

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Town of Orwell, Vermont

For the Year Ending
December 31, 2019

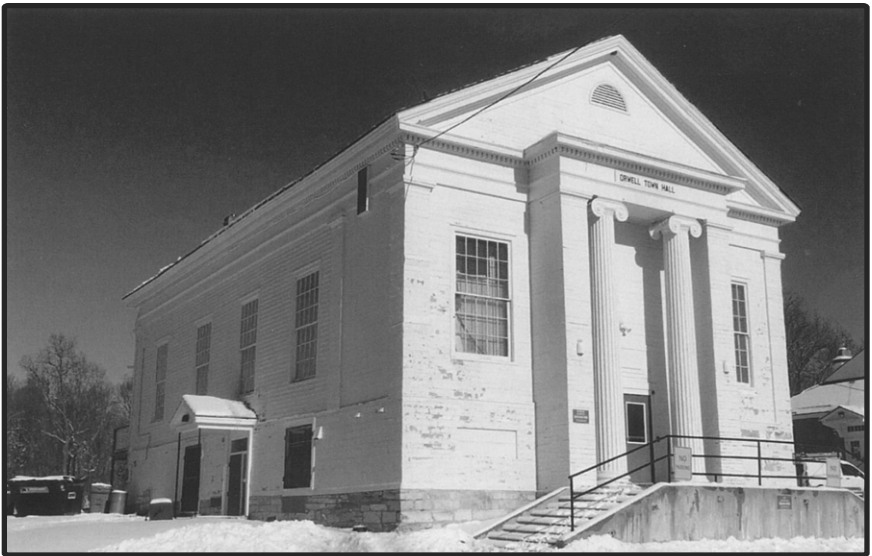


Photo courtesy of Tim Short

Please bring this report with you to:

Town of Orwell Meeting

◆ Tuesday, March 3, 2020 ◆ 10:00 a.m. ◆

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FIRE/FIRST RESPONSE - 911

POLICE - 911 or 388-4919

Animal Control – Sean Seguin – 948-2912 *** *Health Officer* – Kent Anderson – 948-2156

Forest Fire Warden - Allen R. Alger, Sr. - 948-2212

IMPORTANT ORWELL DATES

FEBRUARY 24, 2020 **SVUUSD School Meeting** - 8:00 p.m. Fair Haven High School
MARCH 3, 2020 **Town Meeting Day** - 10:00 a.m.

MARCH 27, 2020 **Rabies Clinic** at the Fire House
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Dogs can be licensed at this clinic

APRIL 1, 2020 **ON OR BEFORE - 2020 DOG LICENSE REQUIRED**

April 30, 2020 Liquor/Tobacco Licenses expires

May 2, 2020 **Green-Up/Clean-Up Day**
M-F 8 to Noon Sat 9-noon **Hazardous Waste Center at ACSWMD in Middlebury**
Business hazardous waste by appointment

May 24, 2020 **Orwell Memorial Day Parade**

AT THE MOUNT:

April 26, 2020 Spring Wildflower Walk-12:00-2:00p.m. with Amy Olmsted
May 23, 2020 Early Bird Nature Walk at 8:00-10:00a.m. with Sue Wetmore
May 23, 2020 **Opening Day** at Mt Independence State Historic Site.
Open daily 10:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. Phone - **802-948-2000**
June 6, 2020 National Trails Day Hike into History-2:00p.m.-3:30p.m.
June 13 & 14, 2020 **Vermont Days** – Free admission
June 13, 2020 Mt. Independence Coalition Annual Meeting
End of June 2020 Children's Revolutionary Morning Camp-9:30a.m.-12:30p.m.
Call for info and dates (802-759-2412)
July 19, 2020 Some Vermont Women in Revolutionary Times
2:00p.m.-3:30p.m.
Date to be Determined Inquiry into the Revolutionary Mind-2:00p.m.-3:30p.m.
August 16, 2020 Bennington Battle Day – Free admission
September 5 & 6 2020 Soldiers Atop the Mount-Saturday 10:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Sunday 10:00a.m.-3:30p.m.
October 11, 2020 Last Day Guided Hike – 1:00p.m.-3:30 p.m.
October 11, 2020 **Closing Day**
Mt Independence trails are open all year for hiking.
October 17, 2020 Muster at the Mount (tentative) 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m.
Pre-registration required Call (802)-948-2000

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

PROPERTY TAXES DUE

PLEASE PAY TOWN TREASURER AT THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ORWELL

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Auditors' Report

Feb 7, 2020

The undersigned, Auditors of the Town of Orwell, Vermont, have examined the accounts and reports of the various town officers and organizations for the 2019 calendar year. We declare them to be correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

The financial statements submitted herewith represent fairly the financial positions of the Town of Orwell for the year ended December 31, 2019. The Town of Orwell prefers to operate on a cash rather than an accrual basis. To the best of our knowledge there are no outstanding expenses or receipts unaccounted for.

Please bring your copy of the SVUUSD Annual Report for 2019 to Town Meeting as all the statistics for Orwell Village School will be found there. We were unable to acquire them for this report.

The reports and projects presented by various social service agencies have been accepted as is without further consideration or inspection. We view the requests by the 60 Plus Club and St. Paul's similarly. Copies of the various agency reports are available at the Town Clerk's office and will also be provided at Town Meeting.

We thank all the people who have helped make our town government work over the years. We especially wish to applaud Roland "Ted" Simmons and Paula Barnes for their service on the Select Board and Mark Young for his work as Town Treasurer and Trustee of Public Funds.

We encourage all of you to become active participants in your local government.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Michel
Karen Rowland
Robin Severy

Auditors, Town of Orwell



TOWN OFFICERS 2019

MODERATOR – Town and School	Michael R. Audet
TOWN CLERK	Elizabeth “Betty” Walker
TOWN TREASURER	Bryan S. Young
TOWN AGENT	Louis Hall
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS	Bryan S. Young
SELECTMEN	
Roland “Ted” Simmons – 3 year	Term Expires 2020
Dave Larsen - 3 year	Term Expires 2022
Paula Barnes - 2 year	Term Expires 2020
Thomas Audet – 3 year	Term Expires 2021
Bill Goddard – 2 year	Term Expires 2021
AUDITORS	
Robin Severy	Term Expires 2020
Karen Rowland	Term Expires 2021
Theodore Michel	Term Expires 2022
LISTERS	
Cheryl Tudhope	Term Expires 2020
Jean Audet	Term Expires 2021
Stephen James	Term Expires 2022
LIBRARY TRUSTEES	
Regina Charron	Term Expires 2022
Joan Osterhautd	Term Expires 2022
Kenneth Van Hazinga	Term Expires 2022
Virginia Wilson	Term Expires 2023
Karen DeMoy	Term Expires 2023
Rae Anne Barry	Term Expires 2024
Loretta Lee	Term Expires 2024
Anna “Kathy” Buxton	Term Expires 2020
Dave Larsen	Term Expires 2021
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	
Stephen Buxton	Term Expires 2022
Stephen James	Term Expires 2023
Joanne Hornbeck	Term Expires 2024
Diane Jackson	Term Expires 2020
Barbara LaDuc	Term Expires 2021

GRAND JUROR		Walker James
FIRST CONSTABLE		Louis Hall Diane Jackson
SECOND CONSTABLE		Allen R. Alger
ORWELL EMERGENCY MANAGER		Sandy Korda
ASSIST. EMERGENCY MANAGER		Robert G. Arnebold
ASSIST. TOWN CLERKS		Sharon Macedo Susan Ann Arnebold
ASSIST. TREASURER		Mark S. Young
TAX COLLECTOR		Bryan S. Young
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTORS		Diane Jackson Louis Hall
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE		
Robert G. Arnebold	Richard O. Buxton, Jr.	Walker James
Michael R. Audet	Stephanie Corey	
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR		Wayne L. Weseman
ASSIST. ZONING ADMINISTRATORS		Roland "Ted" Simmons Thomas J. Purdy, Sr.
LIBRARIAN		Kate Hunter
LIBRARIAN'S ASSISTANTS		Ramona Akpo-Sani Michelle Goddard
HEALTH OFFICER		Stefanie Wilbur
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR		Edward Tracey
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER		Sean Seguin
TOWN SERVICE OFFICER		Virginia S. Wilson
TREE WARDEN		Allen M. Alger
ORWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF		Dan Gosselin
FIRST RESPONSE RESCUE SQUAD		James Dougherty Liz Orr
PLANNING COMMISSION - DRB MEMBERS		
Robert Bogdan, Chair	Dave King	Stephanie Corey
Sharon Macedo	Dave Larsen	Ken Carpenter, Vice Chair

WARNING

THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF ORWELL, VERMONT,
ARE HEREBY WARNED TO MEET AT THE TOWN HALL IN SAID ORWELL,
ON

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M.,

TO TRANSACT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS:

PLEASE NOTE: The vote under Articles One will be by Australian Ballot. The Polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at the Orwell Town Hall.

1. To Elect all Town Officers, required by law, as follows by Australian Ballot:

1 Town & School Moderator for one year	Michael R. Audet
1 Town Clerk for one year	Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
1 Town Treasurer for one year	Bryan S. Young
1 Town Agent for one year	
1 Trustee of Public Funds for one year	Bryan S. Young
1 Select Person for three years	Rex D. Corey
1 Select Person for two years	Robert Barnes
1 Auditor for three years	Robin Severy
1 Lister for three years	Cheryl Tudhope
1 Library Trustee for five years	Kathy Buxton
1 Cemetery Commissioner for five years	Diane Jackson
1 Delinquent Tax Collector for one year	Louis L. Hall
	Diane Jackson
1 Grand Juror for one year	Walker E. James
1 First Constable for one year	Rebecca Heibler
	Gary Murdock
1 Second Constable for one year	Allen R. Alger

2. To act on the report of the Town Officers submitted by the Auditors.
3. To act on the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc.
4. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for the following town projects (each item to be voted separately)?
 - A. \$15,000.00 for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2020. (\$12,000.00 for 2019)
 - B. \$4,000.00 for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library?
 - C. \$200.00 for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2020 maintenance costs?
 - D. \$2,200.00 for the 2021 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee?
 - E. \$750.00 for the Sixty-Plus Club of Orwell, funds to be used to defray the costs of operating said club for the Senior Citizens of the Town of Orwell?

5. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell authorize the purchase of a 1995 Ford New Holland Mower Tractor, Model 8160 with cab, 2 Wheel Drive, with 6' Ditch Bank Mower Model 106, in the amount of \$17,500?
6. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell authorize the installation of a standing seam roof, not to exceed \$55,000, for the repair of the Wright Memorial Library Building main roof, with a 2 year note?
7. Will the Town of Orwell vote to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 10, 2020?
8. Will the Town of Orwell vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date?
9. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 2, 2021, per 17 VSA §2640? (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.)
10. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell vote to accept the proposed 2020 Town Budget in the amount of \$753,204.80, such amount to be raised by taxes?
11. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell accept the proposed 2020 Sewer Budget in the amount of \$48,600.00, such amount to be raised by user rents?
12. Will the voters of the Town of Orwell appropriate funds for the following Social Services and other requests by petition (each item to be voted separately)?
 - A. End of Life Services, Inc. f/n/a Hospice Volunteer Service **\$500.00**, funds to be used to provide volunteer care to terminally ill patients in the Town of Orwell?
 - B. Age Well (formerly CVAA) **\$1,000.00**, funds to be used for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation and toll-free Senior Help Line?
 - C. Elderly Services Inc. **\$900.00**, funds to be used for Project Independence, Elderly Day Care Center scholarship fund, to provide care for frail elders and respite for their families?
 - D. Parent/Child Center **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support classes, transportation, infant care, and family education services used by town residents?
 - E. Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc. **\$1,500.00**, funds to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents?
 - F. H.O.P.E., Inc. **\$1,750.00** funds to be used to help defray part of the cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing and other essential items?
 - G. Addison County Women Safe, Inc. **\$1,250.00**, funds to be used to support their mission to work toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change?
 - H. Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. **\$1,650.00**, funds to help defray costs for providing home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay?

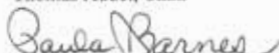
- I. RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program **\$320.00**, funds to support RSVP?
- J. Addison County Transportation Resources **\$775.00**, funds to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities, and the general public?
- K. Addison County Readers, Inc. **\$350.00**, funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under five years of age?
- L. Addison County Restorative Justice Services Inc. (formerly ACCD) Inc. **\$370.00**, funds to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record?
- M. John W. Graham Emergency Shelter **\$1,000.00**, funds to be used to provide shelter, food and services to homeless family and individuals.

13. To transact any other business which may legally come before the Town.


Signed and dated at Orwell, Vermont on this 31 day of January 2020.

Orwell Select Board

Thomas Audet, Chair



Paula Barnes, Vice Chair


Bill Goddard
Dave Larsen
Roland Simmons

NOTICE TO VOTERS

For Local Elections

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by February 2, 2020. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 22, 2020.

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

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at mvp.sec.state.vt.us. The latest you can request ballots for the Town Meeting Election is the close of the Town Clerk's office on March 2, 2020 @ 3:30 p.m. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

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

ON ELECTION DAY:

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

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

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

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

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

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

NO PERSON SHALL:

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

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

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

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

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS:

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

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc."

- To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for.
- **WRITE-IN** candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

CHECK OUT:

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

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

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.



Photo courtesy of Tim Short

**ABSTRACT OF GRAND LIST
2019 Tax Rate**

Total Listed Value of Real Estate	\$ 149,696,300.00
TOTAL GRAND LIST	\$ 1,496,963.00

VOTED AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED BY TAXES

Wright Memorial Library	\$ 12,000.00
Orwell Free Library	3,500.00
St. Paul's Cemetery	200.00
Orwell Parade Committee	2,100.00
Sixty Plus Club	750.00
Orwell Youth Recreation Program	1,000.00
Town Truck Purchase First Principal Payment	17,333.00
Select Board Budget	744,688.73
Hospice Volunteer Service	500.00
Age Well	1,000.00
Elderly Services, Inc.	900.00
Parent Child Center	1,250.00
Counseling Service of Addison County	1,500.00
H.O.P.E.	1,750.00
Addison County Women Safe, Inc.	1,250.00
Addison County Home Health & Hospice	1,650.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	320.00
Addison County Transit Services	775.00
Addison County Readers, Inc.	350.00
Addison County Restorative Justice Services	370.00
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	1,000.00
Addison County's Humane Society, Inc.	500.00

TOTAL TAXES TO BE RAISED BY TOWN	\$ 794,686.73
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TAX RATE	=	AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAX BILLING	=	794,686.73	=	0.5309
		TOTAL GRAND LIST		1,496,963.00		

Municipal Rate Set by Select Board	= 0.5309
STATE SET HOMESTEAD TAX RATE	= 1.4408
STATE SET NON-RESIDENTIAL RATE	= 1.5711

Grand List 2019	1,496,963.00
Grand List 2018	1,498,323.00
Grand List 2017	1,476,770.00

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young, Treasurer

TOWN OF ORWELL
2019 STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Balance December 31, 2018	\$	1,931.52	
Agency of Natural Resources		6,888.72	
Beer & Tobacco Licenses		140.00	
Book Restoration Fees		3,620.00	
Borrowings			
Line Items		52,000.00	
Tax Anticipation		308,500.00	
Clean Up Day		2,373.30	
Collector/Collected Taxes		128,312.15	
Penalties		10,274.62	
Warrant Interest		11,426.19	
Copier Fees		1,992.42	
Current Use Recording		489.00	
Dog Licenses		4,134.00	
Clerk Fees		11,958.00	
Grant- Raymond Hill Road		8,600.00	
Grand List Act 60		772.00	
Insurance Claims		17,175.00	
Interest Income		3,595.42	
Kenel		62.00	
Lister Training		779.00	
Miscellaneous Income		50.00	
PILOT Payment State Property		6,276.00	
Refunds		3,575.50	
Rental Income, Old Town Garage		2,400.00	
Sale of Equipment		6,300.00	
Speed Control		13,026.63	
State Highway Aid		135,899.78	
State Hold Harmless		98,871.00	
Tax Adjustments- State, School		65,389.45	
Tax Receipts Total		2,396,354.70	
Zoning Fees		3,595.00	
Tax Paid Slate Valley UUSD			1,820,412.61
Payment of Borrowings			456,341.75
Payment of Select Board Orders			927,752.59
Line Items Paid			101,998.00
Bank Fees			24.00
Balance December 31, 2019			232.45
<hr/>			
	\$	3,306,761.40	\$ 3,306,761.40

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL
SCHEDULE OF INDEBTEDNESS 2019**

	Balance 12/31/18	Borrowed	Paid	Balance 12/31/19
<u>Town of Orwell</u>				
Rescue Vehicle	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -
Town Truck	125,367.00	-	31,341.75	94,025.25
Town Pickup Truck	-	52,000.00	-	52,000.00
Tax Anticipation 2019	65,000.00	305,000.00	370,000.00	-
Tax Anticipation 2020	-	3,500.00	-	3,500.00

Sewer Fund

Lagoon Project	\$ -	\$ 105,777.37	\$ -	\$ 105,777.37
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Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

**Town of Orwell
Reappraisal Fund
December 31, 2019**

Balance December 31, 2018	\$44,133.99	
2019 State Payment Received	5,849.50	
Interest Income Savings #9755	48.06	
Balance December 31, 2019		\$50,031.55
	<hr/>	
	\$50,031.55	\$50,031.55

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

**TOWN OF ORWELL
2019 PAYROLL**

General

Ramona Akpo-Sani	\$	6,304.14	
Jean Audet		2,967.00	
Thomas Audet		1,750.00	
Paula Barnes		1,500.00	
Robert Bogdan		325.00	
Stephanie Corey		163.00	
Michelle Goddard		624.00	
Louis Hall		3,825.63	
Kate Hunter		25,510.27	
Diane Jackson		4,140.69	
Stephen James		1,578.38	
Walker James		1,500.00	
David Larsen		1,825.00	
Sharon Macedo		22,917.75	
Theodore Michel		1,509.38	
Raymond Papandrea		325.00	
Thomas Purdy		189.75	
Karen Rowland		1,470.75	
Sean Seguin		200.00	
Robin Severy		586.50	
Roland Simmons		1,500.00	
Cheryl Tudhope		5,466.75	
Elizabeth Walker		49,600.50	
Wayne Weseman		968.01	
Bryan Young		21,466.48	
Mark Young		2,500.00	\$ 160,713.98

Highway

Allen M. Alger	71,159.08	
James Booska	701.01	
Peter Parent	52,371.50	\$ 124,231.59

Sewer

Louis Hall	72.00	
Edward Tracey	20,350.00	\$ 20,422.00

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Town Treasurer

Orwell Select Board Report 2019

Overall, roads survived well from winter conditions and rain events.

There were fewer large repair situations; possibly newer ditch projects claiming credit. Orwell did receive a road grant for a Hemenway Hill project to be completed by July 1, 2020. Other grants were not successful. No State Paving Grant was available for 2019, but we did a project with our own funds on Route 73 West. Upon completion of the Raymond Hill Road project, \$8,600.00 was received during 2019. The Route 22A improvement project moved ahead with completion of surveying and recording now complete. Our two man road crew and our updated line of equipment are prepared to sufficiently tend to our road needs.

Challenges to our Town ordinances were met with success. A long term zoning dispute was resolved with the Town getting a substantial settlement. The listers dealt with an appraisal appeal which was resolved in the town's favor.

The 1st phase of the Sewer project is complete. The removal of sludge from pond #1 was finished in November 2019. Next phase includes replacing aeration pump equipment and updating electrical and the control room. The Project is to be completed during 2020. Small amounts of outside sewage are beginning to come in providing a small income stream. We expect this to increase as the year progresses.

Valuable time was spent by the Board updating various policies and ordinances. These include personnel and drafting our Credit Card Policy. Our updated Animal Control Ordinance was widely accepted by the townspeople. The effort of the Animal Control Officer and Constable to identify pets and ensure rabies shots provide good protection to the Orwell residents.

Various town facility projects other than the Sewer Plant are being addressed. The Town Clerk's Office had a handicap ramp installed early in the year. Next will be the installation of new shutters and some painting. The Fire and Rescue building had a handicap shower installed and other updates completed by year end. (2019) The Gazebo repairs talked about in 2019 are budgeted to happen in 2020. The Town Clock hand and inner workings maintenance is also scheduled for this year. (2020) Surveillance cameras for the Town Garage and Fire Rescue buildings are soon to be in place. A good portion of this cost will be covered by a grant from PACIF, our insurance provider.

Again the yearly Orwell Clean Up/Green Up Day was successful. The outpouring of volunteers that direct traffic and unload material turn this into a "True Town Event".

A special thanks to the Memorial Day Parade committee for carrying on this long tradition.

The Select Board encourages all residents with community spirit to come forth to fill positions. There are many committees looking for new members, ready to contribute a new point of view or to share the load of existing members. Our community's greatest strength is our volunteers.

A special Thanks to retiring Select Board Members:

Roland "Ted" Simmons 21 years
Paula Barnes 20 years

Thanks also to the retiring:

Jim Dougherty Orwell First Response 20 years
Louis Hall, First Constable 50 years.

Respectfully submitted by the Orwell Select Board:

Thomas Audet, Chair
Dave Larsen

Paula Barnes, Vice Chair

Bill Goddard
Roland "Ted" Simmons

****CLEAN UP/GREEN UP DAY IS SATURDAY MAY 2, 2020****

*MANY THANKS TO ALL the Green Up/Clean Up helpers for 2019
Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young - another great job of service for Orwell*

The Select Board cannot succeed with this project without your help.

In order to keep our Town looking beautiful, we continue to need volunteers for the 2020 Town-wide and State Road-side cleanup.

This Year Cindy Watrous and Barbara Young will be glad to sign you up at Town Meeting.

The Town will be accepting scrap metal free of charge.

**NO REGULAR HOUSHOLD TRASH,
HAZARDOUS WASTE OR RECYCLING WANTED.**

Please remember to look for the Posted Fliers giving details for this year.

TOWN OF ORWELL - EXPENSES

		2019	2019	2020
CATEGORY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Ambulance		3,125.00	3,125.00	12,500.00
Animal Control		700.00	760.00	700.00
Bank Service Charge		24.00	24.00	60.00
Better Back Roads Exp		0.00		0.00
Cemeteries		7,750.00	7,750.00	9,000.00
Clean-up Day		9,500.00	13,281.73	11,000.00
Dues and Fees		14,000.00	15,361.20	16,000.00
Election Fees		250.00	250.00	800.00
Emergency Services Dispatch		2,000.00	1,560.00	2,000.00
Fire Truck	Principal			37,800.00
	Interest			5,670.00
Fire Department				
ACFA/VSFA Dues		600.00	597.00	600.00
American Tower Rent		1,000.00	1,029.76	1,100.00
Building Maintenance		1,500.00	2,282.51	2,000.00
Electricity		1,600.00	1,128.96	1,300.00
Equip Vehicle Repair		12,000.00	4,223.41	10,000.00
Equip Purchase		10,000.00	21,905.05	10,000.00
Fire Extinguisher		500.00	330.80	500.00
Heat-Propane		2,000.00	1,868.62	2,000.00
Hose Test		4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
Hydrant & Pond Maint		1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Insurance		0.00	0.00	9,237.00
Radio Repair		3,000.00	1,577.00	3,000.00
Sewer Rent		180.00	180.00	250.00
Telephone		600.00	283.54	600.00
Training		1,000.00	490.05	1,000.00
Turnout Gear - 3 sets		7,000.00	7,320.76	7,500.00
Total Fire Department		45,980.00	43,217.46	54,087.00
First Response				
American Tower Rent		1,000.00	1,020.76	1,100.00
Building Maintenance		500.00	263.07	500.00
Dues		200.00	142.00	200.00
Electricity		600.00	376.34	600.00
Equip Vehicle Repair		600.00	56.78	600.00
Equip Purchase		1,850.00	1,594.20	1,850.00
Heat - Propane		2,000.00	1,868.61	2,250.00
Insurance		0.00	0.00	1,182.00
Oxygen		100.00	0.00	100.00
Personnel - Health		300.00	0.00	300.00
Radio Repair		1,000.00	1,495.00	1,000.00
Sewer Rent		180.00	180.00	250.00
Supplies		2,400.00	2,185.26	2,400.00
Telephone		1,200.00	283.47	600.00
Training		1500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Total First Response		13,430.00	9,474.49	14,432.00
First Response Vehicle Note				
	Principal	55,000.00	55,000.00	0.00
	Interest	1,387.00	1,386.31	0.00
		56,387.00	56,386.31	0.00

		2019	2019	2020			
CATEGORY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET			
Fuel		24,000.00	24,800.26	26,000.00			
Gasoline		500.00	1,203.89	2,000.00			
GMC Pickup 2017	Principal		0.00	17,333.00			
	Interest		813.87	1022.68			
Health Insurance		21,600.00	19,550.52	18,828.57			
Highway Improvements							
	Bridge Repair	0.00	0.00	0.00			
	Chloride	23,000.00	16,109.00	20,000.00			
	Contracted Services	20,000.00	4,250.00	25,000.00			
	Culverts	13,000.00	9,048.40	13,000.00			
	Ditching	3,000.00	661.31	3,000.00			
	Ditching Grant		4,400.00	0.00			
	Equipment Rental	2,500.00	3,700.00	2,500.00			
	Gravel	110,000.00	103,981.13	110,000.00			
	Paving	55,000.00	50,022.71	60,000.00			
	Salt, for Winter	55,000.00	62,729.37	55,000.00			
	Sand, for Winter	60,000.00	82,908.41	70,000.00			
	Signage/Guard Rails	2,000.00	232.50	1,000.00			
	Snow Removal	1,000.00	2,162.49	1,000.00			
	Stone	2,000.00	867.75	5,000.00			
	Training/Other	500.00	0.00	500.00			
	Total Highway Improve.	347,000.00	341,073.07	366,000.00			
Highway, Equipment Maintenance							
	Shoes,Edge,Plow	5,000.00	4,501.21	4,000.00			
	Chains	4,500.00	1,756.90	4,000.00			
	Equip Purchase	4,000.00	2,909.58	2,500.00			
	GMC Pickup 2017		0.00	1,000.00			
	Grader	10,000.00	10,947.62	3,000.00			
	Loader	12,000.00	15,755.81	4,000.00			
	Mack Truck 2017	7,000.00	11,413.61	7,000.00			
	Mack Truck 2019	2,000.00	5,739.10	4,000.00			
	Miscellaneous Parts	2,500.00	2,052.56	2,500.00			
	1995 New Holland Mowing Tractor	0.00	0.00	1,000.00			
	Oil, Grease, Filters	2,000.00	3,648.04	3,000.00			
	Road Side Mower	3,000.00	2,000.32	1,000.00			
	Small Equip Repair	500.00	97.00	500.00			
	Sundries	400.00	345.18	250.00			
	Tools	2,000.00	1,665.52	2,000.00			
	Total Equip Maint	54,900.00	62,832.45	39,750.00			
Listers							
	Dues	175.00	60.00	175.00			
	Education	500.00	115.00	500.00			
	Equip Purchase	2,175.00	1,872.20	0.00			
	Lister Maps	200.00	0.00	2,000.00			
	Postage	500.00	67.45	100.00			
	Supplies & Licensing	1,500.00	291.99	2,175.00			
	Total Listers	5,050.00	2,406.64	4,950.00			
Insurance		1,000.00	1,747.00	22,956.00			
Interest on Borrowings		3,700.00	4,877.70	4,500.00			
Land Lease Paid School		48.85	48.85	0.00			
Legal Fees		10,000.00	2,497.45	2,500.00			

		2019	2019	2020		
CATEGORY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET		
Mack Truck Note 2019	Principal	31,341.75	31,341.75	32,645.22		
	Interest	3,003.65	3,003.65	2,592.78		
Mileage		3,100.00	1,825.83	1,500.00		
Misc. Exp			1,000.00	0.00		
Payroll		282,000.00	284,945.57	310,000.00		
	Payroll Retirement	7,000.00	7,020.15	7,500.00		
	FICA + MCARE	22,052.00	21,798.34	23,000.00		
	Total Payroll	311,052.00	313,764.06	340,500.00		
Planning Commission/DRB		0.00	0.00	3,500.00		
Payroll Discrepancies		0.00	0.00	0.00		
Property Appraisal		2,000.00	600.00	2,000.00		
Property Tax Adjustment		2,000.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Street Lights		4,300.00	3,799.75	4,000.00		
Sundries/Rental Unit		770.00	720.00	720.00		
Sheriff Contract		11,000.00	17,062.40	11,000.00		
Tax Borrowing		65,000.00	0.00	3,500.00		
Town Clock		5,000.00	0.00	6,000.00		
Town Green						
	Bandstand	250.00	0.00	5,000.00		
	Mowing	2,000.00	2,200.00	2,000.00		
	Electricity	300.00	259.35	300.00		
	Snow Removal	3,000.00	1,915.00	0.00		
Town Garage						
	Electricity	2,400.00	2,179.49	2,300.00		
	Heat - Propane	2,000.00	958.13	1,500.00		
	Repairs	3,000.00	2,872.79	3,000.00		
	Sewer Rent	360.00	360.00	500.00		
	Waste Removal	1,000.00	660.00	800.00		
	Total Town Garage	8,760.00	7,030.41	8,100.00		
Town Office						
	Book Restoration Reserve Transfer			3,152.00		
	Book Restoration	500.00	0.00	500.00		
	Books - Land Records	400.00	0.00	1,000.00		
	Books - Microfilm	1,200.00	965.70	1,500.00		
	Building Repair	4,000.00	1,635.55	3,000.00		
	Copier	2,150.00	1,732.39	2,150.00		
	Electricity	1,300.00	1,140.53	1,300.00		
	Equipment Purchase	1,500.00	1,423.16	2,200.00		
	Equipment Repair	600.00	175.00	1,900.00		
	Heat	1,200.00	980.00	1,200.00		
	Postage	2,500.00	2,333.36	2,500.00		
	Sewer Rent	360.00	360.00	500.00		
	Snow Removal	600.00	364.00	0.00		
	Supplies	3,500.00	2,292.72	2,500.00		
	Telephone	3,200.00	3,151.84	3,200.00		
	Total Town Office	23,010.00	16,554.25	26,602.00		
Town Report & Ballots		1,400.00	0.00	1,400.00		
TOTAL ORDERS BUDGETED/PAID		\$1,098,232.25	1,014,118.34	1,122,249.25		
Returned Check						
Borrowings Paid			\$ 370,000.00			
Balance 12/31/19			\$232.45			
TOTAL			1,384,350.79			

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax Report 2019

Tax Year	Balance 12/31/18	Additions	Payments	Balance 12/31/19
Before 2016	\$ 1,929.26	\$ -	\$ 1,929.26	\$ -
2016	4,527.26	-	4,527.26	-
2017	41,556.18	-	27,800.44	13,755.74
2018	74,487.35	-	50,886.11	23,601.24
2019	-	124,534.56	43,169.08	81,365.48
Totals	122,500.05	124,534.56	128,312.15	118,722.46

TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2019

Balance December 31, 2018	\$ 3,571.88	
Delinquent Taxes Collected	128,293.56	
Warrant Interest Collected	11,426.19	
Penalties Collected	10,274.62	
Savings Interest Earned	10.17	
Payments to Town		153,567.91
Balance December 31, 2019		8.51
	<hr/>	
	\$ 153,576.42	\$ 153,576.42

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson
Delinquent Tax Collector

Town of Orwell
Taxes Billed vs. Collected 2019

Total Taxes Billed	3,005,857.79
Less State Payments	<u>484,968.53</u>
Net Taxes Due	2,520,889.26
Less Taxes Collected	<u>2,396,354.70</u>
2019 Tax Warrant	124,534.56
Delinquent Taxes Collected	<u>43,169.08</u>
2019 Delinquent Taxes Due as of 12/31/19	81,365.48

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Tax List- December 31, 2019

2017	Bruce, Michael & Dawn Cotter, Edward Sears, Olga Subtotal	\$ 13,755.74
2018	Cookman, Claire Cotter, Edward Kenney, Donald Sears, Olga US Bank and Trust Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 23,601.24
2019	57 Sanford St, LLC Blackmer, Wayne & Roxanne Cookman, Claire Cormier, Richard & Claire Cotter, Edward Danahy, John & Julie Danylieko, Wilfred Gwinn, Brenda Hansen, Kris & Nancy Holzhammer, Brian & Brooke Jones, Douglas & Susan Kavet, Randall & Sharon Kenney, Donald Lamontagne, David & Deborah Legault, Chad Lojek, Paula & William Sears, Olga Thomas, James US Bank and Trust White, James Wist, John Joseph et al Subtotal	\$ 81,365.48
	Total	\$ 118,722.46

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector

Annual Report
Trustee of Public Funds
December 31, 2019

Cash and Securities per Last Report \$135,134.24

Cash and Securities on Hand Dec. 31, 2019

School Fund (C.D.)		2,989.75
Mountain View Cemetery (C.D.)	44,441.77	
Eaton Vance	40,494.71	84,936.48
Mountain View Cemetery (Munger Fund)		28,993.40
Lake View Cemetery (C.D.)		1,000.00
Coates Cemetery (C.D.)		1,084.18
Town Fund (C.D.) (McQuade)		214.50
Wright Memorial Library (C.D.)		22,961.25
Orwell Free Library (C.D.)		1,000.00
Gain on Eaton Vance Fund	7,296.56	
Interest Earnings Munger Fund	548.76	
Perpetual Care Added	200.00	

\$143,179.56 \$143,179.56

To Income \$1,806.40

Town of Orwell	3.77
Orwell School Fund	52.71
Coates Cemetery	19.09
Lake View Cemetery	17.61
Mountain View Cemetery	1,291.20
Wright Memorial Library	404.41
Orwell Free Library	17.61

\$1,806.40 1,806.40

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan S. Young
Trustee of Public Funds

TOWN OF ORWELL
STATEMENT OF THE TOWN CLERK
December 31, 2018

Dog Registration:	# of Dogs	Fee/dog	Total
	0	\$7.00	\$0.00
	197	\$9.00	\$1,773.00
	0	\$11.00	\$0.00
	43	\$13.00	\$559.00
	85	\$17.00	\$1,445.00
	17	\$21.00	\$357.00
Totals	342		\$4,134.00
1 Kennel & Special License			\$62.00
4 Replacement Tags			\$0.00
<i>342 Dogs and 1 Kennel/Spec Registered</i>			\$4,196.00
Money to the Town Treasurer:			
1 Kennel & Special License			\$62.00
Dog Fees			\$2,424.00
<i>State Rabies & Spay/Neuter Program</i>			\$1,710.00
	Total		\$4,196.00

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth "Betty" Walker
Town Clerk



**Orwell Planning Commission
Annual Report 2019**

The Orwell Planning Commission (PC) is made up of citizens of the community who are appointed by the Select Board. The PC is responsible for developing and revising the Orwell Town Land Use Regulations as well as the Orwell Town Plan. It works with the Addison County Regional Planning Commission in keeping abreast of state regulations and programs that affect the town's regulations and plans.

It has been a busy year for the PC. The revisions to the Town Land Use Regulations that the Commission developed in 2018 and 2019 were passed at the 2019 Town Meeting.

The PC's application to the State to have the center of Orwell town be officially designated as a Village Center was recently approved. The state Village Center program has been developed to help preserve and promote traditional Vermont villages. Having this status makes the town, civic organizations and property owners eligible for certain grants and tax incentives.

The Orwell Town Plan that was approved in 2015 expired in November 2019. The PC applied and was approved to extend the plan for two years. During that period a revision that, among other changes, will incorporate new state regulations and requirements, will be written.

The PC applied to the state for a planning grant to revise the Town Plan. Our application was turned down but we will be working with the Addison Regional Planning Commission to revise the 2015 Town Plan and apply for another grant to help us with this work.

Ray Papandrea resigned as chair of the PC/DRB. We thank him for his outstanding service. Robert Bogdan was appointed chair in May.

The Orwell Planning Commission meets regularly on the third Wednesday of each month after the Development Review Board meeting. Meetings are open to the public.

The Commission is looking for new members. If you have any interest in serving please attend a PC/DRB meeting and/or speak to Bob Bogdan or any other Board member.

2019 Orwell Planning Commission:
Robert Bogdan, Chair
Ken Carpenter, Vice Chair
Stephanie Corey, Member
David King, Member
Dave Larsen, Alternate
Sharon Macedo, Secretary/Member

Orwell Development Review Board Annual Report 2019

The Development Review Board (DRB) is made up of citizens of the community who are appointed by the Select Board. In compliance with the procedures and regulations in the Orwell Town Land Use Regulations, the DRB considers applications for property subdivisions, boundary changes, waivers and variances, and other issues related to land use.

In 2019 the DRB granted 3 waivers, 2 conditional use permits, 1 subdivisions.

Ray Papandrea resigned as chair of the DRB in April. We thank him for his outstanding service. Robert Bogdan was appointed chair in May.

The DRB meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. The public is always welcome.

The DRB is looking for new members. If you have any interest in serving please attend a DRB meeting and/or speak to Bob Bogdan or any other Board member.

2019 Development Review Board Members:

Robert Bogdan, Chair
Ken Carpenter, Vice Chair
Stephanie Corey, Member
David King, Member
Dave Larsen, Alternate
Sharon Macedo, Secretary/Member



Lister's Report for 2019

The Town received the 2019 Equalization Study results. The Town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is 102.11%. This indicates that the Town's appraisal of properties is very close to the State mandated 100% Common Level of Appraisal. The Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) is 6.43%. Between 5% and 10% is excellent and a COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal.

Learn more by reading the [Introduction to Vermont's Equalization Study](https://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study)
<https://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study>

The Grand List is remaining about level with last year.

The Listers will be meeting March 9, 2020 at the Town Offices to organize and to continue the Lister obligation for the coming year.

The Listers will be updating the 2020 Grand List and may be visiting any or all properties in the Town.

Cheryl Tudhope, Jean F Audet, Stephen James

TOWN OF ORWELL ZONING ADMINISTRATOR 2019 Report

Zoning Activity for 2019
Permits for:

- 3 New House
- 15 Accessory Buildings and Garages
- 4 Additions
- 3 Porches and Decks
- 2 Farm Structures
- 1 Permit Extensions
- 12 Certificates of Compliance
- 1 Change of Use
- 2 Miscellaneous
- Zero Denials

Violations of Land Use Regulations

4

Respectfully Submitted,



Wayne L. Weseman

TOWN OF ORWELL
VERMONT
TOWN MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 5, 2019

Town meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Moderator, Michael R. Audet, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements: On the front table there is Information on the Social Services. Cindy Watrous has a sign-up sheet for Green-up Day and a Swap Day information sheet for May 4, 2019. Theresa Nolan mentioned there is a Girl Scout Group that has been started for Daisy's, Brownies and Juniors that is combined with Benson. They will be looking for projects to do for the community to earn badges.

1. As per the Warning, Town Officers were elected by Australian Ballot. The polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Results of the Australian Ballot follow these minutes.
2. As per the Warning, the Land Use Regulations proposed changes were voted by Australian Ballot. The proposed changes were approved: **238 Yes 46 No 7 Blank** [Total 291].
3. Sue James **moved** to accept the reports of the Town Officers submitted by the Auditors. Peter Stone **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
4. Peter Stone **moved** to accept the report of the Board of Trustees of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library, Inc. Sheri Young **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
5. The voters of the Town of Orwell voted on the following town projects separately:
 - A. Mark Young **moved** to appropriate \$12,000.00 for the operating expenses of the Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library Building for 2019. Anne Stanhope **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
 - B. Theresa Nolan **moved** to appropriate \$3,500.00 for the purchase of books and materials by the Orwell Free Library. Walker James **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote. Virginia Wilson thanked all who supported so the renovations could be done to the Library.
 - C. Stephen Buxton **moved** to appropriate \$200.00 for St. Paul's Cemetery in order to defray a portion of the 2019 maintenance costs. Richard O. Buxton, Sr. **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
 - D. Christine Pouliot **moved** to appropriate \$2,100.00 for the 2020 operating expenses of the Orwell Parade Committee. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
 - E. Walker James **moved** to appropriate \$750.00 for the Sixty-Plus Club of Orwell, funds to be used to defray the costs of operating said club for the Senior Citizens of the Town of Orwell. Richard O. Buxton, Sr. **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
 - F. Peter Stone **moved** to appropriate \$1,000.00 for the 2019 operation of the Orwell Youth Recreation Program. Theresa Nolan **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote. Sheri Young asked the Select Board to add this to the Warning to be transparent. Information on how the funds are spent

will be provided to the Select Board. The Select Board has paid the insurance in the past. The committee is made up of a board of volunteer parents. Funds will be needed to pay for insurance for the sports program, porta potty for Rte 22A and a small pay for the coaches.

6. Peter Stone **moved** to authorize the purchase of a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD One Ton Pick-up Truck, 4 wheel drive, with a 9 1/2' Fisher Plow and a Dump Body at a cost of \$52,000, with a 3 year note at a 3 3/4 % interest rate. Dave Larsen **seconded** the motion. Louis Hall called for a paper ballot. Sharon Fletcher asked if we purchase this third truck and we only have two drivers are we going to hire a third driver? There are substitute drivers if needed. Sharon Fletcher also asked where is this truck to be kept. At the Town Garage or at the Foreman's house then he can start his route from there. It hasn't been determined at this time. This truck will be used to plow the Sewer Plant, the Town Office and the horseshoe drive around the Town Green. Extra help has been hired to do these jobs and it has proven to be quite costly. The truck will also be used to pull the culvert trailer, the chloride trailer, carrying chain saws for trimming trees and cold patch. There job is also to check the roads and it is not efficient to use one of the big trucks. The Road Foreman's personal truck is not covered under the Town insurance. Andrea Hornbeck asked if we could purchase extra insurance to pay for the Road Foreman's truck to be insured. Paula Barnes said that she called VLCT PACIF, the Town's insurance, and asked if the Road Foreman's personal truck is covered when he uses it for Town work. They stated that it is not covered. The insurance is for municipal vehicles only. His personal insurance would have to cover any damage. The Town's insurance would cover for liability only after his insurance was up to its maximum coverage. Dan Redondo said the cost of the truck averages about \$18,000 a year for 3 years. Wouldn't it cost less to hire out. Thomas Audet stated that this truck will have other uses other than plowing. We are the only Town that does not supply a small truck. Dave Larsen added that this truck should last 10+ years and this is a liability issue. Walker James mentioned that the specs were changed from diesel to gas and that saved around \$9,000. Elizabeth Frank asked if the Town has thought of subcontracting with local people. Thomas Audet replied that is what we are doing now, using local people. This is a liability issue and we are trying to get the Foreman out of having to use his own truck. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. stated that when the Town purchased the new tandem we were told that it was small enough to do these odd jobs. This is new what the Town is proposing. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. stated that he would like to see this pickup replace one of the tandems and asked why does it have to be a new truck. Thomas Audet said if a new truck does not pass then the other option would be to purchase a used one. Miles Tudhope stated that we have managed our roads well. Miles Tudhope called PACIF but they would not speak to a local person and stated there are liability policies to cover this. Paul Stone said we have talked about a small truck for years, it's more efficient. Carla Ochs said there are a lot of uses for a small truck. She lives at the end of the route and they turn around in her driveway and it's tight. With mud season coming up the smaller truck would do less damage on the roads. Robert Arnebold called the ballot.

The **motion passed** by a paper ballot vote of **70 Yes 46 No**.

7. Louis Hall **moved** to authorize the purchase of a 2019 HME Commercial Chassis Pumper, at a cost of \$378,000, to be financed over 10 years at the current interest rate for the first 5 years. Virginia Wilson **seconded** the motion. A paper ballot was called for. Dan Gosselin stated that the current pumper has mechanical issues. The company has agreed to keep the price at the 2018 cost. Bill Goddard asked how long before we get the Pumper. Dan Gosselin said it would take about a year to build. Thomas Audet said if we vote "yes" today we won't start paying for it until 2020. Jean Audet asked if any thought had been given to join forces with Benson and Shoreham. Sean Seguin stated that volunteers make up the force with many hours of training. This truck replaces a nineteen year old truck. This truck is very much needed. Thomas Purdy stated there has been a big jump in homeowners insurance. The Town of Orwell is ranked 8 on a scale from 1-10. Liz Orr stated that the old Rescue Vehicle sold for \$5,000 to go into the Town's General Fund. Louis Hall asked about the Reserve Fund. There hasn't been a Reserve Fund in years. Discussion ensued about when the first payment would be. Mark Young asked if the truck payments are to start in 2019 then he would like to make an amendment for the Article to include "with the first installment being raised in 2019 @ \$41,561, Principle and Interest". Jean Audet seconded the amendment. Some discussion ensued about the truck not being ready until 2020 and we wouldn't have to start paying until then. Mark Young withdrew his amendment. Bill Goddard

moved to amend the Article to read "Will the voters of the Town of Orwell authorize the purchase of a 2019 HME Commercial Chassis Pumper, at a cost of \$378,000, with the first payment to be made in 2020, to be financed over 10 years at the current interest rate for the first 5 years?" Jean Audet **seconded** the motion. Thomas Audet explained that nobody will give us a fixed rate past 5 years. We will renegotiate at the end of the first 5 years. The amendment **passed** by voice vote. Joe Taparauskas called for a paper ballot. The **motion passed** by a paper ballot vote of **71 Yes 37 No 1 Spoiled**.

8. Joe Taparauskas **moved** to separate the Delinquent Tax Collector and First Constable positions, each for a term of one year, to become effective in 2020. Sue James **seconded** the motion. Thomas Audet explained that these two positions have always been together. People are willing to do one or the other. You can run for both or either one. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

9. Sue James **moved** to have the Treasurer collect taxes on real property on or before November 8, 2019. Paul Stone **seconded** the motion. Louis Hall **moved** to amend the Article to say "on or before Tuesday, November 12, 2019". Louis Hall stated that people are used to it being November 10th and the date of the 8th will confuse them. They will be late paying their taxes. Joe Taparauskas **seconded** the motion. Mark Young asked to not make this change and believes this will confuse people further. A postmark date is okay. This was voted "no" by voice vote not to amend. The original **motion passed** by voice vote.

10. Louis Hall **moved** to vote delinquent taxes and delinquent sewer rents to have an 8% penalty charged against them and a 1% interest per month added from the due date. Sheri Young **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

11. Sue James **moved** to conduct the next annual municipal meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2020, per 17 VSA §2640. (Election of Town Officers by Australian ballot will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. See Article One.) Dave Larsen **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

12. Thomas Audet **moved** to accept the proposed 2019 Budget for the Town, such amount to be raised by taxes. Paula Barnes **seconded** the motion. It was mentioned that sand and salt cost more. This is out of our control. Thomas Audet mentioned that the PACIF Insurance was paid ahead of time. Normally it would not have been paid until January, but we would have had to borrow money to pay for it either way. Also, there is a correction in the Fire Department/Equipment Purchase in the amount of \$5,000. This cost was for the Town. Dan Redondo questioned about the Town's website. There are a lot of advertisements that cycle in and out all the time and it doesn't look very good right now. Where would that money come from to develop a new website? Paula Barnes stated that we need to upgrade and that will eliminate the advertisements. The Select Board has discussed this and it will be taken care of. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

13. Dave Larsen **moved** to accept the proposed 2019 Sewer Budget, such amount to be raised by user rents. Richard O. Buxton, Sr. **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

14. The following articles for funds for Social Services and other requests by petition were voted on separately. *[When requested, people knowledgeable about a specific service gave brief outlines of services provided to Orwell citizens through funds for the following Social Services.]*

- A. Sue James **moved** to appropriate \$500.00, for Hospice Volunteer Service to be used to provide volunteer care to terminally ill patients in the Town of Orwell. Virginia Wilson **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- B. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate \$1,000.00, for Age Well (formerly CVAA) to be used for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation and toll-free Senior Help Line. Bill Goddard **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

- C. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate **\$900.00**, for Elderly Services Inc. to be used for Project Independence Elderly Day Care Center scholarship fund, to provide care for frail elders and respite for their families. Sue James **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- D. Sue James **moved** to appropriate **\$1,250.00**, for Parent/Child Center to be used to support classes, transportation, infant care, and family education services used by town residents. Virginia Wilson **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- E. Theresa Nolan **moved** to appropriate **\$1,500.00**, for Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc. to be used to help pay part of the cost of providing mental health care to town residents. Sue James **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- F. Wayne Hall **moved** to appropriate **\$1,750.00**, for H.O.P.E., Inc to be used to help defray a part of cost of providing housing, fuel, food, clothing and other essential items. Sue James **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- G. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate **\$1,250.00**, for Addison County Women Safe, Inc. to be used to support their mission to: work toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change. Paul Stone **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- H. Sue James **moved** to appropriate **\$1,650.00**, for Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. that provides home health care services to infants, children and adults referred by their physicians, regardless of their ability to pay. Sheri Young **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
Bryan Young is on the Board and stated that this was used by 52 individuals in Orwell last year with a total of 721 visits. Bryan Young thanked the voters of the Town of Orwell for their support.
- I. Carla Ochs **moved** to appropriate **\$320.00**, for RSVP Retired & Senior Volunteer Program to support RSVP in 2019. Sue James **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- J. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate **\$775.00**, for Addison County Transit Resources to maintain and improve transportation services for elders, persons with disabilities and the general public. Paul Stone **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote. Virginia Wilson stated that anyone with Medicare/Medicaid can call for a ride to a doctor appointment.
- K. Theresa Nolan **moved** to appropriate **\$350.00**, for Addison County Readers, funds for the purpose of improving literacy skills for children under 5 years of age. Bryan Young **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- L. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate **\$370.00**, for Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc. (formerly ACCD) Community Justice Projects, to provide restorative justice projects for offenders who have potential to learn from their mistakes and avoid incarceration and a criminal record. Joe Tapauskas **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.
- M. Virginia Wilson **moved** to appropriate **\$1,000.00** for the John W. Graham Emergency Shelter, funds to be used to provide shelter, food and services to homeless family and individuals. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed** by voice vote.

- N. Lisa Thal moved to appropriate \$500.00 for the Addison County's Humane Society, Inc. d/b/a Homeward Bound, to support their mission to educate the community and improve the lives of animals, alleviate their suffering and elevate their status in society. We safeguard, rescue, shelter, heal, adopt and advocate for animals in need, while inspiring community action and compassion on their behalf. Theresa Nolan seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Information of these Social Services can be found on the Orwell website. For free health and human services information & referral services Dial 2-1-1.

12. To transact any other business which may legally come before the Town.

Senator Ruth Hardy, Senator Chris Bray and Representative Terry Norris spoke at the beginning of the meeting.

Senator Ruth Hardy introduced herself and stated she has been on the Agriculture and Education Committee for only eight weeks. She serves on the Agriculture Committee and the Education Committee. She went over a number of bills being worked on. A bill to update the State hemp program to make it compliant with the new 2018 Farm Bill. The Rural Economic Development Bill that will address a number of farm and forestry products. Agricultural practices in wetlands. The Farm to School Bill, which helps schools improve lunch and meal programs and have more local products in their meals. Education Committee which would require all schools to test their water for lead and would provide funding for this and would help to pay for the remediation if they need to change out their taps or their pipes. This has passed in the Senate and is now in the House. Looked at a bill to make sure our State standards and policies to make sure that our schools are inclusive to people in all social and ethnic groups. A Bill to help with higher education tuition so more students in Vermont can attend Vermont colleges. Passed a \$15.00 minimum wage bill to be ramped up over the next 5 years. This doesn't affect all workers. A bill passed to tax and regulate the growing and selling of recreational cannabis.

Senator Chris Bray introduced himself and stated this is his 7th year in the Senate. He stated he sponsored twenty bills and Chairs the Natural Resources and Energy Committees. Working on enhancing the Clean Water Act and making sure taxpayer dollars are well spent. Making sure we are maintaining funding. Ditches are being dug deeper and being stone lined to handle heavier rain storms which seems to be the new norm. One real concern is what we are taking in when we drink water in the State of Vermont. Senator Hardy referred to a bill about testing for lead in schools and there is also a PFOA test. PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) is a cancer causing agent. This was discovered in wells where people have had to hook up to municipal water systems. This is a forever chemical. You can't get rid of it. This also has to be managed in surface waters. You don't want to eat, drink or swim in it. On the Energy Committee weatherization, when you weatherize it reduces cost and less waste of fuels and increases health with ventilation and insulation. Also will discuss electric vehicles which is cheaper to operate and own over the long term. Will need to eliminate obstacles like lack of charging stations that are holding people back from going in this direction.

Questions were asked how to tax electric vehicles because they will not be paying a gas tax. Consider monitoring kilowatts through charging plugs. Paul Stone stated we voted no 3 times and last night was a sad day because it was the last School Meeting for Orwell. Paul Stone believes we should now move forward positively and not fight it anymore and would ask the legislature not to pass anymore bills that give us a choice and then take it away. Chris Bray stated he voted for Act 46 and thought there would be more options and stated this was a flawed bill and are looking into changing law so votes like that won't occur again. Miles Tudhope cannot state more strongly that he disagrees with Mr. Stone. We should fight this to the end. Mr. Bray should be ashamed of himself for voting for this act. This town voted three times not to merge. We have an excellent school with low cost. Montpelier says you're going to do it our way. Our School Board didn't even defend us. We should fight this all the way to the Supreme Court because this violates everything this country stands for. Ruth Hardy stated she worked on Act 46 in Middlebury area and know it is a difficult thing. Orwell has an amazing school. It is clear how passionate the citizens of Orwell are. The House passed a bill to authorize delays for some school districts, but not Orwell. There are 33 School Districts that are suing the State

related to Act 46. The Judge made a preliminary ruling against an injunction, meaning he did not allow a delay. Because it is one branch of government making the decision, what that means for a different branch of government the legislature tends to not get involved with influencing court cases. Ruth Hardy will wait to hear from more senior members on what direction they think we should go. She stated that the school is a valuable resource in Orwell and we should not give up easily. The Town of Orwell Select Board responded to a letter received agreeing for an increase of a three cent tax on gasoline and diesel per gallon with funds to be used for road and bridge infrastructure. We need more money other than going to our local residence to pay for everything. Chris Bray stated the amount of gas tax coming in is declining. Less money flowing into Transportation for support. Russell Young asked for an opportunity of Act 46 to include us in any delay. Don't make the lesson be that we have to sue somebody to be heard. Ruth Hardy said they are planning to take testimony this week. If a few people would like to come and testify she would be willing to meet with you and stated she is also struggling on what the right thing to do is. Mark Young stated not to blame the judiciary branch, you have the right to say "not withstanding" anytime. This merger was not completely understood. We are the most remote school and are afraid Orwell will be closed. To get State building education aid, which they will need to build a high school and maybe a junior high, they are going to give preference to districts for aid for construction if they consolidate some more. You have the opportunity to stop this as well. Ruth Hardy stated the court case hasn't actually been decided yet, still waiting to see what direction the judge ends up going in. There is a back log of school construction because the state hasn't supported school construction aid for at least 10 years. A lot of schools that have a back log of maintenance needed. Pat Ullom said "Have we asked what is right for the children?" Ruth Hardy agreed we should keep our eyes on the prize. Louis Hall thinks it is time to clean house with the Department of Education. We voted no several times for Act 46 and what infuriates me is they make a co-mingle vote where we have no say. Fred Dunham asked if the Abortion Bill coming out of Montpelier makes sense? Steve Buxton stated he has a problem with Senator Bray and Senator Hardy voting for the Abortion Bill. Permitting America to murder children that are unborn is beyond me. There have been 60,000,000 abortions since *Rowe v. Wade*. Sheri Young commented on what frustrates her is they come up with rules and laws in Montpelier that are never followed through. Think about every time you are willing to sign off on something how it impacts rural Orwellians. Ruth Hardy said I hear you and will try to make laws that make sense. Chris Bray stated the 180 Legislatures are your friends and neighbors and we are never going to know everything. Need to engage with the public and visa versa. The citizens thanked Senator Ruth Hardy and Senator Chris Bray.

Representative Terry Norris joined us today and thanked for the opportunity to represent us at the State House. Representative Norris serves on the Agriculture and Forestry Committee. Rep Norris gave an update on what they have been working on. Passed H79 Farm to School program and H275 Farm to Plate program. These benefit small farms as well as our students, processors, retail and chefs. We continue to work on a pollinator protection bill, banning sale of products containing neonicotinoid pesticides, a housekeeping bill from the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, a bill requiring proper labeling of non-milk products and an on-farm slaughter law at the request of the group "Rural Vermont". We continue to watch the update on Act 250 and what affect that will have on agriculture. In Forestry, we are working with the Tax Department to clarify sales and use tax on forestry equipment. Worked on the hemp program at the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets, as well as the growers and processors. Most of the hemp is grown for use in CBD products. This session had a record number of bills introduced with only a few being passed so far. H3 Ethnic and Society Equity Studies Standards for public schools, H47 Taxation of electronic cigarettes, H39 extension of school district mergers, H57 preserving the right to abortion (nay) and H97 Budget Adjustment. As we move forward, I will always keep in mind as I vote and consider how each bill will affect rural Vermont. The citizens thanked Representative Norris for joining us today.

The Moderator acknowledged Robert Arnebold who is stepping down after 20 years as Emergency Manager for the Town of Orwell.

Jim Dougherty retired after 22 years on Rescue Squad & Fire Department.

Mark Young for 33 years servicing the community as Town Treasurer. Mark thanked all and stated he was proud to have served as Town Treasurer. His Great Grandfather and Father were both Treasurers for 40 years. He did not make it 40 years but he is leaving us in the care of the next family member, his son, Bryan Young.

Walker James stepping down as a Select Board member with over 50 years serving the community in a number of capacities. Walker James received a standing ovation. Walker made a brief speech and thanked his fellow Select Board members for all their support.

Louis Hall also wanted to acknowledge Peter Young for 14 years of winding the Town Clock. The Select Board has it in their budget to repair the clock.

Jean Audet asked if we could combine all of these Articles and give them through United Way. Thomas Audet stated this will get looked into. These come in individually with a petition and are all handled separately.

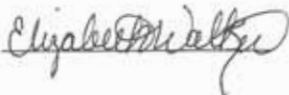
Andrea Hornbeck asked if we could get the big ticket items on Australian Ballot. It was stated that we would lose the whole idea of discussion at Town Meeting. Andrea Hornbeck thinks more people should have the chance to vote.

Wayne Hall thanked the Fire Department and the Rescue Squad for all they do.

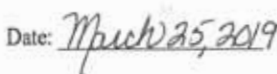
Sue James asked if we could try to change the meeting times to night or weekends this might give more people an opportunity to attend.

Sue James **moved** to adjourn the meeting at 1:08 PM. Theresa Nolan **seconded** the motion. The motion **passed** by voice vote.

Attest:



Date:



Orwell Select Board

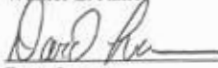


Thomas Audet



Paula Barnes

Walker E. James



Dave Larsen


Roland Simmons, Chair

The Sixty Plus Club continues to thrive in Orwell. New members have joined in our monthly pot-luck lunches at the Congregational Church.

Each month members serve as hosts for the day. They set up the room with decorative center pieces and plan for a door prize. It is their responsibility to help to clean up after lunch. They arrange for a program or entertainment for after lunch as well.

The Orwell Bank continues to furnish a meat dish for each lunch and members bring a dish to share with their own place settings. Anyone 55 or older is welcome to attend. Once a year the group goes out for lunch. This year we went to Southside in Rutland. Aaron Audet entertained us with his music selections.

This is a fun day getting together with community members and catching up. Please feel free to join us.

Loretta Lee, Treasurer



Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility 2019 Report

The Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility has enjoyed another year of permit compliance and excellent treatment of the wastewater entering the facility. The Facility continues to improve in compliance and operations. The Town continues to strive for the efficient and reliable treatment of incoming waste.

A new discharge permit was issued to the wastewater treatment facility by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation and became effective July 1, 2019. This permit requires rigorous monitoring of all aspects of the treatment process including monitoring of operations, biological and chemical demands, nutrient levels and other aspects of the treatment process to insure a quality effluent.

The residual biosolids, a byproduct of the treatment process, were removed from the primary lagoon this year and removal of the residual biosolids will be removed from the secondary polishing lagoon in the near future.

Final engineering has been completed for an upgrade to the aeration portion of the facility and construction is slated for completion in 2020. This aeration upgrade will allow for a more efficient and effective treatment of the incoming wastewater.

The users of the Town of Orwell Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Town in general are fortunate to have a Select Board that supports the efforts to provide a well-maintained Town and Facility. Their commitment to provide a Facility that the Town can be proud of is commendable.

As always the staff of the Wastewater Treatment Facility welcomes visitors and will be more than happy to conduct a tour of the Facility to any interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Tracey



TOWN OF ORWELL - SEWER REPORT				
CATEGORY		2019	2019	2020
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
INCOME				
Balance Forward		4,978.60	4,978.60	3,924.04
Borrowings			105,777.37	251,741.00
Delinquent Collector Penalty			151.20	
Delinquent Rents Collected			1,890.00	
Interest - Warrant			75.66	
Lagoon Reserve Fund			123,199.88	
User Rents		31,000.00	30,690.00	48,600.00
Dumping Fees		2045.40	1,938.70	14,425.96
TOTAL INCOME		38,024.00	268,701.41	318,691.00
EXPENSES				
Bank Fees		24.00	24.00	24.00
Insurance				
	Property & Liability	0.00	0.00	397.00
	Workers Compensation	0.00	0.00	1,589.00
Laboratory		800.00	1,233.00	800.00
Lagoon Reserve		0.00		0.00
Loan Payment	Principal			17,750.00
	Interest			6,750.00
Payroll		20,400.00	20,350.00	21,550.00
Payroll expenses			72.00	0.00
	FICA & MCARE	1,600.00	1,562.28	1,600.00
Postage		150.00	156.00	150.00
Project Costs			225,278.82	251,741.00
Repairs	Building	500.00	70.00	500.00
	Equipment	1,000.00	3,985.88	2,000.00
	Other		250.00	250.00
Lagoon Sludge Testing		0.00		0.00
Mileage		250.00	625.24	500.00
Misc Expense			1,173.30	40.00
Sundries		0.00	200.00	200.00
Supplies	Chlorine	800.00	478.50	800.00
	Equipment	500.00	1,995.95	1,500.00
	Lab Chemicals	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Other	700.00	65.95	100.00
Training & License		200.00	210.98	250.00
Utilities, Electricity		11,000.00	7,005.74	10,000.00
	Propane	0	39.73	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		38,024.00	264,777.37	318,691.00
Balance December 31, 2019			3,924.04	
TOTALS		38,024.00	268,701.41	318,691.00

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Report 2019

Tax Year	Balance 12/31/18	Additions	Payments	Balance 12/31/19
2018	\$ 990.00	\$ -	\$ 630.00	\$ 360.00
2019	-	2,700.00	1,260.00	1,440.00
Totals	990.00	2,700.00	1,890.00	1,800.00

TOWN OF ORWELL- DELINQUENT SEWER COLLECTOR
STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2019

Balance December 31, 2018	\$ -	
Delinquent Rents Collected	1,890.00	
Warrant Interest Collected	75.66	
Penalties Collected	151.20	
Savings Interest Earned	0.74	
Payments to Town		2,116.86
Balance December 31, 2019		0.74
	<hr/>	
	\$ 2,117.60	\$ 2,117.60

Town of Orwell
Delinquent Sewer Rents- December 31, 2019

2018	US Bank and Trust	360.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 360.00
2019	Bickham, William	180.00	
	Danahy, John & Julie	270.00	
	Minyati, Maurice & Solange	360.00	
	Murdock, Gary & Theresa	90.00	
	Nichols, Sheila	90.00	
	Sherman, Estate of Leona	90.00	
	US Bank and Trust	360.00	
	Subtotal		\$ 1,440.00
	Total		\$ 1,800.00

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Collector

ORWELL FREE LIBRARY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
2019

Opening Balances January 1, 2019

Checking	\$ 2,829.46
Savings	5,058.03

Total Opening Balances

\$ 7,887.49

Receipts

Town Appropriation	3,500.00
Trustee of Public Funds	17.61
Interest on Savings	7.18
Grants	650.00
Donations - General & Memorial	2,204.50
Fundraising:	
Book/Plant/Bake Sales	8,122.34
O'hAnleigh Irish concert	1,047.21
Adopt An Author	111.05
Bottle Returns	945.19
Artists' Donations	92.00
Copier Fees	290.17
Misc.	102.00
Purchase Returns	9.82

Total Receipts

\$ 17,099.07

Total Opening Balances and Receipts

\$ 24,986.56

Disbursements

Books/eBooks/DVDs/CDs	\$ 5,223.91
Magazines	263.11
Post Office	304.14
Backpack Project	83.68
General Supplies	610.60
Book Supplies	474.23
Program Supplies	1,500.79
Office Supplies	106.24
Computer Supplies	475.43
Electronics/Technology	545.29
Furniture/Equipment	967.57
Programs	1,259.88
Librarian/Asst. Librarian Bonus'	850.00
Library Memberships	1,549.11
Advertising	190.01
Professional Development	696.11

Total Disbursements

\$ 15,100.10

Closing Balances December 31, 2019

Checking	\$ 2,698.91
Savings	7,187.55

Total Closing Balances

\$ 9,886.46

Total Disbursements and Closing Balances

\$ 24,986.56

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Buxton, Treasurer



ORWELL FREE LIBRARY

2019 Town Report

In 2016 a committee of library stakeholders created a strategic plan to guide the near future actions of trustees and staff. The 2018 renovation was our first major goal realized from that plan. Statistics from the past three years demonstrate another area of growth, directed by the Strategic Plan. We increased the number of programs and events, specifically those created to provide community interaction and learning opportunities. By focusing our efforts in this way, we more than doubled the number of event participants from 2015 to now.

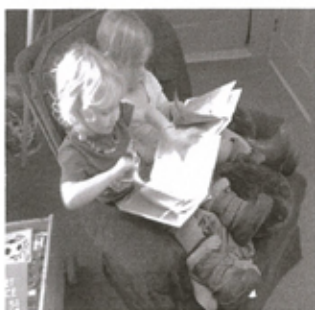
2019 events of note include a lecture by author and historian Howard Coffin, where 63 attendees fit in the space opened up during the renovation, a Stuffed Animal Petting Zoo and Story Time hosted by the library Teen Advisory Group, and an afterschool Sign Language Club taught by Cindy Werner. These well received programs attempt to reach a wide array of locals and provide learning and community contact. We continue to look for new ideas and opportunities to reach a greater portion of Orwell individuals.

Collaborative programs are especially fruitful. Our favorites from 2019 include local art exhibits, with assistance from Orwell Artists, a community book discussion and lunch, with help from Vermont Humanities

Council and Orwell Village Middle School, bi-weekly Outreach Story Time, where we work with local childcare providers, and the previously mentioned Stuffed Animal Petting Zoo, put on by our Teen Advisory Group. The Keynote Speakers Series, in collaboration with the Platt Memorial Library in Shoreham, is a perfect example of a collaboration that increases program reach and allows us to sustainably provide more lectures within our current means.



A full house during the lecture
by Howard Coffin



Yearly growth in usage and offerings comes at a cost. Over two-thirds of the operating budget is raised through fundraisers. This year we recognize the hard work and dedication of Karen DeMoy who organizes and oversees the annual plant sale that consistently raises around half of the annual budget. 2020 will be her 13th year. We also thank the community members who show up and support the endeavor and the small army of OFL Trustees and Friends who provide energy, baked goods, and plants.

Increased usage also makes for an increase in work for library staff. We depend on our trained volunteers who come weekly and help us complete daily tasks like reshelving and processing new and old items. Those consistent helpers include: Loretta Lee, Ginny Wilson, Olivia Fortin, and Duncan Charron. Cindy Werner, Jane Reidel, Kathy Buxton, Meggan Young, and Regina Charron assist with programs and provide librarian support at a moment's notice. Thank you to these individuals, and many others for their dedication.

Library resources include:

- free & open wifi connection
- computer, device, & internet help
- 6 computers & an iPad for public use
- projector and Kindle Paperwhite to lend
- meeting place for local groups
- public gallery for artist to display their work
- delivery of books to local daycares & shut-ins
- access to Microsoft Suite & Adobe Photoshop
- access to an online library of information databases
- puzzles for all skill levels to lend
- access to online classes and continuing education through Universal Class
- online eBooks & audiobooks at ListenUpVermont.org
- free passes to Shelburne Farms, Vermont's History Museum, State Parks/Historic Sites, and a discounted pass to ECHO
- place to donate used, in good condition, books and media
- new and emerging technologies to experience, like virtual reality glasses



Sign Language Club

OFL extends recognition to the Wright Memorial Library Board for their efforts towards the upkeep of our building and grounds.

We thank the First National Bank of Orwell for the generous donation supporting our Keynote Speakers Series. Jill and George Helmer and Lalia and Hamilton Helmer deserve recognition again this year for covering the cost of the installation of two heat pumps, donated by Green Mountain Power. We look forward to a more comfortable library space in 2020 with this update.

Orwell Free Library is ever grateful to local taxpayers for their continued support.

2019 Circulation and Usage totals:

1697 adult books, 2942 juvenile books, 556 media items, &
1189 eBooks and online audiobooks circulated
4754 total library building visits, 1447 program attendees
71 events for children and families, 17 for teens, 21 for adults, 30 outreach stops
284 volunteer hours
876 items added to the collection

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Hunter

Founded in 1890 GFWC's (General Federation of Women's Clubs) roots can be traced back to 1868 when Jane Cunningham Croly, a professional journalist, attempted to attend a dinner at an all-male press club honoring British novelist Charles Dickens. Croly was denied entrance based upon her gender and in response formed a woman's club- Sorosis. Twenty-one years later at a convention in New York City 63 clubs officially formed the General Federation of Women's Club by ratifying the GFWC Constitution.

Women have continued to gather together all around the globe to work for the betterment of themselves and their communities. The Orwell Fortnightly Club meets every fortnight beginning in September and ending in May skipping January and February. We meet in members homes or at the Orwell Free Library or school. Each meeting begins with the flag salute, a business meeting and program ending with a social time.

Some of our activities include bake sales, marching in the Orwell parade, helping at the 8th grade bingo night and the Snowflake sale at school. We made contributions to FHUHS Project Graduation, Warmth, Hugh O'Brien Youth Scholarship, Barbara Jean Barker Scholarship, Green-Up Day, GFWC Headquarters to help with renovation, Kind News subscription for the elementary school, the local Memory Tree, Operation Smile (sewing 23 gowns for children and 7 fleece blankets to be given when the children go for surgery). We also sponsored 2 music scholarships at the elementary school. At Christmas time we chose 9 seniors to receive a bag of gifts from members. A monetary contribution was also given to a local family in need.

Our volunteer activities amounted to over 750 hours in 2019, We are proud to be part of the GFWC. New members are always welcome. Come and visit one of our meetings and check us out.

Loretta Lee

President



**Ethan M. & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library
Annual Report 2019**

Balance as of Dec. 31, 2018	\$6,563.40	
		\$6,563.40
Receipts:		
Town appropriations	\$12,000.00	
Trustee of public funds	\$404.41	
Insurance payment	\$6,782.34	
Donation	\$5,000.00	
Total receipts		\$24,186.75
Total opening balance plus receipts		\$30,750.15
Disbursements:		
Cleaning & supplies	\$1,160.00	
Telephone/Internet	\$1,070.16	
Sewer	\$360.00	
Insurance	\$3,818.00	
Gadue's Dry Cleaning	\$6,782.34	
Green Mountain Power	\$1,464.21	
Repair & Maintenance	\$862.29	
Fuel Oil	\$2,524.76	
Misc.	\$669.00	
Total disbursements		\$18,710.96
Ending balance as of Dec. 31, 2019	\$12,039.19	
Total Disbursements and Closing Balance		\$30,750.15

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Martin
Treasurer

NOTE: Ending balance includes \$ 5000.00 donation by the Helmer family for the installation of heat pumps donated by Green Mountain Power.

Ethan M & Eliza T. Wright Memorial Library

Annual Report 2019

In 2019 the board faced a few challenges in the museum area with clean up from a construction project that left dust and residue covering the textiles and antiques.

After numerous discussions with all parties involved, the Wright Memorial Board assumed the responsibility for securing service companies to clean the museum, textiles and materials covered by the affected construction dust. The board filed insurance claims with the Cooperative Insurance Company and Nationwide Insurance Company. The sum of \$9,027.84 was received and covered all clean-up expenses.

In the fall Gadue Dry Cleaners from South Burlington removed the textiles and transported them to the main headquarters for cleaning and restoration. The museum rooms and antiques were cleaned by Service Master Representative, Julie Ellis from Orwell. Work related to this project was completed by November 1, 2019.

2019 completed projects:

- *Front porch steps painted
- *Additional heat was provided to the children's room
- *Replaced faulty porch lights
- *Repairs to the front doors.

2020 Proposed Projects List:

- *Replace roof (special article in town warning)
- *Install three heat pumps donated by GMP. Installation costs to be covered by a generous donation from the Helmer Family.
- *Insulate basement water pipes to prevent freezing.
- *Repair cellar door
- *Replace front door frames; restore front doors as needed

The board has reviewed and revised the Wright Memorial Library By-Laws. By updating the by-laws, the opportunity to serve on the board is less restrictive. If you are interested, speak to one of the board members listed below.

The board wishes to offer their profound thanks to George and Jill Helmer, and to Hamilton Helmer, for their continuing financial support of the library. Many of the improvements to the library over the years would not have happened without their generous support.

The board also wishes to thank Francis Bradish for his pro bono electrical services. His continued support of the library is appreciated and does not go un-noticed.

Respectfully submitted,

Wright Memorial Board:

Robert Martin	Ann Nichols	Laura Coro
Sharon Fletcher	Rita Swogger	

Orwell Fire Department 2019 Annual Report

Balances, Dec. 31, 2018

Checking	\$12,072.13	
Savings	\$19,242.36	
CD	\$5,286.83	
Sub-Total		\$36,601.32

Income

To Checking		
Fund Drive	\$6,195.00	
Roger Young's Memorial Training Fund	\$100.00	
To Savings		
Milk Truck Accident	\$2,275.00	
Mother's Day Breakfast	\$736.00	
Burn Piles	\$100.00	
Filling Pools/Cisterns	\$475.00	
Private Donations	\$431.00	
In Memory of (Parry, D.)	\$805.00	
Interest	\$22.23	
CD Interest	\$76.40	
Sub-Total		\$11,215.63
Beginning Balance + Income		\$47,816.95

Expenses

From Checking		
Supplies	\$401.44	
Halloween Event Supplies	\$97.26	
Roger Young's Memorial Training-Seminars	\$900.00	
ACFA Meetings	\$141.00	
Background Checks – New Applicants	\$142.86	
Gifts/Awards	\$1121.97	
Entertainment	\$911.06	
Fundraising	\$874.02	
Donations/Flowers	\$210.00	
Donation to Injured Whiting FD Member/Family	\$100.00	
Donation-In Memory of W. Bonner (Past FD Mbr)	\$50.00	
Mother's Day Breakfast Supplies	\$296.12	
P.O. Box Rental	\$92.00	
From Savings	\$0.00	
Sub-Total		\$5,337.73

Balances, Dec. 31, 2019		
Checking	\$13,029.40	
Savings	\$24,086.59	
CD	\$5,363.23	
Sub-Total		\$42,479.22
Ending Balances + Expenses		\$47,816.95

Respectfully Submitted
 Susan M. Hauck

Champlain Large Animal Technical Rescue
 c/o Orwell Volunteer Fire Department

January 1, 2019 Opening Balance	343.25
Interest	.35
December 31, 2019 Closing Balance	343.60

Respectfully Submitted
 Susan M. Hauck





ORWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 2019 REPORT

Line Officers

Chief Dan Gosselin
1st Assistant Chief Mark Gebo
2nd Assistant Chief Wesley Orr
Captain Paul Metcalf

Administrative Officers

Chairman David Carpenter
Treasurer Susan Hauck

Training Officers Susan Hauck
& Rebecca Heibler

Trustees

Allen Alger Sr
Louis Hall
Robert Arnebold

MEMBERS

Allen M. Alger	Daryl Gebo	Jim Booska	
Robert Laduc	Peter Ochs	Ben Alger	Sandy Korda
Amanda Kolva	Jay Wist	Sean Seguin	Jeremiah Nolan
Seth Gero	Daric Brown	Jessica Lee Kroc	Alexander Kansky

2019 Calls

Structure Fire - 6	Chimney Fires-1	Motor Vehicle Accidents-8
Mutual Aid-7	Downed Trees/Power Lines-2	Medical Assist-4
Vehicle Fire -3	Grass/Brush Fire-1	Fuel Smell/CO ₂ -2
Fire Alarm Activation -4	Water in Basement - 3	

The Orwell Volunteer Fire Department responded to a wide range of calls in 2019 and expects 2020 to be no different. The Department's members put in numerous hours of training to ensure that the crews are prepared for the next call. Along with regular replacement of personal protective equipment (such as turnout gear, air packs, etc.) Membership numbers are holding steady and we were pleased to welcome three new members to the Department in 2019. Thank You to all the taxpayers for approving our new firetruck on Town Meeting Day. We are excited for its delivery at the end of April 2020. We continue the search for quality, used and reasonably priced apparatus to replace our aging and tired fleet. The Fire department used their building maintenance fund to upgrade the bathroom to be handicap accessible.



2019 Orwell Town Report

Here in Orwell, people rely on the services of the Fire Department, Rescue Squad & Town Road Crew when an accident, illness, fire or severe weather related emergency occurs, but few are aware of a fourth agency that also responds: **Orwell Emergency Management**. We often work 'behind the scenes', at the behest and direction of the Orwell Selectmen, and in concert with the above mentioned local agencies to assist in the coordination of manpower, supplies & equipment - as well as the opening of a community shelter (at the Orwell Fire Station & Village School), should the need arise. As part of the Addison County Local Emergency Planning Committee, we also work with neighboring mutual aid communities and communicate directly with Vermont Emergency Management prior to, during and after any emergent events that affect Orwell.

As part of our ongoing emergency preplanning efforts, we offer Orwell residents the **Family Emergency Preparedness Workbook**; FREE copies are available at the Orwell Town Clerk's Office and the Orwell Free Library. This is a great preplanning guide! You can even view it online at: http://vem.vermont.gov/community_preparedness.

We regularly post helpful information regarding severe weather conditions, as well as year round safety tips on our **Facebook** page; www.facebook.com/OrwellEmergencyManagement. When the weather is bad in our area, the postings provide great references for local residents (as well as worried out-of-town friends & family), as it's a handy status board of snow and rain fall, road closures, power outages and local shelter opening & closing.

Most Humbly Submitted,

Sandy Korda,
Emergency Management Director

Robert Arnebold,
Deputy Director; Logistics Officer



Use your smartphone's code reader, and scan this QR code to take you to our Facebook page!

The

ORWELL



FIRST RESPONSE SQUAD

604 Main Street or P.O. Box 124
Orwell Vermont 05760

Annual Report 2019

Opening balances, 1 January 2019

Checking	\$ 1,777.17
Savings	\$ 42,691.41
Total Opening Balances	\$ 44,468.58

Receipts

Donations	\$ 175.00
Memorial Donations	\$ 705.00
Fund Drive 2019	\$ 820.00
Interest Income	\$ 41.65
Total Receipts	\$ 1,741.65

TOTAL RECEIPTS AND OPENING BALANCES

\$ 46,210.23

Expenses

Licenses	\$ 100.00
Meals and entertainment	\$ 505.32
Memorial Donations	\$ 427.43
Squad Reimbursements	\$ 76.00
Supplies	\$ 126.31
Training	\$ 350.00
Uniforms	\$ 115.00
Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	\$ 1,800.00
Total Expenses	\$ 3,500.06

Closing Balances 31 December, 2019

Checking	\$ 2,332.11
Savings	\$ 40,378.06
Total	\$ 42,710.17

\$ (0.00)

TOTAL EXPENSES and CLOSING BALANCES

\$ 46,210.23

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Binshadler, Treasurer

THE ORWELL FIRST RESPONSE SQUAD

604 Main Street or PO Box 124

Orwell, Vermont 05760

Annual Report To The Citizens of Orwell

The members of Orwell First Response again want to thank the community for the continued support you give in our mission to care for our neighbors in town and the surrounding area. Our goal is high quality care delivered at your time of need, in a timely and professional manner. Each year brings new challenges with manpower needs, continuing education hours and the challenges of being a volunteer in a system that requires many hours of dedication. This year we investigated the purchase of a ZOLL cardiac monitor to quickly assess cardiac emergencies and treat the condition. We are still in the investigation process and are very lucky to have the money for this purchase in hand. We are all in a constant state of training as we are medically licensed through the State of Vermont Department of Health and our training is dictated through the National Registry of EMS. Orwell First Response is always looking for members, please contact any of us for more information.

The following is our 2020 Roster:

Sandy Korda - EMT

Mary Miller - EMT

Kori Mitchell - EMT

Stephen Binshadler - EMR

Peter Ochs - AEMT

Joe Miller - EMR

Alexsandra Martin - Trainee

Jessica Krol - Trainee

Alexander Kansky - Trainee

Paul Metcalf

Louis Hall - Lifetime Member



Mountain View Cemetery Association
Annual Report 2019

Beginning Balance- December 31, 2018

Checking	\$5,280.14	
Savings	\$22,923.95	
Total Opening Balances		<u>\$28,204.09</u>

Receipts:

Town of Orwell	\$7,750.00	
Trustee of Public Funds	\$1,291.20	
Lot Sales	\$200.00	
Perpetual Care	\$200.00	
Markers	\$200.00	
Misc	\$150.00	
Interest Savings	\$15.23	
Interest CD	\$149.48	
Total Receipts		<u>\$9,955.91</u>

Total Opening Balance & Receipts \$38,160.00

Disbursements:

Mowing- Mountain View	\$4,400.00	
Mowing- Other Cemeteries	\$3,000.00	
Tree Removal - Mt. View	\$1,890.00	
Road Work- Mt. View	\$630.00	
Vault Door- Mt. View	\$1,540.00	
Flags	\$267.88	
Donations	\$200.00	
Misc	\$254.95	
Deed Recording	\$15.00	
Markers	\$70.00	
Trustee of Public Funds	\$200.00	
Total Disbursements		<u>\$12,467.83</u>

Closing Balances December 31, 2019

Savings	\$10,189.18	
Checking	\$353.51	
CD	\$15,149.48	
Total Closing Balances		<u>\$25,692.17</u>

Total Closing Balances & Disbursements \$38,160.00

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Jackson, Treasurer

Mountain View Cemetery Association

Project Report

Mountain View Cemetery Association would like to thank the following for donating their time and labor: Jordan Harris and Northlands Job Corps for removal of trees and brush at the Village Cemetery, Mike and Jean Audet for stone repairs, and Phil King for restoring the Mountain View Cemetery sign.

Other projects completed at Mountain View Cemetery in 2019 included refurbishing the vault doors, trimming cedar hedges, and upgrading the roads.

Respectfully submitted,

Mountain View Cemetery Association





ORWELL PARADE COMMITTEE

Financial Report 2019

Opening Balance - January 2019

Savings	2,110.42
Checking	1.82

Total: \$2,112.24

Receipts

Interest on Savings	.66
Town of Orwell (funds 2020)	2100.00

Total: 2,100.66

Total Beginning Balance & Receipts 4,212.90

Expenses

Catamount Pipe Band	1200.00
Cairo Shrine Units	500.00 (*one outstanding)
FHUHS Band	125.00
Reimbursement supplies	78.24
Postage	44.00

Total 1947.24

Closing Balance - December 31, 2019

Savings	11.08
Checking	2254.58

Total \$2,265.66

Ending Balance \$4,212.90

*** Check #529 not cashed yet**



ORWELL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

12-31-19

The 46th Orwell Memorial Day Parade was held on Sunday, May 26th. Once again, we are honored to acknowledge the sacrifices made by our Veterans for our country. The Grand Marshall of the parade was Mark Young who has dedicated many years of service to the town of Orwell.

The committee would like to thank the following for their help.

Miles Tudhope - Master of Ceremonies

Ray Leonard - Placing flags

Orwell Road Crew - Removal of flags

Dundon's - Sanitary services

Orwell Fire and First Response - Safety services

Seguin Services - Trash removal

Jack Branchaud - Morning setup

Gabrielle and Riley Ochs - Morning setup and parade lineup help

Pastor Bill Welch and Pastor David Anderson - Ceremony help

Mike Moore - Pledge of Allegiance

Cub Scout Pack 108

Boy Scout Troop 116

Girl Scout Troop 58187

Thank you to ALL who participated in the parade!

The 2020 Parade will be held on Sunday, May 24th. We have asked for an increase in the funding for the 2021 parade as costs increase. If you would like to help continue this popular tradition, please consider being a volunteer. Contact a member of the Committee.

Submitted by the Parade Committee;

Sue James, George Macedo, Sharon Macedo,
Ray Leonard, Angela Allard, Andrea Ochs

ORWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Annual Report 2019

In 2019, the museum had to close its doors to the public. Thanks to the Wright Memorial Board, our textile collection (military uniforms and ladies dresses) got a professional cleaning, and those garments came home to rooms free of dust. Barring any unforeseen obstacles, the museum will open to the public in the spring of 2020.

It was discovered in the past year that the Orwell Historical Society (OHS) was never registered with the state. That omission has been rectified and the OHS is now a registered non-profit entity in the State of Vermont. Written By-Laws and Articles of Association were brought to light and are now in the process of being reviewed and revised. The OHS is also researching and working on becoming a 501(c)3 entity. That tax-exempt status is needed to apply for grants and for fundraising. The museum has outgrown the upstairs at the library and is beginning the process of finding a new home.

Public recognition of the incredible work done over the years by Sandy Korda, museum curator extraordinaire, is long, long overdue. Sandy literally spent thousands of hours and hundreds of dollars of his own money in his passionate efforts to collect, preserve and display the history of our small community. His artistic vision and attention to detail created exhibits that immersed the viewer in the "story" being presented bringing back memories for many and giving others a feeling for how things used to be. His efforts were acknowledged several times by the Vermont State Historical Society: an *Award of Excellence* for *"Soldiers in the Attic, Celebrating 200 Years of Orwell Patriots"*; an *Award of Excellence* for *"Early 20th Century Vermont Country Kitchen"*; an *Award of Excellence* for *"One-Room Schoolhouse"* and an *Award of Merit* for *"Orwell Women in Fashion; On the Eve of the Civil War"*. Sandy would be the first to tell you he didn't do it alone, and, in fact, others DID help him but it was Sandy's passion and vision that brought treasures of Orwell's past into the present for us and future generations to enjoy. Thank You, Sandy, for a job superbly done.

The museum has never asked the town for financial support nor has it ever been offered. The museum has operated on a shoestring budget thanks to the donations of visitors who were impressed and thankful for the attention and detail that went into each and every display and the many donations of bottles and cans left in the redemption shed located on the west side of the library.

Membership is growing and once the museum reopens in the spring all are encouraged to visit and see for themselves what a wonderful museum the town of Orwell has. Days and hours of operation will be announced in the spring.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Buxton, President

Orwell Youth Recreation League

The Orwell Youth Recreation League hosted 83 baseball and softball players on seven teams for the 2019 season.

Funds allocated to the program by the Town of Orwell were used to purchase first aid kits, batting helmets and cages, catchers gear, umpire equipment as well as T's for our tiniest participants. We hope to attract more volunteers to grow our programming in the future. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sheri Young.

Thank You for your support of the Orwell Youth Recreation League during the 2019 Season!

Orwell Youth Recreation League Expense Report 2019

Opening Balance (March, 2019)

Beginning Balance: \$0
Total Receipts: \$3,831.60
Total Expenses: \$2,419.87
Funds Remaining: \$1,411.73

Receipts:

Receipts	Amount(\$)
Town of Orwell Funds	\$1,000
Participation Fees	\$1160
Sponsorship	\$1100
Orwell T-Ball	\$14.9
Orwell Little League	\$556.7
Total:	\$3,831.60



Expenses:

Expenses	Amount(\$)
Uniforms	\$2,054.01
Benson Reimbursement(-)	\$420
Total:	\$1,634.01

Supplies	\$490.96
Benson Reimbursement(-)	\$215.38
Total:	\$275.58

Rutland Softball League	\$50
Benson Reimbursement(-)	\$25
Total:	\$25

Insurance	\$395.28
Umpire Fees	\$90
Total Expenses:	\$2,419.87



TOWN OF ORWELL
VERMONT

ORWELL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2019

The School meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator, Michael R. Audet followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for friends no longer with us.

Cindy Watrous stated there is a sign-up sheet for Green-Up Day and an information sheet about Swap Day. They are also willing to collect towels, blankets and sheets for Homeward Bound.

1. Richard O. Buxton, Jr. **moved** to accept the report of the Town School District Officers. Wesley Orr **seconded** the motion. The Article **passed** by voice vote.

2. Other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

Russell Young **moved** that, in the event the consolidation of the school district ordered by the State Board of Education in November 2018 but not approved by the voters of the school districts is delayed or prevented by i) act of the General Assembly, ii) injunction, delay or other relief granted by a court of competent jurisdiction, or iii) by an agreement between the school district or other parties and legal representatives of the State of Vermont, the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$2,224,701, which is the amount necessary to operate the school in the ensuing fiscal year in accordance with the last budget approved by the school district, plus \$54,261 of miscellaneous spending. It is estimated that this amount, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,463.72 per equalized pupil, which is 2.5% higher than spending for the current year. Mark Young **seconded** the motion.

Glen Cousineau stated that a letter came out today from the Secretary of State's Office the following: pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2660(d) states: "The article entitles 'other business' shall not be used for taking binding municipal action, and the moderator shall so rule." And 17 V.S.A. § 2642 covers warning and notice contents as follows (in part): "(a)(1) The warning shall include the date and time of the election, location of the polling place or places, and the nature of the meeting or election. (a)(2) It shall, by separate articles, specifically indicate the business to be transacted, to include the offices and questions to be voted upon." The above statutes apply to school district meeting. The law is clear that school district budgets cannot be voted on (under "other business" or otherwise) if the question to be voted upon has not been warned. Michael Audet, Moderator, stated the Superintendent received this about 5:00 pm today and ruled it out of order.

Russell Young stated he has other business and read: 16 V.S.A. § 428 "At each annual town school district meeting, the electorate shall vote such sums of money as it deems necessary for the support of schools," and feels we should comply with this, not legal advice granted by someone not designated by us as legal counsel. People can and often do disagree about the merit of certain statutes and think we should let us vote and discuss this matter. Michael Audet, Moderator again ruled it out of order and stated that we have this ruling from a Judge. Russell

Young asked what Judge was this? Glen Cousineau corrected the Moderator and stated it was from Sean M. Toohey, Esq. from Lynn, Lynn, Blackman & Manitsky, P.C. from Burlington. Again the Moderator stated he is ruling it out of order under the direction of the School Board Association and this lawyer. Russell Young said he cannot understand why, considering there is no other business on this agenda, that we can't have polite conversation regarding this matter and take what action the voters see as important to the transaction of business on this matter. Paul Stone stated he is not sure he understands the point. We are already merged in SVUUSD and we can't vote two budgets. Michael Audet stated that if you were to vote tonight it would be non binding. Mark Young then asked what budget would we operate under if the current cases before the judge approved a stay of one year? Peter Stone answered by saying that a ruling came down earlier this week from Franklin County Superior Court Judge Robert Mello against the request for a preliminary injunction to stop the forced mergers of Vermont school districts under Act 46. Michael Audet stated this is tearing the community apart. If need be we will have to wait a little while longer and warn another meeting. Russell Young stated that if Act 46 were delayed, we will have no budget after July 1st. Gerry Audet said even if we were to vote on Russell Young's proposal, it would be non binding. Michael Audet stated this would have to be a warned meeting to deal with this situation. Thomas Audet suggested we continue on this path and not confuse things with another direction, we may not have to. The Moderator again ruled it out of order.

Carla Ochs asked about three of the six towns that had nobody running for School director. They were Hubbardton, Benson and Fair Haven. What's the provision for a write-in? Glen Cousineau said they would need 30 write-in votes otherwise the Select board would need to appoint a representative. Carla Ochs also asked for an explanation on the current years surplus. It was stated there was a February 25th SVUUSD meeting where that was discussed. The surplus fund is going to be used for the land purchases that are on the ballot. Carla Ochs stated that really didn't answer her question.

Gerry Audet asked if the Town Hall can be discussed and what is going to become of it. Was the cost to bring it back or tear it down. Peter Stone said the article was to tear it down. We are looking at replacing it. Slate Valley will be owning it. The \$20,000 was to design a new building to replace the Town Hall. Arlene Batschelet stated this is a community building. Will we still have access to the new building, which is used for Town Meeting and other events, and if so who would control the cost of renting for personal events? Peter Stone said all will still have full access, it's in the bylaws. The cost is now \$50.00 for rental and the OVS secretary will need to be contacted for booking the Town Hall. Sharon Fletcher asked if the Town could take the Town Hall back. Peter Stone replied, yes, it is an option. Robert Bogdan inquired what the status of the plan for the Town Hall is. Peter Stone answered that it is in the hands of Slate Valley. Discussion is about a new gym and cafeteria to replace the Town Hall with more space. This is not a done deal yet. The voters have to approve. Bill Goddard mentioned that there isn't much space. Peter Stone said they plan to build closer to the school and the Town Hall will remain standing while this is being done and then tear the Town Hall building down. Laura Coro asked if we become a Pre-K through 6 instead of a Pre-K through 8 will we need a new or bigger building? Gerry Audet asked if it was a state law that we need so many square feet per pupil on the playground, because this new building means less space. The answer was no. Pat Ullom asked if it was a done deal that the building comes down and why don't we just do the work that needs to be done. Peter Stone stated that it is not a done deal and it needs more than routine

work. There should be a bathroom on every level, it's not handicap accessible and the electrical and heating are bad. Naylor and Breen stated it was a complete gut job. Peter Stone said the Town has to decide if they want to buy it. Bob Bogdan asked if there is talk about moving the 7th and 8th grade students to Fair Haven. Peter Stone said that this is being looked at, then Orwell Village School will be Pre-K through 6. Robin Edson asked if anyone other than Naylor and Breen were asked. Yes, the conclusion was the same. Robin Edson asked if any of the Town's people were asked to donate their time to fix the building. It's not that simple stated Peter Stone. The rough estimate was \$1,000,000. Robin Edson asked if it was fair to pay taxes to support other schools. We pay taxes where ever our children go to school. The budget for all the schools in the Slate Valley district gets divided evenly between all six schools. Paul Stone stated that page 61 of the Orwell Town Report sets a positive tone for Orwell Village School. Wayne Hall asked if we have a quote for the new Town Hall. Peter Stone said we had an estimate then the SVUUSD merger came into play. The information has now been passed onto the Slate Valley Building and Grounds Committee. Is the ski program in jeopardy? Not this year according to Peter Stone. Dan Redondo asked if there was discussion of what would happen for the ski program for 2020. Peter Stone stated they haven't talked about it past this year. Bill Goddard stated that the ski program was initially started by the Booster Club, now it's in the budget. Can the Booster Club still raise money for Orwell use if the School Board doesn't want to support the ski program. Peter Stone answered "yes they can".

Thomas Audet moved the meeting to be adjourned at 7:40 pm until Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Wesley Orr seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

3. As per the Warning, Town School Directors were elected by Australian ballot, for terms expiring June 30, 2019, as follows:

Town School Director for 3 years – Alyson Audet Eastman / Dan Redondo
Town School Director for 2 years – Peter Stone

Attest: Elizabeth M. Walker Date 3/12/19

Approved: Michael R. Audet
Moderator, Michael R. Audet

BIRTHS

Child	Mother	Date of Birth	Place	Father
Lowell, Trent Michael	Briggs, Jessica Lyn	1/17/2019	Burlington	Lowell, Daryn Perry
Phillips, Gemma-Rose Lynn	Watkins, Fawn Ashley	3/2/2019	Rutland	Phillips, Adam Michael
Sullivan, Oliver Jacob Patrick	Stuhlmueeller, Allison Paige	3/15/2019	Rutland	Sullivan, Sean Michael
Quenneville, Lucas Joseph	Blackmer, Abigail Grace	3/6/2019	Middlebury	Quenneville Jr., Cale Pierre
Tallman, Jaelyn Alice	Tallman, Marissa Ann	4/2/2019	Rutland	
Smith, Forest Cedar	Smith, Jennifer Lynn	5/17/2019	Middlebury	Smith, Timothy Michael
Montello, Ada Jane	Montello, Emily Sue	7/10/2019	Burlington	Montello III, Nicholas Joseph
Hanson, Sawyer Owen	Hanson, Melissa Sue	7/23/2019	Middlebury	Hanson, Raymon William
Taube, Killian Edward	Coombs, Rebecca Marie	8/23/2019	Rutland	Taube, Edward Peter
Snyder, Knox Clarence Scott	Snyder, Miranda Rose	9/3/2019	Middlebury	Snyder, Clinton Calvin
Barnes, Tanner Axel	Young, Amber Lynn	9/24/2019	Rutland	Barnes, Robert William
Brigham, Evan Patrick	Brigham, Courtney Rebecca	11/19/2019	Middlebury	Brigham, Steven Patrick
Hunter, Talus Reed	Hunter, Kate Mauri	11/20/2019	Middlebury	Hunter, Clifford Kenneth
New, Damon Charles	Lowell, Destiny Rose	12/22/2019	Middlebury	New, Daniel J.

CIVIL MARRIAGE

		Date	Place	Residence
Milliken, Lydia Rand	Dundon, Mitchell Gael	6/15/2019	Goshen	Gilbert, Arizona
Ewing, Heather Pratt	Horton, James Paull	6/22/2019	Orwell	Orwell, Vermont
Orr, Rachel Elizabeth Evelyn	Reed, Brian Allen	11/8/2019	Orwell	Orwell, Vermont

DEATH

	Residence	Age	Date	Place
Bertrand, Raymond Paul	Orwell	74	1/2/2019	Orwell
Wiktoriski, Lee Weston	Benson	61	2/11/2019	Orwell
Beeman, Freida R	Orwell	96	2/19/2019	Orwell
Goetz, Dennis Lawrence	Orwell	30	2/27/2019	Orwell
Lilly, Carl D	Orwell	81	4/1/2019	Middlebury
Jackson, Robert John	Orwell	80	4/28/2019	Orwell
Schulte-James, Gloria	Orwell	83	5/3/2019	Orwell
Foreman, Robert William	Orwell	76	8/1/2019	Orwell
Carlyle, Robert "Duke"	Orwell	85	8/6/2019	Rutland
Eitelman, Richard Kimball	Orwell	90	8/24/2019	Orwell
Snyder, Kenneth	Orwell	94	10/15/2019	Middlebury
Clark, Victor Alan	Orwell	83	11/13/2019	Burlington
Orr, Jessie M	Orwell	83	11/19/2019	Middlebury
Myers, Jeremy Seth	Orwell	32	11/21/2019	Orwell

MEETING SCHEDULES

Town Boards and Organizations

Select Board: Second and fourth Monday of each month,

7:00 p.m. at the Town Office - 948-2221/948-2032

Planning Commission/DRB: Third Wednesday of each month,

7:00 p.m. at the Town Office - 948-2221

Slate Valley Unified Union School District/SVUUSD: For meeting dates and times please visit the website at slatevalleyunified.org or call 802-265-4905

Fortnightly Club: every other Tuesday from October to May [except January-February]

7:00 p.m., sites rotated among members - 948-2091

Independence Lodge #10: Second Tuesday of each month [except June, July and August],

7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall

Orwell Free Library: 948-2041 Hours: Tuesday-11:00am to 7:00p.m.

Wednesday-3:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Thursday-3:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.

Friday-11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Saturday-9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Orwell Historical Society: meets 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00p.m. at the

Orwell Free Library President Kathy Buxton-948-2049

Sixty Plus Club: Third Wednesday of each month, 12 noon at the Congregational Church

TOWN CLERK

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday - 9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

948-2032

TOWN GARAGE

948-2433

FIRE HOUSE

948-2392

CHURCHES

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ORWELL - every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. David Anderson, Pastor 948-2900

ABUNDANT LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH-Sunday Service at 10:30a.m.

Bill Welch, Pastor 948-2130

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - St. Paul's in Orwell - Sunday at 10:45 a.m.

Father Eric I. Ugochukwu 802-265-3135

Town of Orwell
P.O. Box 32
Orwell, VT 05760

