

Town of Rupert
P.O. Box 140
West Rupert, Vermont 05776

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Annual Report of the Board of Officers



**Town of
Rupert, Vermont**

**Fiscal Year
July 1st, 2020 - June 30th, 2021**

**PRE-TOWN INFORMATIONAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2022
7:00 P.M.**

**MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE RUPERT FIRE HOUSE
MASKS ARE REQUIRED**

**IF YOU WOULD RATHER ATTEND VIA ZOOM YOU MAY
JOIN AT:**

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82971439151?pwd=UHJCZCsrL2VpRGFP
MGo4Smt4amFIQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82971439151?pwd=UHJCZCsrL2VpRGFP
MGo4Smt4amFIQT09)**

Meeting ID: 829 7143 9151

Passcode: 025328

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82971439151#,,,,*025328# US (Chicago)

+19294362866,,82971439151#,,,,*025328# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 829 7143 9151

Passcode: 025328

**Find your local number: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82971439151?pwd=UHJCZCsrL2VpRGFP
MGo4Smt4amFIQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82971439151?pwd=UHJCZCsrL2VpRGFP
MGo4Smt4amFIQT09)**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN INVITATION EMAILED TO YOU
PRIOR TO THE MEETING, EITHER CALL THE TOWN OFFICE AT
802-394-7728
OR EMAIL YOUR REQUEST TO THE TOWN OFFICE AT
rupert187@myfairpoint.net**

**Rupert Town Office
187 East Street/PO Box 140
West Rupert, VT 05776
Phone: 802-394-7728
Email: rupert187@myfairpoint.net**

**Town Office Hours Mon: 11:00am - 7:00 pm
Tues: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Wed: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Thurs: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm**

**Lister Office Hours Mon: 9:00am – 1:00pm
Thurs: 9:00am – 1:00pm**

Road Department Phone: 802-394-2926

Mettawee Community School: 802-645-9009

Salem High School: 518-854-7600

Long Trail School: 802-867-5717

Granville High School: 518-642-1051

Burr & Burton Academy: 802-362-1775

TOWN WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Rupert, Vermont are hereby warned and notified that on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. a Pre-Town Informational Meeting will be held via Zoom or in person at the RUPERT FIRE HOUSE and on TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022 at 10:00 A.M TO 7:00 P.M. at the RUPERT TOWN OFFICE to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1. To elect all Town officers and to vote on the following articles, all by the Australian Ballot. Voting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 AT THE RUPERT TOWN OFFICE. The polls will open at 10:00 A.M. and will close at 7:00 P.M.
- ARTICLE 2. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to borrow money, in anticipation of taxes, to pay current expenses of the Town for the ensuing year?
- ARTICLE 3. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to spend any budget surplus funds (if there are any) in the next fiscal year?
- ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town of Rupert vote to approve the collection of the Town and School taxes in two installments; the first installment to be due on or before September 10, 2022 and the second to be due on or before February 10, 2023. Each installment, if not paid when due, to bear interest at the rate provided by the law, from the due date of that installment.
- ARTICLE 5. Shall the Town vote \$2,000 by taxes for the Salem Rescue Squad?
- ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town vote \$6,500 by taxes for the Dorset Nursing Association, Inc.?
- ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town of Rupert vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$30,000 for the support of the Rupert Volunteer Fire Company to provide services to residents of the Town?
- ARTICLE 8. Shall the Town of Rupert vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 25,000 to add to the Rupert Town Office Building Improvement Fund?
- ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town of Rupert vote to appropriate \$1,500 to support of the Rosalind Keshin Kittay Public Library?
- ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town of Rupert vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$5,000 for the support of the Rupert Street Cemetery Inc.?
- ARTICLE 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Rupert vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 250 for the Vermont Family Network ?
- ARTICLE 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Rupert approve \$ 10,000 to be spent for improvements and / or replacement of the Rupert Village sidewalks?
- ARTICLE 13 Shall the Town of Rupert vote to raise \$ 100 for the Rural fire Protection Program ?
- ARTICLE 14 Shall the voters indicate support for the concept of a regional field house at the Dana Thompson Recreation Park in Manchester, VT with the understanding that towns would participate in its construction under a formula based on combination of Grand List, population, and distance in exchange for a special use status for those who live or own a second home in the Town or Rupert? This article is advisory in nature and does not bind the town to further action.
- ARTICLE 15. Shall the Town vote to adopt a budget of \$ 967,000 to defray expenses of the Town for the period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023?

Thomas Wilson, Co-Chair Linda Montague, Co-Chair
Philip Mazucco, Deborah Baker, Charles Rockwell

Received this 25th day of January, 2022
Andrea Lenhardt, Rupert Town Clerk

DEDICATION

This year we honor one of our own whose service to our nation during World War II as a "ROSIE THE RIVETER" earned her and her co-workers in the aircraft industry special recognition during that conflict. Francis (Aggie) Kraemer Armstrong, who died at age 96, married Veteran John Armstrong and came to Rupert after the War. Here, she became part of village life, raising children John and Linda, active in Mt. Anthony Grange, a favorite chef for many Old Home Days, caring for Rupert's many homeless cats, quietly volunteering for many other community activities, and distributing her special ways and sense of humor to everyone she met.



During our current Pandemic the spirit that Aggie personified in her generation is also visible daily in Rupert's response to the challenges facing many of our residents. Examples of Rupert's true character can be seen as we help one another through donations of food, transportation for seniors, shopping, checking on the elderly, volunteering for activities, serving in town offices, as firemen and women, and on ambulance crews. All told, we should be justly proud of our life as a true community. Thank you all.

REQUEST FOR EARLY ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOT (VALID for ONE CALENDAR YEAR)
 (All voters must submit a new request for absentee ballots each year.)
 (SUBMIT DIRECTLY to the Town Clerk of the town in which you are on the voter checklist.)

Voter Name
Required

1 First _____ Middle _____
 Last _____ Suffix _____
 Former Name (if applicable) _____

Other Contact Info
If applicable

2 Phone Number _____ Email _____

Legal Address where you are Registered to Vote
Required must be your town of Residence

3 Street Address (no P.O. boxes) _____ State _____
 City _____ ZIP _____

Mailing Address
Required only if you wish to have your ballot mailed to a different address than the address at which you're registered to vote.

4 Street Address (or P.O. box) _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____

Election
Required

5 Date Range Request: _____ to _____ (within a calendar year)
MM/DD/YYYY MM/DD/YYYY

Annual Town Meeting All Local Elections
 Presidential Primary Election (You Must Select a Party) Democratic Ballot Republican Ballot
 General Election Primary Election

Military, Civilian Overseas, Ill or with Disability Voters
If Applicable

6 Check one: Military (Active in U.S. or overseas) Overseas voter Ill or with Disability
 Please deliver the ballots(s) and all election materials as indicated below (check one):
 Email Address: _____ (Ballots cannot be returned electronically)
 Fax Number: _____
 Mail: _____
 Deliver by two Justices of the Peace (This can only be elected if you are ill or physically disabled.) Phone number: _____

Signature

7 _____ Date: _____
 Signature of Voter or Authorized Person

IF YOU ARE REQUESTING A BALLOT FOR SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF, you must complete the information below:

Relationship to Voter: Family member Health care provider Person authorized by voter

Name of Requestor: _____ Signature (Required): _____ Date: _____

Organization Name (if applicable): _____ Phone number: _____

Address of Requestor: _____

For Clerk Use Only: Voted in Office Ballot picked up at clerk's office

Date of Request: _____
 Ballot Mailed Date: _____
 Ballot Returned Date: _____

GENERAL & PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 3, 2020 – VOTES CAST – 440

President/Vice-President	-	Joseph R. Biden / Kamala D. Harris.....	269
Representative to Congress	-	Peter Welch.....	251
Governor	-	Phil Scott.....	266
Lieutenant Governor	-	Molly Gray.....	221
St. Treasurer	-	Beth Pearce.....	218
Sec. of State	-	Jim Condos.....	231
Auditor of Accounts	-	Doug Hoffer.....	295
Attorney General	-	T.J. Donovan.....	235
State Senator	-	Dick Sears.....	222
State Senator	-	Brian Campion.....	189
State Rep.	-	Sally Achey.....	181
High Baliff	-	Frederick Gilbar.....	321

Rupert Justices of Peace

Kate Canning.....	225
Gene Higgins.....	238
Mark Lourie.....	231
Jeremy Russo.....	172
Patrick Wilson.....	156



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CERTIFICATE OF VOTES
RESULTS OF TOWN MEETING ELECTION

MARCH 2, 2021

TOTAL VOTES CAST - 197

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>WINNER</u>	
Selectboard for 3 years -	Thomas Wilson.....	176
Selectboard for 1 year -	Linda Montague.....	155
Selectboard for 1 year -	Philip E. Mazzucco.....	153
Lister for 3 years -	Richard Ventrella.....	161
Auditor for 3 years -	Chris Porter.....	171
First Constable for 1 year -	Brett Lourie.....	160
Second Constable for 1 year -	Jeffrey W. Lourie.....	127
Delinquent Tax Collector for 1 year -	Mark Lourie.....	184
Road Commissioner for 1 year -	Jay E. Wilson III.....	142
Town Moderator for 1 year -	Mark Lourie.....	185
Rupert School Director 3 years -	Anthony Garcia.....Write-In votes	17
Library Trustee for 3 years -	Sarah Porter.....	183
Library Trustee for 3 years -	Peter Casenhiser.....	158
Library Trustee for 2 years -	Carey Lynn Braidd.....	175
Library Trustee for 2 years -	Erica Shott.....	172

RUPERT TOWN WARNING

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Article 2 (to borrow money).....	176.....	18
Article 3 (to authorize Selectboard to spend surplus, if any)	171.....	8
Article 4 (to approve collection of taxes in two installments)	186.....	8
Article 5 (\$2,000 for Salem Rescue Squad).....	187.....	7
Article 6 (\$6,500 Dorset Nursing Assoc.).....	168.....	26
Article 7 (\$30,000 for Rupert Volunteer Fire Co.).....	177.....	17
Article 8 (to approve \$25,000 for Town Office Improvements)	165.....	26
Article 9 (\$ 1,500 for Rosalind Kittay Library).....	172.....	22
Article 10 (to extend 1 st & 2 nd Constable terms to 2 years).	149.....	43
Article 11 (to change Road Comm. to appointed position).	110.....	82
Article 12 (\$10,000 for Rupert Village Sidewalks).....	151.....	43
Article 13 (to adopt a budget of \$ 899,350).....	175.....	16

RESULTS OF METTAWEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

TOTAL COMMINGLED RUPERT & PAWLET VOTES CAST - 712

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Article 4 (to hold 2022 Annual Meeting Feb. 23, 2022).....	626.....	63
Article 5 (to borrow money).....	524.....	167
Article 6 (approve budget of \$5,671,569).....	509.....	188
Article 7 (approve \$40,0000 for Building & Main.Res.Funds).....	441.....	210

Mettawee School Moderator for 1 year -	John Thrasher.....	631
Mettawee School District Clerk for 1 year -	Debra Hawkins.....	646
Mettawee School District Treasurer for 1 year -	Judy Zinn.....	632

True and correct copy of the certificate of votes for the town and town school district offers elected and town articles elected and voted by Australian ballot on March 2, 2021

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Southern Vermont Communications Union District

210 South Street Suite 6

Bennington, VT 05201

Arlington	Bennington	Dorset	Landgrove	Londonderry
Manchester	Peru	Pownal	Rupert	Sandgate
Shaftsbury	Sunderland	Winhall	Woodford	

RUPERT TOWN OFFICERS

ELECTED POSITIONS:

SELECTBOARD

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Thomas Wilson, Co-Chair.....	2024
Linda Montague, Co-Chair.....	2022
Philip E. Mazzucco.....	2022
Deborah Baker.....	2022
Charles Rockwell.....	2023

LISTERS

Jed Rubin, Chairman.....	2023
Richard Ventrella.....	2024
Val Almosnino.....	2022

RUPERT SCHOOL DIRECTORS – Mettawee School District Board

Anthony Garcia.....	2041
Michael Krauss.....	2022

AUDITORS

Eugene Higgins.....	2022
Kelly Lewis.....	2023
Chris Porter.....	2024

TOWN CLERK

Andrea Lenhardt.....	2023
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TOWN TREASURER

Andrea Lenhardt.....	2023
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TOWN MODERATOR

Mark Lourie.....	2022
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ROAD COMMISSIONER (position now appointed per March 3, 2021 vote)

TOWN AGENT (position now eliminated per H.143, Act 84)

FIRST CONSTABLE

Brett Lourie.....	2022
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SECOND CONSTABLE

Jeff Lourie.....	2022
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The Southern Vermont Communications Union District, a political subdivision of the State of Vermont, is a multi-municipal organization working to solve the longstanding rural broadband connectivity challenges in its fourteen member towns. Since forming in March of 2020, the CUD has grown to include Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Landgrove, Londonderry, Manchester, Peru, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Shaftsbury, Sunderland, Winhall, and Woodford.

In 2021, after issuing a Request for Qualifications and receiving multiple private sector responses, the CUD formed a public-private partnership with Consolidated Communications to ensure that currently unserved and underserved areas of the CUD are provided with world-class fiber broadband built out to the premises. In partnership with CCI, the Southern Vermont CUD submitted an application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s broadband infrastructure grant for a \$9.05 million fiber optic buildout program, and expects a determination in February 2022. A successful application, combined with separate fiber optic broadband incentives under the FCC’s Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, will realize broadband buildout to 97 percent of the 2,500 unserved and underserved addresses in the district, with construction scheduled to begin in the second quarter of 2022. We are pleased to inform the public that, under the terms of the partnership with CCI, the CUD would retain ownership of all physical assets built with federal dollars.

While we are confident in our application, we also wish to assure the public, that this is not the region’s only pathway to connectivity. The Vermont Community Broadband Board recently announced the availability of funding under the Broadband Construction Grant Program, a provision of Act 71. Under this program, the CUD would be eligible for \$4.34 million of funding to build out a fiber optic broadband network. We are in the process of developing multiple application scenarios for this grant, and will submit the proposal most appropriate for the forthcoming NTIA funding decision.

By the way of closing, we would like to thank the many people and organizations who continue to support our work: the Department of Public Service; the Vermont Community Broadband Board; the Vermont Community Foundation; our elected officials; and the Bennington County Regional Commission. Most importantly, however, we would like to recognize the delegates that you have appointed to the CUD’s Governing Board. They have dedicated their time and energy to solving an immensely difficult problem, and we would not have made the progress that we have made to date without them.

We meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 6:00 PM. Please join us, and learn more at sovtcud.net.

Sincerely,

Eric Hatch, Chair
Southern Vermont Communications Union District

STATE OF VERMONT
 Department of Health
 Bennington Local Health Office
 324 Main St., Suite 2
 Bennington, VT 05201
 [phone] 802-447-3531 [toll free] 800-637-7347
 HealthVermont.gov

2021 Local Health Annual Report

Twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. Additional information about your local health office and related programs can be found at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>.

COVID-19

It has been almost two years since the COVID-19 pandemic began, and in response, our families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless other groups have worked to better protect the health of our communities. Together we ensured towns and had access to the vaccine, tester, and other services needed to make more informed decisions about their health. As of December 1, 2021, approximately

- 494,000 Vermonters received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- 546,055 people have been tested and a total of 2,570,835 tests completed.
- Many COVID-19 resources are now provided in over 20 different languages.
- Up-to-date information, including town-level data can be found on the Health Department's website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/currentactivity>

Public Health Programs

In addition to COVID-19 response efforts, Local Health offices continue to provide health services and programs to Vermont communities, including but not limited to

- In collaboration with Town Health Officers and other local partners, we help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health at a time when more of us are spending time at home with our families. Find information about environmental health and lead, asbestos, toxic chemicals, child safety, food safety, climate change, drinking water, and more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment>
- The WIC nutrition program continues to provide primarily remote access to services with phone appointments. In 2021, an average of approximately 11,300 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont each month.
- As of November 23, 2021, 193,000 flu vaccine doses have been administered. Protecting people from influenza continues to be particularly important as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting these efforts. We look forward to what 2022 brings, to seeing you in the community, and encourage you to stay in touch with us.

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Mark Lourie..... 2022

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

TERM EXPIRES

Judy Zinn..... 2022
 Jean Nardi..... 2022
 Sarah Porter..... 2024
 Arlene Horn..... 2022
 Peter Casenhiser (resigned as of Jan. 1, 2022). 2024
 Carey Braidt..... 2023
 Erica Shott..... 2023

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: John LaVecchia Jr. (3 year term, which ends March 25, 2023)

TOWN SERVICE AGENT: Rupert Selectboard

TOWN FIRE WARDEN: Mark Lourie

TOWN HEALTH OFFICER: Kelli Raymond (3 year term, which ends Jan. 14, 2023)

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER: Kelli Raymond

TREE WARDEN: Mark Lourie

WEIGHER OF COAL & FENCE VIEWERS: David Tooley, Donald Lewis, Jed Rubin

INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES, & WOOD: Rupert Selectboard

CLERK OF THE BOARD - Linda Montague

OFFICIAL BANKING INSTITUTION - Berkshire Bank

OFFICIAL BANKING INSTITUTION FOR HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ACCT. - TD Bank

OFFICIAL TOWN NEWSPAPERS FOR PUBLICATIONS - Rutland Herald & The Vermont News Guide

DISTRICT RUTLAND-BEN REPRESENTATIVE (Elected Nov. 3, 2020):

Sally Achey

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE : (Elected Nov. 3, 2020) –2 year term begins Feb. 1, 2021
Eugene (Gene) Higgins, Kate Canning,
Mark Lourie, Jeremy Russo, Patrick Wilson

PLANNING COMMISSION Jed Rubin - Chairman, Robert Bain,
Charles Rockwell, Jean Ceglowski, Kimberly
Davis, Philip E. Mazzucco, Peter Pelton, Val
Almosnino

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD: Charles Rockwell, Chairman, Robert
Bain, Jed Rubin, Philip E. Mazzucco, Peter Pelton, Val Almosnino, Rima
Georgeson

BCRC REPRESENTATIVES: Charles Rockwell, Commissioner & John
Lavecchia Jr., Co-Commissioner Appointed by the Selectboard Sept. 22,
2020



Restorative Justice is a form of community justice; it is a framework by which a community can respond to crime. It holds offenders accountable and places emphasis on repairing the harm done to the victim and community. This is the framework by which the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) bases its programs.

In Bennington County, CRJ works in partnership with the courts, State’s Attorney’s Office, defense attorneys, Department of Children and Families, Department of Corrections, schools and other community partners to deliver programs using restorative justice principles. The Restorative Justice philosophy involves the community in the process of holding offenders accountable for repairing the harm caused and helps him/her gain the skills necessary to become a productive member of our society. Restorative Justice also empowers victims and the community to have an active role in the process.

This past year, CRJ was challenged with delivering quality restorative justice programs and services while confronted with the COVID pandemic. CRJ is proud to have successfully served 1,531 Bennington County residents this past year. CRJ is a unique, one-stop restorative justice agency providing a full range of services from helping at-risk youth get on the right track to assisting individuals coming back to the community from incarceration. In addition to CRJ’s traditional programs such as Court Diversion, Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, Truancy Programs, Pre-Charge Programs, and Reparative Probation, CRJ helps hundreds of people each year get their driver’s license reinstated, file petitions to get their records expunged and support victims to have voice and be compensated with restitution. A unique program run by CRJ which started in 2020 (unique to anywhere else in the state) is Threads – a clothing boutique that provides free clothes and accessories to all Bennington County teens. The simple gift of clothing and contemporary accessories in many cases is all it takes to help a teen feel good about themselves and succeed in school. Some teens have even gained new confidence to go on job interviews with some new “threads”!

CRJ is a non-profit agency, funded by numerous state and private grants, donations and town funding. More information about CRJ programs can be found on CRJ’s website – www.bcrj.org. With your town’s support, CRJ is able to continue the important work of strengthening communities, empowering victims, supporting individuals in need, and holding people accountable who may have caused harm to others. It is the strength of our partnership that helps to make our community such a great place to live. Thank you very much for your continued partnership and support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director

**SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING
Report to the Citizens of Rupert**

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Rupert in 2021:

Nutrition Support:

The Council helped provide 311 meals that were delivered to the homes of 6 elders in your community. This service is often called "Meals on Wheels".

Additionally, SVCOA provided 14.75 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 6 residents of Rupert.

The Council also remained available to provide home delivered meals, often referred to as "Meals on Wheels," to homebound elders residing in Rupert.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 8 elders in your community for a total of 118.25 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder's home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder's situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

1) "Senior Helpline" assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications; 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA's Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals

**Rutland Office: 802-786-5990
Bennington Office: 802-442-5436
Helpline: 1-800-642-5119**

AUDITOR'S REPORT TOWN FUNDS JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021

ASSETS:

Cash on hand as of June 30, 2021	
General Fund Account - Berkshire Bank	\$ 575,191.30
Less Outstanding Checks	\$ 77,383.91
Total Cash on Hand	\$ 497,807.39

Health Reimbursement Account - TD Banknorth	\$ 16,117.83
Reappraisal Fund Money Market - Berkshire Bank	\$ 17,015.19

RECEIVABLES:

Delinquent Taxes	\$ 32,859.26
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Respectfully submitted,

Eugene Higgins, Chris Porter, Kelly Lewis, Rupert Board of Auditors



**Statement of Delinquent Taxes
as of 1/12/2022**

2019-20	Kevin & Rachel McDonald	\$	2,584.58
2019-20	Jason Kerson	\$	<u>1,481.89</u>
	TOTAL	\$	4,066.47
2020-21	Kurt & Carrie Braidt	\$	582.63
	Katherine T. Brooks	\$	1,469.62
	Roderick & Susan Crandall	\$	639.14
	Glenn & Christine Morey	\$	2,542.52
	Jeffrey J. Neil	\$	<u>2,495.62</u>
	TOTAL	\$	7,729.53
January 12, 2022 Total Outstanding		\$	11,796.00

I will accept tax payments at any time at my home office located at 585 State Rt. 153, West Rupert or by mail to the Rupert Town Office, PO Box 140, West Rupert, VT 05776.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Lourie
Rupert Delinquent Tax Collector

GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day on May 1, 2021 was a huge success thanks to nearly 22,000 volunteers statewide who Greened Up. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is needed and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play a very special place. As one of Vermont's favorite holidays, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship.

Along with Green Up Day, we work year-round to further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

Green UP Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at www.greenupvermont.org.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 229-4586

Green Up Day, May 7, 2022

PROJECT AGAINST VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS

Mailing: P.O. Box 227 Bennington, VT 05201
 Physical: 102 Dewey St. Bennington, VT 05201
 Office: 802-442-2370 Hotline: 802-442-2111
 www.pavebennington.org

This year marked PAVE’s 40 year anniversary of providing compassionate, concrete support to survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. PAVE continues to be the only agency providing these services in Bennington County. Our goal is to promote a world where all peoples can be empowered to have fulfilling, safe relationships free from violence. We do this by providing services (that) (not only) provide services) in times of crisis but provide services that educate, heal and empower as well.

In the last 40 years PAVE has grown from a crisis hotline to an agency offering multiple, comprehensive services. The cycle of abuse is often multi-generational and because of this knowledge PAVE offers prevention services through education and community outreach as well as direct services to survivors.

The past year brought unique challenges due to COVID 19 and the precautions that we all needed to take to keep our communities safe. PAVE understood that to quarantine would create new barriers for survivors trying to flee domestic or sexual violence. In response, our hotline remained open and fielded 293 calls. In addition, we received 805 calls seeking services and support to our main agency line during the past year.

Our advocates worked hard to continue offering support to survivors, while working remotely providing 101 interactions through internet contact alone. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, PAVE remained available and vital to the community. PAVE served 2 residents from the town of Rupert, providing them with 14 supportive interactions in the past year. Our supervised visitation program also remained active providing remote visit options to parents and children, to keep them connected, despite not being able to physically see each other. This program offered 376 visits throughout the past year and has moved back to offering in person visits.

Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families. For this reason our shelter remained open throughout the pandemic. Our shelter offers the only short term emergency housing for survivors of domestic violence in the county. PAVE provided 1,057 nights of shelter last year, to survivors fleeing domestic of sexual violence.

PAVE is asking for level funding this year, \$100.00.

On behalf of the board of directors, staff and the families we served, I thank the Town of Rupert for your ongoing support. It allows us to create greater opportunities for those that are impacted by domestic and/or sexual violence, and need our services each year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Brillon, Executive Director

Dara Zin, Board President

PAVE is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization and your donation is fully tax deductible, less the value of any goods or services received. PAVE does not appraise the value of gifts. Our tax ID number is 03-0285583.

Delinquent Taxes

Balance uncollected June 30, 2021	
2019-20	\$ 5,548.36
2020-21	<u>\$ 27,310.90</u>
TOTAL	\$ 32,859.26

New amount received from Rupert Town Treasurer 2/25/2021	\$ 126,053.08
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Amounts Paid to Rupert Town Treasurer – Tax, Interest & Fees

January 2021	\$ 3,000.00
February 2021	\$ 2,067.00
March 2021	\$ 57,811.80
April 2021	\$ 40,597.91
May 2021	\$ 8,533.25
June 2021	\$ 7,759.19
July 2021	\$ 4,307.91
August 2021	\$ 15,237.49
September 2021	\$ -
October 2021	\$ 4,380.78
November 2021	\$ 3,671.21
December 2021	\$ -
January 2022	<u>\$ 2,658.01</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 150,024.55

SUMMARY

Delinquent Tax to Town	\$ 130,817.99
Fees paid to Delinquent Tax Collector	\$ 10,706.27
Interest to Town	\$ 8,496.22
Balance uncollected January 10, 2022	\$ 11,796.00

BENNINGTON COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

TOWN FUNDS

Habitat for Humanity International (HfHI) is a global non-profit housing organization whose vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat works in all 50 of the United States and in 70 countries. Since its founding in 1976 by Linda and Millard Fuller, Habitat has helped more than 35 million people achieve strength, stability and self-reliance through safe, decent and affordable shelter.

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity (BCHfH) is an affiliate of HfHI. BCHfH works in partnership with Bennington County residents who cannot otherwise become homeowners or afford needed home repairs. Applicants must have a need for better housing, the ability to pay, and the willingness to partner with BCHfH. Once accepted into the homeownership program, each adult family member must complete 200 hours of sweat equity. Homebuyers who become homeowners pay an affordable mortgage thru monthly payments that include escrow for property taxes, insurance and Homeowner Association fees, where applicable. Homebuyers' monthly payments do not exceed more than 30% of their income. The monthly mortgage payments help build more affordable homes.

BCHfH is locally run and funded. With the exception of some contract services, volunteers build Habitat houses. Businesses, subcontractors, and individuals help build, donate materials, and provide financial support. Town appropriations purchase building supplies and materials for our construction programs.

In Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), BCHfH brought two families home to houses that had been under construction the previous year when the Pandemic hit. The Greene family moved into their new house at 22 Peggy's Way in the Jennifer Lane Neighborhood of Manchester Center in August 2021; the Furciniti-Julius family moved home to their new house in Bennington in December 2021. By the end of June 2021, we were close to finishing a second house on Peggy's Way in partnership with the Brown Family, who will move home by the time you receive this report. Our home repair program currently is accepting applications from income-qualified homeowners who need minor exterior home repairs, including ramps, to stay safely in their homes.

Our Resale Store in Manchester sells, at reasonable prices, new and gently used furniture, building supplies, appliances, housewares, tools, and home improvements products that have been donated to us. Not only does the store provide people with quality furnishings they can afford, it also keeps items out of the landfill. The proceeds from the store provide meaningful support for our constructions programs.

BCHfH has built 31 homes since 1997 in partnership with income-qualified families. The eighth home we built is located in Rupert and the ninth home we built is in West Rupert, providing safe, affordable housing for two Rupert families. Many Rupert residents helped build these and other local Habitat homes. We encourage residents of Rupert to apply for homes and home repair projects. We are grateful for the Town of Rupert's continued support and hope we can count on your assistance in the future. None of our projects would be possible without the support we receive from area towns, businesses, houses of worship, and individuals. Together, we do make a difference in the lives of hard-working, lower-income area residents. For more information about our work, please visit our website www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Hoyt, President, Board of Directors

HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT (TD Bank)

Balance as of 06/20/20	\$ 20,297.24
Deposits 07/21/20 - 06/20/21	\$ 6,300.00
Electronic Payments withdrawn	(\$ 10,479.41)
Balance as of 06/20/21	\$ 16,117.83

GENERAL FUND CHECKING - (Berkshire Bank)

Cash on Hand 07/01/20	\$ 383,337.68
Receipts	\$2,944,955.40
Disbursements	(\$2,830,485.69)
Cash on Hand 06/30/21	\$ 497,807.39

REAPPRAISAL FUND MONEY MARKET (Berkshire Bank)

Opened 08/31/2020 - Transferred from General Fund	\$ 12,085.00
Interest Earned	\$ 8.69
Deposits 06/29/2021	\$ 4,921.50
Balance 06/30/2021	\$ 17,015.19

LINE OF CREDIT LOAN (Berkshire Bank)

Loan date 07/01/15 @4.25%	\$ 100,000.00
Borrowed from loan to purchase Tractor/Mower 06/23/16	(\$ 50,000.00)
Loan paid back 08/31/16, with interest (via electronic transfer)	\$ 50,199.69
No activity FY 2017/2018, No activity FY 2018/2019, No activity FY 2019/2020	
No activity FY 2020/2021	
Balance 06/30/2021	0.00

NEW TOWN GARAGE - 5 YEAR LOAN (Bank of Bennington)

Amount of loan not to exceed \$290,000 @ 3.5% as of July 2014	
Balance July 1, 2020	\$ 157,741.89
Principal paid Sept. 08, 2020	(\$29,333.43)
Interest paid Sept. 08, 2020	(\$5,594.89)
PRINCIPAL Balance 06/30/2021	\$ 128,408.46

2019 INTERNATIONAL HX620 TRUCK FINANCING (KS BANK)

Original Balance	\$ 169,980.00
Transaction Rate 3.990%	
Deposit at closing	(\$ 34,980.00)
Balance Due	\$ 136,089.89
(4 payments of \$37,129.82 will be due each August)	
Payment Aug. 25, 2020 (\$33,075.02 plus interest \$4,054.80)	\$ 37,129.82
Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 70,443.94

THE TUTORIAL CENTER, INC.

The Tutorial Center respectfully requests to be on the Rupert Town ballot again for March 2022, for the FY'23 year in the amount of \$300.

The Tutorial Center's mission is to assist individuals and organizations interested in meeting their educational and vocational needs for both youth and adults. The Center is committed to a philosophy which respects student goals, builds on students' strengths, and seeks educational approaches most appropriate for each student.

The past eighteen months have certainly presented some challenges for The Tutorial Center. While only closed to in-person learning for 4 months during the pandemic, in 2020, the Center had to offer virtual classrooms. We trained staff and purchased laptops to accommodate moving our learning model online. We have continued virtual classrooms as well as in person and blending learning, while many of the agencies we work with are still working remotely.

The Tutorial Center works closely with the social service agencies in the area, such as the Dept of Labor, Economic Services, PAVE, DCF, CRJ, and UCS to name a few. Though our main mission is education, we know there are many barriers to education for our students. We work closely with our students to help minimize these obstacles. We have a transition counselor to help students overcome these barriers, as well as direct them to the specific services they may need.

Our education services include tutoring for all ages; Adult Education and literacy (which includes an alternate pathway to a high school diploma-the High School Completion program); English language classes for non-English speakers (ESL); GED preparation and testing. These services are free to VT residents. We also offer job readiness training; basic technology training for individuals and businesses.

Rupert's town appropriation funds support our tutoring work, enabling us to offer scholarships to students who need assistance. In addition, we work closely with the area schools to be a resource for them. Over the past 2 years we have had 2 students from Rupert in our Adult Ed program and a student being tutored.

The Tutorial Center is happy to answer the community's questions about how we may be able to help you or someone you know. Thank you for your previous support, and we look forward to your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean-Marie Oller, Executive Director
seanmarie.o@tutorialcenter.org

www.tutorialcenter.org

In Manchester: PO Box 1434 • 3511 Richville Rd • Manchester Center, VT 05255 • 802-362-0222 • 802-362-0707 fax
In Bennington: 208 Pleasant Street • Bennington, VT 05201 • 802-447-0111 • 802-447-7607 fax

**REVENUE REPORT - RUPERT GENERAL FUND
FY JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021**

Current Taxes (including interest)	2,452,116.24
Property Tax Adjustment via State	17,704.00
	<u>Town Clerk Fees</u>
Dog Licenses via Town Clerk	616.00
Photocopies via Town Clerk	1,848.20
Record Restoration Fees via Town Clerk	3,940.00
Record Restoration Fees via State	150.00
Record Restoration Fees via IRS	.00
Truck Permit Fees	140.00
2 nd Class License -- Sherman's Store	140.00
TOTAL TOWN CLERK FEES	6,834.20
	<u>Zoning Fees</u>
Zoning Et al. Permits	1,090.00
TOTAL ZONING FEES	1,090.00
	<u>Interest</u>
Checking Account Interest	355.31
Delinquent Tax Interest	11,401.99
Treasurer Del. Tax Interest	4,214.13
TOTAL INTEREST	15,971.43
	<u>Delinquent Taxes</u>
Tax to Town	48,180.12
Delinquent Tax Warrants	140.00
Delinquent Tax Fees	12,951.11
Overpayment of Delinquent Tax	34.42
TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES	61,305.65
	<u>Federal & State Aid, Grants & Fines</u>
FEMA	0.00
Bridge Reimbursement	0.00
Highway State Aid (Roads)	127,104.17
Paving Grant	0.00
Hazard Mitigation	0.00
Better Back Roads Grants	37,472.00
Current Use	103,198.00
Current Use Withdrawal	0.00
Reappraisal funds via State Treasurer	4,921.50
Lister Education	0.00
Grant in Aid	0.00
Municipal Planning Grant	0.00
Sheriff / Trooper Fines	117.14
TOTAL STATE AID & FINES	272,812.81
	<u>Payment In Lieu Of Taxes</u>
Merck Forest	10,500.00
US Government - Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008	482.00
PILOT - Vermont Natural Resources - State Land	1,882.80
TOTAL PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	12,864.80
	<u>Reimbursements</u>
Library Salaries	6,316.94
Rupert Volunteer Fire Co. Insurance	3,201.00
VLCT Refund on audit	0.00
Nortrax Reimbursement	1,115.58
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS	10,633.52
	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
Fidelity Charitable Grant via Mrs. S. Hatch	5,000.00
Hauler Fees	50.00
Sale of 2 acres Town Green piece	25,000.00
State Payments	919.50
Town Green Rental	600.00
2014 Dodge Ram Truck Sale	28,900.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	60,469.50
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,911,802.15

TAXES BILLED AND COLLECTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 - 2021

Total Billing (including interest & penalties)	\$2,776,711.42
*Adjustments to taxes billed	<u>\$ 2,057.91</u>
TOTAL BILLED	\$2,778,769.33
Direct Deposits (including interest)	(\$2,350,084.02)
Electronic Deposits via Vermont State Treasurer Prebates	<u>(\$ 295,013.99)</u>
	(\$2,645,098.01)
Delinquent list as of Feb. 25, 2021(includes interest & penalties)	\$ 133,671.32

*Treasurer's Note: Adjustments made after the August 2020 /2021 billing were due to current use changes, errors, and omissions.

TOTAL WARRANTS RECEIVED FROM SELECTBOARD

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Net payroll	-	\$ 167,812.46
*Accounts payable	-	\$2,654,392.03

*Treasurer's Note: Accounts Payable figure includes Residential / Non-Residential municipal tax payments for Education as follows:

Mettawee School District	-	\$ 1,232,426.00
Vermont State Treasurer	-	\$ 603,648.58

THE BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The mission of the Bennington County Conservation District is to protect natural resources and promote rural livelihoods in southwestern Vermont. The goals of the District are, to the extent possible, to:

1. Promote agriculture in Bennington County and adjacent areas.
2. Promote open space and natural resource conservation in Bennington County.
3. Strengthen the county's rural economic base by promoting resource-conserving rural livelihoods.
4. Promote conservation and science education for primary and secondary school-aged children in Bennington County.
5. Build an educated and skilled staff and Board and a secure, predictable funding base so guarantee the District's effectiveness and longevity.

Here are a few of the projects that we have been working on this past year.

Trees for Streams: We have partnered with the Poultney-Mettawee Conservation District, the Climate Advocates of Bennington, 350VT and Vermont DEC to plant riparian buffers throughout the county. Over 2,000 trees/shrubs were planted in the Batten Kill, Mettawee, and Walloomsac watersheds this year.

Agricultural: We continue to partner with the Poultney-Mettawee Conservation District to provide local producers with technical assistance, free no-till seed drill rentals, soil sampling and exclusion fencing.

Culvert Replacement: We continue to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and environmental engineers to develop designs for a large culvert replacement in Danby. Replacing this culvert will improve the natural dynamics of the stream while improving aquatic organism passage including native Brook Trout.

Outreach: The District is providing technical assistance to landowners who wish to learn more about improving their property to enhance water quality and wildlife habitats.

We all have a role to play in local natural resource conservation. Your support enables us to champion the working lands in our community and we are sincerely grateful for your help.

Jim Henderson
Bennington County Conservation Chair

CAPITAL ASSETS - TOWN OF RUPERT

Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance
Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg
Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance works to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education and outreach to businesses, schools, institutions and event organizers in complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements primarily by increasing reuse and recycling. These programs help residents, businesses, schools and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint, and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance launched an expanded website at www.bcswa.org and hosts a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance) which provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that except motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the Apparel Impact, Goodwill, and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations and retail establishments
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen containers
- resources for businesses, schools, events, institutions and residents

During 2021 the Alliance assisted forty businesses, several major event organizers including Garlic Town, made a recycling presentation to summer campers at Lake Paran, and hosted tables at several farmers markets. On-site presentations were provided to Bennington Elementary and Sunderland Elementary schools to teach students about recyclable materials. Forty pieces of composting equipment were also sold through two distribution events.

The Alliance held three household hazardous waste events serving 666 households, a number that continues to increase each year. In 2022, three household hazardous waste events will be held for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns within the Alliance. The spring event will be in Bennington and the fall in Dorset. A third event will be held for residents and businesses of Searsburg and Stamford given to accommodate the greater distance they have to either of the other events. Visit bcswa.org for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the thirteen towns along with grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.

2019 International HX Tandem Dump Truck (Stainless Steel Body)	\$170,000.00
2014 Case IH Maxxum 130 CVT Tractor	\$ 55,000.00
2014 Landpride RPC 3060 – 03 Ditch Mower	\$ 2,500.00
2014 Dodge 5500 Truck	\$ 50,000.00
2013 John Deere 524 Payloader	\$ 60,000.00
2009 Air Flow Sander	\$ 1,000.00
2009 Fisher 10 Ft. Snow Plow	\$ 7,000.00
2009 Zwack Stainless Hopper Sander	\$ 5,000.00
2006 International Tandem Dump Truck (White)	\$ 20,000.00
2006 International Tandem Dump Truck (Green)	\$ 20,000.00
2004 John Deere 772CH Motor Grader	\$ 50,000.00
2004 Woods Ditchbank Mower	\$ 500.00
1999 Zwack Stainless Steel Sander	\$ 2,000.00
1999 Everest Plow & Wing	\$ 1,500.00
1993 Eager Beaver Model 290 Brush Chipper	\$ 3,000.00
1988 York Stone Rake	\$ 2,000.00
Town Office Building	\$117,200.00
Rupert Library/Historical Society Building	\$193,400.00
Municipal Tools at Town Barn	\$ 13,000.00
Town Highway Garage (including the Creamery Lot)	\$568,500.00
Town Green	\$ 44,700.00
Salt Shed	\$105,000.00
Former Grange Lot	\$ 24,300.00
Old Dump on Hebron Rd	\$ 42,500.00

TOWN OF RUPERT PAYROLL - 2020/2021 FULL & PART TIME EMPLOYEES TOTAL - 18

Gross Wages*	\$208,068.73
FICA Withholdings	12,900.41
Medicare Withholdings	3,017.00
Federal Withholdings	12,453.29
Vermont State Withholdings	4,523.04
Retirement Withholdings	8,378.65
TOTAL	\$249,322.12

*Treasurer's Note:
Includes \$6,316.94 for Library Salaries which were reimbursed to the Town.

Statement of Expenditures – Town of Rupert
 Budget and Actual – General Fund Year Ending June 30, 2021

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>7/1/20-6/30/21</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>EXPENDITURES</u>
School Tax Payments		
Rupert School District Homestead		\$615,342.16
Rupert School Non-Resident		\$617,083.84
Rupert School Resident		<u>\$581,775.58</u>
Total School Tax Payments		\$1,814,201.58
TOWN BUDGET		
<u>Salaries</u>		
Town Clerk	\$14,000.00	\$13,225.68
Library Employee Salary	\$12,000.00	\$6,225.00
Treasurer	\$18,400.00	\$19,174.32
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	\$2,000.00	\$861.89
Selectmen	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Constable	\$500.00	\$120.00
Del Tax Collector Fees	\$9,000.00	\$12,771.11
Auditors	\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
Listers	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Board of Civil Authority	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Fica/Medi	\$8,000.00	\$7,131.61
Town Officers Expense	\$1,000.00	\$132.95
Dog Ordinance Expense	\$1,000.00	\$935.08
Zoning and Planning	\$2,000.00	\$628.86
Elections	<u>\$2,500.00</u>	<u>\$3,526.12</u>
Total Salaries	\$84,800.00	\$78,132.62
<u>Supplies & Maintenance</u>		
Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$3,049.26
Postage	\$1,500.00	\$1,020.10
Town Report	\$1,700.00	\$1,874.99
Office Equipment Repair	\$700.00	\$0.00
Town Records Restoration	\$500.00	\$1,468.18
Office Capital Purchase	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Land Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEMRC – Annual	\$1,300.00	\$5,000.00
Computer Schooling	\$1,500.00	\$95.00
Miscellaneous	<u>\$2,500.00</u>	<u>\$1,214.73</u>
Total Supplies & Maintenance	\$14,700.00	\$13,722.26
<u>Utilities</u>		
Electric – Town Office	\$1,000.00	\$1,083.22
Electric – Library/Historical	\$1,300.00	\$1,247.03
Electric – Town Garage	\$2,400.00	\$2,386.35
Electric – Street Lights	\$8,800.00	\$6,344.39
Telephone – Town Office	\$2,500.00	\$1,910.81
Telephone – Town Garage	\$1,000.00	\$996.32
Benn. Co. Solid Waste Alliance	\$3,500.00	\$2,973.23
Fuel Oil – Library/Historical	\$2,500.00	\$2,316.38
Town Office Heating Oil	\$2,300.00	\$2,245.44
Town Building Maint.	\$6,000.00	\$2,079.16
Town Office Cleaning	<u>\$80.00</u>	<u>\$24.52</u>
Total Utilities	\$31,380.00	\$23,606.85

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) works with and on behalf of its member municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. The BCRC plays an important role in coordinating work among local governments, state and federal agencies, regional public and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private interests. The organization is governed by local appointees from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: www.bcrcvt.org).

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials, the BCRC is a regional center for programs in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, public health, solid waste management, and emergency management. BCRC staff is available to provide direct assistance in these areas and to serve as a liaison with state and federal agencies.

During the past year, the BCRC has worked to implement its comprehensive plan through a variety of programs and cooperative work with member municipalities. Economic development planning at the BCRC is conducted by dedicated staff and supported by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation. The goal of this BCRC program is to support business retention, growth, and recruitment. Related BCRC planning and community development initiatives support redevelopment initiatives in downtowns and village centers, grant assistance for local businesses, and have produced reuse planning studies for key properties such as the former SVC campus and the recently idled Energizer complex. Concern over the state’s water quality has led the BCRC to identify and implement local projects that not only reduce stormwater runoff, but also protect roads, bridges, culverts and private property from damage. Other important activities have included: an assessment of land use regulations affecting housing in each town and village, expanded staff capacity to assist with implementation of local energy plans, village center and neighborhood development area designations, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan, and planning for roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, public transportation improvements.

In the coming year, the BCRC will continue to provide information and resources to assist business and local governments response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and to take advantage of opportunities created through the federal American Rescue Plan and other programs. We expect to see continued focus on infrastructure (including broadband) improvement projects, pandemic recovery and business support services, planning for workforce housing, and measures to support implementation of the Vermont Climate Action Plan.

While our downtown Bennington offices, located at 210 South Street, have reopened, staff still work remotely at times, so it generally is easiest to contact us via email (see contacts at www.bcrcvt.org). Fortunately, technology has allowed us to continue work with little interruption in progress on any projects. Post-pandemic, we hope to have regular office hours at Manchester Town Offices as well.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jim Sullivan, Director

VNA & HOSPICE of the Southwest Region
Main Office: 7 Albert Cree Drive
Rutland, VT 05701
1.800.244.0568
www.vermontvisitingnurses.org
Locations in Bennington, Dorset and Manchester

TOWN REPORT

TO THE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF RUPERT:

In 2020, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region provided Bennington County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to seniors who wish to remain independent at home, and those who are facing a terminal illness, we continue to bring medically necessary health care wherever it is needed, regardless of the location of residence, or complexity of health issue.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective healthcare services to some of Bennington County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2020, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 160,581 visits to 3,298 patients. In the town of Rupert, we provided 781 visits to 23 individuals.

In closing, we wish to thank you for your past support. With your vote of confidence, we will continue to meet our mission to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

Sara C. King
 CEO

Dan DiBattista
 President of the Board of Directors

<u>Outside Services</u>		
Attorney's Fees	\$5,000.00	\$20.00
General Town Insurance	\$29,000.00	\$17,848.00
Audit	\$4,200.00	\$0.00
Vermont League Cities/Town	\$1,800.00	\$1,953.00
Property Mapping	\$1,600.00	\$1,675.00
Cemetery Maint.	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Bennington County Tax	\$10,100.00	\$10,811.05
Benn Cty Reg'l Comm Dues	\$2,200.00	\$4,000.00
Speed Control	\$4,000.00	\$3,351.57
Fire Alarm Maint	\$550.00	\$440.00
State Permits/Fees	\$2,000.00	\$1,350.00
Town Website	\$0.00	\$1,818.19
Radio Communication	<u>\$1,800.00</u>	<u>\$2,032.80</u>
Total Outside Services	\$64,750.00	\$47,799.61

<u>Appropriations</u>		
VT Ctr for Indep Living	\$120.00	\$120.00
Rupert Youth	\$0.00	\$0.00
SW VT Council on Aging	\$400.00	\$400.00
Granville Rescue Squad	\$750.00	\$750.00
Benn. Rutl Opportunity Cncl	\$400.00	\$400.00
American Red Cross	\$250.00	\$250.00
Bennington Cty Con. Dist	\$750.00	\$750.00
Poultney/Mett Water Shed	\$500.00	\$500.00
Bennington Tutorial	\$250.00	\$250.00
Coalition for Homeless	\$500.00	\$500.00
Project Against Violent Encounters	\$100.00	\$100.00
Center for Restorative Justice	\$500.00	\$500.00
Manchester Rescue Squad	\$750.00	\$750.00
Bennington County Habitat for Humanity	\$350.00	\$350.00
Rupert Food Pantry	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total Appropriations	\$6,120.00	\$6,120.00

Total Town Budget	\$201,750.00	\$169,381.34
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HIGHWAY BUDGET

<u>Salaries/Wages</u>		
Highway Crew	\$150,000.00	\$138,588.57
Mileage Reimbursement	\$200.00	\$0.00
Fica/Medi	\$13,500.00	\$12,027.96
Health Insurance	\$54,000.00	\$55,876.20
Retirement	\$8,500.00	\$8,378.65
Unemployment Insurance	\$200.00	\$343.00
Workers Compensation	<u>\$13,000.00</u>	<u>\$13,628.00</u>
Total Salaries/Wages	\$239,400.00	\$228,842.38

<u>Supplies and Maintenance</u>		
Parts and Supplies	\$14,000.00	\$14,565.74
Equipment Rental	\$4,000.00	\$3,965.00
Oil & Lube	\$2,000.00	\$945.56
Diesel	\$26,000.00	\$22,723.77
Equipment Repair	\$28,000.00	\$23,491.81
Town Barn Repair	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Town Barn Heating Oil	<u>\$4,500.00</u>	<u>\$3,190.56</u>
Total Supplies & Maintenance	\$79,500.00	\$68,882.44

Granville Rescue Squad, Inc.
 East Potter Avenue, P.O. Box 153
 Granville, NY 12832
 Telephone (518) 642-1830
www.granvillerescue.com
granvillerescue@yahoo.com

To the Citizens of Towns Served:

Thank you for the opportunity to have served you over the past year.

Granville Rescue handled 2086 calls in 2021, traveling over 83,000 miles. The following is the breakdown by area:

Granville Village	738	Pawlet/W. Pawlet	124
Granville Town	633	Rupert	10
Hebron	53	Danby	20
Wells	134	Other Areas	374

We routinely respond to calls for mutual assistance outside of our area. Other neighboring ambulances also assist our agency when the system is overwhelmed with calls and or resources are depleted.

Our service is licensed in New York and Vermont as an advanced life support agency. Volunteer members are supplemented by employees to provide 24 hour a day, 7 days a week emergency medical coverage. Our roster has over 45 members and staff, ranging from drivers to paramedics. In 2021, members participated in over 10,000 hours of emergency call time and in excess of 1500 hours of training. We do offer community CPR and first aid training, depending on instructor availability, as well as the "Stop the Bleed" program. This has been slightly altered this year due to the pandemic.

An EMT course was held at the Granville Rescue building over the winter. From this we were able to gain six new EMTs. We congratulate them and thank them for taking on this course.

Our agency was awarded a grant for a "Lucas" CPR device. This unit is capable of performing chest compressions on a patient freeing up personnel to perform other tasks on a cardiac arrest. Additionally, we have just taken delivery of a 2022 ambulance. This vehicle is a new chassis with refurbished box. This purchase was a significant savings over a brand new chassis and box.

Granville Rescue would like to thank the citizens, businesses, local governments, fire, police, and neighboring EMS agencies, as well as highway departments for their continued support and assistance. Anyone with questions, concerns, or interest can stop by our building on Potter Avenue in Granville or visit our website at www.granvillerescue.com.

The members and staff of the Granville Rescue wish everyone a healthy 2022!

Outside Services		
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
Blasting	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dead Tree Removal	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Total Outside Services	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Road Maintenance Material		
Gravel	\$50,000.00	\$70,547.34
Sand	\$20,000.00	\$16,200.00
Salt	\$60,000.00	\$51,343.36
Calcium Chloride	\$8,000.00	\$13,027.80
Hot & Cold Patch	\$10,000.00	\$12,622.08
Total Road Maintenance Material	\$148,000.00	\$163,740.58
Projects		
Paving	\$85,000.00	\$86,671.49
Bridges	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Class III Roads	\$15,000.00	\$1,300.00
Guard Rails/Culverts	\$8,000.00	\$6,986.40
Town Garage Loan Payment	\$35,000.00	\$34,928.32
Total Projects	\$153,000.00	\$129,886.21
Equipment Costs		
Vehicles and Equipment	\$50,000.00	\$75,448.82
Blades	\$4,000.00	\$4,655.00
Tires	\$7,500.00	\$8,092.98
Miscellaneous	\$1,800.00	\$3,450.32
Total Equipment Costs	\$63,300.00	\$91,647.12
Total Highway Budget	\$686,200.00	\$685,998.73
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES	\$887,950.00	\$855,380.07
Voted Non-Budgetary Articles & Grants		
Establish Town Lines	\$250.00	\$0.00
Reappraisal Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pawlet Mountain Road Cem. Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Better Back Roads	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Voted Non-Budgetary Articles & Grants	\$250.00	\$0.00
Voted Appropriations		
Rupert Volunteer Fire Co.	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Dorset Nursing Association	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
R.K. Kittay Library	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Salem Rescue Squad	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Rupert Village Sidewalks	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Town Office Restoration	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
Total Voted Appropriations	\$64,700.00	\$29,700.00
Total Expenditures	\$952,900.00	\$885,080.07
Committed Funds		
Town Green Fund-Timber Sale & Mrs. Hatch \$5000	\$34,479.48	\$6,289.40
Town Office Restoration Fund – leftover	\$6,594.00	\$0.00
Rupert Town Forest Sale-Town office Renovation	\$91,000.00	\$3,201.00
Fiduciary Grant from Mrs. Hatch	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Land Records Restoration Fund	\$9,888.00	\$0.00
Town Financial Audit	\$4,200.00	\$0.00
Paving – rolled over from previous year	\$81,640.00	\$81,640.00

Salem Rescue Squad, Inc.
 152 East Broadway, PO Box 360
 Salem, NY 12865
 Telephone: 518.854.7199
 E-mail: salem44ems@hotmail.com

Salem Rescue Squad responded to 445 emergency calls in 2021. Our agency also provided 54 Community Paramedicine home visits this past year.

Break down of calls based on township:

Salem: 276
 Hebron: 130
 Rupert: 27
 Jackson: 3
 Greenwich: 3
 Fort Edward: 1
 Cambridge: 1
 Bennington: 1

The mission of the Salem Rescue Squad continues to be a deep dedication and commitment to provide Emergency Medical Services to our community and surrounding areas. The Salem Rescue Squad has been an active part of the community for more than fifty years. We strive to provide prompt, professional and courteous care to all of those in need. Over the years, Salem Rescue Squad has maintained a high standard of service, through a dedicated group of volunteers and staff. The Squad normally participates in numerous community events including school functions, events at SAW, several Awareness walks that are held in Salem, and The Tour of the Battenkill, though the last few years have not been the normal. We have adapted to COVID-19 care requirements with addition training and equipment. The Salem Rescue Squad is actively working in conjunction with the Cambridge Valley, Easton-Greenwich and Granville Rescue Squads to deliver Mobile Integrated Health System community paramedicine in our communities, which has made great progress during the past years. We currently have three providers enrolled. This program has already proven to be beneficial. We are excited to explore new and meaningful programs to support our communities' growing needs.

The Salem Rescue Squad would like to thank all of our constituents for your continued support.

**SELECTBOARD REPORT - ANTICIPATED INCOME
 JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023**

State of Vermont - Highway Aid	\$113,000.00
Current Use - Hold Harmless	\$107,000.00
Reimbursement Library Salaries	\$ 10,000.00
Merck Forest in lieu of taxes	\$ 10,000.00
Rupert Volunteer Fire Company	\$ 6,500.00
Delinquent Tax Collector Fees	\$ 10,000.00
Government PILOT	\$ 2,500.00
Interest - Bank Accounts	\$ 500.00
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$ 5,000.00
Licenses & Zoning Permits	\$ 2,000.00
Speed Control Fines	\$ 200.00
Misc.	\$ 5,000.00
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$271,700.00

Budget July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	
General Government	\$ 195,200.00
Highway Expense	\$ 771,800.00
<u>TOTAL BUDGET</u>	\$ 967,000.00
Less anticipated income	<u>(\$ 271,700.00)</u>

AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES \$ 695,300.00

FISCAL YEAR END BALANCE

Cash On Hand	June 30, 2021	\$ 497,807.39
<u>COMMITTED FUNDS</u>		
Town Lines		\$ 250.00
Town Building Restoration		\$ 6,594.00
Land Records Restoration		\$ 13,009.82
Rupert Town Green Fund		\$ 26,480.93
Rupert Town Forest Sale		\$ 87,799.00
Fiduciary Grant via Mrs. S. Hatch		\$ 10,000.00
Town Office Improvement Fund		\$ 24,598.74
Sidewalks		\$ 8,993.89
Sale of Town Green 2 Acres		\$ 25,000.00
		<u>\$202,726.38</u>
Year End Balance		\$497,807.39
Committed Funds		<u>(\$202,726.38)</u>
Actual 20/21 FY Balance		\$295,081.01
GENERAL FUND BALANCE		\$295,081.01
Uncollected Delinquent Taxes (6/30/21)		\$ 36,660.91

Statement of Expenditures - Town of Rupert
Budget, Actual and Proposed – General Fund Year Ending June 30, 2022

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<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>7/1/2021-6/30/22</u>	<u>(6-MONTH) ACTUAL</u> <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>7/1/22-6/30/23</u>
School Tax Payments			
Rupert School District Homestead		\$252,687.33	
Rupert School Non Resident		\$352,132.08	
State Education Payment		\$239,272.00	
Total School Tax Payments		\$844,091.41	
TOWN BUDGET			
Salaries			
Town Clerk	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$16,000.00
Library Employee Salary	\$10,000.00	\$4,378.00	\$10,000.00
Treasurer	\$19,000.00	\$9,499.98	\$20,000.00
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	\$1,500.00	\$ 426.02	\$1,500.00
Selectmen	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Constable	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Del Tax Collector Fees	\$8,000.00	\$2,165.15	\$8,000.00
Auditors	\$1,900.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
Listers	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$8,000.00
Board of Civil Authority	\$ 800.00	\$555.00	\$800.00
Fica/Medi	\$8,500.00	\$4,823.86	\$10,000.00
Town Officers Expense	\$ 900.00	\$78.00	\$200.00
Dog Ordinance Expense	\$1,000.00	\$431.10	\$1,500.00
Zoning and Planning	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Elections	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Total Salaries	\$81,600.00	\$41,357.11	\$85,400.00
Supplies & Maintenance			
Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$1,918.35	\$3,000.00
Postage	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Town Report	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Office Equipment Repair	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Town Records Restoration	\$500.00	\$390.31	\$500.00
Office Capital Purchase	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Land Purchase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NEMRC – Annual	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Computer Schooling	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00	\$7,308.66	\$2,500.00
Total Supplies & Maintenance	\$17,200.00	\$14,617.32	\$17,200.00
Utilities			
Electric – Town Office	\$1,000.00	\$419.03	\$1,000.00
Electric – Library/Historical	\$1,000.00	\$813.53	\$1,000.00
Electric – Town Garage	\$2,000.00	\$1,232.94	\$2,000.00
Electric – Street Lights	\$6,300.00	\$3,228.16	\$6,300.00
Telephone – Town Office	\$2,000.00	\$964.38	\$2,000.00
Telephone – Town Garage	\$1,000.00	\$520.93	\$1,000.00
Benn. Co. Waste Alliance	\$3,500.00	\$3,611.62	\$3,500.00
Fuel Oil – Library/Historical	\$2,500.00	\$369.89	\$2,500.00
Town Office Heating Oil	\$2,500.00	\$239.60	\$2,500.00

Help navigating health and human services for information and resources is only 3 digits away... 211. Vermont 211 is a statewide information and Referral program of the United Ways of Vermont. The Vermont 211 system is at the fingertips of every resident and every phone 24/7. 211 is cost-effective, high-quality, personal, flexible and community-based.

Can't find what you need? You can always reach one of our trained information & Referral Specialists by phone or by text. Vermont 211 is here to offer help and to offer hope

- One call gives you access to resources across your community. 211 is efficient, fast and easy to use.
- No more wrong numbers, no more wasted time trying to find the right resource(s).
- 211 is a private and confidential call; most often the name of the caller is not even taken.
- 211 maintains the integrity of the 9-1-1 system; saving that vital community resource for life-and-death emergencies.
- 24/7 availability every day of the year; 211 is always there for you by phone, at www.vermont211.org, and by texting your zip code to 898211 Monday-Friday 8:00am-10:00pm.
- 211 us an easy way to find or give help in your community.
- Language translation services are also available.

In times of disaster, Vermont 2-1-1 plays a critical role in bringing information to the people most affected by the events and relaying the needs of callers back to the government officials and the first responders.

What are the needs in your community?

Vermont 211 collects town, county and statewide data and feeds it back to communities to help make systemic change. Monthly reports showing the needs of your county are available on our website.

To contact 211:

- Dial 211 or
- 1-866-652-4636
- www.vermont211.org
- Text your zip code to 898211 Monday-Friday 8:00am-10:00pm

THE RUPERT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Our second year with Covid limitations was nevertheless a busy one for us. We were able to finish the restoration of the Cobbler House, by replacing the slate roof, with a generous donation from Jack Williams of Newmont Slate Co. Both museums were open for visitors on weekends, and, for special occasions, such as Old Home Days. We also continue to offer help in researching family history of early settlers where possible. We furnish Memorial Day flags for all Veterans of all our wars, in conjunction with the Cemetery Association. We still welcome gifts of artifacts of historic significance for our collections and for display in the museums. A new project under consideration is our need for a carriage-barn (shed) for storage of some larger items (some farm items, buggies, etc.) patterned after the former carriage sheds at our village churches, where the items would be protected from the weather, and able to be viewed by the public. Meanwhile, we hope you will stop by to see our exhibits and learn how our predecessors lived. Officers: Donald Lewis, Claude Barden, John LaVecchia, Diane Lourie, Nan Leach, Leesa Bradley, Ruth Hunter, Trustees: Tracy Lourie, Treas, Anne Lourie, Sec., Margaret Bain, V. Pres, Gene Higgins, Pres.



Town Building Maint.	\$6,000.00	\$10,382.52	\$6,000.00
Town Office Cleaning	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
Total Utilities	\$27,880.00	\$21,782.60	\$27,880.00
Outside Services			
Attorney's Fees	\$5,000.00	(\$274.20)	\$5,000.00
General Town Insurance	\$20,000.00	\$4,521.25	\$20,000.00
Audit	\$4,200.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00
Vermont League Cities/Town	\$2,000.00	\$1,953.00	\$2,000.00
Property Mapping	\$1,800.00	\$837.50	\$1,800.00
Cemetery Maint.	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Bennington County Tax	\$12,000.00	\$8,995.88	\$10,500.00
Benn Cty Reg'l Comm Dues	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Speed Control	\$4,000.00	\$154.79	\$4,000.00
Fire Alarm Maintenance	\$550.00	\$220.00	\$550.00
State Permits and Fees	\$1,500.00	\$240.00	\$1,000.00
Town Website	\$1,000.00	\$777.99	\$1,000.00
Radio Communications	\$1,800.00	\$929.00	\$1,800.00
Total Outside Services	\$60,350.00	\$24,855.21	\$58,350.00
Appropriations			
VT Ctr for Indep Living	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
Rupert Youth	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Front Porch Forum	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
SW VT Council on Aging	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Granville Rescue Squad	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
Benn. Rutl Opportunity Cncl	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
American Red Cross	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Bennington Cty Con. Dist	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
Poultney/Mett Water Shed	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Bennington Tutorial	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
Coalition for Homeless	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Project Against Violent Encounters	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Center for Restorative Justice	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Manchester Rescue Squad	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
Benn. County Habitat for Humanity	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
Rupert Food Pantry	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total Appropriations	\$6,320.00	\$6,320.00	\$6,370.00
Total Town Budget	\$193,350.00	\$108,932.24	\$195,200.00
HIGHWAY BUDGET			
Salaries/Wages			
Highway Crew	\$155,000.00	\$61,024.61	\$200,000.00
Mileage Reimbursement	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fica/Medi	\$14,000.00	\$5,377.32	\$17,000.00
Health Insurance	\$55,000.00	\$11,708.10	\$60,000.00
Retirement	\$9,000.00	\$3,565.95	\$13,500.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$500.00	\$260.00	\$500.00
Workers Compensation	\$14,000.00	\$3,271.75	\$18,000.00
Total Salaries/Wages	\$247,700.00	\$85,207.73	\$309,000.00
Supplies and Maintenance			
Parts and Supplies	\$14,500.00	\$6,281.06	\$14,500.00
Equipment Rental	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00

Oil & Lube	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Diesel	\$26,000.00	\$13,055.56	\$28,000.00
Equipment Repair	\$28,000.00	\$18,500.45	\$30,000.00
Town Barn Repair	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Town Barn Heating Propane	\$4,500.00	\$1,348.82	\$4,500.00
Total Supplies & Maintenance	\$80,000.00	\$39,185.89	\$84,000.00
Outside Services			
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Blasting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dead Tree Removal	\$3,000.00	\$800.00	\$3,500.00
Total Outside Services	\$3,000.00	\$800.00	\$3,500.00
Road Maintenance Material			
Gravel	\$60,000.00	\$3,997.19	\$60,000.00
Sand	\$20,000.00	\$17,387.90	\$20,000.00
Salt	\$60,000.00	\$27,622.47	\$60,000.00
Calcium Chloride	\$9,000.00	\$4,192.44	\$9,000.00
Hot & Cold Patch	\$10,000.00	\$1,176.08	\$10,000.00
Total Road Maintenance Material	\$159,000.00	\$54,376.08	\$159,000.00
Projects			
Paving	\$85,000.00	\$0.00	\$85,000.00
Bridges	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Class III Roads	\$15,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$15,000.00
Guard Rails/Culverts	\$8,000.00	\$1,689.60	\$8,000.00
Town Garage Loan Payment	\$35,000.00	\$34,928.32	\$35,000.00
Total Projects	\$153,000.00	\$39,017.92	\$153,000.00
Equipment Costs			
Vehicles and Equipment	\$50,000.00	\$55,439.82	\$50,000.00
Blades	\$4,000.00	\$3,672.40	\$4,000.00
Tires	\$7,500.00	\$6,308.78	\$7,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,800.00	\$324.95	\$1,800.00
Total Equipment Costs	\$63,300.00	\$65,745.95	\$63,300.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY BUDGET	\$706,000.00	\$284,333.57	\$771,800.00
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES	\$899,350.00	\$393,265.81	\$967,000.00
Voted Non-Budgetary Articles & Grants			
Establish Town Lines		\$0.00	
Reappraisal Grant		\$0.00	
Pawlet Mountain Road Cem. Main		\$0.00	
Better Back Roads		\$14,225.00	
Total Voted Non-Budgetary Articles & Grants		\$14,225.00	
Voted Appropriations			
Rupert Volunteer Fire Company	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Dorset Nursing Association	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	
R K Kittay Library	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Salem Rescue Squad	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Rupert Village Sidewalks	\$10,000.00	\$18,160.76	
Town Office Restoration	\$25,000.00	\$23,008.32	
Total Voted Appropriations	\$75,000.00	\$81,169.08	
Total Expenditures	\$974,350.00	\$488,659.89	

ROSALIND KESHIN KITTAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Treasurer's Report
January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Income	
Donations	\$ 5,483.45
CD Interest Income	\$ 2,831.09
Plant Sale	\$ 560.36
Golf Tournament	\$ 3,326.84
Fall Mum Sale	\$ 1,091.00
Used Book Sales	\$ 43.00
Grants	\$ 1,000.00
Town of Rupert	\$ 1,500.00
VT Department of Libraries	\$ 200.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 16,035.74
Cash on Hand 01/01/22	\$ 7,335.00
Grant on Hand 01/01/22	\$ 2,000.00
	<hr/>
Total Funds	\$ 25,370.74

Expenses	
Audio-Visual	\$ 177.78
Books	\$ 1,656.10
Computer Expense	\$ 1,255.90
Fundraising	\$ 418.64
Gifts - Volunteer Recognition	\$ 240.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 126.14
Office Supplies	\$ 731.26
Passes	\$ 100.00
Postage	\$ 140.05
Publicity	\$ 117.93
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 398.60
Scholarship	\$ 300.00
Summer Reading Program	\$ 1,078.00
Telephone	\$ 706.00
Wages - Director & cleaning	\$ 6,250.00
Wages - FICA - Director & cleaning	\$ 569.72
	<hr/>
	14,266.12

Investment(Endowment Fund)*	
RK Kittay Endowment Fund	\$ 183,162.43

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Nardi, Treasurer

*Note: The Endowment Fund was established in 1999 with the intent to use interest earned each year to offset operating expenses and decrease the reliance on donations. Since its inception we have deposited all interest earned on this fund in an effort to build it to its original goal of 200,000.00. Upon attainment of this goal we intend to use the interest earned each year to help with operating expenses.

**TOWN OF RUPERT
DOG LICENSES ISSUED FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021**

We also received the funding from last year's Pilcrow Grant which enabled the purchase of some much needed equipment for the library that will help us organize and expand our collections.

Peter Casenhiser spearheaded a unique engagement opportunity with our rural libraries across the state referred to as, "The Bill Project." This was a way to build relationships and awareness of the many rural libraries across the state. The end result is a book called Travels with Bill. Check it out at the RK Kittay Library!

Our trustees, and volunteers remain enthusiastic to continually provide and adapt our services in any circumstance. We have had some challenges, but this has continued to reinforce the importance of the library for our community. We remain delighted to assist our patrons and look forward to more creative and innovative services in 2022 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted:

President: Judy Zinn **Treasurer:** Jean Nardi **Secretary:** Erica Shott
Arlene Horn Sarah Porter Peter Casenhiser Carey Braidt



CASH ON HAND JAN. 1, 2021	\$ 0.00
191 DOGS LICENSED	\$ 1,848.00
(Includes 1 Farm Dog License)	
2 BREEDER LICENSES @ \$35.00	\$ 70.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,918.00
Fees to Vermont State Treasurer	(\$ 903.00)
\$2.00 per license fee retained by T.C.	(\$ 382.00)
TOTAL	(\$ 1,285.00)
Net revenue for Town of Rupert for the 2021 calendar year	\$ 633.00

NOTES FROM THE TOWN CLERK:

New dog licenses for 2022 are now at the Town Office. Registration due date is April 1, 2022. The rabies vaccination law reads that all dogs over the age of three months shall be vaccinated against rabies and this initial vaccination is good for 12 months. Within 9 - 12 months of that initial vaccination the animal must receive a booster vaccination. After that, all rabies vaccinations will be valid for 3 years. One dollar of every license goes towards the State of Vermont Rabies Control Program. If you have any questions as to whether or not your pet needs to be vaccinated, in order to be registered, please call the town office.

The State of Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program is ongoing. Four dollars of every license goes towards support of this program. It is designed to enable income eligible caretakers of cats and dogs to receive financial assistance in which to spay, neuter and vaccinate the animals for which they provide care. Applications and a list of participating veterinarians are available at the town office.

2022 Dog License Fees are as follows:

BEFORE APRIL 1 st .	\$10.00 - neutered/spayed	\$14.00 - unaltered
AFTER APRIL 1 st .	\$14.00 - neutered/spayed	\$18.00 - unaltered

Rupert Animal Control Ordinance has been in effect since Jan. 9, 1999. Copies are available at the town office.

Due to the COVID 19 virus, so much of 2021 (and even in 2022) was spent at home by many animal owners. I am sure that most of those animals are very happy to have company all day, instead of waiting long hours for their owners to return home from work. I am also sure the owners were just as glad to have the companionship of their animals while waiting to be amongst friends and family again. Hopefully, we will be able to put this virus behind us and maybe now we will all realize the importance of connecting with our animals.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Lenhardt, Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS – CALENDAR YEAR 2021

2021 BIRTHS

Juniper Moon Sogorka Born to Gregory E. & Sarah E. Sogorka	March 23, 2021
Emma Ruth Ramsey Born to Adam D. Ramsey & Jessica Y. Leonard	Aug. 25, 2021
Noah Jackson Vise Born to Jesse E. Vise & Amanda M. Finnegan	Nov. 01, 2021
Oaklyn Ryder Zangel Born to Robert O. Zangel & Grace M. Morey	Dec. 25, 2021

2021 CIVIL MARRIAGES

David Michael Morgan	to	Alexandra Carolina Garcia Torres	June 04, 2021
Rebecca Anne Ragland	to	Michael James Sellers	June 20, 2021
Tyler Guy Clark	to	Mckayla Marie Barrett	Sept. 25, 2021

2021 DEATHS

Merritt C. Morey	Feb.	01, 2021	76
Kevin Lynn Saunders	Feb.	13, 2021	65
Madeline N. Rockwell	Mar.	04, 2021	71
Robert A. Pelletier Sr.	Mar.	27, 2021	60
Frances Armstrong	Apr.	27, 2021	96
Georgia H. Bebee	Sept.	06, 2021	91
Thomas R. Fennell	Nov.	16, 2021	23
Evelyn L. O'Neil	Dec.	17, 2021	97

These are the vital records for 2021. If a birth, civil marriage or death does not occur in the town and you would like to have the event recorded at the town office, please file a certified copy of the record with the town clerk. If I have missed some event, I do apologize.

Respectfully submitted: Andrea Lenhardt, Town Clerk

Mailing Address:
 PO Box 53
 West Rupert, Vermont 05776
 Phone: 802-394-2444

E-Mail: rupertkittaylibrary@gmail.com
Website: rupertkittaylibrary.org/
Facebook: facebook.com/rkkittaylibrary/
Instagram: instagram.com/rkkittaylibrary/

The trustees and staff of the R.K. Kittay Library express gratitude to the Rupert Community for the continued support of our free public library. We also are beyond grateful for the dedicated volunteers who keep the doors of the library open, and maintain and organize our materials, as well as share their knowledge and compassion for reading with our visitors.

Services offered at the Library

Fiber Optic Technology: the internet can be accessed in a large radius around the library to accommodate internet access outside of normal library hours

Catalog of holdings: Accessible on library website

Universal classes: Over 500 virtual classes available

Educational Portal: Links to more than 600 free video lessons

Heritage Quest: Genealogy Research Tool

Art Exhibit Space: Local Artists are encouraged to utilize our space to display their work

Community Programs: Although there was limited programming due to the continued Covid-19 Pandemic we had a well attended Summer Reading Program for the children of the Rupert Community, called Tales and Tails.

Free Passes for Patrons are available to:
 Vermont State Parks, Vermont Historical Museum, Historical Sites, The Clark Museum, Hildene

Community Groups: Card group resumed this Summer, after an eager group of vaccinated card players advocated to get together and play Canasta once again!

Fundraising is essential in meeting our goals. Our successful fundraisers this year included the golf tournament, a small book sale, and the Spring and Fall plant sales. We are also very appreciative of the donations that were received from the community during our annual campaign letter. The donations and support of our patrons and the community is the foundation for our continued success.

Zoning Administrator's Report 2021

2021 Rupert Food Pantry

The Rupert Food Pantry serves the community of Rupert and the surrounding area. We are blessed to receive monetary donations as well as food donations from townspeople. Both help to keep our shelves stocked. We also receive \$500 from the town.

This past year we continued to only be open the first and 2nd Saturdays of the month from 9-10am. We ask that masks be worn when entering the food pantry to help keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions, please let me know at 394-2491.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelli W. Lewis
Rupert Food Pantry Chair



The Planning Commission meets the first Monday of each month at the Town Office at 7:00 p.m. Meetings may be held remotely as needed during the health emergency. The Development Review Board meets similarly on an as-needed basis.

For the year 2021, there were a total of 15 applications. The breakdown is as follows:

Residence Addition/Renovation.....	5
Accessory Structure.....	4
New/Replace Existing Residence...	3
Subdivision.....	1
Change Of Use.....	1
Sign.....	1

The Town would like to remind everyone that zoning permits are required for most projects, to be obtained before the work begins. Copies of the application forms, instructions, Land Use Regulations, and Land Use Plan Map are available at the Town Office. The regulations and map are also available on the town's website. Please feel free to contact me at the office with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
John La Vecchia, Jr.
Administrative Officer

RUPERT LISTERS

The past year has seen an average amount of sales in Rupert but with a wide range between what we have them assessed for and the sale price. From 38% below our value to 250% above. This will affect our CLA and COD which are the calculations the state uses to tell us we need a town wide reappraisal. So far our numbers are good and could be in the future depending on sales. By April first we will inspect new construction done this year whether it is completed or not with notices of change of appraisal going out a month or so later leading to Grievance Day. This year Val Almosino's term is up and he is not running again. Ruthanne Hunter and Michael Watrous are both running for the open seat. We try to keep regular office hours on Monday and Thursday from 9:00-1:00.

REMINDER

Form HS-122 must be filed by all resident property owners every year, whether or not you are required to file an income tax return, on or before April 15. If you filed as HS-122 in previous years but are now not a resident, you should file HS-122W.

Jed Rubin, Rich Ventrella, Val Almosnino



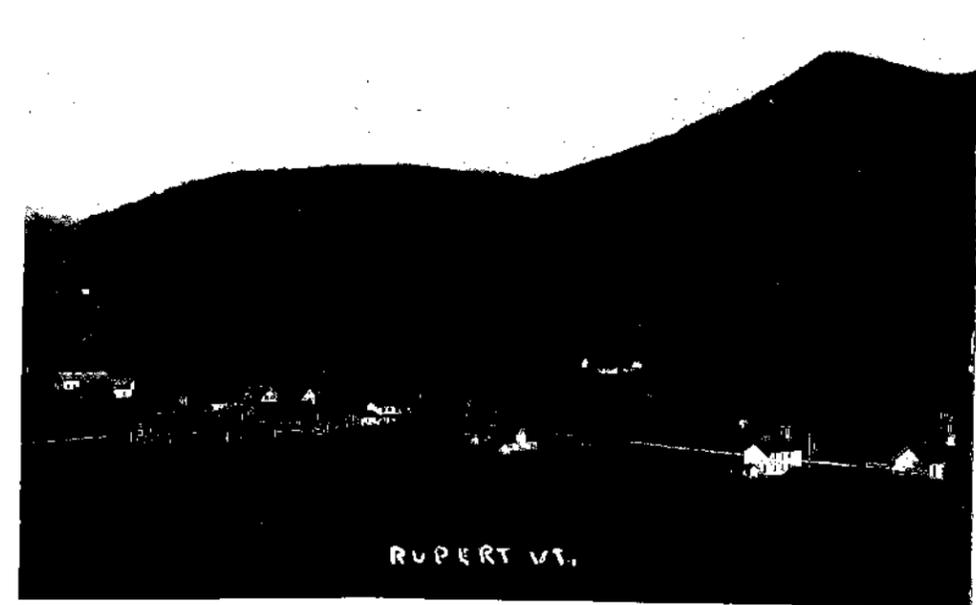
TRAINING	\$275.00
TRUCK	<u>\$279,472.51</u>
TOTAL	\$339,127.74

Balance of General Checking for 12/31/2021	\$40,282.29
Balance of Equipment Fund for 12/31/2021	\$127,133.99

Thank you goes out to Michael Lourie, who gave 44 years of dedicated and committed service to the Rupert Volunteer Fire Company as the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nichol McKeighan, Treasurer



RUPERT STREET CEMETERY INC.
PO BOX 82
WEST RUPERT, VT 05776

RUPERT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2021

RECEIPTS:

BINGO	\$8,645.21
CARNIVAL	\$24,017.11
FEMA GRANT	\$264,761.90
FISH FRY	\$1,419.29
GAME SUPPER	\$1,352.36
GENERAL DONATIONS	\$4,367.86
GUN RAFFLE	\$7,186.58
INTEREST DEPOSITS (BOTH ACCOUNTS)	\$55.43
MEMORIAL DONATIONS	\$245.00
TOWN	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$342,050.74

EXPENSES:

BANQUET	\$1,278.48
BUILDING	\$3,748.58
CARNIVAL	\$16,321.97
COUNTY/STATE DUES	\$1,124.00
DISPATCHING	\$4,300.00
DONATIONS	\$3,325.00
ELECTRIC	\$3,231.65
EQUIPMENT	\$18,691.08
FUEL/PROPANE	\$2,323.03
FUNDRAISING	\$4,087.69
PHONE	\$948.75

The Rupert Street Cemetery Incorporation meets at the Rupert Historical Building which is part of the Rupert Library twice a year, in April and October. Because of Covid, RSC met three times this last year.

Officers are as follows:

Deborah Baker – President/Treasurer

Don Lewis – Vice President

Kelli Lewis – Secretary

Trustees: Phil Mazzucco Sr., Gene Higgins, Tracy Lourie, and Charlie Rockwell.

The mowing of the cemeteries continues to be taken care of by Lourie's Caretaking.

As a group we decided to send out a fund drive letter and are in hopes of doing this once a year. This will help with the cost of making sure that all of the cemeteries in our community are taken care of, which means mowing, repairing of stones, removal of trees that are causing damage and making sure that all cemeteries are surrounded by a fence which is required by law. Plus any other expenses that may come up.

We have also begun working on bringing the Rupert Street Cemetery Inc. into the digital era by making the cemeteries available online so that people can look up relatives or answer any possible historical questions the community may have.

In 2021 the following were buried:

Aggie Armstrong – Carver Section Lot 27A Plot 2

Merritt Morey – Carver Section Lot 19A Plot 2

Kevin Saunders – Sheldon Section Lot 42 Plot 4

Patricia Hall – Sheldon Section Lot 13 Plot 4

Roberta and Ernest Croff – Sheldon Section Lot 31 Plot 1

One plot was sold this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Lewis, Secretary

Rupert Street Cemetery Inc.

RUPERT STREET CEMETERY
 April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force
 Vermont Association of Conservation Districts
 170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292
 (802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

Berkshire Bank Checking Account Beginning 4/1/2020 - \$13,170.81

Income

John Sheldons Estate:	\$5,280.62
Town of Rupert:	\$2,500.00
Plot Purchases:	\$2,050.00
<u>Burials/Cremations:</u>	<u>\$3,400.00</u>
Total	\$13,230.62

Expenses

Louries Caretaking:	\$9,562.50
Closing/opening Graves:	\$3,200.00
Saratoga Flags: Vets Memorial	\$1,078.00
Southern VT Signworks	\$ 240.00
Mahar Monuments Cleaning	\$1,500.00
MSA Insurance	\$ 197.00
PO Box Rental	\$ 64.00
<u>CBH (Tax Filing)</u>	<u>\$ 275.00</u>
Total	\$16,116.50

Berkshire Bank Balance as of March 31, 2021 - \$10,284.93

Berkshire Bank Investments as of 4/1/2020 - \$55,144.07

Berkshire Bank Investments as of 3/21/2021 - \$71,326.58

Respectfully Submitted,
 Deborah Baker, Treasurer

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property, and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply stems, design installations, and find financial support to support the costs of construction. During the 23+ years of the program, almost 1200 grants totaling over \$2.6 million have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

The Rural Fire Protection Program is managed by the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD). VACD is the membership association of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resources Conservation Districts, whose mission is to work with landowners and communities to protect natural resources and support the working landscape throughout the state.

We have made several adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New rural fire protection systems, along with repair, replacement, relocation, upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development, are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2021 was \$193,930 of which \$92,909 was paid in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covered site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through annual appropriations by Vermont Legislature. In addition, the program reserves support from the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Last year, we received over \$11,000 in town appropriations from over 100 towns, with contributions still coming in. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

215 Vermont communities have benefitted from the Rural Fire Protection program. Our goal is to extend this support to all Vermont towns and continue to assist local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources, thereby improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
 Tom Maclay, Chair
 Rural Fire Protection Task Force
 (802) 426-3265 | 83creameryst@fairporint.net

Troy Dare, Program Manager & contact person Town Appropriation business
 Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program
 (802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Jill Arace, Executive Director
 Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
 (802) 496-5162 | jill.arace#vacd.org

**METTAWEE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING
WARNING**

REPORT OF THE RUPERT FIRE CHIEF

The Rupert Fire Department answered 46 calls in 2021

In Town Calls - 30

2 EMS Assist	1 Search & Rescue Merck Forest	8 Fire Alarm Activations
1 Vehicle Fire	2 Priority 1 Echo	6 MVA
2 CO Alarm Activations	1 Tree on Fire	3 Tree on Lines
3 Structure Fires	1 Tractor Fire	

Calls to Neighboring Communities - 16

1 Standby Hebron	1 Structure Fire Salem	2 Structure Fire Dorset
8 Standby Dorset	1 Chimney Fire Dorset	2 Standby West Pawlet
1 Structure Fire Manchester		

Election of Officers is as follows:

Chief	Jimmy Joe Lewis	President	Derick Justin
1st Assistant	Jason Norton	Vice President	Grace Morey
2nd Assistant	Paul Mychack	Secretary	Kelly Lewis
		Treasurer	Nichol McKeighan

Trustees: Jon Fisher, Melinda Lewis, Paul Mychack, Malachi Schnaderbeck, and Tim Mackey stepped down and Jeremy Casey will be finishing out his term.

I would like to thank George Fisher for his several years as a Trustee and 2nd Assistant Chief. I would also like to thank Tim Mackey for his several years serving as a Trustee, Nichol McKeighan for 1 year as Vice President, and Grace Morey for 2 years as President. I would also like to thank Michael Lourie for over 40 years as Treasurer.

Our new truck arrived over the summer which was purchased through a FEMA Grant. We had to purchase 15 new air bottles to replace the bottles that had expired at \$800+ a piece. We are also working on replacing gear for members that their gear has expired or about to expire. A set of gear for each member is \$3,200.

I would like to thank the community for their support at our Annual Carnival we were able to have last year and the other fundraisers we did. Due to the Pandemic, we were not able to have some of our fundraisers, so your support at the fundraisers we did was greatly appreciated.

Emergency numbers continue to be 911 or by calling dispatch directly at 1-518-747-3325.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 802-394-0035. Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Jimmy Joe Lewis
Rupert Volunteer Fire Department

The legal voters of Mettawee School District, consisting of the towns of Pawlet and Rupert, are hereby notified and warned to meet for an Informational Hearing virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. to consider and act upon the following articles.

Zoom Link: <https://brsu.zoom.us/j/3082117370>
Meeting ID: 308 211 7370
Passcode: meeting

To be acted upon on Wednesday, February 23, 2022:

- Article 1: To hear and act upon the reports of the School District Directors and Officers.
- Article 2: To discuss articles to be voted upon by Australian ballot.
- Article 3: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

To be voted by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 1, 2022:

- Article 4: Shall the voters approve the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Mettawee School District be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7:00PM at the Mettawee Community School?
- Article 5: Shall the voters authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023?
- Article 6: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$6,009,284, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$17,734 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 9.4% higher than spending for the current year.
- Article 7: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the Building and Grounds Maintenance Reserve Fund?
- Article 8: To elect the following positions:
Moderator to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
School District Clerk to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
School District Treasurer to serve from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
Pawlet – One Director for a three (3) year term expiring in March 2025
Rupert – One Director for a three (3) year term expiring in March 2025

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot:

Pawlet voters will vote at the Town Clerk's Office in Pawlet. The Polls will open on Tuesday March 1, 2022 at 9:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

Rupert voters will vote at the Rupert Town Office in West Rupert. The Polls will open on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 10:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM.

The legal voters of Mettawee School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 10th day of January 2022.

On behalf of the Mettawee School Directors:
Julie Mach, Chair

Received for the record and recorded this 19th day of January 2022 by:
Deb Hawkins, Clerk of the District

2020: FIRST CONSTABLE REPORT

The following is a summary list of the incidents that I handled from January 2021 to January 2022; for the twelve months of service as Rupert First Constable.

- 1 Day; Grievance Day, Rupert Lister's Office
- 3 Vermont State Police Assists.
- 3 Fire Warden Assist.
- 2 EMS Assists
- 8 Motor Vehicle Accident Assists.
- 9 Traffic Complaint Calls.
- 7 Dog Complaint Calls.
- 8 Warrants hand delivered.
- 6 Citizen Assist Calls.
- 4 Volunteer Days for Rupert Food Booths.

Total Mileage: 280 miles

Thank you to all for your on-going support over the course of another challenging year. Please do not hesitate to call me anytime with your questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Lourie,

First Constable

447 East Street

West Rupert, VT 05776

802.394.7898 (h)

518.338.5331 (c)

louriescaretaking@yahoo.com

FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT

The 2021 forest fire season started with dry conditions across the State of Vermont. A wide spread "Red Flag" warning was issued in early April due to drought conditions combined with abnormally warm air mass that dried out vegetation before green up. Relief showed up for the most of Vermont with July rains and excess moisture for the rest of the year. This year were 94 fires reported in 47 Vermont towns that burned approximately 157 acres.

To the best of my knowledge there were no forest or grass and brush fires in Rupert this past year. Please be aware of dry windy conditions which generally are a major factor when a "controlled burn" gets out of control. A special thanks to the Rupert Volunteer Fire Company for their quick response to all reported fire calls and any other request for assistance.

Please remember that burning household trash is illegal in Vermont and violators are subject to fines and possible loss of license. A permit is required for any outdoor burning when there is no snow on the ground. Please call anytime you have questions regarding outdoor burning. Always think about weather conditions before you start any fire. Thank you. Below are the 2021 fire statistics for the state of Vermont.

2021 FIRE STATISTICS - STATE OF VERMONT

Number of human caused fires	94
Number of lightning caused fires	0
Number of acres burned caused by humans	157
Number of acres burned caused by lightning	0
-----Total number of fires-----	-----94-----
Total number of acres burned	157
10-year total average number of fires	80
10-year total average number of acres burned	177

To obtain a burning permit please call 394-2494.

To report a fire call 1-518-747-3325 or 911.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Lourie

Rupert Fire Warden