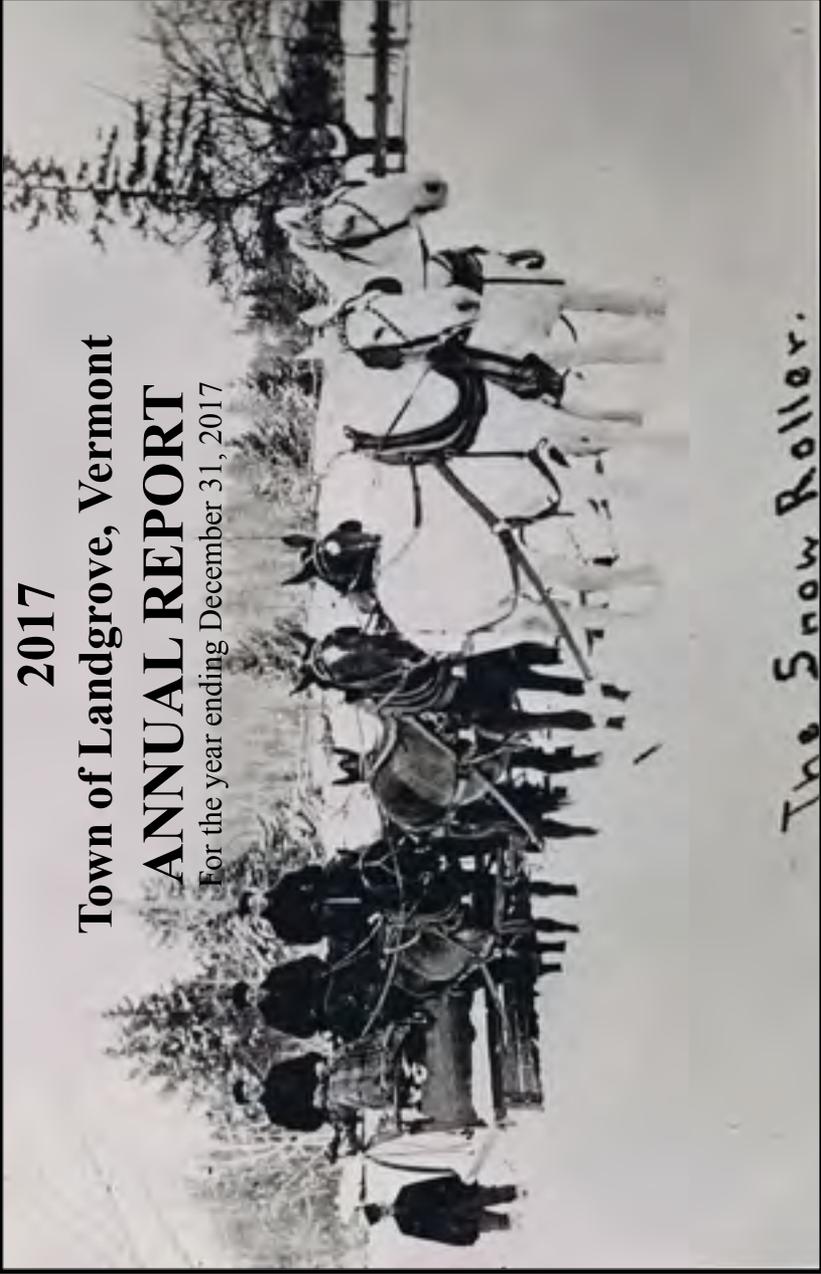


2017

Town of Landgrove, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 2017



TOWN MEETING • Monday, March 5th, 2018 • 6:00pm • Landgrove Town Hall

Useful Information

Landgrove Town Offices

Phone/fax:	(802) 824-3716
Email:	townoflandgrove@gmail.com
Mailing address:	88 Landgrove Road • Landgrove, VT 05148
Hours:	Thursdays, 9am - 1pm, or by appointment
Website:	landgrove.vermont.gov
Town Clerk:	Chrystal Cleary (802) 824-5394 (home)
Town Treasurer:	Andrea Ogden (802) 824-6318 (home)
Road Commissioner:	Steve Hall (802) 824-6622 (home)
Fire Warden:	Karl T. Pfister (802) 824-4663 (office)
Assistant Fire Warden:	Jeremiah Evarts (802) 683-0518 (for burn permits)
Select Board Chair:	John Ogden (802) 366-0317 (cell)

Community Resources

L'derry Landfill & Recycle:	http://www.londonderryvt.org/recycletransfer/
Phone:	(802) 824-5506
Open:	Closed Wednesdays, call for specific hours.
Londonderry Post Office:	(802) 824-6571
Window hours:	Mon - Fri, 8:30 - 12 & 2 - 4:30pm Sat 8:30 - 11:30am
Flood Brook School:	(802) 824-6811
Burr & Burton Academy:	(802) 362-1775
Green Mtn Power:	(800) 451-2877 (report outages)
Mtn Valley Medical Clinic:	(802) 824-6901
Hours:	Mon - Fri, 8:00 - 5:00pm
On-call phone:	24 hours
VT State Police:	(802) 722-4600 (non-emergency)
Senators:	Brian Campion, bcampion@leg.state.vt.us Dick Sears, rsears@leg.state.vt.us
House of Representatives:	Linda Joy Sullivan, lsullivan@leg.state.vt.us

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 911

2017
ANNUAL REPORT
TOWN OF LANDGROVE
VERMONT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

AUDITORS

ELIZABETH DEE • MARY ENGLISH • ANNE MCCLARAN

Town Meeting Information

Monday, March 5th, 2018 at 6pm

Landgrove Town Hall

Potluck Supper to follow.

Table of Contents

Vital Statistics	4
Landgrove Checklist	5
Warning 2018 Annual Town Meeting	6
officer	6
Town Officers Elected.....	8
Town Officers Appointed by Select Board	9
Minutes of Town Meeting 2017.....	10
Auditors' Report.....	13
Town Balance Sheet.....	14
Cash Account Summary.....	15
Cash Account Reconciliation Detail	15
Statement of Taxes Raised	17
Statement of Delinquent Taxes Collected	18
Reserve Funds.....	19
General Fund Budget.....	22
Roads Budget.....	25
Select Board/Road Commissioner Report	27
Cemetery Commission.....	29
Clerk's Report.....	30
Landgrove Community Club	32
Conservation Commission.....	33
Map of Town Lands	34
Landgrove Historical Society	35
Listers' Report.....	36
School Director's Report	38
Treasurer's Report.....	40
Trustees of Public Funds.....	41
Zoning & Planning.....	42
First Annual Taconic and Green Town Report Notice	45
Londonderry Solid Waste Group Report.....	46

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Vital Statistics Town of Landgrove, County of Bennington

Population	111*	
Voters	114	
Area	5,586 acres	
2017 Tax Rate	Homestead	\$1.6791
	Non-resident	\$1.8089
Total Property Valuation	\$124,603,100	
Number of Parcels:	203	

MARRIAGES

~ none ~

BIRTHS

~ none ~

DEATHS

July 12 Mary A. Gouger of Saratoga Springs, NY and formerly Landgrove

Dec. 1 Mike Capen of Londonderry, VT and forever of Landgrove

* Source: 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Margin of error: +/-43.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Landgrove Checklist

ADAMS, LEIGH	HARRIS, CLAUDIA	NUTTING, HARRY
ADAMS, RICHARD	HARRIS, SUSAN	OGDEN, ANDREA
AMEDEN, JAMES	HARRIS, THOMAS	OGDEN, JOHN
AMEDEN, JOSEPHINE	HASSETT, JERALD	OGDEN, KATHARINE
BATOGOWSKI, SHAWNA	HASSETT, VIVIAN	OGDEN, MARY
BIGELOW, JONATHAN	HEINEMANN, NANCIE	OGDEN, SAMUEL
BIGELOW, MAY	HENSON, COLLEEN	OGDEN, SHEILA
BLACK, SANDY	HENSON, CRAIG	PETERSON, ALICE
CAMINITI, CHIARA	HOWARD, CHARLES	PFISTER, KAREN
CHALMERS, CAMERON	HOWARD, KERRY	PFISTER, KARL T.
CHECCHIA, MAUREEN	JEFFERY, MARIAN	POMEROY, JESSE
CHECCHIA, THOMAS	JEFFERY, MICHAEL	POMEROY, MARION
CLEARY, CHRYSYAL	JOHNSON, FRANK	SABOL, BROOKE
CLEARY, JEFFERSON	JOHNSON, SARAH	SABOL, ROBERT
CLEARY, RAYE	JORDAN, JEAN	SABOL, TARA
COLE, DALEN	JORDAN, ROBERT	SCHUBERT, KARL
COLE, JULIETTA	KEANE, JOHN	SNYDER, D. JAY
COLLINS, SUSAN	KEANE, MARY	SNYDER, KATHY
DEE, ELIZABETH	KLINE, CHRISTOPHER	STONE, BEVERLY
DIBBLE, JOCELYN	LAPRADE, VIRGINIA	SWEETMAN, CHARLES
DIBBLE, REBECCA	LENNON, KALI	SWEETMAN, MARION
DIBBLE, THOMAS	LICATA, BRIANNA	THOMSON, KAREN
DOMMENGÉ, KEVIN	LICATA, MARY	THOMSON, PETER
DUFFY, ROBERT	LUX, HARRY	TOLBERT, DIANNE
ECKHARDT, JOHN	MALLARD, EMILY	TOLBERT, JOHN
ECKHARDT, KIMBERLY	MALLARD, JOHN	TOMKINSON, VICTORIA
ECKHARDT, LYNN	MALLARD, JULIE	USHER, BARBARA
EMERSON, NATHALIE	MCCLARAN, ANNE	VAN EYCK, EDMUND
ENGLISH, JOHN	MCCLARAN, TIM	VAN EYCK, JESSICA
ENGLISH, LEILA	MCNAIR, DANA	WAITE, ROBERT
ENGLISH, MARY	MCNAIR, DYLAN	WAITE, SARAH
EVARTS, JEREMIAH	MCNAIR, MALCOLM	WALSH, JUSTIN
EVARTS, KARA	MOLE, MICHAEL	WILEY, JOHN
EVARTS, PIPPIN	MORFIT, CHRISTINE	YOUNG, HELEN
FOSTER, KATE	MORFIT, MICHAEL	
FOSTER, RYAN	MOSTOLLER, JESSE	
GRAYSON, CARINTHIA	MOSTOLLER, PALA	
GRAYSON, PRISCILLA	MUNAT, CLARE	
HADDEN, JOHN	NICHOLS, CLARENCE	
HALL, STEVEN	NICHOLS, PAULINE	

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

TOWN OF LANDGROVE Warning 2018 Annual Town Meeting

Legal voters of the town of Landgrove, County of Bennington, State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Hall at 88 Landgrove Road on Monday, March 5th 2018 at 6:00 pm to act on the following Articles:

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

ARTICLE 2: To elect the following officers as required by law:

officer	term
Town Clerk	1 year
Town Treasurer	1 year
Selectboard Member	3 years
Auditor	3 years
Lister	3 years
Cemetery Commissioner	5 years
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 year
Grand Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Constable	1 year
Trustee of Public Funds	3 years
MTN Towns RED Director	until June 2018

ARTICLE 3: To hear the reports of Town Officers and take proper action on the Auditors' report.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will authorize its Selectboard to apply any surplus or unanticipated funds toward the proposed budget.

ARTICLE 5: To see whether the Town will appropriate an additional \$13,000 to the Town Hall Maintenance Fund for the purchase of new windows for the Meeting Room.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

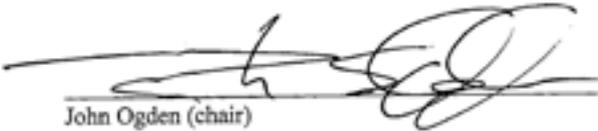
ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to pay its taxes on real and personal property on or before October 1, 2018.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise the budgeted monies necessary to pay Town expenses and obligations for the 2018 year.

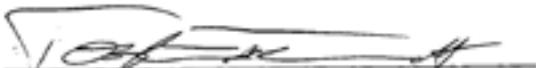
ARTICLE 8: To transact any other non-binding business proper to come before said meeting, not acted upon in the preceding articles.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will agree to meet in 2019 on the first Monday before the first Tuesday in March (March 4th) at 6pm for the annual Town Meeting.

Dated January 25, 2018
Selectboard of Landgrove, Vermont



John Ogden (chair)



Greg Eckhardt



Tom Dibble

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Town Officers Elected

POSITION	NAMES	TERM EXPIRES
Moderator (1 year term)	Claudia Harris	2018
Town Clerk (1 year term)	Chrystal Cleary	2018
Town Treasurer (1 year term)	Andrea Ogden	2018
Select Board (3 year term)	Greg Eckhardt	2018
	John Ogden	2019
	Tom Dibble	2020
Board of Auditors (3 year term)	Anne McClaran	2018
	Liza Dee	2019
	Mary English	2020
Board of Listers (3 year term)	Jerald Hassett	2018
	Chuck Sweetman	2019
	Kim Eckhardt	2020
Board of Cemetery Commissioners (5 year term)	Jay Snyder	2018
	Lynn Eckhardt	2019
	John English	2020
	Clarence Nichols	2021
	May Bigelow	2022
Collector of Delinquent Taxes (1 year term)	Andrea Ogden	2018
Grand Juror (1 year term)	Claudia Harris	2018
Town Agent (1 year term)	John Hadden	2018
Constable (1 year term)	John Wiley	2018
Trustees of Public Fund (3 year term)	Sarah Waite	2018
	Dick Adams	2019
	Andrea Ogden	2017
MTN TOWN RED Director (3 year term)	Jeff Cleary	2018

Justices of the Peace

Claudia Harris, Anne McClaran, Christine Morfit, Clare Munat,
and Charles Sweetman

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Town Officers Appointed by Select Board

POSITION	NAME	3 YEAR TERM EXPIRES
Zoning Administrator	Hal Wilkins	2019
Planning Commission (includes ZA)	Chuck Sweetman (acting chair)	2018
	Michael Mole	2018
	Harry Lux	2019
	vacant	2019
	Jerald Hassett	2020
	vacant	2020
Zoning Board of Adjustment (Includes all members of the Planning Comm. except the Zoning Administrator)	vacant (chair)	
BCRC Member	Jerald Hassett	
Health Officer	Cameron Chalmers	2019
Conservation Commission	Priscilla Grayson	2018
	Anne McClaran	2019
		One Year Term
Town Service Officer	Chair, Select Board	2018
Emergency Management	John Ogden	2018
Forest Fire Warden	Karl T. Pfister	2018
Asst. Fire Warden	Jeremiah Evarts	2018
Road Commissioner	Steve Hall	2018
Assistant Town Treasurer	Sarah Waite	2018
911 Coordinator	Hal Wilkins	2018

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Minutes of Town Meeting 2017

Call to order at 6:08 pm

Lynn Eckhardt led the town in the pledge of allegiance to open Town Meeting, and all were welcomed by Selectboard Chair John Ogden who read the first article.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Claudia Harris was nominated by Bobby Waite, seconded by Jon Bigelow and approved by the voters. Claudia went over rules, and asked non-voters to introduce themselves. Kim Eckhardt from the Collaborative spoke about their work preventing substance abuse in our teenagers and distributed their annual survey. Representative Linda Sullivan spoke about her work in Montpelier and encourages us all to contact her, attend her community meetings at Hapgood Store the first Sunday of each month 10:30 - 11:30am.

ARTICLE 2: Lynn moved the article, Bobby Waite 2nd To elect the following officers as required by law:

officer	term	candidate	move	second
Town Clerk	1 year	Chrystal Cleary	May Bigelow	Virginia LaPrade
Town Treasurer	1 year	Andrea Ogden	Sally Waite	Victoria Duffy
Selectboard Member	3 years	Tom Dibble	Sally Waite	Kim Eckhardt
Auditor	3 years	Mary English	Andrea Ogden	Sally Waite
Lister	3 years	Kim Eckhardt	Chuck Sweetman	Harry Lux
Cemetery Commissioner	5 years	May Bigelow	Clarence Nichols	Lynn Eckhardt
Cemetery Commissioner	1 year	Jay Snyder	Lynn Eckhardt	Clarence Nichols
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 year	Andrea Ogden	Anne McClaran	Bobby Waite
Grand Juror	1 year	Claudia Harris	Sally Waite	Harry Lux
Town Agent	1 year	John Hadden	Virginia LaPrade	Victoria Duffy

ARTICLE 3: To hear the reports of Town Officers and take proper action on the Auditors' report. Moved by Bobby Waite, Seconded by Michael Mole.

John Ogden spoke about the Selectboard report, thanked Treasurer Andrea Ogden and Town Clerk Chrystal Cleary for their hard work and answered some questions about the roads and repair grants. Greg praised Road Commissioner Steve Hall for cracking down on trucks driving on the roads when soft by post-

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

ing limits and granting permission for passage of heavy vehicles when frozen or dry. Mr. Ogden asks all residents to make sure your fuel is topped off before thaw makes the roads too soft. Andrea Ogden reminds residents about tax filing and homestead filings, and that homestead filings are often missed when taxpayers file for an extension. School Director Jeff Cleary spoke about the Act 46 School Merger vote tomorrow. Motion to pass was made by Kim Eckhardt, 2nd by Jon Bigelow. Article 3 passes.

ARTICLE 4: To see whether the Town will appropriate \$15,000 to the Landgrove New Cemetery Stonewall Project. Moved: Victoria Duffy, Seconded: Anne McClaran. Clarence Nichols thanked all for donations that allowed the wall to be completed thus far and said that this final amount was the last bit to complete the wall. Harry Lux notes that last year's request was supposed to complete the wall and wonders why it didn't actually complete the wall. Clarence said the estimate was inconsistent (quoted in feet vs paid in hours) and there was additional tree work done and stump extraction. It is the Cemetery Commission's belief that this is indeed the final-FINAL request for town funds for the wall. Motion to approve: Sally Waite, 2nd by Harry Lux. Article 4 passes.

Dr. Roger Fox and Elsie Smith are allowed to speak. Mountain Valley Medical Clinic board believes it is not necessary to ask for funding from the towns this year as it usually does to offset the burden of uncompensated care- for Landgrove this is \$3000. Due to the new partnership as part of Springfield Hospital MVMC receives Federal Funds to fund the clinic for uncompensated care. The funds may be still be given and donated to the equipment wish list.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will authorize its Selectboard to apply any surplus or unanticipated funds toward the proposed budget. Moved: Harry Lux Seconded: Kim Eckhardt. No discussion. Motion to Approve: Victoria Duffy, 2nd Kim Eckhardt. Article 5 passes.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to pay its taxes on real and personal property on or before October 1, 2017. Moved: Sally Waite, Harry Lux, no discussion. Motion to Approve: May Bigelow, 2nd Michael Morfit. Article 6 Passes.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise the budgeted monies necessary to pay Town expenses and obligations for the 2017 year. Moved: Kim Eckhardt, 2nd Anne McClaran. Andrea Ogden noted that West River Sports has requested no money this year, since middle school soccer has gone back into the School budget at Flood Brook School. May Bigelow asks if we might give more to Mental Health and Visiting Nurses- Andrea answers that those amounts are the specific requests made by those entities. The \$3000 item allocated for MVMC was discussed as a possible donation to the clinic wish list, a motion is

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

not needed to send this community appropriation, to remove the \$3000 would require an amendment to the budget.

Motion to Approve: Bobby Waite, Chuck Sweetman. Article 7 passes.

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other non-binding business proper to come before said meeting, not acted upon in the preceding articles. Virginia LaPrade asked if there has any progress on Town Garage. John and Greg described the parcels looked at and their various inadequacies. Suggestions are welcome. Moved: Jon Bigelow, Kim Eckhardt. There is no discussion. Motion to Approve: Chuck Sweetman, 2nd Michael Morfit. Article 8 passes.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will agree to meet in 2018 on the first Monday before the first Tuesday in March (March 5th) at 6pm for the annual Town Meeting. Moved: Michael Mole, Michael Morfit. No discussion. Motion to Approve: Chuck Sweetman, 2nd by Kim Eckhardt. Article 9 Passes. Sally Waite dislikes the evening Town Meeting but is outvoted.

Motion to Adjourn- Bobby Waite, 2nd Lynn Eckhardt. The 2017 Landgrove Town Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted by

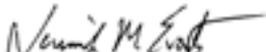


Chrystal Cleary, Town Clerk



Moderator Claudia Harris

Selectboard:


Jeremiah Everts
Greg Eckhardt
John Ogden

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

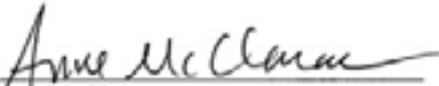
Auditors' Report

We, the undersigned auditors of the Town of Landgrove, have reviewed all the books and accounts of the Town of Landgrove on this 18th day of January, 2018.

We wish to report that all the entries have been properly made and all accounts are in balance.


Elizabeth Bee


Mary English


Anne McClaran

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Town Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2017

	2017	2016	\$ Change
Cemetery Checking - People's Bank	4,610.23	3,984.38	625.85
Trustee of Public Funds			
Cemetery Endowment Fund	53,576.89	46,422.25	7,154.64
Conservation Fund	23,377.02	20,508.31	2,868.71
Town Accounts - Stifel Nicolaus			
Operating Account	981,223.81	924,773.43	56,450.38
Reserve Funds*			
Cemetery Wall Fund	(14,838.41)	(6,912.27)	(7,926.14)
Dog License Account	3,025.08	3,100.57	(75.49)
Equipment Fund	105,000.00	80,000.00	25,000.00
Listers Fund - Ed	-	1,281.11	(1,281.11)
Listers Fund - Reappraisal	13,446.19	10,008.08	3,438.11
Records Restoration	1,427.98	7,176.98	(5,749.00)
Town Hall Maint Fund	14,676.57	12,176.57	2,500.00
Total Reserve Funds	122,737.41	106,831.04	15,906.37
Total Town Accounts	1,103,961.22	1,031,604.47	72,356.75
TOTAL ASSETS	1,185,525.36	1,102,519.41	83,005.95

*Further information on Reserve Funds can be found on page 19.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Cash Account Summary

	Income	Expense	Balance
Register Balance as of 1/1/2017			1,089,120.63
Net income ¹	70,592.71	56,808.70	
Change in Payroll Taxes Liability	1,744.04	1,617.62	
Bank Fees ²	20.00		
Register Balance as of 12/31/16			\$1,031,604.47
Uncleared Checks	57,709.96		
Uncleared Deposits		-	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2017			1,089,314.43

¹Reconciliation to net income shown in the following chart, Cash Account Reconciliation Detail.

²Tax Payer check bounced in 2015. Fee collected in 2017..

Cash Account Reconciliation Detail

	Income	Expense	Net Income
INCOME			
Copier	580.50		
Current Use	49,579.00		
Education Taxes	1,586,591.92		
General Fund	100,365.88		
Grants - State	9,369.00		
Green Mountain Forest	2,157.00		
Homestead Penalties	-		
Interest - Op & Reserve	693.72		
Interest Del Tax	2,977.41		
Licenses & Permits	775.70		
Recording Income	2,261.00		
Rental of Town Hall	701.00		
Roads Fund	160,547.93		
Tax Adjustments	(76,393.06)		
Taxes Delinquent	31,504.58		
Total Penalty Collected	2,654.89		
Total Reserve Fund Income	48,303.08		
Unbudgeted Misc Income	60.00		

Cash Account Reconciliation continued on following page.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Cash Account Reconciliation continued from previous page.

	Income	Expense	Net Income
VT State Highway Aid	34,300.65		
total Income	1,957,030.20		1,957,030.20
BUDGETED EXPENSE			
General Fund		146,093.78	
Roads Fund		241,645.26	1,569,291.16
<i>For more detail, see GF & Roads Budgets</i>			
OTHER EXPENSE			
Civil Union Licenses		30.00	
Education Payments			
MT Towns RED		345,529.00	
State of VT - 2nd FY15		531,956.26	
State of VT - 1st FY16		585,128.00	
total Education		1,462,613.26	
Community Emergency Generator		704.03	
Paid to Del Tax Collector		3,010.45	
total Other Expense		1,466,357.74	102,933.42
RESERVED FUND EXPENSE			
Cemetery Wall		24,987.22	
Dogs		305.49	
Listers Ed		-	
Reappraisal		-	
Records Restoration		7,048.00	
Town Hall Bldg		-	
total Reserved Fund Expense		32,340.71	70,592.71
NET INCOME*			70,592.71

*Referenced in Cash Account Summary on page 15

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Statement of Taxes Raised

Taxable Parcels 203
 Taxable Acres 4,703.09

	Education	Municipal	Total
Homestead	1.4272	0.2519	1.6791
Non-Resident	1.5570	0.2519	1.8089.
	Tax Rate	Grand List	Total Raised
Non-Residential Education	1.5570	756,557	1,177,959.28
Homestead Education	1.4272	297,189	424,148.16
Municipal - Roads	0.1550	1,053,746	163,331.11
Municipal - GF	0.0969	1,053,746	102,107.52
Late Homestead Penalty			140.25
		Total	1,867,686.32
		State Payments	79,953.26

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Statement of Delinquent Taxes Collected

Annual Report of Collector of Delinquent Taxes
December 31, 2017

	Received for			12/31/2017
Year	Collection	Collections	Abatements	Balance
2014	3,071.37	3,071.37	-	-
2015	30,202.85	19,780.74	-	10,422.11
2016	39,441.63	8,652.47	-	30,789.16
2017 (10/1/17)	13,788.22	3,219.63	-	10,568.59
	86,504.07	34,724.21	-	51,779.86
Total Collections	34,724.21			
Interest Received	2,977.41			
Remitted to Treasurer	37,701.62			
Del Tax Penalty Collected	2,654.89			
Paid to Del Tax Collector	3,010.45	Includes \$355.56 in penalty collected in 2016		

As of 12/31/2017, there are four properties with unpaid taxes from 2015, 2016 and/or 2017. During 2017, one property was sold at tax sale. One property owner sought tax abatement through the Board of Tax Abatement. The Board did not grant relief from taxes owed, but did feel, given the information presented, a reduction in the amount of penalty and interest owed was reasonable.

Information about which properties are delinquent is public information and is available at the town hall upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Ogden
Collector of Delinquent Taxes

Please note that taxes are due on or before October 1. Payments received or post-marked after that date are considered delinquent and are subject to a penalty fee of 8% and additional interest of 1% for the first three months or part thereof, and 1 ½% per month or part thereafter, as allowed under the laws of the State of Vermont.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Reserve Funds

The following funds are all held within the Town's Stifel-Nicolaus cash account. A summary of these funds can be found on the Town Balance Sheet on page 14.

Cemetery Wall Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			(6,912.27)
Donations - 18 donations	2,061.08		
Town Appropriation	15,000.00		
Ogden & Chalmers, LLC		24,987.22	
Balance 12/31/17			(14,838.41)

The negative balance of this fund indicates that the cemetery commission has borrowed money from the town's unallocated reserve fund. All the bills associated with the wall have been paid. The cemetery commissioners have indicated that there are transfers and pledges in process that will bring the fund down to zero by the end of 2018.

Dog License Account			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			3,100.57
Licenses Issued	230.00		
Cost of Tags		80.49	
State of VT		225.00	
Balance 12/31/17			3,025.08

Landgrove does not have an Animal Control officer and therefore, should the situation arise that we need to implement an animal control program, we would have to hire an outside service. The money in this account is held in reserve to cover costs should the need become real.

Dog licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office any time after January 1st each year. For a spayed or neutered dog, the charge is \$9 and for an unaltered dog, the charge is \$13. After April 1st, a late charge of \$2 and \$4 will apply for altered and unaltered dogs, respectively. New puppies or dogs acquired after April 1 will be charged half of the regular fee.

Please note that rabies inoculations must be current before a license can be issued.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Equipment Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			80,000.00
Taxes raised (as voted)	25,000.00		
Balance 12/31/17			105,000.00

This fund is used to minimize the impact to taxpayers of large equipment purchases used to maintain our roads. Taxpayers allocate money to the fund each year and the fund accumulates until it is necessary to draw funds down for a large purchase. The town truck was purchased in 2010 and is starting to show signs of wear. The grader was purchased in 2012.

Reappraisal Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			10,008.08
State of VT - per parcel	2,157.00		
Lister Ed Fund - closing and transfer	1,281.11		
Balance 12/31/17			13,446.19

The Reappraisal Fund is held in reserve to cover costs associated with a town-wide reappraisal, which last occurred in 2014.

Lister Education			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			1,281.11
Closing Fund - transfer to Reappraisal		1,281.11	
Balance 12/31/17			-

The State of Vermont has changed all lister trainings to be free and is no longer providing funding for Lister Education.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Records Restoration Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			7,176.98
Taxes raised (as voted)	1,000.00		
Recording Fees	299.00		
Grand List Binding		7,048.00	
Balance 12/31/17			1,427.98

The Records Restoration fund is money held in reserve for preserving the town's historical records, primarily our grand lists. Income sources are the town appropriation and the state-mandated \$1 per page recorded by the Town Clerk.

Town Hall Maintenance Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			12,176.57
Taxes raised (as voted)	2,500.00		
Balance 12/31/17			14,676.57

This fund is intended to grow gradually to help mitigate the costs of large projects associated with proper care of our town hall building. In 2017, care and painting of the cupola were determined to be a priority. That project is half finished and is estimated to be \$4,600.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

General Fund Budget

		2016	2017	2017	2018
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
1	Income				
2	Raised By Municipal Taxes	98,930.49	101,753.21	100,365.88	89,856.63
3	Copier	205.40	150.00	580.50	300.00
4	Current Use	42,356.00	40,000.00	49,579.00	45,000.00
5	Green Mountain Forest	2,109.00	2,000.00	2,157.00	2,100.00
6	Interest - Del Tax	2,287.82	2,000.00	3,987.28	2,000.00
7	Licenses & Permits	1,015.00	500.00	700.70	500.00
8	Prior Year Surplus/Deficit	-	-	-	(10,000.00)
9	Recording Income	2,979.00	2,000.00	2,261.00	2,000.00
10	Rental of Town Hall	1,101.00	700.00	701.00	700.00
11	Total Income	150,983.71	149,103.21	160,332.36	132,456.63
12					
13	Expense				
14	Community Appropriations				
15	The Collaborative	750.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
16	Flood Brook Athletic Assoc	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
17	Green Up	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
18	Londonderry Fire Dept.	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
19	Londonderry Rescue Squad	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
20	Mental Health Services	166.00	166.00	166.00	166.00
21	MVMC	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
22	Neighborhood Connections	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
23	So. Londonderry Library	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
24	Visiting Nurse Alliance	615.00	615.00	615.00	615.00
25	West River Sports	425.00	-	-	-
26	Total Community Appropriations	12,506.00	12,081.00	12,081.00	12,081.00
27					
28	Town Appropriations				
29	Cem Endowment Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
30	Cem Maintenance	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
31	Cem Wall	10,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	-

General Fund Budget continued on following page.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

		2016	2017	2017	2018
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
32	Reappraisal Fund	-	-	-	2,500.00
33	Records Restoration Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
34	Town Hall Maint. Fund	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
35	Total Town Appropriations	21,000.00	26,000.00	26,000.00	13,500.00
36					
37	Taxes And Assessments				
38	BCRC	1,913.00	1,961.00	1,961.00	2,000.00
39	County Tax	7,887.37	8,000.00	8,075.93	8,100.00
40	Londonderry Land Fill	16,264.32	18,895.21	18,895.21	15,208.63
41	Southwest N.H. Dispatch	8,816.00	8,816.00	8,816.00	8,966.00
42	VLCT	1,044.00	1,000.00	1,096.00	1,151.00
43	Total Taxes & Assessments	35,924.69	38,672.21	38,844.14	35,425.63
44					
45	Salaries And Stipends				
46	Asst. To The Clerk	-	500.00	-	500.00
47	Listers	3,250.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
48	Lister Administrator				2,000.00
49	Payroll Expenses	2,224.38	2,200.00	2,146.23	2,200.00
50	Road Commissioner	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
51	School Director	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
52	Select Board	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
53	Town Clerk	16,615.26	16,000.00	15,999.98	16,000.00
54	Treasurer	12,461.58	12,000.00	12,000.04	12,000.00
55	Zoning Administrator	1,930.50	4,000.00	4,178.50	4,200.00
56	Total Salaries & Stipends	41,481.72	42,700.00	42,324.75	44,900.00
57					
58	Town Hall & Office				
59	Heat	1,361.36	2,000.00	1,603.49	2,000.00
60	Maintenance	3,943.50	4,500.00	5,485.03	5,500.00
61	Office Supplies	3,017.14	3,000.00	2,132.73	3,000.00
62	Training	-	250.00	-	250.00
63	Utilities	1,748.77	1,800.00	1,756.03	1,800.00

General Fund Budget continued on following page.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

		2016	2017	2017	2018
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
64	Total Town Hall & Office	10,070.77	11,550.00	10,977.28	12,550.00
65					
66	Other Expenses				
67	Insurance	2,937.26	3,000.00	3,119.26	3,200.00
68	Legal And Accounting	16,377.16	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
69	Listers' Expenses	560.18	600.00	445.00	600.00
70	Notices & Warnings	910.20	1,500.00	1,134.00	1,500.00
71	Tax Mapping	3,300.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
72	Zoning & Planning	4,398.37	5,000.00	8,168.45	700.00
73					
74	Total Expense	149,466.35	149,103.21	146,093.88	132,456.63
75					
76	Surplus/Deficit	1,517.36	-	14,238.48	-

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Roads Budget

		2016	2017	2017	2018
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
	Income				
1	Raised by Municipal Taxes	159,114.46	162,800.00	160,547.93	191,880.00
2	State Highway Aid	34,318.74	34,000.00	34,300.65	34,000.00
3	Prior Year Surplus/Deficit	-	-	-	(35,000.00)
4	Grants	-	-	9,369.00	30,000.00
5	Highway Permits	50.00	50.00	75.00	70.00
6	Total Income	193,483.20	196,850.00	204,292.58	220,950.00
7					
8	Expense				
9	Equipment Fund	20,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
10	Gas & Oil	3,214.69	7,000.00	5,416.69	6,000.00
11	Licenses & Insurance	6,533.00	6,500.00	7,079.00	7,100.00
12	Machine Maint. & Repairs	20,343.76	10,000.00	17,389.37	15,000.00
13	Misc	3,111.98	1,000.00	538.25	1,000.00
14	Rent ¹	989.10	1,100.00	500.00	6,500.00
15	Electric			461.05	600.00
16	Training	-	250.00	-	250.00
17	Total General	54,192.53	50,850.00	56,384.36	61,450.00
18					
19	Summer Roads				
20	Chloride	2,400.00	3,000.00	2,250.00	2,500.00
21	Culverts	4,460.40	10,000.00	2,332.50	10,000.00
22	Ditches	16,168.19	15,000.00	5,357.50	15,000.00
23	Grading	4,625.00	10,000.00	6,522.52	10,000.00
24	Resurfacing (Gravel)	32,358.50	15,000.00	60,905.50	15,000.00
25	Roadside Mowing	5,950.00	6,000.00	5,950.00	6,000.00
26	Storm Repair	206.25	4,500.00	4,827.50	2,500.00
27	Total Summer	66,168.34	63,500.00	88,145.52	61,000.00

Roads Budget continued on following page.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

		2016	2017	2017	2018
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	PROPOSED
28	Winter Roads				
29	De-Icer	5,399.77	9,000.00	8,546.90	9,000.00
30	Plowing & Sanding				
31	Labor	23,015.00	25,000.00	33,111.50	37,000.00
32	Machine Rental	14,182.50	9,000.00	9,150.00	15,000.00
33	Sand	31,214.92	35,000.00	44,819.50	35,000.00
34	Storm Repair	850	4,500.00	1,487.50	2,500.00
35	Total Winter	74,662.19	82,500.00	97,115.40	98,500.00
36					
37	Total Expense	195,023.06	196,850.00	241,645.28	220,950.00
38					
39	Surplus/Deficit	(1,539.86)	-	(37,352.70)	-

¹ Rent at Pfister Pharm, LLC for truck plug-in and at Merrill's Excavating for storage container and use of garage.



Natalie Emerson and Chrystal Cleary showing off the new road signs!

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Select Board/Road Commissioner Report

As usual, the primary focus of the Landgrove Select Board in 2017 was the continued improvement of the overall quality of the town roads. Like last year, we are continuing to be proactive with ditching, resurfacing, and culvert replacement in the hopes that the more extreme weather that seems to have become the norm, and the ever-increasing traffic (particularly truck traffic) that has also become the norm will inflict less damage on our roads. We have completed the grant funded project of repaving the two paved bridge surfaces in town, and the other grant funded project of resurfacing some of the more high use areas of our dirt roads is continuing. We will continue to be applying for grants to help offset the costs of maintaining our roads, particularly as we will be dealing with more state mandated maintenance in the coming years. We also have been involved in an ongoing effort to work with Jay Merrill and Merrill's Excavating to make sure that the contracts that we have with them to perform the road work for us are current and up to date. The select board would like to thank Jay and Merrill's Excavating for all they do to maintain our roads.

There was one tax sale of property in Landgrove in 2017. We were able to sell the property and recoup all of the back taxes that were owed.

We have contracted to have Leurich Field mowed on a regular schedule over the summer. It is our hope that everyone – residents and non-residents alike – will start to use this piece of town land more. Any suggestions for further improvements to the land should be brought to the select board.

Hal Wilkins (Planning Commissioner) has completed a road sign inventory for us so that in the future it will be easier to keep on top of the task of recognizing when road signs are missing and getting them replaced in a timely fashion.

The discussions about finding a more suitable home for our town road equipment and winter sand pile continue, but without much headway. As always we would very much appreciate any help with this project that anyone has to offer.

The stonewall around the "New" Cemetery has been completed, and it looks beautiful. The Cemetery Commission is still trying to raise the last of the money to pay for the wall and donations would be greatly appreciated. It is a project that all of our residents can be quite proud of.

This year at Town Meeting we are asking the voters to consider whether we should replace the large, old windows in the old part of the town hall. The storm windows that we have been using are too large to function properly and they are starting to cause some moisture problems around the windows. New insulated glass windows, properly installed, should solve the moisture problems and help to make the main room of the schoolhouse more

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

comfortable, as well as be much more functional. The Landgrove Historical Society has very generously offered \$1000 toward the cost of this project. This is part of an ongoing effort to keep up on the maintenance of the town hall building.

The Select Board meets twice a month and the general public is always welcome. Please come to these meetings with any and all ideas, criticisms, compliments, or constructive advice.

Respectfully submitted,

John Ogden
Select Board Chair

FYI

Select Board meetings are held on the 2nd and the 4th Thursdays of each month at 6pm at the Town Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to observe the meeting. Please contact the clerk a week in advance of the meeting to get on the agenda. Also, please note that the minutes of the meeting are public record and are available at the Town Hall and on our website at landgrove.vermont.gov.



2016 Select Board members Greg Eckhardt, John Ogden and Jeremiah Evarts, leading the 2017 Town Meeting.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Cemetery Commission

We begin this report by saying thank you to everyone that helped us complete the stone wall project. We had enough stones to extend the wall several feet beyond the original plan. The work area was cleared of debris and reseeded with grass. At this time, the funds received have not covered the expenses and we have a plan in place for closing the gap.

We thank Lynn Eckhardt for helping with the placement of flags for the veterans at the cemeteries and we thank Marc Waldo for keeping them mowed. The Landgrove Historical Society and the cemetery commission met to clean some of the markers in the south cemetery. Two fallen trees were removed and a small stone wall repair was made at the Martin cemetery. This remote cemetery has been well maintained by volunteers for many years.

Listing of the two main cemeteries can be found online at the Cemeteries of Vermont - Bennington County website (<https://vermonthistory.org/documents/digital/CemeteryIndex5.pdf>).

Two lots were sold in the south cemetery.

There were three interments: James Mills, Warren Fuller, and Byrd LaPrade.

Cemetery Commissioners:

May Bigelow, Lynn Eckhardt, John English, Clarence Nichols, Jay Snyder, and honorary commissioner, Duncan Ogden.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence Nichols

Cemetery Operating Account - People's Bank			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			3,984.38
Taxes Raised (as voted)	6,500.00		
Donations	660.00		
Plot Sales	1,870.00		
Plot Sales - Recording Fee		20.00	
Plots Sales - Endowment		400.00	
Grounds Maintenance		6,440.00	
Veterans' Flags		94.15	
Transfer to Cem Wall Fund		1,450.00	
Bank & Reg. Balance 12/31/17			4,610.23

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Clerk's Report

With no elections this year, your Clerk focused on continuing preservation of our historic grand lists, attending trainings, clerking for Landgrove at School District meetings and working with the Board of Civil Authority to hear assessment grievances and -as always- processing dog licenses.

This year we completed the preservation and binding of the old handwritten marbled paper grand list books from 1926 up to 1949 in beautiful durable clear sheets with strong bindings.

In November I attended a training on preparation for the upcoming Census (2020). Before the actual Census, Towns are asked to cross-reference the 911 addresses and 'housing units' for each town with the data the Census has. Landgrove will participate in the data comparison to make sure everything is accurate and runs smoothly when the Census occurs.

As the school districts merged again to form the Taconic and Green District, all town clerks in the district gathered in a couple of meetings to establish procedures for that election and the meeting that followed to ring in the new District.

Most of the drama this year has been around dog licensing. After theft of cash from the town hall office, increased security of the dog license cash under lock and key has been enacted, and we are looking more closely at our procedures for banking cash in a routine weekly fashion with a more convenient bank account.

In accordance with state law, I received a hospital report of a dog bite in Landgrove over the summer, only to discover that the resident dog in question was not licensed with the Town nor compliant with state rabies vaccination laws, and the Selectmen and Constable were called to action to follow up with the owner. This family has since moved to another town, but I would like to remind everyone that dog licensing is the primary vehicle the State has to ensure that dog owners comply with our rabies laws as a matter of public health and safety. Rabies was confirmed in raccoons and a fox in surrounding towns last year, so it is important to protect our animals and by extension, our friends and neighbors.

Lastly, this summer I received an increased number of calls of roaming dogs with no identification, believed to be the dogs of summer renters as they were not on my list of licensed resident town dogs. Please help summer guests and renters using your property remember to put identification on their dogs so they can be reunited quickly.

Respectfully submitted,
Chrystal Cleary

VACCINATE TO ELIMINATE RABIES

WHAT IS RABIES?

Rabies is a viral infection passed from animals to other animals or humans, usually through a bite. The virus affects the brain, and is nearly always fatal (causes death). Here's how we control rabies in animals and reduce transmission to people.



1. VACCINATE DOGS

Rabies shots protect dogs and people. Because dog vaccination is common in the United States, people don't get rabies from dogs like they do in countries where dogs are not vaccinated.



2. VACCINATE CATS

In the last 25 years, most of the rabid domestic animals in the US have been cats. Cats are almost 5 times as likely as dogs to get rabies - but you can prevent this by vaccinating them.



3. VACCINATE WILDLIFE

Many Vermont wildlife are vaccinated with an edible vaccine through a bait drop. Do not touch or feed wildlife.

4. PREVENTION IN PEOPLE



If you are bitten or scratched by an animal or find a bat in a room where you were sleeping, wash any wound thoroughly. Call your doctor and the health department, 1-800-4-RABIES. You may need to get post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), a series of shots that keep the virus from making people sick.



ONE HEALTH
VERMONT

VERMONT VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

For more information:
www.vtvets.org 802-878-6888

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Landgrove Community Club

The Landgrove 4th of July event was again a beautiful evening, enjoyed by all. The definition of community is easy to see that night, but it really played out the following morning. At 9am sharp, several people including a centenarian! Many hands make light work and a grateful community club! The same was true for the Halloween party - special thanks to Ann Haussein for taking the lead on the party and to the town hall regulars who pitched right in to make the clean up swift and efficient!



Many thanks to Charlotte and Katharine Ogden for jumping in to coordinate Green Up Day and bringing homemade donuts!

Community Club Account - People's Bank

	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			4,117.41
Donations	2,637.74		
Interest	4.40		
Insurance		188.00	
July 4th		1,792.12	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2017			4,779.43

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Conservation Commission

The conservation commission was dormant in 2017. Attrition of members has made it difficult to keep the momentum of prior years. If you are interested in joining the conservation commission or would like more information please contact Priscilla Grayson at priscillagrayson@earthlink.net.

Following is an excerpt from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions website (vtconservation.com):

What Are Conservation Commissions?

In Vermont, conservation commissions are advisory bodies that exist in many towns across the state. Broadly, they are established to help communities protect and enhance their natural resources. In 1977, Vermont passed the enabling legislation (24 V.S.A. 4501) to establish municipal conservation commissions. By 1996, 96 Vermont towns had conservation commissions or similar committees. Today there are just over 100 conservation commissions in Vermont.

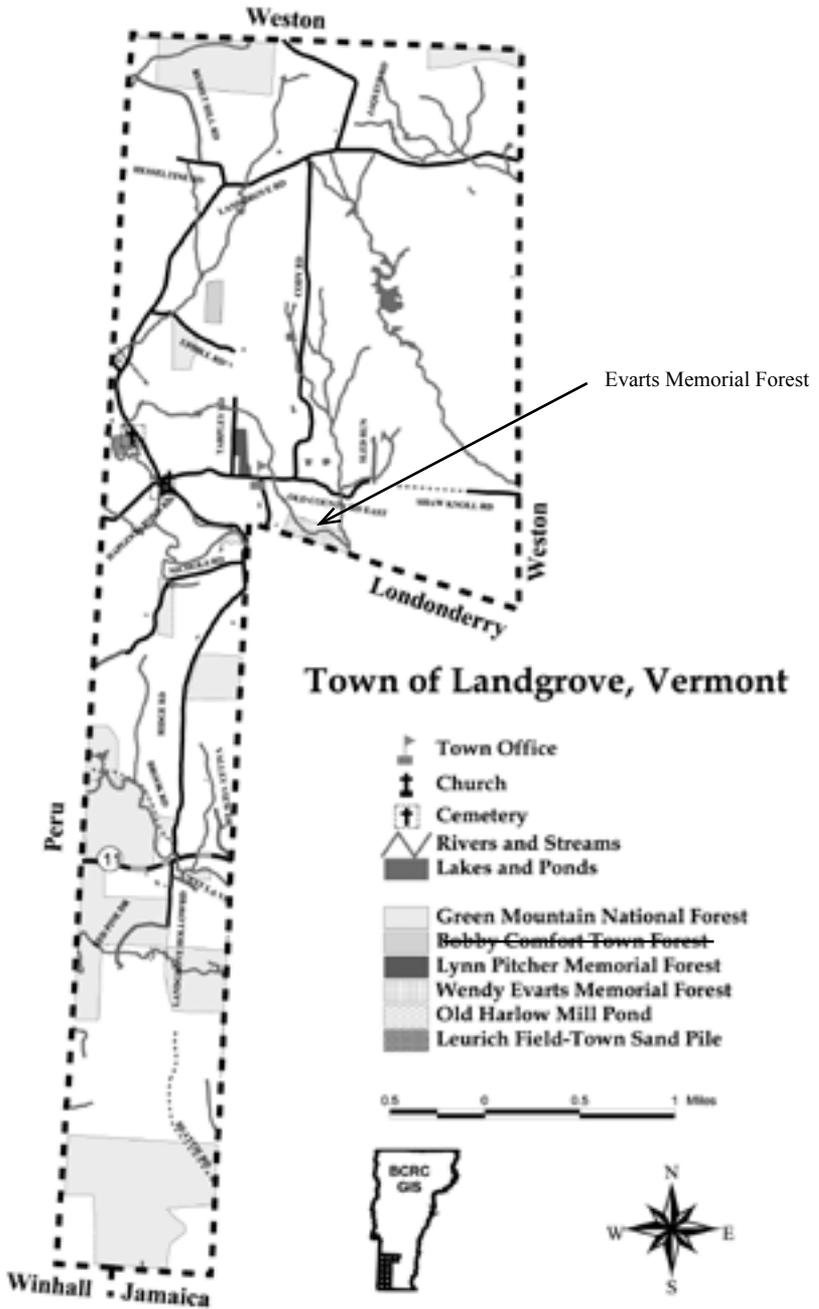
<http://vtconservation.com/about-conservation-commissions/>

This website has a lot of good information if you are considering reinvigorating this commission.



TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Map of Town Lands



TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Landgrove Historical Society

Our continuing goal is to gather documents, photos and artifacts of historical significance to our town, and to make our collections accessible to the public.

Kerry Howard has recreated our exhibits from 2003 to 2008 and placed them in a large binder in the Town Hall, accessible whenever the hall is open. She is working on exhibits from more recent years.

This year we responded to five requests for genealogical information about Landgrovians from the 1800's. We fielded a request from a person researching grange halls. While our present town hall was once the Farmers and Mechanics Hall, the West Branch Grange once held their meetings here. And we provided photos to someone from VTrans doing research on early road maintenance. The photos we sent were of the horse-drawn snow roller, taken in about 1910, part of the Landgrove Old Photo Collection; the first snowplow, taken on March 12, 1931, and provided by Monk Ogden; a horse drawn road grader, taken on Ridge Rd. in 1930 by Bill Badger, Sr.

We have 70 members.

Our office in the town hall is open on Thursday mornings, 9-noon.

Events during 2017

- April 9** Pancake breakfast with Ann Hausslein's pancakes and syrup from Rob Hausslein's Sugar Bob's Finest Kind and Jerry Evarts' and Jonathan Bigelow's Landgrove Sugarworks. This event, in its 11th year, attracted a lot of folks..
- July 1** The sixth annual potluck and square dance at the Town Hall. The band was the Turkey Mountain Window Smashers with caller Andy Toepfer,
- July 4** For the third year, and in partnership with the LMH and the Vermont Humanities Council, David Eckhardt led a participating audience in readings and discussion of abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglas' 1852 address commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
- July 9** Late Landgrove Artists and their Depiction of our Town. Artists whose work was displayed were Bobby Comfort, Daisy Pitcher, Lynn Pitcher, Tom Dibble, Jim Mills, Mouse Thatcher, Elaine Raphael, Peg Pfister, Bill Gwinn, Max Simpson, Wendy Evarts, Bernadine Custer Sharp, Barney Lintott, Burnham Hoyt, and Dorothy Phillips. The show ran through the month of July.
- August** Photos of the Landgrove 4th of July by Rob Aft taken over the past

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

five years of the baseball game, parade, picnic and fireworks. The show ran from late July to early Sept.

- Aug. 19** Cleaning of the headstones in the new cemetery, in partnership with the Cemetery Commission and with the leadership of Clarence Nichols and Lynn Eckhardt.
- Oct. 8** Paul Wainwright: Colonial Meeting Houses of New England. Co-sponsored with the Landgrove Meeting House and the Vermont Humanities Council.

Board of Directors

May Bigelow, President	Priscilla Grayson	Sally Ogden
Rob Badger, VP	David Eckhardt	Kathy Snyder
Meg Pennypacker, Treasurer	Clarence Nichols	Marion Sweetman
Christine Morfit, Secretary		

Advisors: Jonathan Bigelow, Robbie Collins, Ann Ogden Hausslein, Anne McClaran, Andrea Ogden, and Hope Pinkerton

Listers' Report

Once again, this was another busy, unique and challenging year for the listers. First of all, early in the year, we were notified that by the state that we were one of three towns "selected" for an audit of Current Use parcels by the Director of Property Valuation and Review (The Department of Taxes). Specifically we think this is done to ensure we are not doing some "special" adjustment to assessments for current use properties in comparison to noncurrent use parcels. By statute, this selection of three towns annually for auditing is to be sure that use value assessments are consistent with assessments for non-enrolled parcels. We think this is done to be certain the state is not reimbursing the towns more of current use assessments than appropriate. Also we believe we were selected for audit because our land values are substantially higher than the state average. The good news is that after reviewing and comparing data of over 32 properties, we were given a "clean bill of health" as all was done well and appropriately.

Next, we had to deal with a Vermont State Law dealing with current use valuation that was changed in June of 2015; that change was supposed to be effective with the 2016 tax year. We did not make those changes until this year. There were 14 current use properties whose assessments changed and where by the property owners collectively saw their tax bill go up approximately \$12,000 and the state's reimbursement to the town goes down that same amount. Without going into all the finer points of the change, the key concept is that "if the land

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

to be appraised is a portion of a parcel, any portion not receiving a use value appraisal shall be valued at its fair market value as a stand alone parcel...”. Happily the state did not ask for any 2016 year reimbursement from the town or the property owners. We were not alone in this oversight as there were a number of towns that also missed that law change for 2016.

The listers visited eight construction projects this past year and provided revised appraisals for them; there were no grievance appeals on those projects. We reviewed, as we do annually, all current use filings as reported by the state. In addition, we reviewed and recorded in our files and on our software programs all property transfers from data provided the state.

Overall this year there were four grievance hearings held at the lister level; one of those went to the BCA for a hearing, The decision of the BCA was not accepted by the heirs of the property in question and is being sent to the courts or state appraisers. Decision expected in 2018.

The computer system, various state software programs, as well as the

NEMRC system seem to always be changing or adding new level of sophistication. This seems to add to even more work or certainly more training to our positions. Thanks to Kim Eckhardt for handling most of our technology reporting; and especially great thanks to our Vermont state district advisor, Cy Bailey, who has been a wonderful hands on, available resource to us. As an aside, it does seem the work of the listers is becoming more complicated and more demanding.



Cy Bailey with Listers, Chuck Sweetman and Jerry Hassett

All the various state forms and reports were filed on time and were accepted. We should note that Equalized Education Grand List for Landgrove for 2017 is \$105,196,621. Our CLA (common level of appraisal) for the year is an excellent 99.34%. A number below 100% means property is generally listed at less than fair market value but with 99.34%, we feel right on the mark. We are also happy to report that our COD (coefficient of dispersion) is 6.27%; a COD of less than 10% is considered to reflect a relatively high level of equity across

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

taxpayers' assessments. Again, we are proud about these scores.

Finally, thanks to the property owners, and town officials for their cooperation, and support as we strive to perform our responsibilities with integrity, caring and due diligence.

Respectively submitted with cheer and good tidings,

Kim Eckhardt

Jerry Hassett

Chuck Sweetman

School Director's Report

Every year seems to be an even more exciting year than the last when it comes to education in our area, and 2017 is no exception. Now that the Act 46 merger has happened and we are part of the new Taconic & Green Supervisory District, the focus is changing from managing Floodbrook School (which was the job of the Mountain Towns RED) to managing education and all its trappings for the five schools in our nine towns. Truly, community members, board members, teachers and school administrators are looking at all our students as ALL our students (the motto of the Taconic & Green).

As a member of the Taconic & Green Board, I can tell you that the next few years will be critical as we review how we educate, transport and care for students across this large district. We will be looking at all these elements with an eye to equity: what services, classes and opportunities does each student have, and how can those be improved so a student in any school has the same opportunity as another. For example, at Floodbrook, students have the opportunity to learn French, but students at all four of the other schools do not. How can we get the same level of French instruction at the other schools? Through technology? Moving teachers or students? What is least disruptive to students and teachers, and is still a valuable learning experience for students? How do this for the least cost? We will study this in all ways possible, and start taking steps to provide like services to all our students so that in all areas, from Math, to Arts, to Sports, in all areas of school life, all our students receive equal opportunities.

The budget passed by the Taconic & Green Board represents about a 3% increase from last year's total budget. This will mean about a 6 cent increase in taxes for Landgrove residents, after applying the benefits of the new RED (yes, we are in a RED again and receive tax benefits) and our CLA. This increase is less than the State rate set by the legislature. In short, we did see some savings from moving to the new health care system, but we also have some increased costs for the merger to add some new administrators we need.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

We do expect in the next few years that those new administrators will be able to find efficiencies that we do not yet have. Due to the hard work of the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union, we had already realized many efficiencies in administration, and we hope to replicate that work again in these new areas.

It is worth noting that yet again our area has seen an increase in the student population. Unlike much of the State, our area has been growing, and surveys tell us that an important factor in drawing new families to our area is the strength and choice of our education system.

With the merger, there are number of steps that have changed for voters. Below is a list of what and when you need vote:

February 27, starting at 7pm at Floodbrook School. That night there will be 2 meetings. The first is for the Mountain Towns RED: even though the MTR will dissolve June 30th, we still need to hold our annual meeting and elect a moderator and a treasurer. As soon as that is complete, we will hold the annual meeting for the Taconic & Green where we will DISCUSS (not VOTE) on their business. This is a great opportunity to come and talk to the Board and ask questions about the budget. But there will be no voting on the floor for the budget, only for a moderator, clerk, and a treasurer.

March 5, starting at 6pm at Landgrove Town Hall. Our Town Meeting night, we will need to elect a School Director to the Mountain Towns RED Board. My term expires that night, and we need someone be on that Board for another few months until it dissolves June 30.

March 6, 8am to 7pm at Landgrove Town Hall. With the merger, we now vote all articles of the Taconic & Green warning by Australian ballot, which happens on Town Meeting Day. This is where you will vote on the budget and the other articles we used to vote on the floor at Floodbrook.

We will not be mailing the annual report to everyone as we've done in the past. You will get a post card with the above information, as well as directions on how to get the report. You can pick up copies at any school or town hall, and you should be able to find it at <https://goo.gl/xFSLgr>.

It has been my pleasure to represent you on the Mountain Towns RED Board, as well as the Taconic & Green and BRSU Boards. Please feel free to contact me at jeffclearylandgrove@gmail.com or 824-5394 if you have any questions, or even if you want to chat!

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Cleary
Landgrove School Director

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Treasurer's Report

As treasurer of a small town in Vermont, I am always looking for ways to improve the level of service I am able to offer the town and its taxpayers. Being able to communicate with tax payers over email has been a great improvement and I encourage you to get in touch with us via email to make sure we have the correct email on file for you. Through email and the ability to send our a reminder that taxes are coming due, I believe fewer people missing the deadline because it slipped their minds. This year, in particular, we saw the smallest amount of delinquency due to oversight than in all of my time as treasurer. We also had very few people miss the homestead declaration deadline (always on April 15th) this year! This deadline is often missed by people who are filing for an extension for their federal taxes.

Going forward, I am looking forward to offering taxpayers the option to pay their property taxes by credit card or e-check. There will be roughly a 3% fee that will be tacked on to the amount due for taxpayers who choose this option. We will be using the same service as the Town of Londonderry. Look for more information on our website as the tax deadline approaches.

Please feel free to contact me at treasureroflandgrove@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Ogden



In case emailing and taking credit card payments have you thinking Landgrove has entered the 21st century, please note the state of our election management system. No voter fraud when Bobby and Sally Waite are at the voter check-in table!

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Trustees of Public Funds

The Trustees of Public Funds manage two funds for the people of Landgrove. The first fund is the Cemetery Endowment. This fund was established as an endowment to ensure that the cemeteries of Landgrove would be maintained in perpetuity. The principal of the fund is not to be touched, and each year the Trustees of Public funds will determine what percentage of the interest on the account can be disseminated to the Cemetery checking account. In 2017, the interest earned on the principal was over \$800. While we are pleased that this number is growing, trustees agreed to leave the interest in the fund again this year.

We also are happy to see that the fund has grown in excess of \$50,000. At the start of 2013, just five short years ago, the balance was just over \$32,000. We are encouraged by this growth and feel positive about the long term goals of the fund.

The second account in the care of the Trustees of Public Funds is the Conservation Fund. The 2017 goal of determining the future of this fund has been rolled over into 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Ogden

Sally Waite

Dick Adams

PUBLIC FUNDS

Cemetery Endowment Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			46,422.25
Town Appropriation (as voted)	1,000.00		
Plot Sales	400.00		
Interest	800.43		
Unrealized Gain/Loss	4,954.21		
Balance 12/31/17			53,576.89

Conservation Fund			
	Income	Expense	Balance
Balance 1/1/17			20,508.31
Interest	393.48		
Unrealized Gain/Loss	2,475.23		
Balance 12/31/17			23,377.02

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Zoning & Planning

The 2017-year saw a number of changes and projects being undertaken by P&Z. First, we welcomed our new zoning administrator, Hal Wilkins. He has been a valuable resource establishing office hours on Thursday mornings to coincide with town office being open. In addition we reorganized our committee to spread out the workload amongst the various committee members, the town clerk, and the administrator. This has worked out well. All meetings are warned in advance, open to the public with minutes routinely posted on the town's website.

Our P&Z Commission spent time working with our administrator to review and revise our permit fee structure as well as our application forms. In addition many of these items as well as a helpful flow chart of the process were put on line for the public.

One of our two time consuming and significant projects/achievements this past year was a comprehensive review of our entire zoning bylaws. With the great assistance of Catherine Bryars from the Bennington County Regional Planning Commission, and Hal Wilkins, we reaffirmed, revised, deleted, added and updated where appropriate and/or necessary our zoning bylaws. Changes required by new state statutes also were incorporated. While we finished this project with public hearings and final selectmen approval in late summer, it should be noted this project was begun back in 2016. Always nice to have this type of extensive project comes to an end!

Our second big project was the review, revision, update and enhancement of The Landgrove Town Plan. While working on this project for approximately a year, our committee would also like to thank Mary English who chaired our last town plan which served as a strong foundation for our work. Catherine and Hal were again most helpful in ensuring that all town data available from state/federal agencies was updated. Thanks also to our town treasurer and town clerk, the listers, and our volunteer photographer Marion Sweetman for their valuable and appreciated assistance in this project. It should be noted each town is required to have an updated town plan which is now good for 7 years. The plan is consistent with updated planning and zoning regulations and was approved after a public hearing, by the selectmen. Thanks also to the town leadership for approving the funding to print and distribute the plan to all property owners.

The history, the data, the "essence" of Landgrove along with the public policies noted should be of interest to all. We believe this town plan provides an unbelievable amount of interesting and useful information and data about Landgrove and what makes it so special. We have received many compliments on this comprehensive and attractive 50 page booklet which gives the reader a real sense of who we were, who we are now and where we plan on going in the

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

future as a town.

Finally, as part of our routine business we dealt appropriately with a conditional use application, a subdivision application and a variance application.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Sweetman

Michael Morfit

Harry Lux

Michael Mole

Jerry Hassett



Landgrove Town Plan, revised, updated and enhanced in 2017.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Zoning Permit Summary - 2017

APPLICANT	PERMIT #	DATE	APPLICATION NUMBER	APPLICATION TYPE	ACTION	NOTES
Jeffrey 8 Nichols Road Parcel ID: 03 00 67	17-02	27-Apr	17-01-26	Conditional Use	Approved	w/Conditions
Licata 78 Nichols Road Parcel ID: 05 00 06	17-03	29-Mar	17-02-03	Conditional Use	Approved	w/Conditions
McClaran 24 Jaquith Road Parcel ID: 02 00 22	17-04	27-Apr	17-04-27	Subdivision	Approved	w/Conditions
Mt Valley Med Clinic 78 VT Route 11 Parcel ID: 05 00 47	17-05	26-Sep	NA	Cert. of Compliance	Issued	w/Conditions
Henson/Johnson Henson/Johnson 56 Red Pine Drive Parcel ID: 05 00 54.1	17-06.1 17-06.2	22-Aug 5-Oct	17-06-01 17-10-05	Zoning Zoning	Issued Issued	After-the-Fact New Const
McNair 385 Landgrove Road Parcel ID: 04 00 12	17-07	26-Oct	17-10-26	Zoning	Issued	Garage

How to Contact the ZA?

Hal Wilkins • landgroveZA@gmail.com
Office Hours at Town Hall: Thursdays 9:00am - 12:30pm

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

First Annual Taconic and Green Town Report Notice

As you know, on March 7, 2017, voters from Danby, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Mt. Tabor, Peru, Sunderland, and Weston overwhelmingly approved the merger of their school districts. The new entity for these communities, the Taconic and Green Regional School District, becomes officially operational as of July 1, 2018.

Please note that the launch of the Taconic and Green Regional School District will create some changes to the normal flow of information that you receive in advance of the annual town meetings. Let's review the distribution process for this year. Please call 802-362-2452 ext. 1528 if you have any questions.

The Taconic and Green Regional School District has produced an Annual Report that will be available to the public on Thursday, February 15. The Taconic and Green Report will include:

- Annual Meeting Warning (Note that a postcard will be sent to all residents of the towns listed above by the end of January.)
- FY19 Budget for the Taconic and Green Regional School District
- FY19 BRSU General Budget
- FY19 BRSU Special Education Budget
- BRSU Treasurer's Report
- Tax rate historical information for all towns
- Audit Report
- Enrollment Report
- Superintendent Report
- Principal Reports (Currier, Dorset, Flood Brook, Manchester, Sunderland)
- Taconic and Green School Board Report
- Taconic and Green Board Member information
- Taconic and Green Board Goals and Norms
- Minutes from the Taconic and Green District Organization Meeting in June 2017

The Taconic and Green Annual Report will be available at the following:

- Online at <https://goo.gl/xFSLgr>
- Request via info@brsu.org or 362-2452
- Local Town Office
- Manchester Library
- Pick one up at one of the following Taconic and Green schools – Currier, Dorset, Flood Brook, Manchester, Sunderland
- Pick one up at the BRSU Office – 6378 VT Route 7A, Sunderland, VT

The Taconic and Green Annual meeting will be on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7pm at the Flood Brook School. Bus transportation will be provided for the

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

public from the following schools: Currier, Dorset, Manchester and Sunderland. The buses will leave at 6pm. Light refreshments will also be provided at the annual meeting.

NOTE:

Next years budget (2018-2019) will only be discussed at the Taconic and Green meeting on February 27, 2018. Your attendance is very important.

Londonderry Solid Waste Group Report

Serving the towns of Landgrove, Londonderry, Peru, Weston, Windham

The Londonderry Solid Waste Group (LSWG) is committed to developing programs and policies that reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills, increase recycling and maximize hazardous waste collections.

As of October 2017, cash is no longer accepted as payment for trash disposal at the transfer station. Punch cards can be purchased at Londonderry, Peru, Weston and Windham town offices OR at Londonderry Hardware and Weston Marketplace.

Annual Permit Stickers are required for entrance to the transfer station for trash disposal and recycling. They are only available at the Londonderry Town office in person or by mail with a SASE. You must be from the five towns in the LSWG to use the transfer station.

See the following page for a reference guide as to how to dispose of various materials.

As always, your comments and questions are welcome. You can contact your recycling coordinator, Esther Fishman, at londonrecycle@vermontel.net.

VERMONT WASTE NOT GUIDE

WHAT TO DO WITH ITEMS THAT ARE BANNED FROM THE TRASH

RECYCLE ANYWHERE*: Drop-off or with your hauler



Plastic #1 and #2
Glass jars, bottles
Cans and foil
Cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper

COMPOST: At home, drop-off, or with your hauler



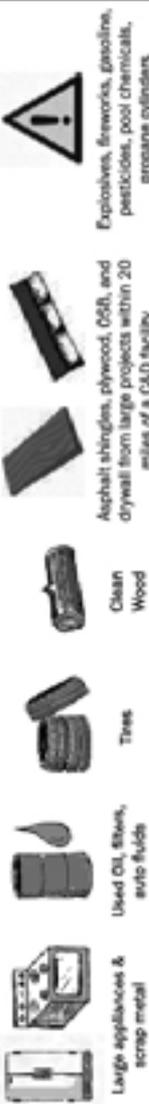
Leaf and yard debris, grass clippings, branches, etc.
Food scraps, coffee grounds, egg shells, etc.
(Ban for residents begins July 1, 2020)

BANNED & SPECIAL RECYCLING: Find collection locations at vtricycles.com



Mercury-containing bulbs, thermostats, switches, thermometers, etc.
Computers and accessories, phones, TVs, MP3 players, iPods/iPads, etc.
Lead-acid, rechargeable, and other batteries
Paint, stain, thinner and varnish

OTHER BANNED OR DANGEROUS ITEMS: For more information, contact londonderryrecycle@vermontel.net



Large appliances & scrap metal
Used Oil, tires, auto fluids
Tires
Clean Wood
Asphalt shingles, plywood, OSB, and drywall from large projects within 20 miles of a CALD facility
Explosives, fireworks, gasoline, pesticides, pool chemicals, propane cylinders

*For more information, contact londonderryrecycle@vermontel.net
Vermont Waste Management & Prevention Division
(802) 828-1138 | vtricycles.com

* A complete A-Z list of all materials that you can recycle at the transfer station and where to dispose of just about everything can be found at <http://londonderryvt.org/LondonderryRecycle/RecycleMain.html>.

TOWN OF LANDGROVE - 2017

Some faces we miss seeing around town.



Mary Gouger 1943 - 2017



Mike Capen 1941 - 2017

Cover photo credit: Landgrove Historical Society

Caption: The Snow Roller gets an assist from Richardson's white team. Taken about 1910, the snow rollers were used up until 1930 when Landgrove got its first twon plow. The snow roller was effective unless there was a crust on the snow which cut the teams legs.

Have you taken a great photo of our town or its residents? Send it along to either townoflandgrove@gmail.com or treasureroflandgrove@gmail.com.

Town of Landgrove
88 Landgrove Road
Landgrove, VT 05148

**PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU
TO TOWN MEETING.**