
American Red Cross	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	See report on page 29
Brandon Area Rescue Squad	5,125.00	5,125.00	5,125.00	5,125.00	5,125.00	Emergency Services
Brandon Library	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	See report on page 30
Green - Up Vermont	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	See report on page 33
BLSG Insect Control District	24,622.75	24,622.75	25,502.40	25,502.40	24,574.00	See report on page 31
Lake Dunmore / Fern Lake Assoc	19,000.00	19,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	See report on page 34
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	2,340.00	2,340.00	2,435.00	2,435.00	2,435.00	Municipal Assistance Center
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	66,606.75	63,460.24	73,588.00	72,109.50	72,659.60	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	261,626.83	258,574.44	275,739.08	352,814.85	275,889.60	
ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Appropriations						Requests on file at TC
Addison Country Restorative Justice	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	Reports for all requestors can be found on pages 26-42 of this report.
Addison Country Readers	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
Addison County Home Health Care	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	
Addison County Parent/Child Center	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Addison County RSVP	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	
Addison County Transit Resources	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	
Agewell formerly CVAA	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	
Counseling Service of Addison County	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Elderly Services Inc.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
HOPE formerly ACCAG	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Hospice Volunteer Services	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	725.00	725.00	725.00	725.00	725.00	
Open Door Clinic	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
Otter Creek Natural Resources	113.08	113.08	113.08	113.08	113.08	
Rutland County Parent/Child Center	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
Vermont Adult Learning	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	
Vermont CARES - Aids Research	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	
VT Center for Independent Living	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	
Women in Crisis - Women Safe	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	12,956.08	12,956.08	12,956.08	12,956.08	12,956.08	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	274,582.91	271,530.52	288,695.16	365,770.93	288,845.68	
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL		1,475,992.00		1,303,453.00		
STATE EDUCATION TAX		675,642.21		892,621.81		
TOTAL TOWN DISBURSEMENTS	291,582.91	2,987,011.00	305,695.16	3,445,992.02	310,845.68	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY RECEIPTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in Highway Fund	32,885.87	32,885.87	6,499.71	6,499.71	75,393.30	
Transfers and Loans						
Transfer from Bridge/Culvert Fund		10,107.09				See Funds Page 16
Transfer From Equipment Fund				126,000.00		See Funds Page 16
Transfer from Highway Fund		50,000.00				See Funds Page 16
TOTAL TRANSFERS AND LOANS	0.00	60,107.09	0.00	126,000.00	0.00	
Agency of Transportation Highway Aid	63,000.00	66,594.91	63,000.00	86,332.10	63,000.00	
State Highway Grant		6,236.50		6,710.00		FEMA & Hydro
Current Taxes to Highway Fund		334,564.13		369,540.29		
Reimbursement - Highway						
Road Permits	250.00	790.00	500.00	945.00	250.00	
TOTAL INCOME	63,250.00	408,185.54	63,500.00	463,527.39	63,250.00	
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	96,135.87	501,178.50	69,999.71	596,027.10	138,643.30	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Loans and Transfers:						
Transfer to Highway Fund						See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Culvert/bridge	40,000.00	40,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Equipment Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	40,000.00	20,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Allocate for Shed Roof & Furnace						
TOTAL TRANSFERS	60,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00	60,000.00	40,000.00	
Equipment Repairs:	10,000.00		10,000.00		10,000.00	
Loader		374.42		197.78		
Plow & Wing - Shoes/Blades/Parts		6,812.86		12,469.89		Replacement Plow/parts
Sander		103.96				
Truck		717.32		281.18		
Other Parts & Labor		69.22				
TOTAL EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	10,000.00	8,077.78	10,000.00	12,948.85	10,000.00	
Highway Purchases:						
Loader				126,000.00		John Deere Loader Traded in old Loader
TOTAL HIGHWAY PURCHASES	0.00	0.00	0.00	126,000.00	0.00	
Highway Grants:						
OJR Bridge/Culvert		10,107.09		5,884.55		Grant Match
TOTAL HIGHWAY GRANTS	0.00	10,107.09	0.00	5,884.55	0.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Equipment Rental:	90,000.00		105,000.00		105,000.00	
Other		1,712.67				
Arlan Pidgeon		108,115.00		77,869.00		
TOTAL EQUIPMENT RENTAL	90,000.00	109,827.67	105,000.00	77,869.00	105,000.00	
Materials:	92,000.00		95,000.00		95,000.00	
Chloride		6,230.00		8,902.67		
Sand, Stone & Gravel		24,750.71		12,941.42		
Salt		47,696.27		28,766.76		
Winter Sand		18,195.30		19,672.20		
TOTAL MATERIALS	92,000.00	96,872.28	95,000.00	70,283.05	95,000.00	
General Highway Expenses:						
MRPG Annual Fee	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,590.00	1,590.00	1,590.00	Annual Fee
Bridge Drain Cleaning	250.00		250.00		250.00	
Culverts	1,500.00	2,510.36	1,500.00	1,965.20	1,500.00	
Fuels, Oil, Antifreeze - Loader	2,500.00	1,608.08	2,500.00	1,506.18	2,000.00	
Green-up Removal	550.00	585.00	550.00	575.00	600.00	
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	659.50	1,000.00	2,707.95	1,000.00	
Resurfacing	100,000.00	123,333.10	100,000.00	101,368.10	100,000.00	See Selectboard Report Pg 19
Roadside Mowing	8,400.00	8,305.00	8,400.00	8,442.50	8,900.00	
Roadside Mowing - Brush removal	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00		0.00	
Signs	1,000.00	584.60	1,000.00	211.32	1,000.00	
Town Shed Furnace Fuel	3,500.00	2,304.41	3,500.00	1,271.41	2,000.00	
Town Shed Furnace Repair	250.00	0.00	250.00		250.00	
Town Shed Repair / Electricity	1,500.00	1,070.42	1,500.00	938.19	1,500.00	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	124,700.00	142,710.47	124,540.00	120,575.85	120,590.00	
Payroll:	54,000.00		65,000.00		65,000.00	
Arlan Pidgeon		32,262.50		21,962.50		
Scott Pidgeon		25,704.00		17,616.00		
Steven Morrison		8,802.00		4,572.00		
Richard LaPorte		315.00				
Terry Muzzy				2,682.00		
Tom Barker				240.00		
TOTAL PAYROLL	54,000.00	67,083.50	65,000.00	47,072.50	65,000.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSE	370,700.00	434,678.79	399,540.00	460,633.80	395,590.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS	430,700.00	494,678.79	439,540.00	520,633.80	435,590.00	

COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	TOWN		HIGHWAY	
	1/1/2020	12/31/2020	1/1/2020	12/31/2020
ASSETS:				
Checking (Includes Payroll Liability)	56,788.75	17,714.17	6,499.71	75,393.30
Total Delinquent Taxes	139,723.65	151,840.38		
Accounts Receivable				
Restricted Funds	250,843.25	230,265.38	446,447.91	383,417.09
Allocated Funds	335,000.00	530,000.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment			62,405.00	195,205.00
Buildings & Improvements	57,577.00	94,402.00	51,975.00	51,975.00
Land & Improvements	605.00	605.00		
Highway/Culverts/Bridges			4,323,045.00	4,422,832.00
TOTAL ASSETS	840,537.65	1,024,826.93	4,890,372.62	5,128,822.39
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATIONS				
Equipment			50,698.00	71,121.00
Buildings	27,002.00	28,756.00	30,995.00	31,551.00
Highways/Culverts/Bridges			2,625,505.00	2,863,168.00
	27,002.00	28,756.00	2,707,198.00	2,965,840.00
Assets less Depreciation	813,535.65	996,070.93	2,183,174.62	2,162,982.39
LIABILITIES:				
Loans, short term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loans, long term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	5,950.50	6,058.75	0.00	0.00
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,950.50	6,058.75	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	807,585.15	990,012.18	2,183,174.62	2,162,982.39

AUDITORS' REPORT

We, the elected Auditors for the Town of Leicester, in accordance with VSA 24 § 1681, have examined the accounts and records of the Town for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these records present a fair and accurate accounting of Leicester's financial activities.

As in previous years, the Auditors wish to express our appreciation to Julie Delphia for her assistance in making this examination possible and for the energy she puts into compiling nearly all the information that you see in this Town Report. The detailed and accurate manner in which the Town's financial records are kept makes our job much easier.

Deb Miner, Chair
Donna Pidgeon

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01/01/20	Deposits 2020	Interest 2020	Withdrawn 2020	Balance 12/31/20
TOWN					
Savings:					
Building Repair Fund (3)	23,956.66		165.61	21,950.92	2,171.35
Cemetery Fund (1)(2)	34,082.71	7,450.00	242.86	5,500.00	36,275.57
Clerk Training & Software (1)	13,340.79	965.00	92.26		14,398.05
Glebe Land Fund	6,351.79		55.75		6,407.54
Honor Roll Fund	114.29		0.79		115.08
Lister Education Fund	2,910.37		25.54		2,935.91
Professional Audit Fund (1)	7,622.53	2,000.00	52.77		9,675.30
Reappraisal Account (1)(4)(5)	127,023.66	11,715.00	877.68	21,049.41	118,566.93
Record Rest/Maint Fund (1)(6)	34,883.08	5,000.00	241.30	965.95	39,158.43
Solid Waste Fund	557.37		3.85		561.22
Town Total	250,843.25	27,130.00	1,758.41	49,466.28	230,265.38
HIGHWAY					
Savings:					
Culverts	2,670.38		18.46		2,688.84
Ditching Fund	14,203.95		124.68		14,328.63
Equipment Fund (1)(7)	201,949.81	40,000.00	973.56	126,000.00	116,923.37
Land/building Acquisition - Garage	57,901.67		361.95		58,263.62
Road/Highway Fund	77,817.30		1,490.53		79,307.83
- Bridge/Culvert Reserve (1)	89,892.91	20,000.00			109,892.91
- Paving Reserve	2,011.89				2,011.89
Highway Total	446,447.91	60,000.00	2,969.18	126,000.00	383,417.09

Explanation of changes to Restricted Funds:

- 1 Transfer budget/budget balance from GF
- 2 Plot purchases, stone cleaning expense
- 3 Siding on Town Hall & Town Office Heat Pumps
- 4 State reappraisal funds
- 5 Payment for reappraisal costs
- 6 Payment for records preservation
- 7 Loader purchase

HELP WANTED



We need individuals to fill various positions in town government:

- Alternates for the Planning Commission
- Alternates for the Development Review Board

Please consider how you might help make Leicester an even better place to live! For more information, please contact the Town Clerk at (802) 247-5961 x 3.

COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAXES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Total</u>
2011	576.74	857.65	52.61	1,487.00
2012	1,343.11	1,054.06	68.81	2,465.98
2013	701.46	865.93	69.27	1,636.66
2014	646.06	912.11	72.97	1,631.14
2015	555.93	2,280.11	197.05	3,033.09
2016	1,554.86	3,288.99	259.09	5,102.94
2017	342.74	994.92	80.41	1,418.07
2018	1,308.58	8,746.43	668.22	10,723.23
2019	2,108.50	24,693.53	1,985.06	28,787.09
2020	723.71	57,098.77	4,595.34	62,417.82
TOTAL	9,861.69	100,792.50	8,048.83	118,703.02

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

It is important to remember that the Town needs to collect all of the tax dollars owed to run smoothly. When tax dollars are not collected, the Town must borrow money to cover the shortfall. To avoid this, I am planning to hold a tax sale. If you are currently delinquent, please take this into consideration and contact me to make acceptable payment arrangements at (802) 247-0075.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Swinington Ripley, Delinquent Tax Collector

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S POLICY

Town of Leicester

1. All payments made on or before November 15 will be timely. After November 15, they will be considered delinquent and subject to interest and fees.
2. It is requested that all back taxes be paid before current taxes are paid.
3. **Partial payments will be taken at the tax collector's discretion, and the payment must be large enough to pay off the delinquent tax before the next current tax is due. Payments will be applied to interest and fee first, and the remainder on the tax.**
4. Bills will be sent out on a monthly basis.
5. No post-dated checks will be accepted.
6. All bad checks will be prosecuted, if not made good in ten (10) days.
7. **Accounts 6 months delinquent can be sold at a tax sale at the discretion of the delinquent tax collector.**
8. All payments must be paid to the delinquent tax collector or the treasurer.
9. All taxpayers must notify the town of a change of address, in state or out of state, in a timely manner.
10. No mobile home can be sold or moved unless all taxes are paid and a transfer filed at the town office. The owner and mover can be fined.

DELINQUENT TAX LIST

Atwood, Duane
Black, Beatrice & Hart, Joseph
Carroll, Richard & Veronica
Carroll, Veronica
Clark, Timothy & Shelly
Corbett, Helen
Counter, Deborah
Cram, Leonard & Sandra
Cram, Walter
Currier, Scott
Felion, Ronald Jr
Foley, Donald (Estate)
Foley, Jacqueline
Forrest, Leon
French, Ralph, Jr.
Fyles, Michelle
Gearwar, David & Melissa
Goodrich Family Farm LLC
Hector, Eric
Isabelle, Barbara Estate
Johnson, Randal Trust
Johnson, Tammy
Lafave, Scott
Lanpher, Jonathon
Lanpher, Larry
Lanpher, Larry Jr
Lanz, Michael
Liberty, Susan
Lopez, Juan
Lounsbury, Daniel
Lutz, Rudy
Maloy, Peter & Tammy
Maranville, James
Marcille, Roger & Joan
Mohan, Elsie

Mussaw, Oscar & Cynthia Estate
Newton, Nora
O'Neil-Gittens, Joan
Orum, Samantha
Parker, Michael
Pilz, Matthew
Quelch, John
Sears, Eric
Severy, Robert
Skidmore, William M
Smith, Paul
Smith, Richard & Donna
Statewide Corporation
Strickholm, RG Revocable Trust
Synergy Gas Corp
Taylor, Jess & Tina
Thompson, Melissa T

*Per Vermont Statute 32 V.S.A. § 3102.
Confidentiality of tax records, we are no
longer able to publish individual tax
amounts owed in the Town Report.*

Total Delinquent Taxes:
\$151,840.38

Total Delinquent Interest:
\$34,257.71

Total Delinquent Penalty:
\$11,984.66

Total Delinquent Due:
\$198,082.75

DATES TO REMEMBER



FEBRUARY 24, 2021

MARCH 1, 2021

MARCH 2, 2021

APRIL 1, 2021

MAY 1, 2021

NOVEMBER 15, 2021

OVUUSD Virtual Informational Meeting.

Contact RNESU for info

Town Meeting Informational Meeting.

See Warning for info

Town Meeting VOTE Town Office 10am - 7pm

Dog Licenses Due (see page 21)

Green Up Day

TAXES DUE

SELECTBOARD REPORT

2020 is a year we won't soon forget. Everyone has been touched by the pandemic in some way. As of this writing, the Selectboard has decided that, due to ongoing concerns with the virus, there will not be an in-person Town Meeting in March. Instead there will be an Informational Hearing held remotely (See Page 3 for Hearing Notice). Given legislative approval, the items we would be voting from the floor will be voted by Australian Ballot, for the 2021 year only.

To that end, we have tried to be as transparent as possible about the resources we have to allocate to meet our needs. In the past, townspeople have strongly supported our request for additional funds for resurfacing Town roads, allowing for a total of \$100,000 for resurfacing to be utilized annually. This year's budget contains a figure of \$100,000 for resurfacing and no additional request. We plan to pave on Route 53 and/or Swinington Hill to the Brandon Town line. Elsewhere, we have tried to hold the line on costs.

During 2020 the following improvements were made to Town owned buildings:

- The old school had new siding and storm windows installed. We think the result is pleasing to the eye and reflects our pride in the historic buildings at the Four Corners.
- The Town Office got a much-needed new roof.
- Cold weather heat pumps were installed at the Town Office. They are much more energy efficient and solved the moisture problem.

We have reduced allocations for fuel and electricity; the improvements over the past two years have made the buildings more energy efficient.

Arlan and the road crew did further work on Ferson Road and Hooker Road to bring the roads into compliance with the new Road and Bridge Standards. Grant funds, funneled through ACRPC, helped defray some of the costs associated with these road improvements. Additional work on Hooker Road and Cram Road is part of our plan to bring all Town roads into compliance with state requirements to improve water quality in the state.

As we look ahead to 2021, we await further information from the Agency of Transportation about the Bridge/Culvert replacement on Old Jerusalem Road. Further archaeology work needs to be done on the banks of the Otter Creek. We are now looking at a 2022 construction timeline. We plan to apply for grant funding to defray costs of our portion of bridge costs.

The Selectboard negotiated with the Brandon Fire Department for a level-funded 3 year contract, at the current rate, for fire protection for the Town. The BFD has responded to over 60 calls in the last three years. The majority of the calls are in response to traffic accidents. The department assists police and other first responders at emergency situations.

The Selectboard and the Town are deeply indebted to Town Clerk, Julie Delphia, for singlehandedly keeping the Town Office functioning during the lockdown. She worked long hours answering questions, copying land records, and doing the work of several people in addition to her own. The pandemic has increased her work-load dramatically. In the middle of the pandemic she managed to create a safe and secure site for the August & November elections. She has kept the office functioning smoothly in her usual cheerful, helpful manner. Thank you, Julie!

The Selectboard is also grateful for the consistent, willing manner in which John Rouse handled matters of an animal control nature. Thank you, John.

The Selectboard wishes to thank all folks involved in Town management and the Road Crew for their hard work and commitment to the well-being of residents and visitors. We are very fortunate to have such caring and dedicated individuals working for us and with us.

We welcome Carly Lehrer as the new Animal Control Officer and Keith Arlund as our Zoning Administrator. Contact information can be found on the inside cover of this report. Jay Michael has joined our Developmental Review Board.

The Selectboard meets the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Feel free to contact us with questions and concerns.

Diane Benware, Chair
John Rouse

Tom Barker
Brad Lawes

Ron Fiske

CLERK & TREASURER REPORT

I'm not sure there are enough words to describe 2020, so I'll do my best to keep it brief.

As we dealt with the concerns and restrictions of the pandemic in our personal lives, we dealt with them at the office as well. COVID-19 caused a massive increase in our workload, but we pushed through. The Town can't stop for a pandemic, so we came up with innovative ways to offer services without in-person contact. We stayed up-to-date on the ever changing pandemic restrictions and took the necessary steps to ensure safety while continuing to provide much needed services.

We managed to safely hold the August Primary and November General Election. They definitely looked different, but they ran smoothly and safely. Elections in general are a great deal of work, but during a pandemic, the workload increases dramatically. I am so grateful to everyone that helped set up, spent hours behind plastic, cleaned and sanitized everything, counted ballots, and helped clean up. You are all Rockstars!

Town Meeting will look very different this year. Due to the pandemic, for this year only, we will be voting everything by Australian ballot (nothing will be voted from the floor). We will have a virtual informational Meeting on March 1, 2021 at 7:00pm (see Pages 3 & 4 for info). To reduce the number of people who vote in-person, in an effort to protect voters and election staff, we encourage you to vote by absentee ballot if possible. You can still vote at the Town Office in-person on March 2, 2021 from 10am – 7pm, if you choose, but there will be strict COVID protocols in place and possible wait times as the number of voters in the building at one time will be limited.



Julie Delphia
Town Clerk & Treasurer
(802) 247-5961 x 3
leicestervt@comcast.net

I want to send a HUGE thank you to Greg and Caleb Moore (Greg's Handyman Services). At the beginning of the pandemic, they dropped everything to build an amazing COVID barrier for me. It's beautiful and their work is impeccable!

There is so much more I could say about 2020, but I would rather focus on 2021. I'm hoping that it's a year of healing and a return to a less restricted life.

***I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND
HEALTHY 2021!***

Office Hours (By Appointment)
Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Check us out at www.leicestervt.org

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Harrison Rumsey Jenkins
Asher James Alan McKeighan
Bellamy Arthur McLendon
Isaac Francis Lucien Noble
Charleigh Ann Quenneville
Willow Grace Rollason

Deaths

Scott Alan Currier
Lawrence Arthur Felion Jr
Donald Philip Laporte
Kenneth Neil Leno
John Stephen Malewicki Jr

Deaths

Russell Glen Mason
Jeffrey Paul McGrath
Donna Darlene Shackett
Nathan Danial Theriault
William F Ward Jr

Marriages

William Allen Cram
& Melissa Ann Sheret

Gabriel Keith-Edward Mattison
& Ashleigh Capek-Disorda

Zechariah James Rheaume
& Emily Grace Booska

Guy Brent Petersen-Schweigert
& Sheryl Ann Magoon

Tomas Lucas Caballero Jr
& Michele Lyn Herriman

Dominique Scott Colford
& Makayla Noel Hatch

Joseph Daniel Louis Chugg
& Annabelle Fredericks Maroney

Thierry Rheaume
& Hannah Lynn Moore

Jeremy Aaron Jacobson
& Stephanie Briana White

DOG SUMMARY

Female Spayed	\$1,078.00
Male Neutered	\$957.00
Female	\$145.00
Male	\$255.00
Fines	\$25.00
Farm Dog Fees	\$5.00
Late Fees	\$43.00

Total Income **\$2,508.00**



ALL dogs must be registered by
April 1, 2021
Spayed/Neutered \$11
Unspayed/Unneutered \$15

Clerk Fees	\$430.00
State Fees	\$1,060.00
ACHS Contract	\$600.00
Dog tags/Paper/Badge	\$310.32

Total Expense **\$2,400.32**

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

If you have questions or concerns regarding animal control, please contact Carly Lehrer by phone at (802) 282-3777.

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Please be a responsible dog owner. Fines and consequences for non-compliant dogs can be severe. Failing to comply with State registration requirements can hold fines of up to \$500.00 per violation or result in the unregistered dogs being destroyed. Failure to comply with the Dog Ordinance can incur significant fines and/or result in the dogs being removed and/or destroyed.

To avoid the potential of fines or consequences, please register your dog(s) by April 1st and comply with the dog ordinance. For a copy of the dog ordinance, please contact the Town Office. Dog licenses may be obtained at the Town Office during office hours or by placing an envelope containing a copy of the rabies certificate and a check for the appropriate fee (see above) in the Town Office Drop Box or mailing the information to: Leicester Town Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733

SEE PAGE 41 FOR INFO ON THE VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM AND RABIES CLINICS!

GRANT SPENDING

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation issued \$17,982 of an awarded \$29,970 Milfoil grant (2019). The money was directed to the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association.

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation issued \$11,389 of an awarded \$28,472 Milfoil grant (2020). The money was directed to the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association.

The Municipal Roads Grant in Aid issued \$6,710 of a \$6,710 award for work on hydrologically connected road segments.

The Vermont Tax Department issued the following grants funds to the Town during 2020: Equalization - \$790; Hold Harmless - \$10,504; Reappraisal - \$6,715.00.

The Town spent \$5,884.55 as a 5% match for work done on the VT Agency of Transportation culvert/bridge replacement project on Old Jerusalem Road. BO 1445(37) Bridge 4

The Center for Technology & Civic Life issued \$5,000 of a \$5,000 grant award for elections.

The Secretary of State's Office issued \$228.30 of a \$228.30 award for August Election.

The Secretary of State's Office issued \$237.92 of a \$237.92 award for November Election.

The State issued \$20,046.15 of a \$20,046.15 grant award for Digitization of Land Records.

The State issued \$9,360.61 of a \$9,360.61 grant award for Local Government Expense Reimbursement.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Leicester Unified Zoning Regulations were updated and approved in February 2017 and are posted on the town website: leicestervt.org. You will also find a downloadable application form there.

Please remember that if you plan any kind of development within 250' from shoreline, you will need to consult with the Shoreland Protection Division of the Vermont Environmental Commission. (See full definition of "development" in the Regulations on line).

The administrator for Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake is Laura Dlugolecki. Her email address is: laura.dlugolecki@vermont.gov. She can answer any questions you have about shoreland development.

Applications which require action by the Development Review Board (DRB) may take several months before final approval is given and the time for appeals has passed. A completed application must be submitted three weeks before a hearing in order to allow for warning periods.

As another reminder, almost all land development in Vermont requires town and/or state permits. It is the responsibility of the landowner, **not the contractor**, to apply for them. Please contact the Zoning Administrator before beginning any project.

The Zoning Administrator is Keith Arlund. He can be reached at 802-465-8098 or at leicesterzoning@comcast.net. Zoning hours are by appointment.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

2020 was a very unusual year for everyone. The same can be said for the Lister's Office. The office closed on the 25th of March and remained that way until May 19, 2020, when it was reopened only to the Assessor.

Our town went through a reappraisal in the spring, the last one occurring in 2012.

Because of the pandemic the grievance hearings were held in July instead of May or early June. We held virtual hearings on July 20th and July 21st with our Town Assessor, Benton Mitchell. This year we heard a total of 8 grievances with 2 going on to the BCA in August 2020.

We had a total of 61 property transfers between 4/1/2019 to 3/31/2020.

The Lister's Office remains by appointment only on Tuesdays from 9am-12pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne Harvey, Administrative Assistant to the Assessor

FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

If anyone wishes to burn in the winter – if there's snow on the ground, you don't need a permit. In the summertime, you do. I can be reached at my home at 247-8357 or my cell at 558-9031.

Richard C. Nicklaw – Fire Warden

CEMETERY REPORT

The Cemetery Committee works to maintain and improve Leicester's Brookside Cemetery. This year we had several more stones cleaned. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm from April to October. We are always looking for members. Please contact a committee member if you would like to help.

Respectfully submitted:

Thomas Barker, Donna Pidgeon, Donna Swington, Ron Fiske, Pam Gates, Laura Driscoll

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

The Town Health Officer is responsible for investigating and addressing public health concerns in town. In consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, the officer is to take steps necessary to enforce orders issued pursuant to 18 VSA ch. 3. For water testing kits and info, call 1-800-660-9997. For Rental Housing concerns, issues call 1-802-864-0099.

The Town Health Officer is Chree Perkins. She can be reached at 802-465-8335 or 802-377-1991.

LEICESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Leicester Historical Society is looking for photos or other memorabilia to be added to our collection. Contact Diane Benware at 247-3786 if you have items you would allow to be scanned or donated.

Members of the Leicester Historical Society sponsor Prize Bingo at the Senior Center at 1:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month, September to December, and April through June. All are welcome and we appreciate the support.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The Brandon Fire Department has had a challenging year. Not only the change in leadership, but mostly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has caused a change in our daily operations and regular activities. Our ongoing training and preparation routine, along with emergency responses, has been modified to meet the current situation. Even with these obstacles, we continue to serve the three Towns that we protect, and we do so with pride.

Our emergency call volume has risen slightly from last year. Through the last fiscal year, the Brandon Fire Department responded to 149 calls for assistance totaling 1428 hours.

Motor Vehicle accidents	39
Structure Fires	4
Chimney Fires	4
Other building related emergencies	6
Alarm Activations	38
Rescues of Person or Animal	3
Assistance to EMS	21
Outdoor fires & other calls	17
Other Good intent & cancellations	14
Mutual Aid to another department	3

I would like to greatly thank all of the Firefighters on the department. With our current staffing of 27 firefighters and officers, they put in tremendous time and effort to protect this place we call home.

I also want to praise the Prudential Board and the Water Superintendent for their guidance and assistance, without which my duty as Fire Chief would be far more difficult than it is.

The Fire Department is always looking for new members. Please stop by the fire station to discuss becoming a member. We are normally here on the second and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You also can contact me via email at chief@dunmorehose.org or by leaving a message on the non-emergency line 802-247-3400.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kilpeck
Brandon Fire Chief

2020 TOWN MEETING OVERVIEW

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Leicester Meeting House in said Town on Monday, **March 2, 2020** at **7:00 pm** to transact the following business:

Richard Reed, the Moderator called the Town of Leicester Meeting to order at 7:01 PM. The Moderator welcomed the 34 voters in attendance to the 259TH Annual Town Meeting.

1. To hear the auditor's report.

No discussion.

2. Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of **\$695,235.16** to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year, divided as follows:

General Town Expenses	\$ 305,695.16	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 244,841.91
Highway Expenses	\$ 389,540.00	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 319,540.29

Note: The amount to be raised may increase based on the result of the vote on Article 3. The Selectboard will set the tax rate at a later date.

A motion was made (C. Reed) and seconded (D. Snyder) to accept Article 2. No discussion.

Article 2 was passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester approve an additional sum of \$50,000 for road paving?

A motion was made (D. Perkins) and seconded (C. Reed) to accept Article 3.

C. Reed asked where the paving would be. D. Benware explained that they intend to pave on Leicester Whiting Road from the Whiting line east.

Article 3 was passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. Discussion of articles to be voted by Australian ballot.

R. Reed reviewed the items to be voted. J. Delphia reviewed the ballot.

5. To do any further business that is proper to be done when met.

G. Bernhardt gave an update on OVUUSD.

J. Gildrien gave an update on his position as Energy Coordinator and discussed implementing an Energy Commission.

Rep. Peter Conlin gave an update on what going on in Montpelier and answered questions.

D. Benware indicated that the Town is looking for alternates for the DRB and Planning Commission as well as a rep for ACRPC.

D. Benware thanked the road crew, town officials, and the Town Clerk for their hard work.

A motion was made (G. Moore) and seconded (J. Jacobson) to adjourn Town Meeting.

Leicester Town Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Results of Australian Ballot Voting: (Ballots and results attached) Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Of the 709 registered voters – 258 cast votes

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are further warned and notified to meet at the **Leicester Town Office** in said Town on **March 3, 2020** between the hours of **10 AM and 7 PM** when the polls will be open to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

Article 1: To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year

OFFICE	CANDIDATES	TERM
MODERATOR	RICHARD REED	1 YEAR
SELECTBOARD	JOHN ROUSE	3 YEAR
SELECTBOARD	RON FISKE	2 YEAR
AUDITOR		VACANT
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	BETH RIPLEY	1 YEAR
GRAND JUROR	MIKE RAKOWITZ	1YEAR
TOWN AGENT	MIKE RAKOWITZ	1YEAR
TOWN CLERK	JULIE DELPHIA	3 YEAR
TOWN TREASURER	JULIE DELPHIA	3 YEAR

ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

ACRJP provides a community restorative justice response focusing on the "balanced approach" in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the offender. The goal is to help the offender develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation of loss for the victims, and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in our programs is supported to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

We have expanded our programs beyond Court Diversion and the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program to include the Driving with License Suspended Program, Safe Driving Program, Reparative Restorative Panels, Reentry Navigation and Circles of Support and Accountability for those reentering the community from incarceration, and Pretrial monitoring and Tamarack for those community members who have committed a crime and have a mental illness or substance abuse problem. All Programs have the goal for the participant of instilling a sense of belonging and commitment to contribute to the Addison County Community as positive, proactive member and to not create any more victims, essentially decrease crime in the county.

The following is a breakdown of the number of individuals from the Town of Leicester who were provided services through our agency in FY 2019/2020.

Court Diversion Adult:	1
Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program:	1
Reparative Restorative Panels:	0
COSA:	0
Reentry Navigation:	0
Driving With License Suspended:	0
Pretrial Services:	0
Tamarack:	0
Safe Driving	1

Thank you for your continued support.
Our website: www.courtdiversion.com

ADDISON COUNTY HOME HEALTH

Addison County Home Health and Hospice (ACHHH) is a community-focused non-profit home health care and hospice care agency that has been providing care for Addison County residents for more than fifty years. We provide an array of services that help our neighbors receive care in their own homes where they are most comfortable and where they often experience the best quality of life. Our services are offered to all Addison County residents who need them, regardless of their ability to pay. To ensure the future of these vital programs, we turn to our community for support.

Our clinicians provide skilled nursing; medical social work; rehabilitative therapies including occupational, speech and physical therapy; hospice and palliative care; maternal-child health care; IV therapy; Telemonitoring; Chronic Care Management and care of complicated wounds. Our Personal Care Attendants and Homemakers help patients with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and cooking.

ACHHH serves many patients who are coping with chronic illnesses such as congestive heart failure, COPD and diabetes. Some patients face life-limiting illnesses including cancer, ALS and Alzheimer's disease. ACHHH strives to help patients and families enjoy the best quality of life possible, in all life stages. We serve patients from birth to end-of-life.

During the past year we have adjusted our practices because of the Covid-19 pandemic. We have incurred substantial unplanned expenses for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which keeps our employees, patients and the entire community safe. Our revenues dropped in the early days of the pandemic when patients were hesitant to have our employees in our homes. And during all this, not one of our clinicians or aides said "I will not go" into a home where a patient or family member had Covid-19. They suited up in the appropriate equipment designed to keep them safe and they did exactly what they have done for more than fifty years-treated their patients with skill and kindness. In this regard, it has been business as usual at ACHHH.

We appreciate the long-time support from Leicester. Your financial support makes it possible for our expert team to provide high-quality compassionate care to ALL of our patients and families.

Best Regards, Maureen Conrad, Director of Development

Number of Vermont towns served: 22
Total number of people served: 1498
Total number of Leicester residents served: 30 individuals/859 visits
Route 7 North. PO Box 754. Middlebury, VT 05753. (802) 388-7259. www.achhh.org

ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

The mission of the Parent/Child Center is to provide support and education to families and assure that our community is one in which all young children get off to the right start, with the opportunity to grow up healthy, happy, and productive. The Center provides parenting education classes and workshops (on site and in neighboring communities), community playgroups, home visits, pregnancy prevention programs, job training, academic classes, transportation, and childcare. NUMBER OF TOWN OF LEICESTER RESIDENTS THAT REC'D YOUR SERVICE 32

Our website: www.addisoncountypcc.org

ADDISON COUNTY READERS

Free Books For Young Children. A local organization, Addison County Readers, Inc., through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, is helping families have more books at home that their children love to look at and have their parents read. Preschoolers who are registered for the program have a free book mailed to their homes each month. There is no cost to the family and the books are the children's to keep. Any child (birth to five years of age) living in Addison County can participate. 28 Leicester preschoolers are currently enrolled.

Pick up a registration brochure at the school or Town Office or you can enroll online at: www.addisoncountyreaders.org.

ACRPC ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION Annual Report –Year End June 30, 2020

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following technical assistance and planning to the Region during its 2020 fiscal year:

Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping

- Assisted member municipalities creating, adopting and regionally approving their municipal plans.
- Assisted member municipalities creating and adopting local regulations implementing their municipal plan.
- Provided data and mapping products to support on-going municipal planning activities.
- Provided technical assistance to municipal officials concerning municipal government.
- Represented the Region in Act 250 and Section 248 hearings.
- Assisted municipalities in applying for Village Center Designation.
- Worked with Ferrisburgh and Shoreham on their 2020 municipal planning grants to create housing
- Continued work on the update of the Population and Housing section of the regional plan.

Educational Meetings and Grants

- Hosted educational workshops, Zoning Administrators Roundtables and monthly public meetings on a wide variety of planning topics, including water quality, housing and planning essentials.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding.

Emergency Planning

- Worked with Addison County's Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC 8) and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning and training.
- Hosted Local Emergency Management Plan training for town Emergency Managers and hosted a Tier II workshop for municipalities and businesses required to report hazardous chemicals.
- Worked with Vermont Emergency Management to exercise local and statewide disaster plans.
- Assisted in development of a hazard mitigation plan for the Town of Lincoln, and completion of FEMA requirements and acceptance for the Town of Ripton.
- Assisted communities in completing Local Emergency Management Plans to maintain ERAF status.
- Provided COVID-19 updates and information to Town Officials and Emergency Managers
- Assisted in developing a Mutual Aid agreement for Public Works Departments

Energy Planning:

- Assisted a Bristol, Panton New Haven and Shoreham in completing their enhanced energy plans and strengthening policies supporting renewable energy.
- Worked with five municipalities; Monkton, Panton, Salisbury, Vergennes and Weybridge through the process of regional approval of their Enhanced Energy Plans.
- Worked with Efficiency Vermont and municipalities to implement enhanced energy plans.
- Hosted 4 roundtables of municipal energy committees and coordinators

Transportation Planning

- Supported the Addison County Transportation Advisory Committee's regional priorities and studies.
- Supported Tri-Valley Transit/ACTR by providing leadership and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to produce road erosion inventories for local roads.
- Assisted Towns with bike and pedestrian, structures, and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for sidewalk construction projects in Middlebury and Weybridge.
- Sponsored town transportation planning studies, and supported municipal capital budget development.
- Hosted regional Walk/bike council and began planning for a future Bike/Ped Summit in Middlebury.

Natural Resources Planning

- Actively support the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support conservation commissions.
- Participated on the Lake Champlain Basin Program technical advisory committee.
- Provided educational outreach supporting the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan update.
- Assisted in stormwater planning projects and Ecosystem Restoration Program grants.

Addison County Regional Planning Commission, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
www.acrpc.org Phone: 802.388.3141 Fax: 802.388.0038

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 21 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities. The Board regularly meets virtually (due to the ongoing pandemic) on the 3^d Thursday of the month at 7PM, and the Executive Board meets monthly 8 days prior to the Board meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

District Mission

To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for: (1) Promoting **waste reduction**; (2) Promoting **pollution prevention**; (3) Maximizing **diversion** of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for **disposal** of remaining wastes.

District Office and Transfer Station

Telephone: (802) 388-2333

E-mail: acswmd@acswmd.org

Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM–4 PM

Fax: (802) 388-0271

Transfer Station Hours: M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM

HazWaste Center Hours: M-F, 8 AM–2 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM

Website: www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off a variety of other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. A complete list of acceptable items and prices is posted on the District's website. The office is closed to visitors due to the pandemic, but staff can be reached via phone, e-mail, text, and mail.

2020 Highlights

COVID-19. The year 2020 has been a difficult year, requiring the flexibility to adapt to the pandemic that disrupted all of the lives of our community residents and businesses. The District staff have been working diligently, despite the risk, toward maintaining the solid waste management and collection system during these challenging times. Deemed an "essential business" by the Dept. of Homeland Security, and state and local emergency declarations, the District has been following the guidance on how to protect our staff and customers while providing essential services. On March 30th – May 18th, the District Transfer Station was forced to limit residents to food scraps only. The **Reuse It or Lose It!** Centers were closed until further notice. Thankfully, the Transfer Station was able to continue servicing businesses and commercial haulers without interruption.

Waste Diversion. The VT Universal Recycling Law instituted a landfill ban of food scraps as of 7/1/2020. All generators had to begin diverting food scraps, either through backyard composting, through a commercial hauler, or at a waste facility. The District has been busy working with its residents, haulers, schools, institutions, and businesses to comply with the new mandate. As a result, the District has collected an average of 14,500 lbs. per week, a 200% increase since the ban took effect.

Recycling. The decline in market prices for most recyclables continued in 2020. The District has been able to absorb the recycling losses, estimated to reach \$35,000+ this year. However, the District's commitment to recycling remains steadfast. VT Act No. 69 mandates took effect on 7/1/2020. Single-use expanded polystyrene food service products are banned, along with single-use plastic carryout bags. Expanded polystyrene food service products are not allowed to be sold in VT. Plastic straws are available upon request only, and plastic stirrers are banned. A study committee was formed to further examine ways to manage packaging and printed materials.

Product Stewardship. The District has continued to be a strong advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws as a method of controlling costs and keeping unwanted and banned items out of the landfill. EPR laws help distribute the cost of recycling and safe management of these products among industry, government, and consumers. The District continues to serve as a Collector under Vermont's EPR programs for electronics, mercury-containing lamps, primary cell batteries, and architectural paints.

Illegal Burning/Disposal. The District contracted with the Addison County Sheriff's Department in 2020 to enforce its Illegal Burning & Disposal Ordinance. The District served again as County Coordinator for Green-Up Day, assisting the many area volunteers who organized collection of roadside litter, and providing bags and gloves. Green-up Day collection totals were lower this year, with an event delay and a drop in participation rates due to the pandemic. The District subsidized the disposal of 6.09 tons of roadside trash, 10.81 tons of tires, and various other abandoned items, for a total economic benefit to its member towns of \$2,293.

2021 Annual Budget

The District adopted a 2021 Annual Budget of \$3,818,063, an 8.35% increase. The Transfer Station tip fees will increase to \$130/ton (\$8 minimum fee) for MSW and C&D. The rate for Single Stream Recyclables will increase to \$125/ton. Residential food scraps will be \$1 per 5 gallons or less. Business Food Scraps will increase to \$15 per 32-gal unit and \$20 per 49-gal unit. Leaf & Yard Waste greater than 3 cu.yds. will increase to \$20. Rates on some other items will have nominal increases. The prices of green food scrap buckets, Soil Savers, kitchen collectors and blue recycling bins will also increase. **There will be no assessments to member municipalities in 2021.** For a copy of the full 2020 Annual Report and Adopted 2021 Annual Budget and Rate Sheet, please give us a call, or visit the District website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

AGE WELL Formerly CVAA

For more than 40 years, Age Well (formerly CVAA) has provided services and support that allow seniors to stay independent, and remain healthy at home, where they want to be. We excel at integrating community resources, health services, and wellness programs to enhance and improve the quality of life for older adults. We have continued to support older Vermonters during COVID-19, with over 500 individuals signing up for meal deliveries as they self-isolate. Our continued daily meal deliveries have become a key lifeline.

Thanks to past support from the Town of Leicester, we have been able to offer care & service coordination, Meals on Wheels; community meals; wellness programs; social activities; transportation services; expertise on Medicare, insurance, and long and short term care options; and a Helpline to Leicester residents.

Vermont is ranked as the second "oldest" state in the country and the population of seniors is only expected to grow. The state's senior population is expected to nearly double in the next fifteen years. Older adults living in rural areas have less access to healthcare, including specialized healthcare, and the services tend to be more costly than those provided in metropolitan areas. Overwhelmingly, Vermonters want to grow old in their own homes, Age Well provides the services and support to ensure that is a possibility.

We are writing to request continued support from the Town of Leicester in the amount of \$1,100.00. As a non-profit, most of our services are provided at no charge and we rely on donations and town funding to continue to help our aging population access services and receive the support they deserve. We thank you for your past support for our programs and services. Your support this year ensures that we are able to continue to provide lifechanging services to all those in need during this pandemic.

If there are any questions regarding our programs or services, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sara Wool, Director of Development & Planned Giving

P 802-865-0360 F 802-865-0363 Helpline: 800-642-5119
76 Pearl Street, Ste. 201 Essex Junction, VT 05452

AMERICAN RED CROSS

I hope you are well during these uncertain times. As you know, our mission at the American Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Established in 1881, the American Red Cross serves under the core principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality. These principles ground us and inspire us as we carry out our mission across the country, and right here at home.

Over the past year, the American Red Cross of Northern New England has succeeded in providing the following throughout the region:

- We assisted a local family in the face of disaster, on average, **once every 17 hours**, helping nearly **2,000 individuals**.
- We installed more than **4,500** smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in homes through our Home Fire Campaign.
- Trained **31,400** people in first aid, CPR, and water safety skills.
- We collected **135,000** units of blood. Hospitals throughout Northern New England depend on the American Red Cross for these collections.
- In our region, over **3,200** service members and veterans received supportive services through our Service to the Armed Forces department.

As we carry on through the pandemic, the American Red Cross remains committed to safely providing relief and support. We do this with the help of our incredible volunteers and donors, including you, our friends in Leicester. *This year, we respectfully request a municipal appropriation of \$500.00.* These funds will be used right here in our region so that we can continue to serve your friends and neighbors during these unprecedented times.

For more information about the work we've been doing in your area, please refer to the attached Impact Sheet for Addison County. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-464-6692 or supportnne@redcross.org.

While we know the world may feel uncertain at present, rest assured that the American Red Cross will always be there to help and support local communities.

Warmly, Rachel Zelle, Regional Development Specialist

New Hampshire Headquarters: 2 Maitland Street, Concord, NH 03301 • 1-800-464-6692
Vermont Headquarters: 32 N Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05401 • 802-497-5995 www.redcross.org/nhvt

BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The mission of the Brandon Free Public Library is to provide a friendly and safe atmosphere in which patrons of all ages may enrich their lives through the benefit and pleasure of learning and discovery. The BFPL pledges quality service demonstrating respect for the individual and our community.

Approximately half of the Library's income is derived via the appropriations from the Towns of Brandon, Sudbury, and Leicester. *At the 2021 Town Meeting, Leicester voters will be asked to approve the appropriation for the Library.*

The Library's other sources of income include several annual fundraisers, financial donations from the non-profit Friends of the Library, direct donations, grants, apartment rents, line items from the towns of Leicester, Goshen, and Sudbury, and distribution from endowment (which is invested wisely and provides needed income for the operating budget).

In 2020, the global pandemic changed the way we had to do things at the library, as well as decreased the amount we were able to raise via donations and fundraisers.

The Library employs two full-time and one part-time librarian, and cleaning personnel. In 2020 the library had to close its doors between March and September, but expanded services and the librarians worked consistently to provide 40+ hours a week of access with every service provided free. The Brandon Library welcomes everyone to access our myriad services and resources.

General Services

- Books, DVDs, programming, magazines, newspapers, audioCDs, interlibrary loan, Friday films, Meditation Circle, Junior Librarian Program, friendly and helpful Librarians

Children's Services

- Books, Teen area, DVDs, audioCDs, magazines, summer program every July/August, story hours Wednesdays and Fridays, Crazy8s Afterschool Club, monthly Game Night, Teen Advisory

Group Outreach Services

- Monthly delivery of books to 4 residential/senior buildings
- Biweekly delivery books (with a story time!) to daycares
- Personalized visits to homebound patrons
- Everybody Wins! participation at local elementary school

Building as a Resource

- The Library building is used by a wide variety of community groups; Brandon Planning Commission, DBA, AI-Anon, school tutors, Farmer's Market, Republican/Democratic caucuses, Estabrook Award, Child Care Providers, writer's group, Italian Club, PTO, homeschoolers, and more
- Local artists- "pop-up gallery" monthly

Computer/Digital Services

- 7 public computers and laptops. Librarians assist patrons and offer tech help/solutions and assistance with job applications, unemployment, insurance applications, etc.
- The Brandon Library pays membership fees for patrons to access RBDigital movie streaming service, Vermont Online Library, Listen-Up Vermont e-lending, and Universal Class free to our patrons
- Print, air-print, copy, scan, fax for public use
- Personalized computer help: free sessions by appointment
- Free Wi-Fi

Non-traditional Services

- The BFPL Seed Library offers free seeds and sustainability education
- The Library is an outlet for community service and volunteer opportunities
- Free/reduced-price passes available for area museums and parks
- Weekly bread distribution site for Brandon Food Shelf
- Mitten tree provides free mittens and hats
- Snowshoes for loan

Elderly Services

- Extensive Large Print selection
- Home delivery for housebound patrons. The Library is often one of the few links someone might have to our community
- Various programming for older populations
- Free rides to the polls

Community Partnerships

- Recreation Department- Quiz night, Trivia League, Spooksville, Harvest Fest, Spring Swing
- Neshobe PTO - Crazy 8s
- Neshobe School- Resource sharing, 2nd grade visit
- Brandon Town Hall- Masquerade Ball, Summer Reading Finale
- Brandon Police Dept. - Local Heroes Story Time
- Brandon Area Toy Project- Pete the Cat Story Time
- Neshobe SOAR program - site visits

Some of the above services were rendered unavailable by COVID-19 restrictions. Although we had to close our doors for a few months, we never stopped working tirelessly for our community. During that time, the following services were added, continued and/or amplified:

- Increased social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter
- Curbside delivery of library materials
- Print/copy/fax via email
- Online story times weekly
- Virtual Trivia weekly
- Free books, puzzles, games outside 3 days/week
- Friends' sale cart outside 3 days/week
- Free WiFi open, and boosted to extend service across the Central Park
- Free masks, sewed by the library Director
- Distributed bread, art kits, and craft boxes for Town of Brandon
- Created and distributed almost 1200 craft kits for our summer program
- Purchased Overdrive Advantage to ease wait times for materials
- Purchased RBDigital to provide access to streaming content
- Received returns for Neshobe/Otter Valley schools
- Interlibrary Loan reestablished
- Waived patron out of town fees for 2020
- Continued ordering of library materials
- Continued and tightened collaboration with Town Officials
- Multiple wellness checks for patrons daily
- Continued planning/grant writing
- Seed library distributed over 500 packets of seeds

Funds from Brandon, Sudbury, Leicester, and Goshen keep the Library open. The Library is a busy place with an average door count of 200 people/day.

It will be important for voters to "Check Yes" for the Library. We thank you for supporting one of Brandon's gems- your local Library. Check us out at the corner of Franklin and Park Streets. 802-247-8230 brandonpubliclibrary.org

Board of Trustees: Phoebe Chestna, President; June Bohler, Treasurer; Carol Fjeld, Recording Secretary; Sue Gage, Stacey Doucette, Stephanie Choma, David Roberts, & Bruce Ness

BLSG INSECT CONTROL DISTRICT P.O. Box 188, Brandon, VT 05733

Another season has come and gone and while we practice Coronavirus precautions, we can all be thankful that we have not been hit with civilization's greatest plague --- the mosquito. Covid 19 had impacted and delayed the District's preparations for the season. The State of Vermont's Agency of Agriculture had deemed that larva sampling was unessential work on April 14th following Governor Scott's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order. The District received permission to sample high priority areas on April 30th. District employees completed the Departments of Health and Labor COVID-19 on-line training to comply with the State of Vermont's executive department addendum 11 to executive order 01-20 [Work Smart & Stay Safe -- Restart VT: Phase II]

Our biggest concern is the uncertainty of State funding due to the Coronavirus. Larvicide applications, which are primarily funded by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, are in short supply. The District received an initial \$17,500 from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. We had expected to receive additional state funds but at this point, it is uncertain.

It was a dry spring and summer. This resulted in mosquito officials dealing with minimal breeding cycles. By studying these population levels, we can determine the level of nuisance mosquitoes, genus, species, and their breeding locations. We do this by using light traps near established mosquito breeding habitats. As conditions change, the BLSG uses this information to decide and establish the next step within BLSG's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan. Whenever possible, we use larvicides rather than adulticides. Safety to humans and wildlife is paramount and this flexibility minimizes the environmental impact and increases the safety of an already safe program.

The BLSG is dedicated to constantly improving the quality of our efforts through training, program development, and continuing education. As a result, our staff is able to target areas of high density mosquito breeding. This year marked the lowest use of larvicides and adulticides applied by the District. Rutland County received 0.9 lbs *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis* (bti) and *Bacillus Sphaericus* (bs) while Addison County did not require any larvicide applications.

Adulticide applications included Addison County receiving 44.5 gal of permanone while Rutland County received 59.2 gal of permanone and 11 gallons of Fyfanon to combat adult mosquito populations.

BLSG uses a series of factors to determine where and when to spray. This includes surveillance, species of mosquito, number of mosquitoes collected from mosquito traps, landing rates, weather and citizen service requests in any given area. The District received 148 calls from residents reporting and requesting mosquito control: 26 calls from Brandon, 37 from Leicester, 15 from Salisbury, 0 from Goshen, 20 from Pittsford, 26 from Proctor and 24 misc. This number is down from last year's 467 calls. This is an indicator of the success of the program coupled with how dry the season was. The efficiency and public acceptance of the program is seen in the Town of Proctor wanting to negotiate a contract with the District.

The Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury, Goshen and Pittsford (BLSG) mosquito control district thanks the citizens for their support. Joint multi- town efforts are economical and efficient for all and it has certainly paid-off. We appreciate the communication and cooperation with property owners, residents, town officials and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture. Everyone plays a role in reducing and controlling mosquito populations. For additional information visit our web page at blsgmosquito.com.

Sincerely, Will Mathis, Operations Director

COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY
89 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

As I write this, I recall that 2020's town meetings coincided with COVID-19's "arrival." Your municipality quickly adjusted to employees' and citizens' needs- the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) also adapted its methods to serve Leicester's residents.

CSAC responded to "Stay Safe, Stay Home" by pivoting to a telehealth model within three days, allowing safe service continuity for some of our most frail residents. We continued to deliver essential in-person services and around-the-clock, residential home staffing. We quickly established on-site clinical and case management support for populations in emergency housing. And a dedicated COVID-19 crisis line augmented CSAC's 24/7 emergency support.

Several collaborative, county-wide forums have increased CSAC's ability to help county residents. CSAC's Board of Directors has worked to identify "wellness gaps" and build supports. The agency's diversity, equity, and inclusion task force is active. We are working with local law enforcement to better assist individuals experiencing acute mental health events.

CSAC requests \$1,050 in town funds. This request has not increased since 2007. CSAC's FY20 financial information is attached. Almost all state and third-party payor funds are designated and won't meet the needs of the people we serve. Despite more needs, we will not receive increased funds from the Legislature this year. However, CSAC is committed to being available to residents regardless of their ability to pay.

Leicester's residents received 33,809 service hours in FY20.

We are honored to serve and remain dedicated to making Leicester a vibrant place for all.

Sincerely, Rachel Lee Cummings, Executive Director www.csac-vt.org Phone: 802-388-6751

ELDERLY SERVICES

*The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elderly Services
112 Exchange Street, PO Box 581
Middlebury, Vermont 05753*

Addison County's Daytime Home Away From Home

*Drivers and welcoming staff make the trip to Project Independence a fun part of the day.
Getting out is good for you!*

Project Independence is an adult day program for elders providing safe, medically oriented daytime care that includes:

- Fun social activities,
- Specialized van transportation to and from home,
- Hot, delicious meals tailored to the dietary needs of our participants,
- Individualized nursing care,
- Personal care including toileting assistance and hygiene,
- Educational programs and entertainment,
- Coordination with other health care providers and social service agencies, and
- Daytime respite for family caregivers.

In addition to daytime care services, our staff also provides caregiving education and emotional support to family members whose elderly relative attends our center. Our monthly *Caregiver Support Group* is open to all caregivers and takes place on the third Friday of each month.

In early 2020, Elderly Services was bustling, open 6 days a week with 80-90 Project Independence members attending each day. Our winter term of ESI College Lifelong Learning brought 114 older students in for classes several times a week. Many volunteers and students added to the lively atmosphere: Over the years, Leicester residents have been members of Project Independence, ESI College, and received our geriatric social work assistance. In 2020, two Leicester residents were regularly attending Project Independence.

On March 18, all in-person services had to halt. Our elderly members are most vulnerable to the threats of the COVID-19 virus. Elderly Services has developed our remote services model and offers the residents of Leicester the following pandemic-era services:

- Adult Day Center without Walls:
 - Telehealth and telephone check-ins
 - Online entertainment four times daily
- Online ESI College Lifelong Learning classes
- Counseling and advice for elders and families
- Education and respite referrals for caregivers
- Geriatric needs evaluation and planning

Please call Joanne or Kristin at 388-3983 for more information.

FRONT PORCH FORUM

Neighbors are talking on Front Porch Forum

Have you joined our local Front Porch Forum? FPF helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting a statewide network of online local forums. One-third of Vermont households participate with thousands more joining every month. People use their FPF to find lost animals, offer assistance to neighbors in need, organize local projects, draw crowds to events, highlight small businesses, share crime reports, seek contractor recommendations, and much more. Started 10 years ago, FPF is a free service and it's based in Vermont.

Learn more at <http://frontporchforum.com>

GREEN UP VERMONT

P.O. Box 1191 Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191
(802)229-4586, or 1-800-974-3259

greenup@greenupvermont.org, www.greenupvermont.org

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

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

Green Up Day, May 1, 2021

HOPE (ACCAG)

John V. Craven Community Services Center
P.O. Box 165 282 Boardman Street Middlebury, Vermont 05753
Phone: (802) 388-3608 Fax: (802) 388-0756
HOPE is a United Way Member Agency

HOPE seeks to assist individuals and families in identifying and obtaining the resources that will help them meet their own basic needs. HOPE provides significant goods and services to people in need, including food, clothing, payments for housing and heating fuel, medical items, job-related needs and more. We work to assist people in accessing information and developing new skills in order to become more self-empowered, leading to healthier, more stable lives.

HOPE operates one of the largest food shelves in the state, which last year provided food for 78,039 meals and distributed

over 28,000 pounds of donated and purchased produce from local farms. We provided food education activities to 77 people. We helped 123 people with emergency medical and dental needs; provided budget counseling to 49 people; assisted 70 people with work related needs so they could get or keep jobs; provided utility payments for 81 households. Housing payments for 78 households; served 81 homeless people and provided 349 vouchers for essential clothing and household goods from our resale store.

During the year ending December 31, 2020, HOPE provided assistance to 142 Leicester residents.

HOPE respectfully requests that the voters of the Town of Leicester allocate the sum of \$1,300.00 to help defray the costs of providing assistance to town residents in the coming year. Thank you for your consideration.

END OF LIFE SERVICES F/K/A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER SERVICES

End of Life Services (EOLS), home of Hospice Volunteers, ARCH, Wellspring Singers and Bereavement is a non-profit agency providing hospice programs and bereavement support to Addison County residents for 37 years.

Services provided in 2019 through March 15, 2020, before sudden Covid-19 restrictions, continued just as robust as EOLS and all residents of Addison County have become accustomed to (9-13% increases). 100% of requests were provided without charge to patients, their families, or caregivers. We are proud of EOLS volunteers who provide this unrelenting crucial support to the most vulnerable among us.

With the pandemic, we had to switch overnight to online services and rethink the way we were able to provide services. People are still dying, still grieving, still isolating. We have been able to carry out our mission through FaceTime, Chromebooks and Zoom to connect safely with our community. Wellspring singers continue to sing virtually or outside windows. We continue to accompany the bereaved. We continue to support ARCH rooms at Porter. We continue to care for our community while creating a sanctuary of wellbeing -for our staff, our volunteers, our partners.

JOHN W. GRAHAM EMERGENCY SHELTER

This year the John Graham Shelter, located on Main Street in Vergennes, marks 40 years of service to Addison County's homeless families and individuals. We are writing to ask for your continued support at Town Meeting 2020 in the form of a \$725.00 allocation. Mindful of the impact on property taxes, we have not increased our request for many years.

In 2020, with generous help from Addison County municipalities the John Graham Shelter:

- Provided more food, shelter, services and hope to more than 300 people, many of whom were children;
- Provided rapid rehousing to families at our own buildings in Vergennes, Middlebury and Bristol and at many scattered sites;
- Helped dozens of households find permanent housing and employment;
- Provided counseling, case management and support services that help people take the next step in their lives.

During the pandemic your support also helped us to:

- Deliver 3 meals a day to hundreds of people at four motels and numerous scattered sites;
- Newly renovate our shelter spaces and apartments for Covid-19-related safety;
- Develop three new zero energy modular homes that will come online this December.

This crisis is not over. We are on the front lines each day helping vulnerable families find permanent housing, as infection rates climb and winter approaches. John Graham needs your support now more than ever before in our 40 years of operation.

With your help, we will be able to provide housing to the people of Addison County one household at a time during these difficult times.

Elizabeth Ready For the Residents, Board and Staff of the John Graham Shelter

PS: Please visit our website at www.johngrahamshelter.org for more information.

LAKE DUNMORE FERN LAKE ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 14, Salisbury, Vermont 05769

The Association's mission is "to protect and enhance the natural vitality of Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake while preserving the recreational and lifestyle interest of the Lake's community. In so doing, the Association protects the Lake's value as a public

recreational facility and respects the interests of property owners and the public." Membership in the Association is open to anyone who supports the mission and goals of the Association.

Invasive species control is by far the largest program operated by the Association. The uncontrolled spread of Eurasian milfoil can limit or make impossible boating, fishing and swimming. The shallow areas of Lake Dunmore (the shoreline and approximately half the surface area) and nearly all of Fern Lake are particularly at risk. In close coordination with the State Department of Environmental Conservation, the Association uses three programs to control "Aquatic Invasive Species" (of which milfoil is the greatest threat):

- Up to 4 boats with suctioning harvesting equipment to hand pick milfoil infestations.
- Herbicide treatment of large, dense and/or difficult to access milfoil growths.
- Seven day a week coverage of the Magoon Access area to inspect boats and trailers for travelling invasive species.

In June, 2020 the State authorized a treatment of approximately 40 acres of Lake Dunmore with an herbicide targeted at milfoil known as Procella-Cor. The treatment was very effect and without apparent side effects. No herbicide treatment is planned for 2021.

The milfoil control program costs and funding for 2020 were \$225,374. These costs were met as follows:

LDFLA In-Kind Personnel & Services	\$ 11,965
State Grant	\$ 28,472
Town Support – Leicester	\$ 25,000
Town Support – Salisbury	\$ 25,000
LDFLA Dues & Annual Donations	\$ 55,966
LDFLA Endowment Fund Contribution	\$ 57,876
LDFLA Miscellaneous Income & Interest/Dividends	<u>\$ 21,095</u>
	\$225,374

Water Shed Study & Action Plan, currently, a major problem facing our lakes, as well as many others in Vermont, is the troubling water quality issue related to increasing phosphorus concentrations. The LDFLA recently entered into a contract with Fitzgerald Environmental Associates (FEA) to perform a year long study to create a Watershed Action Plan to cover both Dunmore and Fern Lakes. The plan should be done by September, 2021 and the membership and towns will be kept informed throughout the process.

The benefits to the Town of Leicester are twofold: First, the preservation of a wonderful, natural recreation area available to the public. Second, the preservation of property values around the lakes which are an important and substantial portion of the Town's Grand List.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Schumann, President

MAPLE BROADBAND INFORMATION

The effort to expand the availability of affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service across Addison County is well under way. To date, 16 towns, including ours, have joined Maple Broadband, the non-profit municipal collaborative that is focused on bringing high-speed, reliable, affordable internet access - along with prompt, user-friendly customer service and support - to all households and businesses in Addison County. A combination of user fees; state, federal and private charitable grants; and loans - but no taxpayer dollars - will fund the effort.

So far, the select boards that have voted to join this organization, (called a Communications Union District), are: Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Waltham and Weybridge.

Since its formation this summer, and with help from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, Maple Broadband (MB) has already secured grants totaling \$160,000, and is working to apply for additional grant funds as well. It has hired consultants to conduct a feasibility study, which has now been completed. Establishing a public/private partnership with an existing internet provider and developing a business plan will be the next steps. That should be completed this winter. Raising the necessary funds, through grants and loans, and building the pole-to-pole-to-house fiber infrastructure across our county, including our more rural areas, will take time. MB aims to be providing service to its first Addison County customers beginning as early as Spring, 2022.

Steve Huffaker, chair of the Maple Broadband Executive Committee, and a resident of Ferrisburgh, described the mission of the organization this way, "Access to true high-speed internet service (100 Mb/s download and 100 Mb/s upload) is key to community development in our region. Many people in the county who have internet service today are getting speeds well below what the Vermont Department of Public Service deems adequate (25Mb/s download / 3Mb/s upload). Some others don't have internet service at all. Broadly available high-speed internet will enable Addison County residents to have equitable access to information. It will attract new businesses and jobs. It will attract new families, looking to settle in a place where adults and students can work from home, even after this pandemic is behind us. It will enable residents to take advantage of telemedicine services. It will enhance the ability of public officials to communicate with each other and with the communities they serve."

More information about Maple Broadband, including updates and pre-subscription surveys will be available in the coming months on the MB website.

OTTER CREEK NATURAL RESOURCES

The **Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District** contracts Riparian Plantings in priority watersheds paid for with the Trees for Streams Program, holds public and sector meetings for the Lake Champlain Direct watershed Plan, and the Otter Creek Tactical Plan, sponsors a Tree Seedling Sale and maintains a listing of local contractors. The District supports scholarships for up to 6 area students to attend Green Mountain Conservation Camp, supports Envirothon and continues that outreach at Addison County Fair and Field Days and the Addison County Tour and Annual District Meeting. Otter Creek NRCDC also supports the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan with agricultural progress reports. Our ever-popular contractors list was updated this year and is available at our office in Middlebury. The Long-Range Plan addresses continuing to support all existing programs, expanding them where feasible and supporting the capacity needed to do that.

In 2021 Otter Creek NRCDC is moving into improving aquatic organism passage in streams through voluntary barrier removal. We are also documenting P agricultural Phosphorus reduction to Lake Champlain. The District will be looking to continue to support outreach and education around ways to get to water quality, tactical basin planning as pertains to agriculture and more tree planting.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure remains important. Rain gardens and other practices will recharge groundwater and reduce stormwater surges in streams and rivers following storm events. They are planted with a variety of flowering shrubs, bulbs, and perennials. It is construction that has measurable water quality benefits. See the Rain Garden at Marbleworks and at St. Stephen's Church on the Green in Middlebury installed in 2006 with renovations begun in 2013; the Robbins' residence installed in 2008, and 8 installed in 2009 in Middlebury, Bristol, Ripton and Starksboro. Cornwall and Bridport School have installed rain gardens with the support of OCNRCDC and United Ways Days of Caring.

The OCNRCDC Annual Meeting was not held as we are in Phase 2 for Covid-19. We have yet to award a farmer the OCNRCDC Conservation Farmer of the Year.

The Otter Creek District created a scholarship to remember Middlebury resident and District Pond Consultant, Robert C. Collins. This scholarship is awarded to high school students continuing their education in agriculture or conservation of the working landscape.

Envirothon is an opportunity for high school students to test their knowledge of conservation issues and compete in Vermont and nationally. OCNRCDC annually supports this effort with funding.

Meetings are the second Tuesday at the Farm Service Center meeting room on Exchange Street in Middlebury.

OPEN DOOR CLINIC

The Open Door Clinic (ODC) is requesting an allocation of \$300.00 from the Town of Leicester for the fiscal year 2021-2022 to be included in the Town Warning for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. The allocation will be used to provide free health care to the uninsured and under-insured residents of Leicester and Addison County in general.

Our Mission: The Open Door Clinic provides access to quality health care services, free of charge, to those who are uninsured or under-insured and who meet financial eligibility guidelines; services are provided in a compassionate, respectful and culturally sensitive manner until a permanent healthcare provider can be established.

YTD Report: Amidst the disruption and unpredictable nature of the global pandemic, our work here continues as we have learned to adapt and implement changes to best support our patients. We are continuing to schedule in-person clinics, dental appointments with our UNE externs, and are weaving-in some telehealth visits as they work very effectively for some of our patients. As safety continues to be our preeminent goal, we're seeing fewer patients per clinic and calling upon fewer volunteers to minimize risk for all concerned.

Between 1/1/20-11/22/20, the clinic has provided 1,235 medical and dental visits to 892 distinct patients, including 317 new patients. As compared to the same timeframe last year, we are only down by 2% in distinct patients served and 11% in medical and dental visits provided. I think this is quite impressive – and speaks volumes to our committed staff and volunteers – relative to the comprehensive care we've still been able to provide during the pandemic. This year we have served two Leicester residents through one medical visit and 23 interactions.

Volunteer Based: As a free clinic, we cannot charge for any of our services and rely solely on the expertise and efforts of 150 volunteers to care for our patients. Our volunteers include our medical director, dental director, nurse practitioners and physicians, nurses, EMTs, PTs, nutritionists, pharmacists, medical interpreters, and general volunteers. We provide chronic and acute care and refer our patients to a variety of specialists when needed.

Help with Health Insurance: So far this year, our incredibly knowledgeable insurance navigator has helped more than 226 individuals learn about health insurance plans and enroll in Vermont Health Connect. She is the only navigator remaining in Addison County, is available to meet with any member of our community and her services are also free!

Outreach and Services: In mid-September, we launched our fall outreach program and as of last week have visited 31 farms, administered 315 flu shots and 10 Tdaps! Through a unique Covid grant opportunity, we purchased a 10' x 20' tent and propane heater so that we could continue to provide all of our services outside come sun, rain, or snow! In non Covid-19 times, we hold 7-10 health and dental clinics per month in Middlebury and Vergennes.

We are grateful for your past support of the Open Door Clinic and hope that you will renew your commitment once again this year.

Heidi R. Sulis, MPH, Executive Director

RSVP

RSVP is a volunteer management program which offers individuals the opportunity to share their experience, skills, and time by volunteering for local non-profit organizations. RSVP considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Addison County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health and education.

RSVP also oversees several free community outreach programs that benefit local residents. These include free Bone Builders health and osteoporosis prevention classes offered twice per week at many locations in Addison County; the Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program which places volunteers in our schools; the Warm Hearts Warm Hands initiative which distributes clothing items to local schools, hospitals, nursing homes, social service agencies; the RSVP/AARP Tax Program which provides income tax return services to low income residents; and the Peaceful Packs Program which provides essential items to children/families in crisis. These programs strengthen communities through service and volunteering and allow Addison County residents to stay healthy, engaged and financially stable.

Services Provided to Leicester Residents:

In FY'20, Leicester residents took advantage of RSVP programs such as our free income tax return preparation services, and our free osteoporosis prevention classes. Overall, 316 Addison County residents benefited from attending the free Bone Builders strength training and osteoporosis prevention classes and 398 community members received income tax services. During the winter months, RSVP 1,400 blankets and warm clothing items were given to community members. In Leicester, these items were distributed through Leicester Central School. In response to COVID-19, volunteers distributed over 400 hand sewn masks to Addison County community members, provided essential items to families in crisis and offered wellness calls to isolated seniors.

In addition, any Leicester resident who received assistance from a local service organization benefited from the work RSVP volunteers do throughout the area. Examples include community members at risk of hunger who received free nutritious meals at meal sites where our members volunteer, or residents who received free transportation services from volunteers who drive for Meals on Wheels and ACTR. Addison County residents also donated thousands of hours to support the community. Through RSVP, Leicester residents volunteered 500 hours to support the community. Even though the delivery of services was impacted by COVID-19, RSVP members volunteered over 40,000 hours to local social service agencies, health care organizations, schools and other non-profits. These volunteer contributions equaled \$1,088,000 in donated labor to our community.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help defray the financial impact of COVID-19 on our organization. With your help, RSVP will continue to respond to the increasing needs of the community.

On behalf of our volunteers and non-profit partners, we would like to thank the residents of Leicester for their continued support of RSVP. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at 388-7044.

Sincerely, Lynn Bosworth, Program Coordinator

RUTLAND COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

The Rutland County Parent Child Center (RCPCC) is a private, community based, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and meeting the needs of children and families throughout Rutland County. RCPCC's mission is "to remove barriers that perpetuate poverty for children and families throughout Rutland County." RCPCC provides all services at no cost, with the exception of childcare, which is minimal for lower income families.

We provide early childhood education services at childcare centers in Brandon and Rutland City. Additionally, the RCPCC provides family centered services to families and children birth to five years, such as:

- Early Intervention programs for children birth to three years old with developmental delays
- A food security program currently servicing up to 250 households per week throughout the county
- A teen parent program that enables young parents to complete their high school education
- Support for young families on public assistance to become independent
- Parent education classes and referral services
- Literacy based afterschool programming and playgroups

Some of these programs serve families of all socio-economic levels but, as a priority, RCPCC seeks out those in need to bring these services into their homes and communities. The Rutland County Parent Child Center is requesting funds in the amount \$300.00 from Leicester in order to continue the RCPCC's efforts to support families and young children in your community. RCPCC provided ongoing support to 3 Leicester families in 2020. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Mary Feldman, Executive Director

TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT (F/K/A ACTR)

Thank you for the Town of Leicester's generous support last year. **Over the past four years, your support helped us provide an annual average of 2,040 free trips for Leicester residents** either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles, including TVT-owned vehicles operated by Elderly Services, Inc. Our Rutland Connector bus provided an additional 150 trips from Leicester last year. Tri-Valley Transit's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus systems provided a total of 173,847 rides for the year. All our transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

The COVID-19 crisis has emphasized the incredible importance of our work. Public transportation has been on the frontlines of providing essential service to many of the most vulnerable members of our communities. Healthcare staff get to work; dialysis, cancer and methadone patients get to treatment, and at-risk residents get food delivered. Services have been revamped to protect riders, the general public, and our staff. At first, we focused on trips to riders with no other means of transportation but whose trips were essential; and then we safely increased capacity to meet growing demand by:

- installing physical barriers between seats and directing riders to use window seats,
- waiving fares to reduce contact,
- ensuring all buses are frequently sanitized and hand sanitizer is available,
- requiring facemasks, even prior to the statewide mandate, and
- implementing screening techniques to ensure riders are not COVID risks.

The state and local grants through which we provide these services require us to raise up to 20% "local match" dollars. ACTR's requests from towns account for approximately 5% of the 20% requirement.

Our website: www.trivalleytransit.org

US DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit.

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic; a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ- and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Sincerely, Laura Miraldi, Acting Medical Center Director

VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) offers a variety of learning opportunities to help adults achieve their educational goals and enhance their quality of life. We work with each student to develop an individualized learning plan that includes a transition to further education or employment. We offer GED testing, programs for completing a high school diploma, basic skills instruction in reading, writing, and math and classes for English Language Learners (ELL). Instruction is also available to students who need skill preparation for college or employment purposes.

In addition, we are contracted by the Vermont Department of Children and Families to place and support Reach-Up participants in unsubsidized work experiences. Our programs are free and confidential.

We are grateful to the townspeople of Leicester for supporting the services we provide.

282 Boardman Street, Middlebury, Vermont 05753
(802) 388-4392 Fax: (802) 388-4396
www.vtadultlearning.org

VERMONT CARES

Vermont CARES has been providing support services to Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and their family members for more than 30 years thanks to support from the Town of Leicester. Vermont CARES also works to prevention new HIV infections by educating and training Vermonters on how to stay safe and reduce their risks. So much of the foundational programming we've built over the last five years made mobile service more possible during this prior year affected by COVID-19, and for that we are grateful. An appropriation from Leicester could help us continue focused excellent service for people living with HIV/AIDS, expand HIV-prevention education presentations at area schools, and increase access to free rapid-result HIV tests. Those we work with are often the most needy, those most ill, and those most in poverty.

Vermont CARES' Programming for People Living with HIV/AIDS:

- * Emotional support for HIV care ranging from diagnosis to persistent medical and related issues
- * Advocacy with doctors, landlords and other social service organizations
- * Residential facility in Colchester, plus additional subsidized apartments across Vermont
- * Transportation to and from medical appointments, the pharmacy & grocery store
- * Emergency financial assistance for food and nutrition, housing, and utilities, and other critical financial needs
- * Support groups and social events

Vermont CARES Programming for People at Risk of HIV/AIDS:

- * Rapid HIV tests, including risk reduction planning and counseling around HIV prevention medication (called "PrEP")
- * Community education events for high schools, colleges, community groups, first responders, and employers
- * One on one education and support to reduce future HIV risks
- * Syringe exchange services based out of our Rutland, Addison, Franklin, Grand Isle, Washington, Caldedonia, Orange, Chittenden, Lamoille, and Orleans Counties, now including two mobile vans which provide all these services by appointment. These services include free naloxone kits, test strips to determine the presence of possible fentanyl, and other life-saving materials.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Municipal funding from towns such as the town of Leicester is crucial to continuing these broad services. If you need or have any questions, please call (802)863-2437, ext. 1.

With sincere appreciation, Peter Jacobsen, Executive Director

Our website: www.vtcare.org

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

For the past 41 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'20 (10/2019-9/2020) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 236 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 5 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 124 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 89 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 61 individuals with information on assistive technology; 36 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 573 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served 41 people and provided 30 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals

with disabilities to communicate by telephone. Due to the pandemic VCIL was able to start a new (temporary) program, Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency (RISE) which served 12 people in its first few months. The RISE Program can help provide an array of items or services if the needs are directly related to the Covid 19 epidemic.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Montpelier office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS) and provides statewide interpreter referral services for sign language, spoken English and CART services for assignments in medical, legal, mental health, employment, educational, civil and recreational settings.

During FY'20, 3 residents of Leicester received services from the following programs:

- Meals on Wheels (MOW) (\$370.00 spent on meals for residents)
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) (resident on waiting list for assistive technology-hearing aids in FY'21)
- Home Access Program (HAP)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT

Middlebury District Office
156 So Village Green, Set 102
Middlebury, VT 05753

[phone] 802-388-4644
[fax] 802-388-4610
[toll free] 1-888-253-8804

Middlebury 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 SECRETARY OF STATE

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

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

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

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

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

VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), under VT Economic Services, helps income challenged care-providers of cats & dogs neutered for \$27.00. The balance is paid ONLY by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, and put into a designated account.

VSNIP is now at "0" funding due to dogs not being registered at least by six months of age. Required by law, a rabies vaccination enables your dog to be licensed. While town offices may not be open to the public, dogs *can* be licensed. Call, provide the rabies certificate, include a check for that amount, and a SASE. **Rabies IS in Vermont and IS deadly.** Tractor Supply Stores are now holding monthly rabies clinics again! Call for their schedule.

Licensing a dog: 1) identifies your dog if lost, **2)** provides proof that your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal {but would still need immediate medical attention}, **3)** bites another animal/person, which could result in the quarantine of your dog or possibly euthanasia to test for rabies if your current vaccination isn't proven, **4)** helps support VSNIP to address the over-population of cats and dogs in VT, and **5) \$3590. List of dogs and wolf-hybrids not licensed states, in part ...** "the municipal clerk shall notify the owners or keepers of all dogs and wolf-hybrids named on the list that have not already been licensed or inoculated, and after May 30 shall furnish to the legislative body a list of dogs and wolf-hybrids not licensed or inoculated as required by law. **Owners shall also be notified that unlicensed or uninoculated dogs or wolf-hybrids may be destroyed.**" (No one want this, so vaccinate & register – for the protection of your animals and people!

For an application for VSNIP, send a SASE to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if this is for a cat/dog or both. 802-672-5302

RABIES CLINICS FOR CATS & DOGS

TRACTOR SUPPLY STORES: CALL AHEAD TO BE SURE INFO IS CURRENT!

Middlebury:	476 Foote St	802-382-9292	TIME: 9:30 – 11:00	2.27.21 / 3.27.21
No. Clarendon:	1177 US RTE 7 So.	802-747-4759	TIME: 1:00 – 3:00	2.25.21 / 3.25.21 / 4.22.21

WOMENSAFE

For the fiscal year ending 6/30/20, WomenSafe staff and volunteers provided the following total services:

- 555 total people served.
- 5,055 in-person meetings and phone calls through advocacy services.
- 202 supervised visits and monitored exchanges for 17 children.
- Worked with the caregivers of 407 children exposed to violence.
- Prevention Programming reached:
 - 1,664 adults and youth through 326 presentations and workshops.
 - 582 adults and youth through 5 outreach events.
- 93 volunteers donated 8,507 hours of services.

LEICESTER

In Leicester, WomenSafe provided advocacy services to at least 7* residents including the parents/caregivers of 3 children.

* For safety, some people do not share their town of residence.

Contact Information:

Advocacy services are Free and Confidential. 24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205 or 800-388-4205 The Supervised Visitation Program @ WomenSafe: 802-388-6783 Business: 802-388-9180 Fax: 802-388-3438 E-mail: info@womensafe.net Web: www.womensafe.net

NOTES

RNESU SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dear Residents of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Leicester, Mendon, Pittsford, Sudbury, & Whiting:

I am pleased to write this report to capture RNESU, OVUU and BUU activities for 2020. We are in our 5th year of our merged district and the Otter Valley Unified Union and Barstow Unified Union School Districts both continue to work toward achieving the vision and mission of educating every child in our eight towns. Read about how we handled the pandemic in the school annual report!

RNESU HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020

- RNESU completed its **second climate survey** in the spring of 2019 and opened in fall 2019 with a focus on the results. Growth areas for the district include bullying and discipline; academic rigor and perceptions; parent engagement; adult/student relationships; and school pride. The year kicked off with a kindness challenge and some work focused on building relationships
- RNESU hired its **first Social Emotional Coach position** to help teachers and administrators collectively address the social emotional needs of students throughout the district. This position, along with guidance counselors and school psychologists, developed safety assessments to ensure appropriate responses to safety needs;
- RNESU schools all agreed to **continue to build a system of supports** for all students focused on academic achievement and social emotional needs, building a system wide approach to discipline (PBIS), restorative justice, equity and a multi tiered system of support.⁷
- Entered into a **joint lawsuit against JUUL** with other school districts nationwide.
- **Converted financial software** at the requirement of the state of Vermont
- **Settled a master agreement** with the Teachers' Association and the Paraprofessional/Bus Driver's association.
- Moved all **board meetings to the Zoom platform**, increasing community involvement in most cases.
- **Provided equity training** for all staff and administration and began an equity committee to ensure we are meeting the needs of all students.

OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION UPDATE

- OVUHS experienced some loss over the year in the educational community and we would like to **thank June Sargent for stepping in to help the administration** through the tumultuous year, along with the support of OVUHS Special Education Coordinator Kristine Evarts.
- The OVUUSD School **Board updated its mission and vision statement** (identified as a Global Ends Policy) with the help of community members and focused work over the summer and fall of 2020 on equity needs of the district through Board professional development
- As the schools were closed, **additional work was done on our buildings**. The front entrance of Otter Valley was upgraded using capital reserve funds and the auditorium chairs will be replaced this year, added cameras and installed a washer and dryer in Leicester, painted and replaced carpets in Lothrop, painted and added valve actuators at Neshobe.
- **Sudbury School was not used as a school building** this year, as grades 5 & 6 were quite small and moved back into Leicester School. Whiting continued to be a successful public-private partnership for child care with A.R.K. Childcare.
- Upgraded and **made equitable our elementary after school programs**, equalizing fees, pay and offerings.



I am honored to continue to serve as the RNESU superintendent in my 7th year in the district and look forward to more connections with our schools and communities.

Respectfully,
Jeanné Collins, Superintendent, RNESU

RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (RNESU) Board has been busy this year dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and making sure that our two school districts (Barstow and Otter Valley) have the resources they need to continue to educate our children.



The Board created a one-year pilot preschool lottery program that allows five of our preschoolers to attend preschools outside of our district. Our preschool system currently only allows our preschoolers to attend preschool programs within our supervisory union. The voucher can be requested by a family. If more than five students request a voucher, than a lottery will pick the students who will be given a voucher.



The other important work of our board was creating the budget for Special Education, Technology, Central Office, and Transportation. This year we are pleased to present a budget that reflects a 3.21% increase in spending. This is a significant drop from the 7.8% increase we asked for last year. We have made no significant changes in staffing or programming.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Debbie Singiser for her tireless work on behalf of the RNESU Board, as she is not seeking re-election. Thank you for your support of our schools, staff and students!



We look forward to continuing our mission of educating life-long learners. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a board member or use the Let's Talk button on any school website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Bertrand
RNESU Board Chair

OV UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD'S LETTER

Wow, what a year it has been! I think COVID-19 is really all I need to say. Who knew that in the middle of March, education as we knew it would dramatically shift? In one weekend, our teachers took our in person system and created a remote learning system to continue to educate our children. The Board wants to salute all of the people who helped make that transition possible. From the teachers, administrators, and paraeducators to the students and parents that worked with the results. It wasn't always pretty, but we made it through. Let's not forget our kitchen staff, bus drivers and paraeducators that made lunches every day and delivered them door to door. Again, the Board can only say thank you!





We hoped that over the summer we would be able to get back to normal, but COVID had other ideas. The teachers, staff and administrators tweaked our system to find a way to educate our kids and keep everyone safe. The result has allowed us to provide Chromebooks to every student that needed one, to getting Wi-Fi hotspots to students to allow them to participate in remote learning. Hopefully, with the creation of a vaccine, we will be back to in person learning full time by next school year (Fingers Crossed). One good thing has come out of all of this, we learned that the OVUU School District is resilient and can provide an education for our kids that we can be proud of.

Due to COVID, the Board needed to step back from our Task Force initiatives (Enhanced Middle School Model, among other things) but we will get back to them. One thing that we were able to do this summer was retrofit the front entrance of Otter Valley. It no longer leaks and it will provide a warm dry space for our students to wait for rides or other activities. If you have not seen it, please drive by and take PRIDE in its completion and its beauty.



I want to take this opportunity to thank Bonnie Bourne for her tireless service to the Board and her mentorship to me, as she is not seeking re-election. I also want to thank Judi Pulsifer, our Neshobe Principal, the very best as she will be retiring at the end of the school year. As always, feel free to contact a Board Member with any questions you might have, or use the Let's Talk App on any school website. We look forward to hearing from you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Bertrand
 OVUU Board Chair



TOWN OF LEICESTER
44 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
LEICESTER, VT 05733

Non-Profit
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Brandon, VT 05733
Permit No.33

INFORMATIONAL HEARING:
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 7:00PM
(REMOTE)

TOWN MEETING VOTE:
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021
10:00AM – 7:00PM