

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

TOWN OF BETHEL, VERMONT

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

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

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL, VERMONT AND THE FIFTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF GOVERNMENT, YEAR
ENDED DECEMBER 31,2004.**

USEFUL INFORMATION

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

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

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

ITS PEOPLE... 2000 US Census 1,968

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

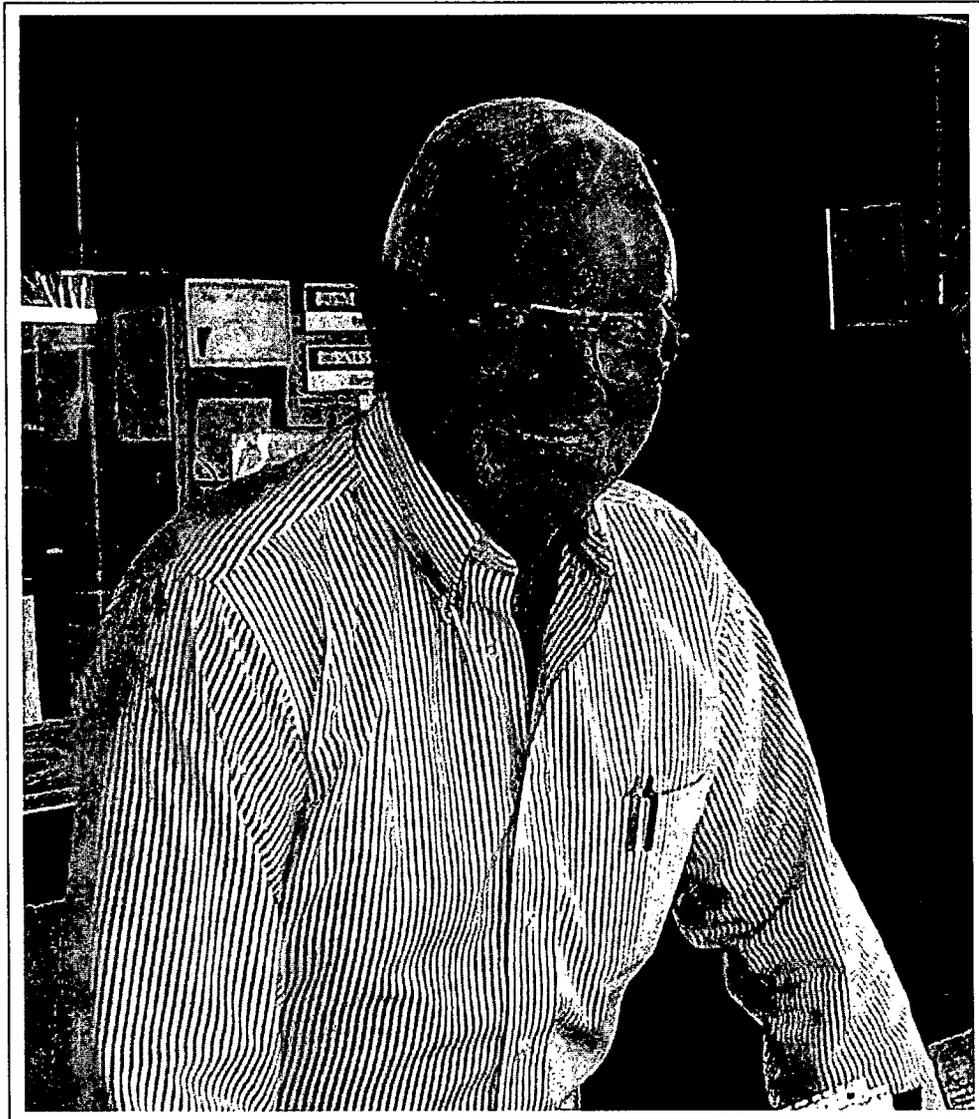
DOG LICENSES... Dog licenses are due April 1. After April 1 an additional fee is charged. Rabies shots must be kept up to date (every 24 months) and certificate left with Town Clerk.

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

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

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING CENTER... Located in Royalton about 3 miles from the Bethel Municipal Building, on Waterman Road just south of 1-89. The facility is open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00am - 3:00 pm.

In Dedication to **NEWALL WOOD**



(Photo courtesy of: Chris Costanzo)

This Annual Town Report has been dedicated to Newall in recognition of his interest and dedication to every aspect of the Town of Bethel. His ambition and work ethic fostered a successful local business but more importantly provided an example for many others to follow in a wide variety of other businesses. His time and dedication to the continued success of this Town is greatly appreciated.

WARNING FOR THE 2005 TOWN MEETING

The legal voters in the Town of Bethel are hereby warned to meet at the Whitcomb High School in said Bethel on Tuesday, the 1st of March, 2005 at 10:00 AM for the following purposes:

1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing.
2. To elect a Town Clerk for the year ensuing.
3. To hear the report of the Auditors and take action thereon.
4. To elect a Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.
5. To elect by ballot, a Selectman for a term of three years to succeed Eric Benson whose term expires.
6. To elect by ballot, a Lister for a term of three years to succeed Louise Ferris-Burt whose term expires.
7. To elect by ballot, an Auditor for a term of three years to succeed Louise Ferris-Burt whose term expires.
8. To elect one or more Grand Jurors.
9. To elect an Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested.
10. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds under Section 24, V.S.A. for a term of three years to succeed Carroll F. Ketchum whose term expires.
11. To see if the voters of the Town of Bethel will vote a sum of money to defray Highway and General expenses for the year ensuing. **Recommended: \$ 650,015.54**
12. To see if the Town will appropriate, using the cap given by the Select Board, the sum of \$13,035.00 for the support of the following Human Services Agencies.

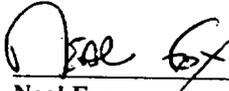
<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>2004 FUNDING</u>	<u>2005 PROPOSAL</u>
ACORN	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Central VT Community Action	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Central VT Council on Aging	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Clara Martin Center	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Life Skills for Women	\$ 200.00	No Request
Mental Health Services of VT	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Safeline	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Senior Center	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 2,000.00
Stagecoach	\$ 1,285.00	\$ 1,285.00
Teen Scene	\$ 1,000.00	Disbanded
Vermont Adult Learning	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
VT Center for Independent Living	\$ 150.00	\$ 100.00
Windsor County Partners	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Windsor County Court Diversion	No Request	\$ 500.00
Bethel After School Program	<u>No Request</u>	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
TOTALS	\$12,535.00	\$13,035.00

13. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$750.00 (2004-\$750.00) to support the work of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
14. To see if the Town will appropriate \$61,051.00 (2004-\$59,522.00) to continue service provided by the White River Valley Ambulance, Inc.
15. To see if the Town will collect Town taxes on real property in one (1) installment being due July 15, 2005 and Town School District Taxes in 2 equal installments due September 15 and November 15, 2005.
16. To see if the Town will vote to exempt the property of the Middle Branch Grange in the Village of East Bethel from both municipal and education taxation for a period of five (5) years.
17. To see if the Town will, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 1683(c), establish its fiscal year to end on June 30. The first such year will begin on July 1, 2006 and end on June 30, 2007. The first fiscal year will be preceded by a short budget year beginning January 1, 2006 to June 30, 2006.
18. Shall the Town of Bethel vote to add two more members to the Selectboard for the term of two years.

WARNING FOR THE 2005 TOWN MEETING -- continued

19. Shall the voters of the Town of Bethel vote to approve the resolution concerning the war in Iraq and the deployment of members of the Vermont National Guard in that war, as attached to the petition and incorporated herein by reference, and then send a copy of the resolution Vermont's state and federal office-holders? (A copy of the full resolution can be viewed at <http://iraqresolution.org/> or at the Town Clerk's office.)
20. To do any other necessary and proper business in connection with the foregoing articles, and to discuss a pending bond vote for the local share of costs associated with replacement of the Church Street Bridge.

Dated at Bethel, Vermont this 25th day of January 2005.


Neal Fox


Bill Richards


Eric Benson

SUMMARY OF TOWN MEETING

March 2, 2004

Pursuant to the warning posted, the Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Bethel was called to order by Moderator Carroll F. Ketchum at 10:15 AM at the Whitcomb High School. The Flag was presented by the Bethel Jr. Girl Scouts, Troop 126.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Art. 1 | Carroll F. Ketchum was elected Moderator for 1 year. |
| Art. 2 | Jean Burnham was elected Town Clerk for 1 year. |
| Art. 3 | Auditors report accepted as printed. |
| Art. 4 | Jean Burnham was elected Town Treasurer for 1 year. |
| Art. 5 | Neal Fox was elected Selectman for 3 years. |
| Art. 6 | Beverly Washburn was elected Lister for 3 years. |
| Art. 7 | Rosella Leonard was elected Auditor for 3 years. |
| Art. 8 | Kent Batcheller was elected Grand Juror for 1 year. |
| Art. 9 | Deborah Leahy was elected Town Agent for 1 year. |
| Art 10 | Eric Benson was elected Trustee of Public Funds for 3 years. |
| Art. 11 | Voted \$693,236.00 to defray Highway & General Expenses. |
| Art 12 | Appropriated \$1,000.00 to the Town Hall Resoration Fund. |
| Art. 13 | Voted \$12,535.00 for the support of Human Services. |
| Art. 14 | Voted \$750.00 to support the Vt. Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired. |
| Art. 15 | Voted \$59,522.00 for the White River Valley Ambulance Service. |
| Art. 16 | Voted to pay taxes in one installment on July 15. |
| Art. 17 | No other business. |

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Burnham, Town Clerk

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

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

BETHEL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Richard Wagner	Term Expires 2005
Carla Hodgdon	Term Expires 2005
Eric Richardson	Term Expires 2005
Peter Dohrn	Term Expires 2006
Davis Dimock	Term Expires 2006
Dave Eddy	Term Expires 2007
Craig Wortman (Chairman)	Term Expires 2007

BETHEL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD:

Paul Vallee	Term Expires 2005
Greg Hughes (Chairman)	Term Expires 2005
James Giberti	Term Expires 2006
Ruth Clough	Term Expires 2006
Bill Floyd	Term Expires 2007
Beverly Washburn	Term Expires 2007
Kent Batcheller	Term Expires 2007

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

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

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

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

BETHEL/ROYALTON SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Charles Young

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Richard Wagner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

(CONTINUED)

WINDSOR COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Heidi Nikolaidis

TWO RIVERS OTTAUQUECHE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Slavko Stanchak

Olena Stanchak (alternate)

STAGECOACH ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Bill Green

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE:

Jon Hodgdon

SO. ROYALTON SENIOR CENTER:

Elizabeth Balsler

COUNCIL ON THE ARTS:

Tom Burgos

Bennett Law

Kellie Burke

James Bannister

Becky Lewandoski

Amy Perez

BETHEL COMMITTEE ON THE DOWNTOWN:

Lang Durfee

Greg Hughes

Kent Batcheller

Mary Floyd

Mary Pavone

REVOLVING LOAN COMMITTEE:

Ellen Nobile

Kent Batcheller

Carroll Ketchum

Beverly Washburn

PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES COMMITTEE:

Heidi Nikolaidis

Ellen Nobile

Tamie Slack

Kathy McCullough

Ola O'Dell

PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES SUB-COMMITTEE-URBAN FORESTRY:

Greg Hughes

Eric Benson

Bruce McCullough

David Aiken

Mary Floyd

TOWN HALL FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Nancy Hughes (Chair)

Lang & Lorraine Durfee

Brendan Butler

George & Janet Burnham

John Young

Kep Taylor

Susan Rule

Davis Dimock

Victoria Weber

Liz Kreig

Spencer Lewis

Bill Green

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TOWN OFFICERS:

Carroll F. Ketchum	Moderator
Jean Burnham	Town Clerk
Jean Burnham	Town Treasurer
Deborah Leahy	Town Agent
Kent Batcheller	Grand Juror

SELECTMEN:

Eric Benson	Term Expires 2005
William Richards	Term Expires 2006
Neal Fox	Term Expires 2007

LISTERS:

Louise Ferris-Burt	Term Expires 2005
Ella Mae Grady	Term Expires 2006
Beverly Washburn	Term Expires 2007

TOWN AUDITORS:

Louise Ferris-Burt	Term Expires 2005
Audrey Turk	Term Expires 2006
Rosella A. Leonard	Term Expires 2007

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS:

Carroll Ketchum	Term Expires 2005
Donald Hyde	Term Expires 2006
Eric Benson	Term Expires 2007

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:

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

STATEMENT OF THE AUDITORS

In accordance with section 1681 of Title 24, V.S.A. we have verified the existence of the stated cash balance, inspected the accounts and records of the Town Officers and Trustees. To the best of our knowledge the financial statements and reports of receipts and disbursements show the financial position of the Town as of December 31, 2004.

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

Selectmen's Report for 2004

I. INTRODUCTION

The Town of Bethel closed its financial year on December 31, 2004. All financial reports contained herein are structured upon the interval from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004.

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

Other programs/services are primarily paid for by the people using the service through fees charged. These are thus referred to as the "enterprise funds," each being a free-standing program. Financial reports are separately entered herein for each, they being the Water, Wastewater, and Solid Waste programs.

Several special funds are held separately from annual operating funds. These separate funds are dedicated to certain purposes which may not relate to the calendar year, and they may be carried over from year to year. Reports on these special funds are also contained within this Annual Report.

The Board of Selectmen has authority over the design and delivery of all programs. Business meetings are regularly held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Town Office Building on South Main Street, commencing at 6:00 PM. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings to offer input or to gain information on matters of interest. The three member Board is made up by Neal Fox, who has served as the Board's Chair for the entirety of the 2004 year, Bill Richards, and Eric Benson. The public is also encouraged to contact the Town Office at any time if immediate needs are at hand, the telephone number being 234-9340.

II. MUNICIPAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Town continues to hold two revolving loan funds, both of which were originally capitalized through grants the Town received from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. One of the funds is available for loans to property owners who have an emergency need, such as a failed furnace or septic system, and may need financial assistance to accomplish the repairs. The principal balance available for loan purposes at year's end in this fund was \$27,553.76. The second loan fund is for economic development purposes, and funds may be borrowed for any business purpose subject to Town approval under the loan guidelines.

The principal balance available at year's end in this fund was \$180,089.78. Coupled with the fact that the downtown has recently received a "Village Center" designation, considerable financial benefit can be realized by projects located therein, with potential funding assistance from the economic development loan fund.

With technical assistance from the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission, the Bethel Planning Commission completed updates to both the "Bethel Zoning Ordinance" and the "Bethel Land Subdivision Regulations." This project was complicated by the revisions to land use laws made at the State level which necessitated re-working of nearly complete drafts in order to maintain compatibility with State statutes. The proposed amendments to these bylaws were submitted to the Selectboard in September. After public hearing, the Selectboard adopted the

Selectmen's Report - continued

amendments in December, to be effective in February 2005.

A topographic survey of the Town Hall property and the immediate surrounds was completed in August by Lawrence Swanson, LLS. This survey will assist the Selectboard and consultants in making decisions about some of the restoration work to be done on the property. The Selectboard has decided to appoint a "construction committee" as well as maintaining a "finance committee;" preserving and restoring the building will likely be done in steps, and it is envisioned that a knowledgeable "construction committee" would identify individual scopes of work which could then be undertaken when funds are sufficiently available. Some ideas regarding use of the building for Town Offices have been developed by students at Vermont Technical College under the direction of Professor Paul Hartmann. These ideas were presented at a public meeting sponsored by Mascoma Savings Bank in November 2004, and will be further evaluated as planning continues.

Due to major changes which have occurred in real estate values in recent years, the Board of Listers has sought proposals from qualified parties for a complete re-appraisal of all properties in Town. With concurrence from the Selectboard, a contract has been signed with APAS, LLC of Adamant, Vermont, the consideration being in the magnitude of \$91,000.00. Some funds have been accumulated to help defray this expense, these being set forth under the "Act 60 Re-appraisal Fund" elsewhere in this Report. Additional money will need to be appropriated to support this effort. It will require at least two years for such a re-appraisal to be done, so the resulting new Grand List will not be usable for tax billing purposes until 2007.

III. PUBLIC WORKS, HIGHWAYS, AND BRIDGES

During the Summer construction season, the Town crew installed a replacement "short span" bridge on Peavine Boulevard. The crew also applied a working lift of gravel to the Sanders Road, much of this being hauled from the Town-operated pit on the Stevens' property near Lympus Four Corners. This source of gravel is becoming depleted, with only about enough left to provide for an additional year of the Town's needs.

A step ahead was taken in technology, toward more effective road maintenance. The Town crew constructed a footing pad for a liquid chloride holding tank, and assembled dispensing apparatus for use of that product. Liquid chloride very effectively holds particles of gravel roads together, providing a more stable surface with less erosion and better dust control. The tanks and component apparatus were acquired from Innovative Municipal Products of Buffalo, New York at a cost of \$9,143.80.

As time allows, the crew is also re-shaping various areas of the Town garage lot to provide for compliance with stormwater run-off regulations being prepared by the State of Vermont and the federal EPA. The means of storing various materials, and the quantities held, are also being changed in order to control the risk of contaminants escaping into the environment. The one-ton truck was traded as scheduled during 2004, the Town now owning a Ford F550 which is used for plowing side streets and doing other tasks not requiring a full-sized dump truck. This truck was purchased with a diesel engine, among other reasons to help eliminate the need to keep a large quantity of gasoline on site.

Most of the work of installing a "temporary bridge" for the Church Street Bridge location was completed in the Fall of 2003, with a small amount of street painting and asphalt work being done as weather allowed in the Spring of 2004. With assistance from the Vermont Agency of Transportation, final plans for the new Church Street Bridge were completed, and all necessary new rights-of-way were procured. Construction of the new bridge is expected to begin in 2005. The most recent

Selectmen's Report-continued

estimate for the total project is in excess of seven million dollars, at least 90% of which will be State and federal funds.

Approximately one half mile of the North Road was resurfaced in 2004, the work being done by Blaktop, Inc. of West Lebanon, New Hampshire. The low bid price was \$44.56 per ton in place, the total project cost being \$30,839.10. A grant was obtained from the Agency of Transportation to pay \$24,671.28 of this cost. The Town also contracted a small amount of re-surfacing on Route 12- Pleasant Street since State paving funds will not be available for this road for some time into the future, even though a more thorough treatment is needed on this street. \$4,605.52 of Town funds were spent on re-paving on Pleasant Street.

IV. FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town's volunteer department presently numbers at 24 members. Ray Forrest served as Chief, with Robert Dean and Scott Taylor serving as Assistant Chiefs. Bill Russell served as the Department's Secretary/Treasurer. Twenty-three business/training meetings were held during 2004. Responses to emergencies were categorized as: 9 structure fires, 6 brush fires, 5 chimney fires, 21 vehicular fires/accidents, 10 false alarms, and 6 other responses. The Town is extremely well-served by the dedicated members of our Fire Department, who make great personal sacrifice in response to duty.

V. WATER DEPARTMENT

During 2004, the Town sampled its water sources for levels of nitrate, asbestos, cyanide, and an array of synthetic organic chemicals. This sampling was in compliance with a monitoring schedule prepared by the State of Vermont Water Supply Division. The results were again, as in prior years, indicative of excellent water quality from our sources. Owners of properties in our "source protection areas" were all sent letters reminding them of the importance of protecting these sources from contamination. Monthly coliform testing was also done, with follow-up testing being necessary on two occasions because of total coliform (non fecal) readings. Further information about the Town's water system is available in a "Consumer Confidence Report" which is published annually and is available from the Town Office at no charge.

Although repairs to the distribution lines were few in number, and quite straight-forward for the Town crew to fix, one unusual happening off-set any potential for an "uneventful" year. At the primary well, a set screw on the pump suspension shaft came loose, and the pump dislodged from its position. As a result, the Town had to have the pump pulled and evaluated to make sure no damage had occurred, this being quite an expensive task. Fortunately, insurance covered most of the \$7,150.00 cost. The service work was done by Layne Christensen Company of Dracut, Massachusetts.

VI. WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Lightning struck incoming lines at the wastewater plant during August, burning out the automatic dialing apparatus which ordinarily signals the operator (and others) if a failure has occurred in the equipment at the plant. This \$3,252.00 repair has been submitted to the Town's insurance for potential coverage.

Selectmen's Report-continued

One problem which has been continually recurring throughout the treatment processing system is the accumulation of "floatables" which are solid, inorganic materials that do not break down biologically and tend to clog screens, ports, valves etc. The original design of the plant did not effectively provide for removal of these materials. A screen filter system designed by our plant operator has eliminated this problem, and our operator has even been complimented for his ingenuity by the State inspector.

Otherwise, operations ran quite smoothly for the course of the year. The plant processed an average of 62,192 gallons per day of flow during the year, which is well within the 115,000 gallons per day design flow. The residual biosolids are normally used as an agricultural fertilizer supplement, subject to rigorous tests being done to ensure suitability for that purpose. Application for renewal of the "Certification" for the biosolids management program was submitted to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources in December 2004.

VII. THE ALLIANCE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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

Two household hazardous waste collection events were held in 2004, these being available for citizens of the member Towns to dispose of practically any hazardous wastes at no cost, the only materials not accepted being explosives and radioactive material. The collection events can also be used by businesses, on a fee basis, if appointments are made in advance to ensure that adequate holding equipment is on site to keep such wastes secure. In 2004, the following materials were collected: a total of 26 fifty-five gallon drums containing aggregate quantities of antifreeze, motor oil, other automotive wastes, paints, solvents, stains, strippers, batteries, pesticides, and cleaning compounds; 3 pounds of "mercury added" products; and 3,288 linear feet of fluorescent lamps. Several free opportunities were made available for the public to exchange old mercury thermometers for new state-of-the-art digital thermometers, and this will most likely be offered again in 2005, as an effort to help encourage the re-capture of mercury instead of having it released into the environment.

The "Swap Shop" remained a popular component of the facility. No inventory is kept of materials exchanged through the shop, but the public is encouraged to use this facility to help minimize the amount of re-usable material going to the transfer station for disposal. The public is asked to help monitor the materials left off, and if article(s) are not taken by someone in a reasonable time, the donor should take responsibility for disposing of them as trash. Anyone having some time available to help keep the shop organized should inform the program staff, as extra help would be appreciated. No fees are charged for taking or leaving re-usable items.

Recycling continues to be practiced diligently by the member Towns, but we are reminded that there is still room for improvement. There is no fee charged for most recyclables in order to encourage citizens to use this means of getting rid of acceptable materials. In the past year, the following quantities were collected and shipped from the facility: (all measured in tons) glass: 111.33, aluminum cans: 2.69, steel cans: 24.40, PET plastic: 9.67, HDPE plastic: 13.46, boxboard: 6.63, corrugated cardboard: 307.37, magazines and junk mail: 101.94, white ledger paper: 1.99, and newspaper: 53.97, (a total of nearly 640 tons.) Other materials are collected and recycled, but a small fee is assessed due to the requirement for special handling of those materials: used motor oil, antifreeze, tires, scrap metals, and clean wood. Recycling is MANDATORY as a condition of membership in the Alliance program; it is also the responsible thing to do. As a last resort,

Selectmen's Report-continued

materials which cannot be re-used or recycled must be disposed of, and the facility's transfer station provided aggregation, loading and shipping services for a total of 7,571.91 tons of solid waste. It is a program objective to reduce this volume by fostering a greater understanding in the public's mind of the need to purchase only necessary quantities, use up purchased materials, and recycle/re-use all that is practical. To further assist in reduction of the quantity of disposed wastes, the program is studying the possibility of collecting used electronic apparatus for recycling, and implementing a composting component in the array of services offered at the facility. Since the 22 acre site also harbors the former landfill which served the area Towns, groundwater is regularly monitored through test wells created for that purpose. The "capping" of the former landfill with a layer of impervious clay has resulted in steadily improving test results. The likelihood of contaminants causing off-site impacts appears to be diminishing as time goes by.

The State of Vermont developed a new State-level solid waste implementation plan which was made effective in 2002. Towns and solid waste districts were required by State law to develop new plans also, which would address all elements of solid waste management as were addressed within the State's own plan.

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

VIII. CLOSING COMMENTS

The Board regrets that the wisdom and devote civic-mindedness of Charlie Young is no longer available. One final tribute Charlie made to the Town was to acquire a chalkboard, an artifact from the "then-soon-to-be-demolished" Village School in Randolph. He commissioned Hans Truckenbrod to custom frame it and hang it in the meeting room at the Town Office. We expect to use it often for memos, notes, and quick informational sketches. It is also an attractive, eye-catching item – take note of it if you are in the building.

We thank all members of the public who have helped to provide services and invite anyone having an interest in Town government to let us know if they wish to participate in any way.

TOWN OF BETHEL
STATEMENTS OF CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS
Year ended December 31, 2004

Balance in Checking Account January 1, 2004	\$ 9,662.41
Add Receipts:	
Taxes	
Current	2,522,664.84
Back Taxes	238,250.85
Fees	17,124.74
Interest	10,497.53
State of VT - in lieu of Taxes	1,571.00
Current Use	39,946.00
F & G	215.00
Water	97,310.77
Interest	781.11
Sewer	136,648.94
Interest	664.12
Solid Waste-Fees	762,323.29
Recyclables	38,824.14
Surcharge	63,049.14
Hazardous Waste	5,234.66
Donations	1,000.00
Revolving Loan Acct. -- Fire Station	34,194.37
Revolving Loan Acct. -- Camp Brook Road	91,485.75
Miscellaneous	13,115.44
State of Vermont-Highways	135,634.26
Solid Waste Franchise Tax	19,974.68
Tax Sales	40,724.03
State of Vermont-Reimbursement	35,220.88
Homeland Security Grants	31,400.00
Insurance Reimbursement	8,356.00
Transfer Equipment Trust Fund	7,000.00
Sewer-Reimbursement for Administrative	4,500.00
Water Reimbursement	2,250.00
Interest Earned	2,408.42
Solid Waste Reimbursement	750.00
Town Clerk's Fees	20,025.87
Dog Licenses	1,448.00
Local Licenses	325.00
Railroad Tax	1,197.66
Recreation Center-Fees	7,956.20
Long Term Loans	260,600.00
Tax Anticipation Notes	40,000.00
State of Vermont Emergency Generator	19,951.70
Transfer from Sweep Account	166.51
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 4,714,790.90
Total Available	4,724,453.31
Less Orders	4,700,181.34
Balance in Checking Account on December 31, 2004	\$ 24,271.97

EQUIPMENT & MATERIAL INVENTORY

(Estimated)

As of December 31, 2004

Interest in 2004 Dump Truck -- Sterling	\$ 45,000.00
Interest in Case 580 Super M Backhoe	25,000.00
2001 Dump Truck -- International	28,000.00
2004 1 Ton Truck -- Ford F550	40,000.00
1998 Dump Truck -- International	15,000.00
Police Cruiser	1,000.00
1981 Fire Truck -- Chevrolet	15,000.00
1973 Fire Truck -- Maxim	12,000.00
1976 Tanker -- International	5,000.00
1954 Pumper - General	2,000.00
Interest in 2001 Eagle-One Freightliner	60,000.00
1991 Grader -- Caterpillar	45,000.00
1973 Road Grader -- Austin Western	1,500.00
Interest in 1999 Caterpillar 928G Loader	50,000.00
1999 Kubota B7300 Tractor	4,000.00
Loader - (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	3,000.00
Loader - Bobcat (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	3,000.00
Interest in Cat 906 Loader (Transfer Station, 1/2 Royalton)	16,000.00
Radios	5,000.00
Low Bed Trailer	500.00
"V" Plow and Grader Wing (2)	8,000.00
Grader Blades	700.00
Misc. Tires	300.00
Loader Snow Bucket	1,500.00
Sand Spreaders	1,000.00
Five One-Way Plows	10,000.00
Chain Saws (2)	800.00
Welders	1,500.00
Mechanics Tools	1,000.00
Shop	1,500.00
Office Equipment and Supplies	30,000.00
Salt	2,000.00
Lubricants	1,000.00
Motor Vehicle Fuels	8,000.00
Culverts	100.00
Pumps	400.00
Screen Plant	2,000.00
Culvert Thawer & Steamer	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 447,800.00

TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Revenue Summary

As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
LOCAL REVENUES			
Dog Tax	1,200.00	1,448.00	1,200.00
Local Licenses	300.00	325.00	300.00
Town Clerk Fees	14,000.00	20,025.87	15,000.00
Recreation Area Fees	8,000.00	7,956.20	8,000.00
Zoning Application Fees	600.00	1,071.00	800.00
Zoning Regulations	50.00	20.00	50.00
Overweight Permit Fees	200.00	310.00	200.00
Trustees of Public Funds	100.00	65.16	50.00
Subdivision Permit Fees	100.00	42.00	50.00
TOTAL - Local Revenues	24,550.00	31,263.23	25,650.00
MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL REVENUE			
Miscellaneous Local Revenue	0.00	4,790.00	0.00
Reimbursement Tax Sales Expenses	50.00	0.00	50.00
Other	100.00	10,024.55	100.00
TOTAL - Miscellaneous Local Revenue	150.00	14,814.55	150.00
STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUES			
Highways-Class I	9,000.00	9,707.52	9,000.00
Highways-Class II	42,000.00	44,147.00	43,000.00
Highways-Class III	78,000.00	81,779.74	80,000.00
2/1 Paving	0.00	24,671.28	0.00
State Owned Lands	100.00	1,571.00	1,000.00
Traffic Tickets	500.00	1,089.36	500.00
Fish & Game (fish hatchery)	100.00	215.00	100.00
Camp Brook Road Project	0.00	8,820.00	0.00
Homeland Security Grants	0.00	31,400.00	0.00
Other	0.00	909.69	0.00
TOTAL - State and Federal Revenues	129,700.00	204,310.59	133,600.00
MISCELLANEOUS			
Solid Waste - Admin. Reimbursement	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sewer - Admin. Reimbursement	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Water Dept. - Admin. Reimbursement	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
RR Revenue Sharing	800.00	1,197.66	800.00
TOTAL - Miscellaneous	10,800.00	11,197.66	10,800.00

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
INTEREST EARNINGS			
Checking Account	150.00	1,645.48	500.00
Sweep Account Interest	50.00	0.00	100.00
TOTAL - Interest Earnings	200.00	1,645.48	600.00
TAXES-PROPERTY			
Current Property Taxes	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land-use	30,000.00	39,946.00	30,000.00
Delinquent Taxes-current	0.00	1,908.42	0.00
Delinquent Taxes-prior	0.00	140,660.33	0.00
Penalty	15,000.00	17,434.50	15,000.00
Interest	10,000.00	11,836.29	10,000.00
TOTAL - Taxes Property	55,000.00	207,986.70	55,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES	220,400.00	471,227.21	225,800.00
CASH BALANCE WITH TREASURER	0.00		24,413.46
TOTAL	220,400.00		250,213.46
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	693,236.00		650,015.54
TOTAL	913,636.00		900,229.00

TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown

As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL			
Labor	132,000.00	128,368.78	134,000.00
Social Security	9,100.00	8,781.38	9,200.00
Medicare	2,100.00	2,053.83	2,100.00
Health Insurance	29,600.00	34,337.07	35,000.00
Workman's Compensation	7,200.00	4,032.02	7,000.00
TOTAL - Public Works Personnel	180,000.00	177,573.08	187,300.00
TOWN OWNED EQUIPMENT			
1991 Caterpillar Grader	1,000.00	2,152.10	5,000.00
1973 AW Grader	1,000.00	2,542.36	1,000.00
1998 International Truck	1,500.00	3,649.79	1,000.00
2001 International Truck	1,500.00	6,171.48	2,500.00
Insurance on Building & Equipment	13,000.00	14,222.65	12,000.00
2000 F-350 Truck	500.00	1,891.35	0.00
Kubota B7300	200.00	15.23	200.00
2004 Sterling Truck	1,500.00	68.86	1,500.00
928G Caterpillar Loader	2,000.00	3,430.45	2,000.00
Case 980 Super M Backhoe	15,120.00	15,295.36	15,500.00
One Way Plow	500.00	1,643.72	1,500.00
Sanders & Spreaders	500.00	0.00	500.00
Chain Saw	100.00	136.13	200.00
Welder	100.00	0.00	100.00
Culvert Thawer	100.00	0.00	100.00
Steamer/Trailer	100.00	0.00	100.00
Sand Screen	100.00	0.00	100.00
Rake	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs-All Vehicles	2,500.00	730.48	1,500.00
Snow Blower/Mower	100.00	0.00	100.00
Permits/Underground Tank	100.00	0.00	100.00
Garage	7,000.00	10,180.47	8,000.00
Electricity	2,400.00	2,435.63	2,500.00
Telephone	400.00	375.59	400.00
Uniforms	2,800.00	2,782.54	2,800.00
Other	100.00	2,514.04	100.00
Gas, Oil & Grease	6,000.00	5,852.35	6,000.00
Diesel	15,000.00	16,831.52	18,000.00
Underground Tank	200.00	0.00	200.00
TOTAL- Town Owned Equipment	75,520.00	92,922.10	83,100.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
HIRED SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT			
Trucks & Operations	500.00	0.00	0.00
Roadside Mowing	6,500.00	6,160.00	6,500.00
Labor	500.00	0.00	500.00
TOTAL - Hired Services or Equipment	7,500.00	6,160.00	7,000.00
MATERIALS			
Salt	27,000.00	22,118.77	25,000.00
Chloride	16,000.00	20,462.00	12,000.00
Gravel	6,000.00	4,284.00	6,000.00
Crusher Run Gravel	2,000.00	1,946.00	2,000.00
Sand	22,000.00	22,878.00	23,000.00
Bridge Plank	500.00	0.00	500.00
Bridge Material	1,000.00	1,503.86	1,500.00
Culverts	3,000.00	4,410.65	3,500.00
Patching Material	2,500.00	1,134.68	2,500.00
Hot Mix	10,000.00	35,444.62	15,000.00
Tools	500.00	0.00	500.00
Signs	400.00	95.25	400.00
Snow Fence	100.00	0.00	100.00
Salt Boxes	100.00	0.00	100.00
Other	100.00	5,643.05	100.00
TOTAL - Materials	91,200.00	119,920.88	92,200.00
OTHER PUBLIC WORKS			
Storm Water Catch Basins	2,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Cemeteries	10,000.00	16,332.60	10,000.00
Church Street Bridge	0.00	1,018.69	0.00
Sidewalk Improvements	5,000.00	0.00	2,500.00
Parking-Pedestrian Safety	500.00	0.00	500.00
Other	100.00	11.00	0.00
Highway Equipment Trust Fund	40,000.00	40,000.00	60,000.00
TOTAL - Other Public Works	57,600.00	57,362.29	74,000.00
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	411,820.00	453,938.35	443,600.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
FIRE DEPARTMENT			
Salaries	7,000.00	8,946.93	7,000.00
Social Security	390.00	490.25	400.00
Medicare	100.00	114.64	110.00
Workman's Compensaiton	1,750.00	0.00	1,200.00
Insurance On Equipment	6,500.00	4,236.00	3,700.00
General Pumper	200.00	237.00	400.00
International Tanker	600.00	1,185.65	400.00
Maxim Pumper	600.00	237.00	400.00
1981 Chevy Van	600.00	8.59	400.00
2001 Freightliner	600.00	0.00	400.00
Gas, Oil & Lubricants	1,000.00	1,447.52	1,400.00
Electricity-Fire Alarm	1,250.00	1,078.03	1,100.00
Telephone	3,400.00	3,022.77	3,200.00
Heat	2,000.00	2,149.61	2,400.00
Communications	2,000.00	5,807.59	2,500.00
Supplies	4,000.00	1,805.24	2,000.00
Station Upkeep	1,200.00	480.00	1,000.00
Debt Service-New Building (see Note 1)	18,270.00	34,194.37	0.00
Debt Service-E. One Pump	21,630.00	22,037.68	22,100.00
Other	100.00	1,240.99	100.00
Training	700.00	300.00	700.00
Homeland Security Grant	0.00	27,107.43	0.00
TOTAL-Fire Department	73,890.00	116,127.29	50,910.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Labor	9,000.00	8,814.57	9,000.00
Social Security	550.00	546.43	550.00
Medicare	150.00	127.73	150.00
Workmans Compensation	420.00	154.16	420.00
Insurance on Equipment	500.00	948.00	1,000.00
Professional Liability	9,000.00	600.00	2,000.00
Cruiser	1,000.00	522.15	1,000.00
Mileage	100.00	0.00	100.00
Other	100.00	510.59	100.00
TOTAL-Police Department	20,820.00	12,223.63	14,320.00
RECREATION DEPARTMENT			
Staff and Labor	27,000.00	25,353.05	27,000.00
Social Security	1,360.00	945.39	1,360.00
Medicare	320.00	221.09	300.00
Workman's Compensation	100.00	0.00	1,500.00
Insurance on Building/Equip	50.00	47.00	100.00
Mowing	300.00	0.00	300.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
RECREATION DEPARTMENT-cont.			
Electricity	2,200.00	2,350.74	2,400.00
Telephone	150.00	0.00	100.00
Improvements	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs & Maintenance	2,000.00	1,763.65	2,000.00
Supplies	2,400.00	3,590.28	3,000.00
Chlorine	3,200.00	2,637.22	3,000.00
American Red Cross	200.00	255.00	250.00
Playground Equipment	50.00	0.00	50.00
Other	100.00	718.87	100.00
TOTAL-Recreation Department	39,530.00	37,882.29	41,560.00
PARKS & PUBLIC PLACES			
Labor	600.00	803.35	700.00
Social Security	50.00	49.80	50.00
Medicare	20.00	11.61	20.00
Workmans Comp-Bandshell	200.00	0.00	100.00
Workmans Comp-Gazebo	200.00	0.00	100.00
Workmans Comp-Fort Fortitude	200.00	0.00	100.00
Workmans Comp - Peavine Park	200.00	491.86	100.00
Insurance-Bandshell	100.00	32.00	100.00
Insurance-Gazebo	200.00	0.00	100.00
Insurance-Fort Fortitude	100.00	0.00	100.00
Insurance - Peavine Park	100.00	412.00	100.00
Mowing Common	300.00	408.00	400.00
Mowing-Fort Fortitude	250.00	296.00	300.00
Mowing-Peavine Park	350.00	416.00	450.00
Mowing-Parking Lot	200.00	256.00	250.00
Street Lights	23,100.00	21,815.10	22,500.00
Electricity-Common	500.00	540.34	550.00
Electricity-Peavine Park	200.00	13.44	100.00
Electricity-Parking Lot	1,000.00	155.93	200.00
Improvements-Peavine Park	200.00	0.00	100.00
Maintenance-Common	400.00	17.94	250.00
Maintenance-Fort Fortitude	100.00	0.00	100.00
Maintenance-Peavine Park	100.00	35.88	150.00
Maintenance-Parking Lot	100.00	1,720.00	500.00
Other	100.00	1,250.78	100.00
TOTAL-Parks & Public Places	28,870.00	28,726.03	27,520.00
MUNICIPAL OFFICES			
Clerical Labor-Town Managers	54,500.00	46,891.85	54,500.00
Salary-Town Clerk	22,900.00	23,533.59	24,200.00
Social Security	4,320.00	4,334.53	4,400.00
Medicare	1,000.00	1,013.81	1,020.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
MUNICIPAL OFFICES-cont			
Health Insurance	38,000.00	32,696.75	34,500.00
Workmans Compensation	820.00	284.58	600.00
Insurance-Building	2,000.00	1,310.44	2,000.00
Bond Insurance	800.00	0.00	1,000.00
Electricity	1,500.00	1,165.92	1,400.00
Telephone	3,000.00	3,930.64	3,500.00
Heat	1,500.00	1,602.65	1,600.00
Maintenance-Building	1,000.00	840.42	1,000.00
Maintenance-Copier	500.00	1.00	500.00
Maintenance-Computer	1,500.00	1,045.87	1,500.00
Maintenance-Equipment	500.00	10.95	100.00
Supplies	5,500.00	7,808.97	7,000.00
Supplies-Copier	1,500.00	2,466.98	2,000.00
Supplies-Computer	600.00	895.74	1,000.00
Water & Sewer	600.00	382.54	600.00
Bank Fees	150.00	0.00	100.00
Other	100.00	3,034.55	100.00
TOTAL-Municipal Offices	142,290.00	133,251.78	142,620.00
TOWN HALL			
Insurance	500.00	0.00	500.00
Electricity	300.00	285.12	300.00
Heat	1,500.00	1,970.35	1,500.00
Building Repair	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Repair-Clock	200.00	195.00	200.00
Water & Sewer	500.00	548.10	600.00
Town Hall Restoration Fund	1,000.00	1,029.39	5,000.00
TOTAL-Town Hall	5,000.00	4,027.96	9,100.00
SALARIES			
Selectmen	775.00	775.00	775.00
Treasurer	3,720.00	3,720.00	3,830.00
Town Manager	28,650.00	29,059.07	29,930.00
Trustees of Public Funds	250.00	250.00	250.00
Auditors	105.00	105.00	105.00
Health Officer	600.00	600.00	600.00
Elections	100.00	0.00	100.00
Board of Civil Authority	100.00	0.00	100.00
Social Security	1,800.00	2,005.40	2,000.00
Medicare	420.00	463.17	460.00
Retirement	0.00	3.63	0.00
Other	100.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL-Salaries	36,620.00	36,981.27	38,150.00

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
LISTERS			
Salaries	10,000.00	15,868.79	20,000.00
Social Security	600.00	940.56	1,200.00
Medicare	100.00	222.14	280.00
Supplies	2,200.00	2,490.58	1,500.00
Mileage	400.00	428.34	500.00
Act 60 Re-appraisal Fund	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
Other	100.00	820.00	100.00
TOTAL-Listers	13,400.00	20,770.41	43,580.00
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS			
Town Meeting	200.00	35.41	200.00
Town Reports	3,000.00	2,754.56	3,000.00
Tax Billing	1,200.00	743.71	1,000.00
Preservation of Records	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Board of Civil Authority	100.00	512.00	100.00
Committee Training	100.00	110.00	200.00
Legal	3,000.00	1,829.90	2,000.00
Planning	500.00	61.69	100.00
Auditing Services	4,000.00	2,673.00	3,000.00
Training	500.00	365.00	500.00
Advertising	500.00	748.35	500.00
Other (see Note 2)	100.00	58,438.14	100.00
TOTAL-Government Operations	15,200.00	68,271.76	12,700.00
APPROPRIATIONS			
Local			
Bethel Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Council on the Arts	500.00	500.00	500.00
Bethel Historical Society	500.00	500.00	500.00
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	1,673.00	1,673.00	1,963.00
Two Rivers Regional Plan. Comm.	2,175.00	2,175.00	2,175.00
Green Mountain Econ. Develop.	990.00	990.00	990.00
Green Up Day	50.00	50.00	50.00
Resource Conservation & Develop.	50.00	50.00	100.00
White River Partnership	500.00	500.00	500.00
Total Local	6,638.00	6,638.00	6,978.00
APPROPRIATIONS-cont			
Human Services			
Senior Citizens Center	1,750.00	1,750.00	
Visiting Nurse Alliance	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Clara Martin Center	1,500.00	1,500.00	

Anticipated Expenditure Breakdown -- Continued

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
APPROPRIATIONS-cont			
Human Services			
Central VT Comm. Action Council	300.00	300.00	
Mental Health Service	200.00	200.00	
Safeline	300.00	300.00	
Stagecoach	1,285.00	1,285.00	
Windsor County Partners	100.00	100.00	
Teen Scene	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Central Vermont Council on Aging	200.00	200.00	
Acorn	250.00	250.00	
VT Adult Learning	300.00	300.00	
Life Skills for Women	200.00	200.00	
VT Center for Independent Living	150.00	150.00	
*** VT Association for the Blind	750.00	750.00	
Total Human Services	13,285.00	13,285.00	
White River Valley Ambulance	59,522.00	59,522.00	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	79,445.00	79,445.00	
DEBT SERVICE			
Long Term Indebtedness Sewer	39,128.00	39,127.50	38,261.00
Interest on Tax Anticipation Notes	3,500.00	8,526.50	4,000.00
E. Coli Sewer	27,000.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects	0.00	0.00	23,000.00
Camp Brook Road Project (see Note 1)	22,000.00	91,485.75	0.00
TOTAL-Debt Service	91,628.00	139,139.75	65,261.00
TAXES			
County Taxes	12,000.00	11,060.45	12,000.00
Reimbursement of overpayment	0.00	2,797.92	0.00
TOTAL-Taxes	12,000.00	13,858.37	12,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS			
Managers Expense	2,400.00	1,573.70	2,400.00
Solid Waste Management Plan	14,530.00	14,530.95	14,530.00
TOTAL-Miscellaneous	16,930.00	16,104.65	16,930.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	987,443.00	1,160,746.45	925,229.00

Note 1: Not an actual payment - refinanced. (See "Capital Projects" line page 22)

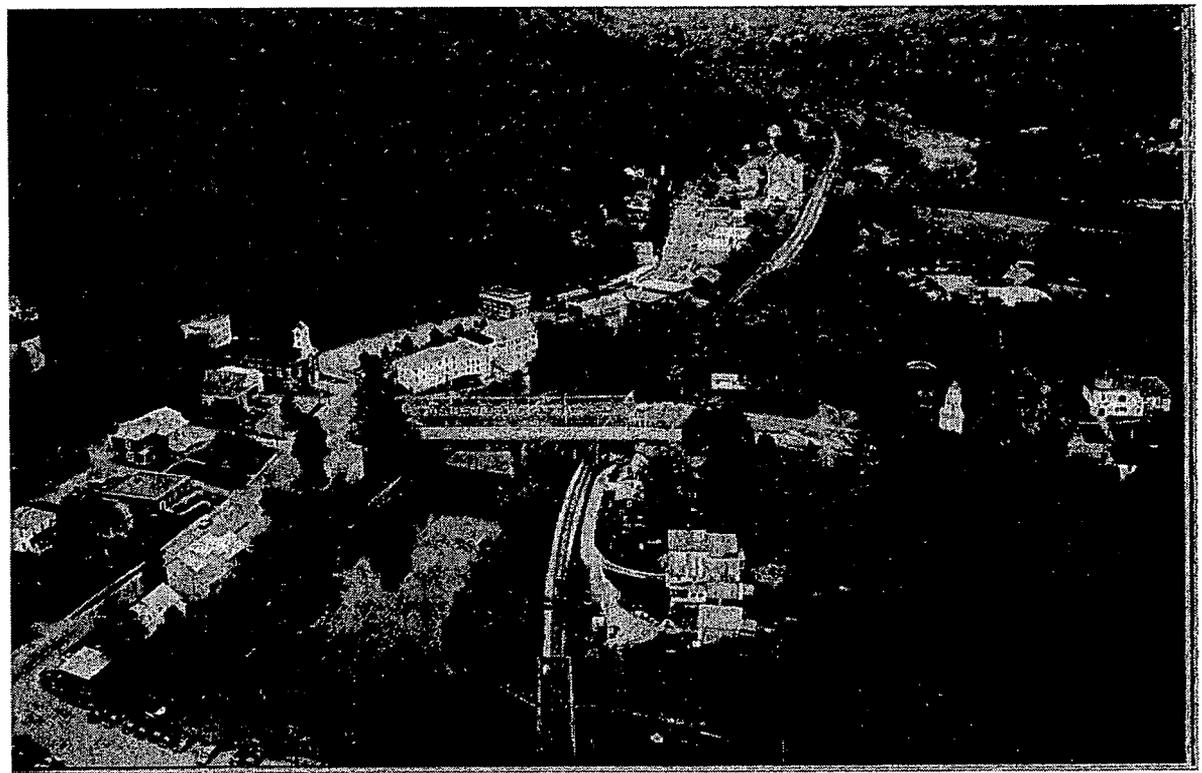
Note 2: Primarily Tax Sale Proceedings and Grand List Adjustments.

TOWN OF BETHEL BUDGET

Anticipated Expenditure Summary

As of December 31, 2004

<u>Department</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
Public Works	411,820.00	453,938.26	443,600.00
Fire Department	73,890.00	116,127.29	50,910.00
Police Department	20,820.00	12,223.63	14,320.00
Recreation Department	39,530.00	37,882.29	41,560.00
Parks and Public Places	28,870.00	28,726.03	27,520.00
Municipal Offices	142,290.00	133,249.78	142,620.00
Town Hall	4,000.00	4,027.96	9,100.00
Salaries	36,620.00	36,981.27	38,150.00
Listers	13,400.00	20,770.41	43,580.00
Government Operations	15,200.00	68,271.76	12,700.00
Appropriations	6,638.00	79,445.00	6,978.00
Debt Services	91,628.00	139,139.75	65,261.00
Taxes	12,000.00	13,858.37	12,000.00
Miscellaneous	16,930.00	16,104.65	16,930.00
TOTAL	913,636.00	1,160,746.45	925,229.00



Arial Photo Provided by: DAVID AIKEN

BETHEL WATER DEPARTMENT

Operating Statement

As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
WATER REVENUES			
Interest	200.00	.30	0.00
Water Rentals	98,580.00	98,233.04	98,000.00
Other	0.00	7,310.90	0.00
TOTAL-Revenues	98,780.00	105,544.24	98,000.00
WATER EXPENDITURES			
Salaries	15,000.00	14,924.54	14,500.00
Social Security	660.00	925.39	1,030.00
Medicare	220.00	216.39	200.00
Health and Accident Insurance	3,850.00	3,190.84	3,700.00
Workmans Compensation	100.00	0.00	100.00
Electricity for Pumps	18,000.00	15,820.76	18,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance-Pumps	3,000.00	7,698.86	3,000.00
Repairs-Hydrants	100.00	27.04	100.00
Repairs-Telemetry System	3,000.00	3,619.40	2,000.00
Mains & Distribution Line	2,000.00	4,168.63	2,000.00
Tools	100.00	0.00	100.00
Bank Service Charge	50.00	0.00	0.00
Supplies	500.00	1,239.48	500.00
Water Testing	1,200.00	1,115.00	1,200.00
Insurance	400.00	648.63	400.00
Reimbursement-Town of Bethel	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
State of Vermont Permits	1,650.00	1,979.61	1,500.00
Leases	200.00	550.00	400.00
Chlorine Contact Chamber	3,300.00	4,210.07	4,000.00
Other	0.00	1,195.20	0.00
Advertising	50.00	0.00	50.00
Loan - MBB	42,200.00	42,218.08	42,220.00
TOTAL-Expenditures	98,780.00	106,747.92	98,000.00

BETHEL WATER DEPARTMENT**Comparative Financial Statement****December 31, 2003 & 2004**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
ASSETS		
Cash on hand in Checking Account	(27,603.18)	0.00
Interest Earned	0.00	0.00
Land	2,500.00	2,500.00
Water System	1,305,850.00	1,300,000.00
Cumulative Fund Balance	11,478.05	(17,328.81)
Accounts Receivable-Water Rentals	<u>24,739.13</u>	<u>25,456.33</u>
TOTAL-Assets	1,316,964.00	1,310,627.52
LIABILITIES		
Notes Payable	604,723.39	580,647.00
Chlorine Contact Chamber	33,194.54	29,703.39
Accounts Payable	0.00	347.78
Customer Overpayments	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL-Liabilities	637,917.93	610,698.17
NET ASSETS	679,046.07	699,929.35

BETHEL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**Comparative Financial Statement****December 31, 2003 & 2004**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
ASSETS		
Cash in Checking Account	\$ (17,197.88)	\$ 0.00
Interest Earned	199.65	0.00
Reserve Fund	9,656.00	10,499.53
Land	8,000.00	20,000.00
Sewer System	2,100,000.00	2,100,000.00
Accounts Receivable	<u>33,098.06</u>	<u>37,747.72</u>
TOTAL-Assets	\$ 2,133,755.83	\$ 2,168,247.25
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00
Customer Overpayments	0.00	0.00
Notes Payable	60,000.00	60,000.00
Cumulative Fund Balance	<u>30,087.34</u>	<u>29,965.17</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 90,087.34	\$ 89,965.17
NET ASSETS	\$ 2,043,668.49	\$ 2,078,282.08

BETHEL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Operating Statement As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
SEWER REVENUES			
Fees	132,100.00	136,436.92	126,000.00
Other	0.00	20,815.82	0.00
TOTAL- Revenues	132,100.00	157,252.74	126,000.00
 SEWER EXPENDITURES			
Labor-Operations	42,000.00	50,420.44	44,000.00
Administration	4,000.00	4,245.30	4,500.00
Social Security	2,810.00	3,389.38	2,950.00
Medicare	660.00	792.63	700.00
Health Insurance	15,500.00	16,335.98	16,300.00
Workmans Compensation	980.00	362.92	1,000.00
Insurance	800.00	1,316.64	800.00
Electricity	18,000.00	18,081.94	19,000.00
Telephone	300.00	277.13	300.00
Improvements	50.00	998.57	100.00
Maintenance-Building	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Maintenance-Collection System	6,000.00	2,571.80	5,000.00
Maintenance-Equipment	4,000.00	4,523.50	5,000.00
Flushing Sewer Lines	500.00	1,360.00	750.00
Sludge Disposal	4,000.00	1,947.91	2,500.00
Supplies	3,000.00	5,327.87	4,000.00
Chemicals	600.00	507.11	600.00
Reimbursement-Town of Bethel	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Reimbursement-Employee Vehicle	0.00	23.76	0.00
Leases	400.00	300.00	600.00
Training	500.00	40.00	300.00
Certification	3,500.00	7,940.15	3,000.00
Bacterial Study-2000	0.00	269.89	0.00
Operation Expense Debt Service	6,000.00	777.53	6,000.00
Reserve Funds	500.00	500.00	500.00
Other	0.00	838.00	100.00
Emergency Response System	0.00	784.24	0.00
State Fine - E.Coli 2000	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
TOTAL-Sewer Expenditures	132,100.00	139,932.69	126,000.00

BETHEL-ROYALTON SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Operating Statement

As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Actual 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2005</u>
SOLID WASTE REVENUES			
Sale of Recyclable Materials	20,000.00	38,824.14	20,000.00
Reimbursement Franchise Tax	0.00	19,974.68	0.00
Alliance Surcharge	60,000.00	63,049.14	65,000.00
Fees	658,000.00	773,242.37	735,000.00
Other	0.00	6,880.66	0.00
TOTAL-Solid Waste Revenues	738,000.00	901,970.99	820,000.00
SOLID WASTE EXPENDITURES			
Labor	62,000.00	58,964.79	87,000.00
Administration Costs	15,000.00	8,665.31	15,000.00
Social Security	3,450.00	3,563.45	5,240.00
Medicare	775.00	798.01	1,160.00
Health Insurance	13,000.00	13,948.18	22,700.00
Workmans Compensation	3,000.00	1,111.67	4,000.00
Insurance	750.00	2,170.00	750.00
Reimbursement-Royalton	100.00	0.00	100.00
Rental of Equipment	100.00	18.00	100.00
Electricity	2,000.00	1,675.40	2,000.00
Telephone	800.00	562.98	800.00
Heat	1,000.00	785.02	1,000.00
Uniform Rental	500.00	572.92	600.00
Building Maintenance	850.00	2,389.50	850.00
Equipment Operation	9,500.00	8,361.70	10,000.00
Repair of Scales	500.00	200.00	500.00
New Equipment	100.00	0.00	100.00
Legal	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Supplies	2,500.00	7,539.04	5,500.00
Franchise Tax	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Tip Fee & Hauling	518,000.00	595,153.66	550,000.00
Hazardous Waste	4,000.00	6,264.99	6,000.00
Recycling	56,000.00	68,005.76	64,000.00
Labor Reimbursement-Bethel	1,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00
Recertification	5,000.00	4,917.30	5,000.00
Debt Service - Principal	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Interest	4,800.00	11,934.11	12,000.00
Cat Loader -- long term debt	13,675.00	3,518.20	3,500.00
Replacement Reserve Account	5,500.00	3,500.00	5,000.00
Other	100.00	4,439.49	100.00
TOTAL-Solid Waste Expenditures	738,000.00	822,059.48	820,000.00

BETHEL-ROYALTON SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Comparative Financial Statement

December 31, 2003 & 2004

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
ASSETS:		
Cash on Hand in Checking Acct	\$ (16,794.84)	0.00
Reserve Fund	3,500.00	7,016.91
Equipment	39,000.00	44,000.00
Land	40,000.00	40,000.00
Facility	750,000.00	750,000.00
Cumulative Fund Balance		56,658.48
Accounts Receivable	<u>25,015.03</u>	<u>24,380.29</u>
TOTAL- Assets	\$ 840,720.19	\$ 922,055.68
LIABILITIES:		
Notes Payable	\$ 168,000.00	156,000.00
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00
Cumulative Balance	6,884.50	0.00
906 Cat Loader (1/2 to Royalton)	<u>33,479.09</u>	<u>22,833.63</u>
TOTAL-Liabilities	\$ 208,363.59	178,833.63
NET ASSETS	\$ 632,356.60	743,222.05

TOWN GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT

Comparative Financial Statement

December 31, 2003 & 2004

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
ASSETS:		
Cash on hand in checking account	\$ 8,151.20	\$ 24,271.97
Accounts Receivable:		
Delinquent Taxes (includes penalty & interest)	<u>158,862.39</u>	<u>141,205.42</u>
TOTAL-Assets	\$ 168,691.31	\$ 165,477.39
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable		
School Tax Payable	0.00	0.00
Notes Payable	170,543.97	0.00
Customer Overpayments	964,517.01	941,116.00
TOTAL-Liabilities	<u>2,326.00</u>	<u>3,067.93</u>
NET ASSETS	\$ 1,137,386.98	\$ 44,183.93
	\$ (968,695.67)	\$ (778,706.54)

STATEMENT OF TOWN INDEBTEDNESS

As of December 31, 2004

The Town of Bethel participated in the 1999 bond sale of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (VMBB), and refinanced the loan by which the wastewater treatment system was originally constructed. The note formerly held by USDA Rural Development is now held by VMBB and the principal balance at the end of the year 2004 was \$360,000.00.

The Town of Bethel has borrowed from its Revolving Loan Fund to pay for costs associated with operations over-runs of the wastewater treatment system during the year 2000, and to refund obligations formerly owed to the Chittenden Bank for Fire Station construction and Camp Brook Road Rehabilitation costs. The principal balance at year end was \$204,224.00.

In year 2001, the Town acquired an "Eagle One" Freightliner pumper fire truck at a total purchase price of \$145,055.00 to be paid for by a 96 month lease-purchase plan. The principal balance at the end of 2004 was \$76,017.00.

In June 2003, the Town entered into a three year lease-purchase Agreement with Daimler Chrysler Services for the procurement of a 2004 Sterling cab & chasis (highway dump/plow truck). The principal balance at the end of year 2004 was \$10,141.81. (Payments are drawn from the Highway Equipment Fund.)

In July 2003, the Town entered into a five year Lease-purchase Agreement with Case Credit Corporation for the procurement of a Case 580 Super M Loader-Backhoe. The principal balance at the end of year 2004 was \$40,275.00. (This obligation to be paid as an annual operating expense of the Town General Fund and the Water Department.)

The Town of Bethel has a line of credit with the Mascoma Savings Bank for operating expenses, the principal balance at the end of year 2004 being \$260,600.00. (This obligation is to be retired through revenues of the Town General Fund, the Water Department, Wastewater Department and Solid Waste Program.)

The Wastewater Treatment system owes \$60,000.00 to the Mascoma Savings Bank at the end of year 2004. (This Line of Credit will be re-paid from revenues of the wastewater treatment system.)

Capitol Construction costs for improvements to the Town's water supply system resulted in expenditure of \$663,753.89 of which \$29,703.39 is owed to the Mascoma Savings Bank for the chlorine Contact Chamber and \$580,647.00 is owed to the Vermont EPA for Water System upgrades. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the water supply system.)

The Bethel/Royalton Solid Waste Program owed Chittenden Bank at the end of 2004 the principle amount of \$156,000.00 of which \$78,000.00 was the Town of Bethel's debt. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the Solid Waste Program.)

During 2002, the Towns of Bethel and Royalton financed the purchase of a used Caterpillar 906 wheel loader for use in the solid waste program. The purchase price is to be amortized over 5 years. The principal balance (1/2 Royalton) at the end of year 2004 was \$22,833.63. (This debt is being amortized from revenues of the Solid Waste Program.)

ALL TOWN DEPARTMENTS - Financial Statement

As of December 31, 2004

LIQUID ASSETS:

Cash on hand in checking accounts \$ 24,271.97

INVESTED MONIES:

Savings Accounts:

Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 27,553.76
Economic Revolving Loan Funds	180,089.78
Bandshell Fund	1,001.70
Leaseland Fund	3,273.26
Richard Edmunds Memorial Fund	302.73
Tax Sale Fund	0.00
Wastewater Treatment Facility Reserve Fund	10,499.53
Solid Waste Reserve Fund	7,016.91
Act 60 Reappraisal Fund	45,682.31
Fire Dept. Building/Equipment Fund	2,429.87
Highway Equipment Trust Fund	(5,177.00)
Town Hall Expense Fund	2,467.52
Town Hall Restoration Fund	47,818.36
Andrew Johnston Playground Fund	<u>1,251.84</u>

Total Invested Monies **\$ 324,210.57**

ADD ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES:

Delinquent Taxes (includes penalty/interest)	\$ 141,205.42
Sewer User Charges	37,747.72
Water Rentals	25,456.33
Solid Waste Billings	24,380.29
Capital Projects Loan	<u>204,224.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivables	\$ 433,013.76

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 781,496.30**

LESS LIABILITIES:

Backhoe	\$ 40,275.00
Water Chlorination Contact Chamber	29,703.39
Landfill (\$78,000.00 for Royalton)	156,000.00
Fire Station Construction	0.00
Sewer Construction	360,000.00
Water Bond Construction	580,647.00
2002 E-one American Eagle Pumper	76,017.00
Wastewater - Mascoma Savings Bank	60,000.00
Wastewater - E-coli	0.00
906Cat Loader (\$11,416.82 for Royalton)	22,833.63
School Taxes Payable	0.00
Tax Anticipatory Note	0.00
Chittenden Bank Credit Line-Camp Brook Rd	0.00
Customer Overpayments	3,067.93
Capital Projects	204,224.00
Mascoma Savings Bank	<u>260,600.00</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES **\$ 1,793,367.95**

NET ASSETS **\$ (1,011,871.65)**

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED -- 2004

TOWN:

Appraised Value all Taxable Real Estate	\$ 102,023,663.00
Grand List Value (1% of Appraised Value)	1,020,236.63
Tax Rate of \$.75 Applied Against Grand List Yields	
Total Taxes to be Raised (\$ 1,020,236.63 x \$.75)	\$ 765,177.65

SCHOOL:

Appraised Value all Taxable Real Estate	\$ 102,023,263.00
Grand List Value (1% of Appraised Value)	1,020,232.63
Tax Rates: 1.7427 - Non-resident 2.0849 - Resident	
Total Taxes to be Raised	\$ 1,973,594.09
(Non-resident \$ 786,605.92)	
(Resident \$1,186,988.17)	

COMBINED:

Total to be Raised by Taxes	\$ 2,738,771.74
------------------------------------	------------------------

TOTAL TO COLLECT:

Collected Taxes	2,632,313.56
Delinquent	<u>106,458.18</u>

TOTAL	\$ 2,738,771.74
--------------	------------------------

STATEMENT OF TAXES COLLECTED IN 2004			
(Does not include Fees & Interest)			
<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TO COLLECT</u>	<u>COLLECTED & PAID TO TREASURER</u>	<u>UNCOLLECTED</u>
1998	\$ 15.13	\$ 15.13	\$ 0.00
1999	0.00	0.00	0.00
2000	210.22	19.87	190.35
2001	1,000.16	803.34	196.82
2002	23,488.17	18,938.36	4,549.81
2003	117,424.76	103,937.66	13,487.10
2004	2,738,771.74	2,632,313.56	106,458.18
TOTAL	\$ 2,880,910.18	\$ 2,756,027.92	\$ 124,882.26

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS

As of December 31, 2004

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ashley, Edwin & Regina		2,109.16	2,109.16
Bedell, Jeffrey	199.20	552.50	751.70
Bennett, James & Janet	536.30	2,109.16	2,645.46
Bilodeau, Michael		399.08	399.08
Bingham, George & Janet		420.04	420.04
Bixler, Karen		936.12	936.12
Blanchard, Edward	319.00	274.20	593.20
Boule, Steven & Mary		525.87	525.87
Bryan, Bruce		206.22	206.22
Caparis, Karen	175.96	2,220.42	2,396.38
Capron, Carl & Barbara		416.50	416.50
Carleton, Herbert		520.19	520.19
Carr, Phillips Jr. & Gwendolyn	172.38	436.21	608.59
Chandler, Sylvia	3,594.12	2,075.14	5,669.26
Clough, Ruth	4,495.47		4,495.47
Cornell, Steven & Florence		2,193.14	2,193.14
Cyr, Carmella	398.37	463.64	862.01
Daniel, Michael & Valerie	1,792.20	5,400.47	7,192.67
Davis, Joan		46.56	46.56
Dohrn, Peter & Shawn		2,918.91	2,918.91
Drury, Peter & Pamela	.56	2,520.11	2,520.67
Eddy, David & Pray, Susan		2,593.89	2,593.89
Farnham, Kent & Theresa	1,070.16	1,531.98	2,602.14
Ferris, Paul		2,635.34	2,635.34
Ferris, Paul	425.65	45.85	471.50
Floyd, James III & Lisa	302.45	2,397.08	2,699.53
Frank, Cole T.	70.20	264.22	334.42
Frechette, David & Linda		1,048.90	1,048.90
# Gallagher, Cornelius / Felder, Marion		535.01	535.01
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		1,908.26	1,908.26
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		4,314.72	4,314.72
Giberti, James & Smith, Kristin		3,385.08	3,385.08
Gifford, John P II		2,393.57	2,393.57
Goon, Joel	420.22	3,037.32	3,457.54
Gover, Arnold		305.44	305.44
Gray, Russell & Donna		1,409.38	1,409.38
Harrington, Mark & Angela	754.67	566.38	1,321.05
Hicks, William & Elizabeth	840.75	201.91	1,042.66
Hill, Scott A.		254.60	254.60

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS-continued

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Total</u>
LaFlamme, Susan	303.89	3,878.64	4,182.53
Lewandoski, Keith & Rebecca		544.16	544.16
Manning, Michael		882.95	882.95
Manning, Stacey		2,249.60	2,249.60
Mason, James & Rollins, Rhonda		706.78	706.78
McCullough, Kirk J.		817.78	817.78
Merrill, Arthur & Kelly		623.38	623.38
Michaud, Peter & Sherri		82.50	82.50
Miller, Laura & Edward	361.91	1,002.84	1,364.75
Morse, Shawn & Cook, Carol		1,104.47	104.47
Mullins, Mark R.		702.61	702.61
Naples, Phyllis		842.98	842.98
Neff, PhilipGarth Quillia		1,491.67	1,491.67
Nichols, Ann		176.17	176.17
Oakes, Randy & Deborah	724.23	1,211.32	1,935.55
Palmer Charlotte & Douglas	526.83	435.74	962.57
Patch, Thomas & Patricia		3,697.44	3,697.44
Pingree, Thomas		573.48	573.48
RTRA Properties		2,956.34	2,956.34
RTRA Properties		3,350.18	3,350.18
Rambo, John & Shirley		14.90	14.90
Reynolds, Sherry		420.94	420.94
Rich, Peter & Crystal		245.78	245.78
Richards, Louise S.		343.35	343.35
Rogers, Lewis		3,304.72	3,304.72
Rogers, Lewis		496.66	496.66
Rogers, Steven		651.41	651.41
Rousseau, David		291.03	291.03
Schweizer, Robert & James		39.87	39.87
Scott, Peter & Jolene	4.69	1,417.72	1,422.41
Shepard, Charlene		505.52	505.52
Slack, Chad & Casey	785.11	1,879.53	2,664.64
Soule, Thomas & Karen		731.80	731.80
Stacy, Theodore &		769.04	769.04
Stephanick, Joseph		174.27	174.27
Straub, Michael		3,018.94	3,018.94
Tabor, Clarke & Annette		1,261.30	1,261.30
Upham, Gregory & Penny		214.74	214.74
Ward, Bryan & Charlotte		923.62	923.62
Wills, James J.		1,732.54	1,732.54

DELINQUENT TAX PAYERS-cont

	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Total</u>
Young, Charles & Shirley		820.63	820.63
Zelek, Jason		1,732.24	1,732.24
Zisselberger, Gary & Karin	149.76	2,548.57	2,698.33
Miscellaneous		<u>15.46</u>	<u>15.46</u>
TOTALS	18,424.08	106,458.18	124,882.26

* paid in full (at time of print)

+ partial payment

% bankruptcy

paid in full by owner at time of sale

DELINQUENT WATER & SEWER ACCOUNTS

As of December 31, 2004

The Board of Water/Sewage Disposal Commissioners has determined that accounts overdue by 120 days as of December 31, 2004 will be listed in the Annual Town Report.

Ashley, Edwin & Regina	2,949.90
Boule, Steven & Mary	277.87
Clough, Ruth	1,336.77
Diamond, Ronald & Christine	220.60
Floyd, James & Lisa	1,063.64
Frank, Cole T.	137.95
Gaudette, Carol	207.59
Gifford, John P. & Janice	1,076.79
Goon, Joel	3,494.74
Holmes, Henry & Sandra	95.12
Johnston, Michael & Kathleen	278.56
Knapp, Gail & Mary	83.42
Kondi, David & Rebecca	227.24
Lewis, Donald & Linda	1,681.21
Newell, Bruce	47.11
Nichols, Ann	1,102.49
Oakes, Randy & Deborah	476.97
Olender, Jonathan & Ursela	550.30
Palmer, Charlotte & Douglas	1,815.87
Patch, Todd & Sonya	447.44
Piella, Michael	360.17
RTRA Properties	2,318.36
RTRA Properties	2,234.86
Rogers, Edward & Suzanne	650.10
Rogers, Lewis	814.62
Slack, Chad & Casey	1,363.03
Snelling, Jason & Jolene	819.54
Strong, Glen & Kristen	411.93
Zisselberger, Gary & Karen	537.40
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>24.53</u>
TOTAL	27,662.43

2004 DOG LICENSES

308	Spayed & Neutered Dogs @ \$5.00 each	\$ 1,540.00
87	Males & Females @ \$9.00 each	\$ 783.00
4	Lost Licenses	
	Late Fees	<u>\$ 310.00</u>
TOTAL		\$ 2,633.00
	Less Town Clerk's Fees	790.00
	Less State Fees	<u>395.00</u>
PAID TO THE TOWN OF BETHEL		\$ 1,448.00

2004 LIQUOR LICENSES

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

ACT 60 REAPPRAISAL FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/04	\$37,399.44
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Received from State of Vermont	8,120.00
Interest Earned	<u>162.87</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$45,682.31

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

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/04	\$ 1,955.78
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Donations	465.00
Interest Earned	<u>9.09</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 2,429.87

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/1/04	\$ 7,169.58
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	40,000.00
Interest Earned	<u>28.97</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	
2004 F550 Truck	
-Cab & Chassis	24,490.19
-Body & Hydraulics	17,490.00
2004 Sterling Truck (annual payment)	<u>10,395.36</u>
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	(\$ 5,177.00)

RICHARD EDMUNDS MEMORIAL FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/04	\$ 301.50
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest	1.23
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 302.73

TOWN HALL RESTORATION FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/04	\$ 46,386.74
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	1,000.00
Donations	250.00
Interest	<u>181.62</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 47,818.36

ANDREW JOHNSTON PLAYGROUND FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Beginning Balance as of 01/01/04	\$ 638.15
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Donations	610.10
Interest	<u>3.59</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 1,251.84

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY RESERVE FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward 1/01/04	\$ 9,855.65
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Interest	143.88
Town of Bethel	500.00
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 10,499.53

TOWN HALL EXPENSE ACCOUNT

As of December 31, 2004

Beginning Balance as of 01/01/04	\$ 2,403.15
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Donations	54.20
Interest	<u>10.21</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 2,467.52

SOLID WASTE RESERVE FUND

As of December 31, 2004

Beginning Balance as of 01/01/04	\$ 3,502.44
ADD RECEIPTS:	
Appropriations	3,500.00
Interest	<u>14.47</u>
LESS EXPENSES:	0.00
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/04	\$ 7,016.91

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
TOWN OF BETHEL, VERMONT
DECEMBER 31, 2004**

Checkbook balance on hand 01-01-04 **\$ 5,043.02**

ADD RECEIPTS:

Income from Investments	7,281.95	
Perpetual Care	708.00	
Redeemed Investments	<u>3,219.57</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>\$11,209.52</u>

NET INCOME **\$16,252.54**

LESS DISBURSEMENTS:

Treas., Town of Bethel School Dist. (Whitcomb)	3,136.40	
Treas., Town of Bethel School Dist. (Clark)	507.96	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Bass Park)	32.70	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Cox Fund)	31.12	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Fairview)	1,882.73	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Cherry Hill)	1,424.98	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (E. Bethel)	60.36	
Treas., Town of Bethel Cemetery (Lympus & Gilead)	72.47	
Treas., Town of Bethel (Legion Band Shell)	29.40	
Whitcomb School (Tucker Fund)	76.40	
Mortgage discharge fee	7.00	
Reinvested principal	8,422.00	
Safe deposit box rent	<u>20.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$ 15,703.52</u>

Checkbook Balance on hand as of 12-31-04 **\$ 549.02**

The total of the portfolio as of 12-31-04 is \$ 263,618.01 this is up \$ 4,195.43 from a year ago. The total return on investments was 2.76% based on year end values. I expect that the total income from investments for the year of 2005 will be about the same as 2004.

Breakdown of Investments:

Bank Deposits	\$ 150,784.20	57%
Mutual Funds	91,760.82	35%
Stocks	21,072.99	8%
 Total	 \$ 263,618.01	 100%

Carroll F. Ketchum, Clerk

TOWN OF BETHEL CEMETERY FUNDS

In Town Treasurer's Account

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Cash Balance in Checking Account Jan. 1	\$ 370.42	\$ 219.50
Add Receipts:		
Trustee of Public Funds	4,212.33	3,717.28
Sale of Lots	288.00	696.00
Perpetual Care	432.00	816.00
Corner Stones	168.00	420.00
Town of Bethel	15,000.00	16,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>25.00</u>	<u>275.00</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE	\$ 20,495.75	\$ 22,143.78
Less Disbursements		
Fairview	7742.55	8,682.76
Cherry Hill	7572.15	8,541.30
East Bethel	2183.25	1,629.45
Lympus	202.35	244.95
Gilead	1309.95	1,494.20
Corner Stones	100.00	0.00
Perpetual Care	432.00	708.00
Commissioner	300.00	300.00
Miscellaneous	<u>434.00</u>	<u>310.45</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 20,276.25	\$ 21,911.11
Cash Balance in Checking Account Dec. 31	<u>219.50</u>	<u>232.67</u>
TOTAL	\$ 20,495.75	\$ 22,143.78

ITEMIZED SUMMARY OF CEMETERY DISBURSEMENTS - 2004

Fairview Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	\$ 8,682.76
Cherry Hill Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	8,541.30
East Bethel Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	1,629.45
Gilead Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	1,494.20
Lympus Cemetery	
Mowing & Trimming	244.95
Perpetual Care	708.00
Miscellaneous	310.45
Cemetery Commissioner	<u>300.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 21,911.11

**STATE OF VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

1-14-04	Judiciary	\$ 77.50
1-15-04	Agency of Transportation	10,790.43
1-15-04	Agency of Transportation	2,372.51
1-15-04	Agency of Transportation	19,978.55
2-03-04	Judiciary	47.00
2-03-04	Environmental Conservation	1,703.63
2-12-04	Public Safety	19,951.70
2-17-04	Agency of Transportation	8,820.00
3-23-04	Taxes	8,120.00
3-30-04	Environmental Conservation	2,432.84
4-14-04	Agency of Transportation	54.00
4-15-04	Agency of Transportation	2,372.51
4-15-04	Agency of Transportation	10,790.43
4-15-04	Agency of Transportation	19,978.55
4-30-04	Public Safety	2,800.00
5-14-04	Agency of Transportation	751.66
5-20-04	Taxes	1,197.66
6-01-04	Judiciary	30.00
6-04-04	Environmental Conservation	1,098.19
6-14-04	Agency of Transportation	68.25
7-15-04	Agency of Transportation	20,911.32
7-15-04	Agency of Transportation	11,283.07
7-15-04	Agency of Transportation	2,481.25
8-27-04	Judiciary	86.00
9-08-04	Judiciary	71.50
9-20-04	Public Safety	28,600.00
10-15-04	Agency of Transportation	11,283.07
10-15-04	Agency of Transportation	2,481.25
10-15-04	Agency of Transportation	20,911.32
10-27-04	Taxes	39,946.00
11-16-04	Agency of Transportation	24,671.28
11-22-04	Judiciary	583.36
11-29-04	Agency of Transportation	50.09
11-29-04	Agency of Transportation	859.60
12-02-04	Environmental Conservation	1,571.00
12-06-04	Judiciary	149.00
12-22-04	Judiciary	<u>45.00</u>

TOTAL

\$ 279,419.52

VITAL STATISTICS 2004-MARRIAGES

<u>Name of Groom</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Name of Bride</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place of Marriage</u>
Richard J. McCormack	Bethel	Cynthia W. Metcalf	Bethel	2-28-04	Bethel
Henry David Chase	Bethel	Marija Kacarska	Bethel	3-25-04	Bethel
Dale W. Isham	Bethel	Janet G. Lewis	Bethel	4-24-04	Bethel
Mark Robert Heckman	Bethel	Alexandra K. Miller	Bethel	4-25-04	Mendon
John Thomas Cooke	Bethel	Sara E. Baynard	Bethel	5-29-04	Randolph
Mark A. Luttrell	Bethel	Joyce-Anne Brown	Bethel	6-11-04	Bethel
Scott E. Taylor	Bethel	Kimberly H. Tracy	Bethel	6-12-04	Stockbridge
Eric G. Velto	Bethel	Deborah A. Feldsine	Bethel	6-26-04	Wilmington
Panagiotis Psihopaidas	Bethel	Ruth Ann Madigan	Bethel	7-5-04	Bethel
William W. Sugarman	Bethel	Nathalie C. Arguin	Bethel	7-9-04	Barre
Rory R. Cummings	Bethel	Sara D. Routhier	Bethel	8-1-04	Montpelier
Christopher K. Drury	Bethel	Rachel L. Stone	Bethel	8-14-04	Bethel
Christopher J. Curtis	Bethel	Abigail White	Bethel	8-14-04	Warren
Craig Thomas Pratt	Gaysville	Tonia L. Washburn	Bethel	8-21-04	Bethel
James A. Bennett	Bethel	Janet M. Bennett	Bethel	9-19-04	Bethel
Michael C. Walko, Sr.	Randolph	Susan G. Tuckerman	Bethel	10-03-04	E. Randolph
Gerald J. Parrott	Bethel	Deborah J. Welch	Tunbridge	11-13-04	So. Royalton

VITAL STATISTICS 2004-BIRTHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME</u>	<u>MOTHER'S NAME</u>
Cameron Stewart Gray	04-16-03	Burlington	James R. Gray	Mary E. Lathrop
Ceomania Star Thresher	01-23-04	Rutland	Dereck J. Thresher	Cassandra R. Girard
Elijah Gordon Kinsley	01-23-04	Randolph	Shane C. Kinsley	Elizabeth R. Messimer
Bazel Lutris McCrory Russell	2-5-04	Randolph	Carl B. Russell	Lisa E. McCrory
Tanner Chapin Pratt	2-6-04	Randolph	Craig T. Pratt	Tonia L. Washburn
Madison Dorothy French	2-6-04	Randolph	Michael P. French	Jennifer L. Dunn
Jacob Michael Frechette	2-17-04	Randolph		Kimberly J. Frechette
Levi Samuel Merriam	3-5-04	Randolph	Frederick E. Merriam Jr.	Jacqueline A. LaRocque
Isabella Rose Forrest	3-22-04	Randolph	Peter L. Forrest	Heidi A. Haupt
Tristan Eugène Densmore	3-30-04	Randolph	Jonathan J. Densmore	Vanessa A. Premeaux
Louise Ireland Dybvig	5-29-04	Bethel	Evan T. Dybvig	Sarah K. Ireland
Logan William Comstock	6-2-04	Randolph	David A. Comstock	Angela L. Shaffer
Mollie Mae Thompson	6-12-04	Randolph	John R. Henry	Carrie A. Thompson
Jasmine Ann Brown	6-18-04	Randolph	Gerry A. Brown	Pamela J. Allen
Grace Suzannah Lewandoski	6-29-04	Randolph	Keith D. Lewandoski	Rebecca Palmer
Edward John Staples	7-15-04	Randolph	Bruce E. Staples	Frances J. Zarzecki
Samuel Leonard Slack	9-4-04	Randolph	Chad A. Slack	Casey A. Reiboldt
Avery Joseph James Sheldon	10-7-04	Randolph	Michael J. Sheldon	Katrena S. Young
AsiaRae Lynn Sheldon	10-7-04	Randolph	Michael J. Sheldon	Katrena S. Young
William Paul Byron McCrillis	10-21-04	Randolph	William J. McCrillis	Lyza-Anne Rogers
Helena Jane Heckmann	12-2-04	Randolph	Mark R. Heckmann	Alexandra K. Miller
Aiden Wayne Smith Machia	12-08-04	Randolph	Timothy W. LaPlante	Wendy J. Smith
Reid Benjamin Penta	12-15-04	Randolph	Mark A. Penta	Erica M. Stanson

VITAL STATISTICS 2004-DEATHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Carroll O. Slack	86	12-29-03	Berlin	Bethel
Olin A. Turner	85	1-15-04	Burlington	Bethel
Helen M. Mills	84	1-23-04	Bethel	Stockbridge
Kathryn Jeanne Rippon Kimick	41	1-23-04	Bethel	Bethel
Mary Isabelle Badger	98	1-23-04	Berlin	Bethel
Martha Parrott	40	2-26-04	Bethel	Bethel
LuAnn Gaetano Watson	48	3-12-04	Bethel	Bethel
Vivian Rotta	92	4-12-04	Northfield	Bethel
Steven James Salls	57	5-24-04	Bethel	Bethel
Charles O. Young	82	5-27-04	Northfield	Bethel
Fred Martin Davis	85	6-24-04	Bethel	Bethel
Kenneth Richard Ford	73	8-31-04	Hartford	Bethel
George Wesley Sawyer	84	10-26-04	Randolph	Bethel
Thomas Smith	63	12-11-04	Bethel	Bethel
Charles Albert Lyman	61	12-15-04	Randolph	Bethel

VITAL STATISTICS 2004-BURIALS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PLACE OF BURIAL</u>
Honora C. Shaw	2-12-28	1-5-04	Rochester, VT	Gilead
Beverly Locke	2-21-71	2-19-04	Royalton, VT	Cherry Hill
Matthew Locke	9-4-91	2-22-04	Lebanon, NH	Cherry Hill
Christine B. Stearns	7-27-19	3-4-04	Ludlow, VT	Fairview
Arthur L. Merrill	2-15-28	3-22-04	Lebanon, NH	Fairview
John H. Shepard		11-6-03	Lake City, FL	Fairview
Barbara A. Shepard	7-22-12	5-9-80	N. Miami, FL	Fairview
John Prescott Forrest		5-31-04	Springfield, VT	Fairview
Jacqueline Washburn		6-30-04		Fairview
Ethel I. Dartt	8-25-11	8-11-04	Randolph, VT	Fairview
Hester Ann Sanders	87	3-28-03	Lebanon, NH	Cherry Hill
Austin Noble	76	2-19-04	Berlin, VT	Cherry Hill

CIVIL UNIONS 2004

<u>PARTY A</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>PARTY B</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Pascal Filion	Cary, NC	Christopher M. Matarazzo	Cary, NC	6-19-04	Bethel

**White River Valley Ambulance Inc.
2004 Annual Report**

Call volume remains constant, running slightly higher than last year's figures. Calls in each of the eight towns are as follows:

Barnard	37	E. Granville	4
Bethel	147	Pittsfield	20
Braintree	66	Randolph	539
Brookfield	65	Stockbridge	43

The area has done very well in its receipt of Homeland Security Grant money. Below is a synopsis of the funds that WRVA has received. This grant money has helped the service purchase equipment that it would otherwise be unable to afford. In addition, it has afforded upgrades to existing equipment that might otherwise not have occurred.

Total HSU Grants to Date:	FY99	\$ 403,000
	FY00/O1	\$ 758,000
	FY02	\$ 2,772,000
	FY03	\$ 4,963,000
	FY04	\$10,494,800

FY02	White River Valley Ambulance	\$24,785
FY03 Part I	White River Valley Ambulance	\$16,670
FY03 Part II	White River Valley Ambulance	\$48,483
FY04	White River Valley Ambulance	\$42,049

Some of the equipment that has been purchased with the grant money includes:

- Bi-Phasic Manual 12 Lead Defibrillators
- Extrication Apparel
- Stair Chairs and New Stretcher
- Mobile and Portable Radios, Minitor Pagers, Charger/Conditioner System
- Transport Ventilator and LV. Pumps ——— Fiber Optic Laryngoscopes, Misc. Paramedic Equipment and Pharmaceuticals Vehicle Lifting Airbags, Holmatro Cutter and Cribbing
- Access Control System for Ambulance Building
- Portable Shelter for Snowmobile and Rescue Sled

Check out the Homeland Security website at www.dps.state.vt.us for more information, tips on family preparedness and protecting yourself and your family.

As always, our sincere thanks to the residents of the eight towns we serve for their continued support of this ambulance service.

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE				
2005 PROPOSED BUDGET				
			<i>(Preliminary Draft)</i>	
		2004		2005
SALES				
301	Base Rate/Paramedic Intercept/CCT	346935		444,000
302	Oxygen	23101		30000
303	Mileage	165014		223920
304	Waiting Time	679		675
305	IV/Medication Therapy	30058		63,900
307	Cardiac Monitoring	31209		0
308	Defibrillation/External Pacing/Cardioversion	945		2916
309	Combitube/Endotracheal Intubation	2279		2250
310	Extrication	1500		3000
312	Billing Service Revenue	9500		9500
313	Membership Program	6500		6500
330	Municipal Participation	329859		336591
390	Less Write Off's/Bad Debt Allowance	<u>-178176</u>		<u>-275331</u>
	Total Sales/Participation	<u>769403</u>		<u>847921</u>
COST OF SALES				
401	Medical Supplies	4500		4500
402	Oxygen	1000		1000
403	Attendants Wages	288000		331736
404	Overtime	35000		35000
405	Volunteer/Per Diem Wages	30000		30000
406	Standby Pay	12,000		12000
407	Gasoline & Registrations	9500		14000
408	Vehicle Maintenance	2500		2500
409	Vehicle Repairs Unit 1	500		1500
410	Vehicle Repairs Unit 2	1000		1500
411	Vehicle Repairs Unit 3	750		1500
412	Vehicle Repairs Rescue	<u>1000</u>		<u>1500</u>
		<u>385750</u>		<u>436736</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES				
509	Janitorial Supplies	400		1000
510	Supplies	1200		500
511	Garage Tools	1000		500
512	Freight & Postage	2750		2000
515	Administration	84,500		88591
521	Service Agreements	4100		4000
522	Pager Service	150		150
525	Rubbish Removal	300		300
526	Heat	2300		2500
527	Electricity	6000		6500
528	Cable/Internet	1400		1400
529	Telephone	9000		9000
530	Building Repairs	2000		2500
531	Radio Repairs	500		250
532	Equipment Repairs	500		750
533	Snow Removal/Lawn Care	750		750

534	Advertising	750	500
535	Insurance Bldg & Equip/Director's E&O	11500	12900
536	Health Insurance	96,353	102500
537	W/Comp Insurance	26,800	45000
540	Property Taxes	6400	6050
542	Payroll Taxes	35152	38046
543	Vehicle Loan Payment/Principal	15108	10332
544	Building Mortgage/Principal	6960	7200
550	Interest/Vehicle and Mortgage Loans	14,880	19,416
551	Vehicle Insurance	5500	5500
560	Mileage Reimbursement	500	500
562	Collection Expense	500	250
564	Accounting	5600	6000
565	Legal Expenses	500	500
566	Office Expenses	2500	3000
567	Training	10000	5000
568	Kitchen Misc/Social	2200	2200
580	Laundry & Uniforms	2500	2500
581	Dues & Subscriptions	150	150
594	Bank Charges	50	50
595	Miscellaneous	400	400
		361153	388685
597	Vehicle Reserve	20000	20000
598	Equipment Reserve	0	0
599	Building Reserve	2500	2500
	Total Operating Expenses	383653	411185
	Total Cost of Sales	385750	436736
	Total Operating Budget	769403	847921
	Town Participation		
	Town of Barnard (pop. 479)	14,490	14,860
	Town of Bethel (pop. 1968)	59,522	61,051
	Town of Braintree (pop. 1194)	36,117	37,041
	Town of Brookfield (pop. 1222)	36,958	37,909
	Town of Granville (pop. 33)	2,392	1,024
	Town of Pittsfield (pop. 427)	12,917	13,246
	Town of Randolph (pop. 4853)	146,775	150,551
	Town of Stockbridge (pop. 674)	20,688	20,909
	Total Population 10,850		
	Per Capita Rate 31.02	329,859	336,591
	30.24 (2004)		
	* population change 2005 E. Granville, Stockbridge		

Bethel Historical Society Report for 2004

The Bethel Historical Society's purpose is to preserve the history and artifacts of our town. Your membership and special donations of time and talent make this all possible. The Bethel Historical Society is made up of people who care about each other, our heritage, traditions and the community of Bethel. Be proud of your membership!

The members of the society strive to find ways to share the past. Here are some of the highlights of the past year:

In April we had our 2nd Annual Appraisal Evening with well-known appraiser Jim Marquis. This event was also a fundraiser for our society.

In June the Bethel Historical Society joined together with nearly 30 other towns at the Vermont History Expo 2004, to present an overview of Vermont's mining and quarrying history. The exhibitors were grouped together in the Memorial Arena and we naturally featured Bethel's White Granite.

During the Summer months the museum, which is located on the top floor of the Brick Church on Church Street, featured a busy schedule. The museum was open 10 a.m.-noon on Friday mornings. Docents were on hand to tell about stories and topics special to them.

July 17 ****Special Day and Time**** Saturday 9:00a.m.-1 :00 p.m. Open after the annual Church sale on the Green.

July 23 Kent Batcheller told the story of his grandfather's patented invention—the automobile turn signal!

July 30 Janet & George Burnham were the museum's docents. Janet talked about her new book on Charles Fairbanks, the 16-year old sharpshooter from Bethel who was captured at Gettysburg.

August 6 Don Brown of East Bethel & Ernie Cavanaugh of Bethel Gilead Hollow told their favorite tales and lore about those parts of Bethel.

August 13 Louise and Lorraine Putnam know a lot about Bethel's old families and all those interesting items in the museum and were ready to talk about them to visitors.

August 20 Bill Green and Bob Geraghty were ready to chat about their favorite historical topics, including Civil War and baseball

August 27 Sandy Levesque from Bethel Gilead showed some of the museum's clothing collection usually kept "under wraps".

September 11 The museum was open during Bethel's Fall Festival. Mary Pavone was on hand to talk about the White River Valley Agricultural Fairs of the late 19th century.

On a beautiful day in September we hosted a historic walk of East Bethel, with our resident guides Don Hyde and Don Brown.

On December 6th, St. Nikolas Day, our gathering was devoted to Christmas Past, where members and guests shared stories and showed items from Christmases long ago.

With the help of many generous sponsors, we were able to publish our first **historical calendar for the year 2005**. It depicts photos from Bethel's past. This was our big fundraiser of the year.

In June of 2004, one of our members, Janet Hayward Burnham, My Little Jessie Press (Bethel, VT) published : *Notes of Army and Prison Life 1862-1865 by Pvt. Charles Fairbanks Co. "E" 2nd USSS, & Co "G" 4th VT. Vols.* Discovered in the Bethel Historical Society's archives, a Civil War memoir written in 1899 by – Bethel born – Charles Fairbanks has a new profusely illustrated presentation in a soft-cover edition.

Looking to the future, we hope to increase our membership and to continue to play a vital role in the preservation of Bethel's history and artifacts. We want to preserve what we have and hopefully acquire other important historical items for our collection. Consider the Bethel Historical Society in your legacy.

We are grateful to everyone who has donated time, money and items to our Society and hope you will join us in helping to preserve Bethel's history.

Officers: President -- Don Hyde
Vice President -- Nick Nikolaidis
Secretary -- Helen Miller
Treasurer -- Kent Batcheller

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

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

During 2004 the DRB issued 9 variances and 1 conditional use permit and approved 7 subdivision applications. Although the process is quite simple, it does take time. In order to avoid any delays in your projects, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the Town Manager to determine what approvals are necessary and what timeline may be required for ultimate approval.

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

Bethel Planning Commission Report for 2004 Town Report

2004: In the past year the Bethel Planning Commission completed long and hard work to up-date Bethel's Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations. A review this thorough had not been done since their creation in the 1970's, and brought both into conformance with the 2001 Bethel Town Plan as well as with the provisions and prohibitions of Vermont Act 115 – the 2004 Local Permit Reform law.

Bylaws addressed were on enabling creation of detached housing, on addressing affordable housing, on allowing accessory housing, on dealing with Residential and Group Homes, and on adding provisions regarding buffer strips and ponds. An explicit ordinance to govern future wireless telecommunications tower applications was created. A provision was added providing for administrative approval of minor subdivisions, removing authority from the Development Review Board (DRB). Required changes consistent with Vermont Act 250 were made regarding 'interested persons,' early notice provisions, timelines for decisions, and appeals and public notice requirements.

2005: In the year ahead a priority for the Commission will be working on the five-year review of the Bethel Town Plan. A great deal of input will be solicited from all residents through a combination of hearings, surveys, interviews, and other means, as well as Commission meetings, which are always open to the public.

The purpose of a Town Plan is to:

- Define the community's vision for its future;
- Identify and promote community values in it's goals, objectives and programs;
- Establish a process for orderly growth and development;
- Balance competing interests and demands;
- Provide for coordination and coherence in the pattern of development;
- Provide for a balance between natural and built environment;
- Reflect regional conditions and consider regional impacts;
- Be consistent with statewide goals and policies;
- Address both current and long term needs;
- Give specific guidance while retaining enough flexibility to be useful when faced with unforeseen circumstances.

We look forward to hearing from you during the coming year so that the updated Town Plan –to be completed by March or 2006- can truly reflect Bethel's values and goals for the ensuing five years.

RECREATION CENTER

The Bethel Recreation Center has another successful year with 97 season passes sold, and a daily average of 42 patrons. The greatest number of patrons for a single day this summer was 132.

The Staff devoted an ample amount of time organizing the second annual Swim-a-Thon in which all proceeds benefit the Andrew Johnston Memorial Fund. The event proved more successful this year due to the extra promotional efforts of the staff. The entire staff is commended for their on-going fund raising efforts!!! Congratulations again to this years staff for a successful summer season.

BETHEL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Sixteen years ago, the Bethel Business Association (BBA) was formed with the goal of improving Bethel's business climate. In its history, the BBA has been directly or indirectly responsible for the creation of Bethel's downtown public parking lot, improving communications between local businesses and town government, general beautification and cleanup of the town, including the creation of Peavine Park, and adding welcome signs at all major entrances to the town.

2004 saw much activity on the part of the BBA:

- The BBA oversaw the creation of a web site for the town of Bethel (www.bethevermont.com), providing a public forum for news, events, and information pertaining to the town. The web site offers a free listing to all BBA members, as well as non-profit organizations in the town. Additionally, any news-worthy items or upcoming events may be posted on the site at no charge. If you have information you would like posted on the web site, please visit bethelvermont.com and click the "Contact the BBA" button.
- The BBA resumed publication of its monthly newsletter, which is mailed to all BBA members. The newsletter is also available, free of charge, to the public at several businesses in town, including Mascoma Savings Bank, White River Credit Union, Louie's New and Used Furniture, and others.
- In October, the BBA kicked off its monthly business mixers. These gatherings are open to the public, and serve to give local businesses more exposure to the community. The first mixer was held in October at Rock of Ages' new visitor's center in Graniteville. In November, Acme Carriage Works hosted a mixer, highlighting their carriage repair and manufacturing facilities. In December, Mascoma Savings Bank hosted a mixer in their Bethel offices. Future mixers will be announced at www.bethelvermont.com and in the BBA newsletter.
- The BBA raffled off tickets for a Vermont Castings gas grill, and donated \$ 1,000 of the proceeds to the Town to go toward repairing crumbling stone masonry around the downtown parking lot.
- Although the BBA no longer sponsors the Bethel Forward Festival, it continues to be involved by donating the use of tents, parking cones, a PA system, and other equipment to the White River Valley Community Festival.
- In December, the BBA bought new lights and wreaths to decorate the downtown.

The BBA's goals for the following year include:

- Filling the empty storefronts in downtown business buildings.
- A Main Street beautification project to improve the appearance of downtown. * Creation of an information kiosk downtown.

As the BBA enter its 17th year, we invite the community and its businesses to rededicate themselves to participation in the group and join us in working toward these goals. The BBA's annual meeting will be held on April 6 at 6:30pm, and will feature Governor Jim Douglas as keynote speaker. This year, the BBA will be honoring Bethel's veterans and residents currently on active duty in military service to their country. The entire Bethel community is invited to attend this celebration and take this opportunity to thank them for their service.



VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

Report to the Town of Bethel

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

During fiscal year 2004, we served 485 students through our county office.

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

ACORN

AIDS Community Resource Network
White River Jet., VT

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

We offer Volunteers to help with transportation to and from doctors appointments, hospital visitation and help with day-to-day tasks. We offer a monthly home delivery service of food and personal products to our clients homes. We offer education to local schools, churches and any organizations that want current, up to date HIV/AIDS information. For more information acorn@valley.net or 603-448-8887.



Life Skills
for WOMEN

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

PO Box 18, Bethel, VT 05032

(802) 234-5669

SOUTH ROYALTON AREA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

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

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

Other services provided through the Center are home delivered meals, foot clinics, blood pressure clinics, transportation to the meal sites and distribution of USDA commodities. The distribution of commodities is also a service for low income families. Susan Huff continues to do an excellent job as our Director and Louise Caron is our cook for Royalton and Linda Ducharme is our cook in Strafford.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

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

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

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

SAFELINE

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

Business Office: 802-728-5647

Safeline, Inc.

P.O. Box 446

Randolph, VT 05060

Safeline@Together.net

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Agency for all of Orange County and the five upper towns of Windsor County of Central Vermont. We not only are the primary crisis service provider for Orange and Upper Windsor County, but are members of Sexual and Domestic Abuse Task Forces in the state as well as a member of the Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Safeline served 21 people with a total of over 68 services during the past year in Bethel.

Our Crisis Hotline can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the above numbers. Trained Advocate,, are available at no charge at anytime day or night.

For additional information please contact our office at 728-5647.

HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION SERVICES OF SOUTHEASTERN, VT

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

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

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

WINDSOR COUNTY PARTNERS Mentors for Youths

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

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

Last year we supported 32 mentoring partnerships. We also took steps to begin to build our capacity to serve more youth, and to plan for future growth of our program. We instituted new policies in regard to our volunteers and their Partnerships to better ensure the safety of children in our program, including the requirement for an FBI criminal background check for all mentors.

Thank you for supporting our mentoring services. Your continued support will provide guidance and friendship for the youths of Bethel. For more information about our mentoring services, please call 800-491-5101.

CLARA MARTIN CENTER COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES 728-4466

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

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

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

Central Vermont Council on Aging

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

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

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

Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC)

Report to the Citizens of Bethel

Since 1965, Central Vermont Community Action has served low-income residents within nine towns in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland counties with programs and services designed to help families work toward better lives. This year, CVCAC worked with nearly 9,123 individuals in 4,150 households through the Child Care Food Program, Community Economic Development Programs, the Emergency Fuel Program, Family/Community Support Services, Farmworkers, Head Start and Early Head Start, Weatherization, Welfare-to-Work, and Working Wheels.

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

CVCAC helped 105 individuals in 44 Bethel families with program services and emergency assistance. 16 children benefited from the subsidized meals provided to a day care home; 2 people received training and technical assistance from our Micro Business Development program and 4 women participated in programs of the Vermont Womens Business Center to start or expand small businesses and 3 family members were helped through weatherizing their homes.

Your support is critical to our work, and the Board and staff of Community Action are most grateful for your help.

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING SUMMARY FOR TOWN REPORT

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

VCIL served 7 Bethel residents with disabilities during FY 2004 by utilizing the following programs/services:

Information & Referral

Meals on Wheels

Benefits to Work Counseling

Home & Community Access Program

Sue Williams Freedom Program

Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program

VISITING NURSE ALLIANCE OF VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE

Report to the Town of Bethel

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

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

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

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

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

STAGECOACH

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

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

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

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

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

TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION 2004 YEAR-END REPORT

During 2004, the Regional Commission continued to provide technical expertise and resources for municipal officials as well as advocated for members' needs with the State Legislature and with state and federal agencies. We function as staff for many of our towns and most of our work was initiated at the request of Selectboards, Planning Commissions, and other town officials. Major accomplishments for this past year included:

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

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

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

Economic Development Planning - In 2004, the Regional Commission continued working on a \$200,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant to assess the level of contamination on many sites throughout our Region. Once the level of contamination is known, the Regional Commission will help towns locate funding sources for clean-up. An additional \$200,000 was received by TRORC this year to help those communities with properties contaminated by petroleum products. In addition, TRORC spent considerable time obtaining and maintaining the eligibility of our Region for federal economic development administration money.

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

George D. Aiken Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.

The George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council celebrated 40 years of "making things happen" for towns with natural resource conservation and rural development projects this past year. We are here to serve your community. We coordinate and facilitate assistance to town governments, school districts, fire departments and nonprofit organizations in the six southern Vermont counties. By bringing together help from our extensive network of resources, we can focus technical and financial resources on your specific needs. We get technical assistance and staff help through the US Department of Agriculture but private sources make up most of our budget. The Council is a self supporting 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Our current projects include helping a town with flooding problems, erosion control and streambank stabilization in several locations, helping to develop community centers and recreation fields and two projects helping to connect residents with locally grown food. In Bethel we are administering a project for the design and installation of a canoe launch at Peavine Park. We currently have funding available for low interest loans to develop agritourism ventures for farms. Do you have a project or program that could use some assistance to "make it happen"? For information and free consultation call Kenneth Hafner our RC&D Coordinator at (802)728-9526 or email: kenneth.hafner@vt.usda.gov.

GMEDC ANNUAL REPORT - October 17, 2003

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

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

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

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

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

INDEX

	<u>Page(s)</u>
ACT 60 REAPPRAISAL FUND	37
ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES SUMMARY	23
ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES BREAKDOWN	16-22
ANTICIPATED REVENUES	14-15
APPOINTED OFFICIALS	4-5
AUDITORS REPORT	6
CEMETERY FUND & DISBURSEMENTS	41
COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT-TOWN	28
DELINQUENT SEWER & WATER ACCOUNTS	35
DELINQUENT TAXES	32-34
DOG LICENSES	36
ELECTED OFFICIALS	6
EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS INVENTORY	13
FINANCIAL STATEMENT-ALL DEPARTMENTS	30
FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING/EQUIPMENT FUND	37
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND	37
LIQUOR LICENSES	36
SELECTMEN'S REPORT	7-11
SOLID WASTE PROGRAM BETHEL/ROYALTON	27
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS	12
STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED	31
STATEMENT OF TOWN INDEBTEDNESS	29
SUMMARY OF TOWN MEETING-MARCH 2003	3
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS STATEMENT	40
TOWN HALL RESTORATION FUND	38
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE	42
WARNING	2
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	26
WATER DEPARTMENT	24

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

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

Tuesday -- 8 AM - 12 PM

Wednesday -- Closed

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

Friday -- 8 AM - 12 PM

Telephone: 234-9722 Fax: 234-6840 E-mail: bethel@togethernet

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

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

Telephone: 234-9340 Fax: 234-6840 E-mail: bethel@togethernet

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

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

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

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

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

ORGANIZATIONS:

American Legion - meets the 1st Wednesday of each month

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

Masons - meet the 2nd Thursday of each month

Rotary Club - meets each Monday

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

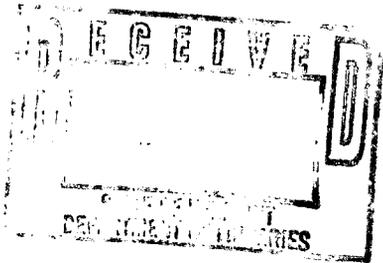
BURNING PERMITS... Burning permits are required. Contact Fire Chief, Ray Forrest at 234-9727

TO REPORT A FIRE: 911

TO CALL POLICE: 911

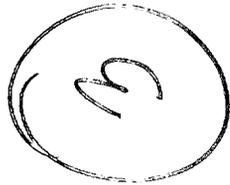
TO CALL AMBULANCE: 911

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



**Bulk Rate U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #3
Bethel, VT 05032
Carrier Route Pre-Sort**

STATE LIBRARY
109 STATE
MONTPELIER VT 05606-0601



Please bring this booklet with you to the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 10:00AM