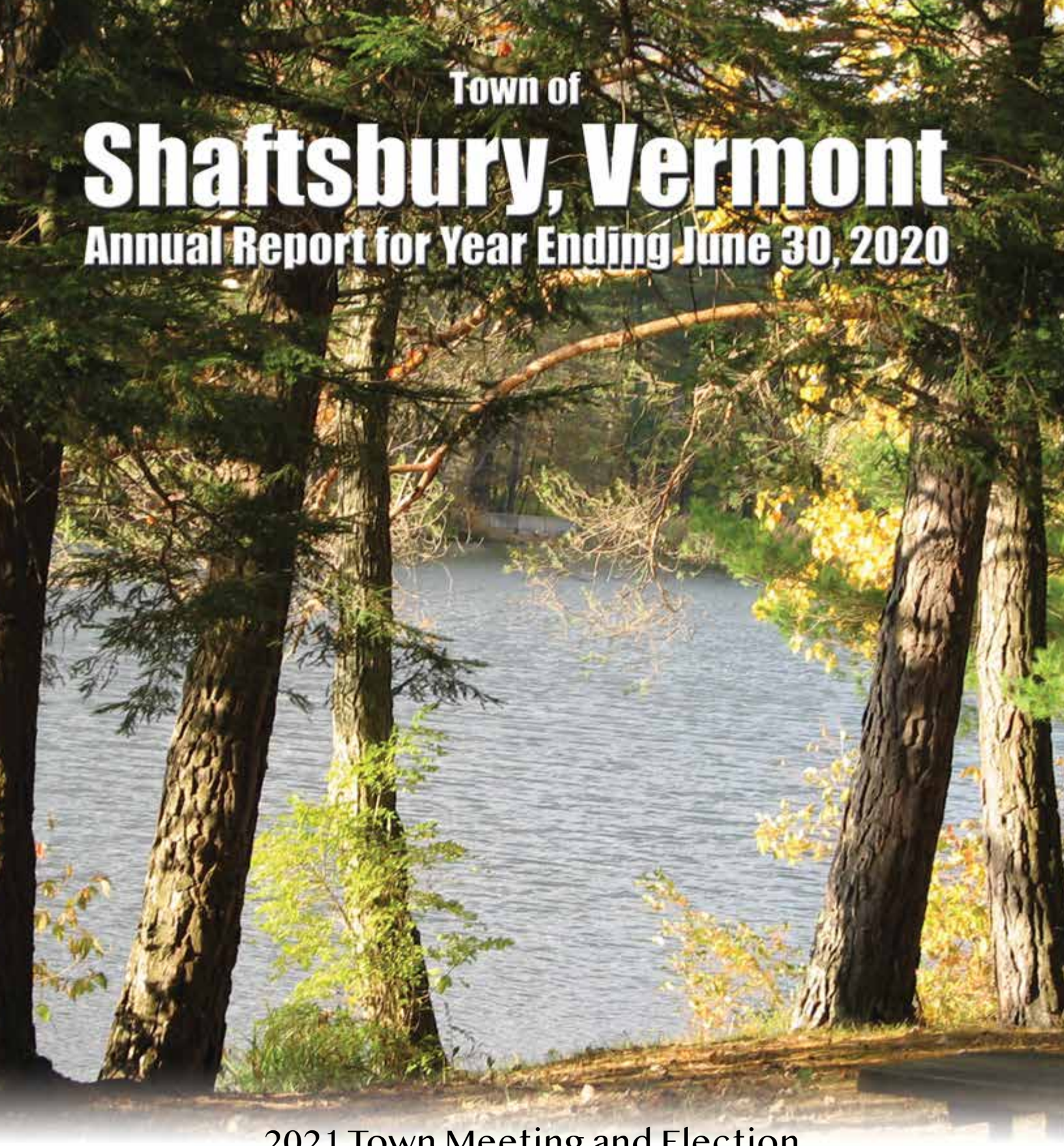

Town of Shaftsbury, Vermont

Annual Report for Year Ending June 30, 2020

2021 Town Meeting and Election

School Business Meeting
Date and Time to be determined
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Town Informational Meeting
3:00 P.M., Sunday, February 28th, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Balloting
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021 at the Town Garage

This year's annual report is dedicated to three outstanding citizens who have been important in the life of Shaftsbury. *They will be missed. . .*

Cathleen "Cathy" Harwood **March 2, 1934 – September 12, 2020**
Ernest "Ernie" Harwood **July 20, 1930 – September 12, 2020**

Cathy served as Shaftsbury's Town Clerk for 10 years before moving on to the Vermont District Court and Family Court. Cathy was an active member of the Shaftsbury Methodist Church. She had a beautiful singing voice, loved to dance and was an accomplished artist. She often donated her oil paintings to the church and district court. Cathy was actively involved in Special Olympics.

Ernest Harwood and his wife Cathleen, residents of Cleveland Avenue, died peacefully within hours of each other on Saturday September 12, 2020 at their home surrounded by their family. They were married in Bennington on July 3, 1954 and lived a beautiful love story for over 66 years.

Ernie was a veteran of the Korean War, worked at Stanley Tools, and volunteered maintaining the Cleveland Avenue park, for which he received an appreciation award from the Town in 2003. He also enjoyed working in his flower garden, hunting, fishing and raising hunting dogs. Ernie loved to cook. He perfected buttermilk rolls to the delight of friends and family. He made them every morning and delivered them to lucky recipients. His children are still trying to discover the secret to Ernie's perfect buttermilk rolls.

Ernie and Cathy loved their family, their community and their neighbors. They will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to have known them.

Steve Greenslet, commander of American Legion Post 13, presents the 60 yrs active member award to Lew Levin.

Lew H. Levin **July 24, 1932 – January 18, 2019**

Lew and his wife Jill were residents of Shaftsbury their whole adult lives. He was a Disabled American Veteran (Army).

Lew worked at Stanley Tools for over 30 years and was involved with the Union, helping fellow employees with grievances and complaints. Lew was on the Zoning Board and was the Town Service Officer for many years. The family got to experience many "characters" passing through town, especially during the 70's. Lew was very active in the American Legion as an officer at the club. He was also the Athletic Director for over 20 years, running the Post 13 Baseball program. He made sure not one of his players went without. Lew was also responsible for saving the Norshaft Little League Baseball program. In the early 70's the program was broke and Lew raised the funds to keep the program going. Lew looked out for his neighbors and the little guy with a common sense approach – which is often missing in today's politics and society.

Town of

Shaftsbury, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2020

School Business Meeting
Time and Date to be determined
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Town Informational Meeting
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 28, 2021

Balloting
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
at the Town Garage

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This year's town report was produced by Town Clerk, Marlene Hall. Cover Photography and Design by Marlene Hall. A special thank you to Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles for her help with writing and proofing. Also thanks to Gina Jenks and David Kiernan for compilation and proofing.

HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

Emergency Dial 911 Fire — Medical — Police

Town Officials

BOARD OF AUDITORS
Michael Caslin, Chair ..... (Home) 802-442-3936
Meetings ..... As needed

BOARD OF LISTERS
Diana Mayer, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 4
Email ..... listers@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours ..... Monday and Wednesday – 9:30 am - Noon and by appointment

CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Kathy Cardiff, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 8
Meetings ..... First Wednesday, 8:30 am, as needed

CONSTABLES
Vacant, First Constable
Vacant, Second Constable

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD
Tom Hunchareck, Chair ..... (Home) 802-375-6928
Meetings ..... First & Third Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Art Whitman, Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186
Meetings ..... Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am as needed

FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER)
Joe Vadakin, Fire Chief ..... (Cell) 802-384-0061
Fire Station #1: 166 Buck Hill Road (non-emergency) 802-442-4226
Fire Station #2: 364 Old Depot Road (non-emergency) 802-375-9308

State Fire Warden (Burning Ordinance is in effect: please call 24 hours in advance to obtain permit)
Eric Bushee 518-836-7639
Deputy Fire Warden Ed Shewell 802-379-0441

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Mike Yannotti ..... (Office) 802-681-7240

PLANNING COMMISSION
Chris Williams, Chair..... (Home) 802-375-6355
Meetings.....Second and Fourth Tuesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

RECREATION COMMITTEE
Deena Ruege, Chair..... (Home) 802-447-4741
Meetings.....Fourth Friday of each month, 1:00 pm

SELECTBOARD
Tim Scoggins, Chair .....(Cell) 530-330-5262
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186
Ken Harrington .....(Cell) 802-366-0015
Tony Krulikowski..... (Home) 802-442-6423
Joe Barber .....(Home)
Meetings..... First and third Monday of each month, 6:30pm

TOWN ADMINISTRATION
David Kiernan .....(Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 3
Email.....administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours ..... Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
Joan Vargo, Bookkeeper.....(Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 6
Email.....accounting@shaftsburyvt.gov

TOWN CLERK
Marlene Hall, Town Clerk.....(Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 1
Email.....townclerk@shaftsburyvt.gov
Gina Jenks, Assistant Town Clerk .....(Office) 802-442-4038 Ext. 8
Email..... tcassist@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours ..... Mon. 9am-3pm and 5pm-7pm, Tues. - Thurs. 9am-4pm, Fri. 9am-Noon & by appointment

TREASURER
Melanie Dexter, Treasurer .....(Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 2
Email.....treasurer@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours ..... Monday - Friday 9am - Noon & by appointment

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
Rob Steuer, Chair ..... (Home) 802-447-3137
Barry Mayer..... (Home) 802-447-2614
Bill Hession ..... (Home) 802-442-8919
Meetings..... As needed

VETERANS COMMITTEE
Meetings..... As needed

ZONING
Shelly Stiles, Zoning Administrator .....(Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 5
Email..... zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours ..... Monday - Wednesday 9am-Noon

STATE OFFICIALS

(www.vermont.gov)

BENNINGTON-3

Representative David Durfee 802-491-7832
Email ..... ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us

BENNINGTON COUNTY

Senator Dick Sears ..... (Home) 802-442-9139
Email ..... rsears@leg.state.vt.us
Senator Brian Campion ..... (Cell) 802-375-4376
Email ..... bcampion@leg.state.vt.us

VERMONT STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Governor Phil Scott 802-828-3333
Lt. Governor Molly Gray 802-828-2226
Attorney General TJ Donovan 802-828-3171
Treasurer Beth Pearce 802-828-2301
Secretary of State Jim Condos 802-828-2363
Auditor Doug Hoffer 802-864-2281

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

(www.usa.gov)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Representative Peter Welch 802-652-2450
Senator Bernie Sanders 802-862-0697
Senator Patrick Leahy 802-229-0569

Additional Helpful Names and Numbers

Animal Control Officer, Traci Mulligan ..... (Home) 802-375-6121
Arlington Rescue Squad - non emergency 802-375-6589
Bennington Area Chamber of Commerce 802-447-3311
Bennington County Clerk and Bennington County Superior Court, Bennington 802-447-2700
Bennington County Industrial Corporation (BCIC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Probate Court 802-447-2700
Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Sheriff's Department 802-442-4900
Bennington Free Library 802-442-9051
Bennington Rescue Squad 802-442-5817
Delinquent Tax Collector, Merton Snow ..... (Home) 802-442-4526
Emergency Management Director, Paul Dansereau ..... (Home) 802-430-3266
..... emergencymanagement@shaftsburyvt.gov
Health Officer, Jackie Myers ..... (Cell) 802-688-9570
John G. McCullough Free Library, North Bennington 802-447-7121
Mount Anthony Union High School, 301 Park Street, Bennington 802-447-7511
Mount Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Road, Bennington 802-447-7541

North Bennington Treasurer's Office 802-442-5547
Post Office, North Bennington (05257), 52 Main Street, North Bennington 802-442-4884
Post Office, Shaftsbury (05262), 56 Church Street, Shaftsbury 802-442-2142
Second Chance Animal Shelter 802-375-2898
Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury 802-442-4373
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union 802-447-7501
Southwest Vermont Career Development Center 802-447-0220
Town of Shaftsbury, Fax Number 802-442-0955
Town Service Officer, Jackie Myers ..... (Cell) 802-688-9570
Tree Warden, Vacant
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Bennington District #1 Office 802-447-2790
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Game Warden (police barracks) 802-442-5421
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) 802-229-9111
Vermont State Police Barracks, Shaftsbury Troop D (non-emergency) 802-442-5421
Village School of North Bennington, 9 School Street, North Bennington 802-442-5955

PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCIES

Shaftsbury Highway

Nights/weekends/holidays - notify State Police 802-442-5421

Shaftsbury Water System (for public water in Shaftsbury Village)

Joshua Brace, Water Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-375-4262
..... water@shaftsburyvt.gov
Mike Yannotti, Department of Public Works Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-379-1547

North Bennington Water Systems (for public water outside Shaftsbury Village)
Ted Fela ..... (Cell) 802-375-9224
Truck Cell 802-688-9005

SOLID WASTE FACILITY

(Transfer Station) 510 North Road

Hours of Operation – Year-round

Tuesday	7:00am - 12:00 Noon
Thursday	11:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday	7:00am - 4:00pm

Transfer Station Holiday Closings 2021 - Please check website at shaftsburyvt.gov
Electronics can be dropped off at the Bennington Transfer Station during their regular business hours.
Located on Houghton Lane in Bennington

Visit our Website
www.shaftsburyvt.gov

All meetings are held at the Town Office Building,
Cole Hall (upstairs), 61 Buck Hill Road, unless otherwise posted

TOWN OFFICERS - ELECTED

Selectboard
Tim Scoggins, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... 2-year term expires 2022
Joe Barber ..... 2-year term expires 2021
Ken Harrington ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Tony Krulikowski ..... 3-year term expires 2023

Town Clerk
Marlene Hall ..... 3-year term expires 2021

Treasurer
Melanie Dexter ..... 3-year term expires 2021

Auditors
Michael Caslin ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Lisa Lent ..... 3-year term expires 2023
Vacant ..... 3-year term expires 2021

Listers
Diana Mayer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Larry Johnson ..... 3-year term expires 2023
Vacant ..... 3-year term expires 2022

Trustees of Public Funds
Rob Steuer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Barry Mayer ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Bill Hession ..... 3-year term expires 2020

One-year terms (expire 2021)
Town Moderator ..... Thomas Dailey
Delinquent Tax Collector ..... Merton J. Snow
First Constable ..... Vacant
Second Constable ..... Vacant

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (2-YEAR TERM EXPIRES 2023)

Lon McClintock, Democrat 802-442-4426
Michael Caslin, Democrat 802-442-3936
Abigail Chaloux, Democrat 802-430-0104
Joseph Coonradt, Independent 802-442-2243
Marna Whitman Dailey, Independent 802-442-6582
Carl Korman, Democrat 802-442-7959
Maureen Matthews McClintock, Democrat 802-442-4426
Anne Mele, Democrat 802-447-3859
Karen Mellinger, Democrat 802-447-1950
Alice Miller, Democrat 802-430-1615
Linda I. Morris, Democrat 802-442-3504
Joan Vargo, Democrat 802-442-5646

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk

BOARD OF ABATEMENT CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk – Town Treasurer – Listers

TOWN OFFICERS - APPOINTED

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Michael Albans ..... Term length at discretion of the Selectboard

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Shelly Stiles ..... 3-year term expires 2023

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Tom Huncharek, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Ted Habberfield, Vice Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Lon McClintock ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Michael Day ..... 3-year term expires 2022

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chris Williams, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2023
Michael Foley ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Michael Cichanowski ..... 3-year term expires 2022
Naomi Miller ..... 3-year term expires 2021
Martha Cornwell ..... 3-year term expires 2023

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Animal Control Officer.....Traci Mulligan
Bennington County Regional Commissioner.....Ken Harrington & Cinda Morse
Emergency Coordinator.....Jerry Mattison
Energy Coordinator.....Ben Hulett
Fire Chief.....Joe Vadakin
1st Asst. Chief.....Mike Taylor
2nd Asst. Chief.....Ed Shewell
Fire Warden.....Eric Bushee
Deputy Fire Warden.....Ed Shewell
Health Officer.....Jackie Myers
Deputy Health Officer.....Traci Mulligan
Town Service Officer.....Jackie Myers
Tree Warden.....Vacant

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Kathy Cardiff, Chair | Neal Strong, Vice Chair | Ellie Hyjek
Peggy Wilson | Joe Hermann | Michael Albans, Superintendent

ECONOMIC DEVELPMENT COMMITTEE

Art Whitman, Chair | Cinda Morse | Phylis Poirio

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Deena Ruege, Chair | Helen Olney | Barb Marino

SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jeffrey Johnson, Principal
802-442-4373

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 2, 2020, Shaftsbury Elementary School

Select Board Members Present: Joe Barber; Ken Harrington; Tony Krulikowski; Tim Scoggins, Chair; Art Whitman, Vice-Chair.

Moderator: Thomas Dailey.

Others Present: Sue Andrews; Alan Baker; Richard Bump, Recording Secretary; Bill Christian; Ed Conway; Jay Coonradt; Melanie Dexter, Treasurer; Tony D'Onofrio; David Durfee, Shaftsbury State Representative; Elizabeth Fenwick; Bill Fisk; Carl Foreman; Marlene Hall, Town Clerk; John Hurst; David Kiernan, Town Administrator; Patricia LeBoeuf, Bennington Banner; Michael Lillie; Barry Mayer; Scott McEnaney; Karen Mellinger; Lon McClintock; Alice Miller, Former Shaftsbury State Representative; Ed Molloy; Melissa Morrison; Chandler Polling; Richard Spenser; Tyler Resch; Jennie Rozycki, Librarian, McCullough Free Library; Jennifer Scoggins; Merton Snow; Shelly Stiles; Chris Williams; Scott Winslow; Mike Yanotti; Dara Zink; plus another 80 residents and visitors.

CAT-TV: This meeting was filmed and broadcast live by Jim Viers.

Scoggins called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and then suspended the meeting until 7:30pm during which time those present enjoyed a pot-luck dinner. Dailey recalled the meeting to order at 7:30pm and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and the country. Dailey then noted that Shaftsbury citizens are "fortunate to take part in town government in the way we do" and given "what's happening on the national scene, it is so important that we come together for the purpose of governing ourselves". Dailey then asked for a moment of silence to "reflect on the political situation in this country, no sides taken, as well as on the current problems being faced by the coronavirus". After that moment, Dailey then

- introduced Selectboard members as well as various town administrators
- named and thanked many Town of Shaftsbury employees and committee members by name, as well as all other workers and volunteers who help make the Town of Shaftsbury work so well.

And those present responded with an enthusiastic and standing round of applause for all folks just mentioned.

Dailey then pointed out emergency exits from the room and reviewed speaking and voting procedures.

State Representative Report: After noting that the potluck dinner was "a great idea" and that he would be available after the meeting to talk with residents about whatever concerns or questions they might have, Durfee reported that the state legislature "picked up in January right where it left off last May" with two "leftover" bills which passed in both houses of the legislature

- the first, an increase in the minimum wage in 1/2021 and 1/2022 to $12.50 was vetoed by the Governor but that veto was then overridden by the legislature
- the second, relating to the Family Medical Leave Act, was also vetoed by the governor and that veto was sustained.

Durfee further noted that several new bills are being worked on including

- the Global Warming Solutions Act, which defines goals, plans and enforcement techniques related to the Paris Accord
- a significant update to Act 250
- taxation and regulation of the sale of cannabis within the state
- a major study currently underway is reviewing/rethinking the way in which students are counted throughout the state and which could have a significant positive impact on the education tax rate locally (albeit other communities could receive an equally significant but negative impact on their tax rate)
- another study is focusing on ways to reduce the shortage of nurses and primary care doctors throughout the state.

Durfee also read aloud a statement from the New England Board of Higher Education praising former state representative Alice Miller for her "exceptional work in higher education and the advancement of educational opportunities" and whose achievement will be recognized 3/19/20 in Montpelier during a ceremony in which Miller will be presented with the Vermont Excellence Award. After Durfee noted that this is "a great honor to Miller and a great pride for the town", Miller was then given an enthusiastic round of applause by all present.

Selectboard Report: Scoggins began his report by thanking Forman, McClintock and Mellinger for organizing the pot-luck dinner held prior to the meeting, a commendation that was greeted with a round of applause from all present. Using a power-point format, Scoggins then reviewed the Selectboard Report (a copy of which was included in the Annual Report, page 37), summarized as follows:

- major construction/renovation projects worked on during the year include the completion of the Public Works garage, transfer station and second floor of Cole Hall, all of which was "masterfully" overseen by Kiernan
- the Town Plan was completely rewritten by the Planning Commission
- the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was completed after two years, and the CEDS working group will begin awarding Vital Projects Designation to projects in Bennington and Windham counties that align with regional planning goals
- major road drainage projects completed on several roads should alleviate much of the problems on dirt roads during the mud season, and with thanks to Yannotti, the new Public Works director and the Road Crew, to whom the Annual Report is dedicated.
- a major focus for the current year is to upgrade parking, green space, and access at Cole Hall as well as to "turn this beautiful historic building into a true town center for Shaftsbury"
- water mains in the town were installed in the 1940s and are reaching the end of their 75-year lifespan and in order to address this, preliminary engineering plans are underway for a project that will span decades.

Scoggins also noted that the FY21 budget

- reflects a "modest increase," the majority of which support efforts to continue road improvements
- the budget "continues to trend below the inflation rate, meaning we continue to do more with less money"".

Scoggins then reviewed the two articles on the ballot for voters 3/3/20, both of which are supported by the Selectboard, noting that

- the formation of a Communications Union District (CUD) with 12 other towns in southern Vermont should result in improved broadband access to underserved areas and at no cost to the towns
- the creation of a Cemetery Capital Improvement Fund with subsequent transfer of all funds in the current Cemetery Reserve Fund would thus allow the release of funds for cemetery improvements.

During a brief discussion, residents and administrators variously noted that

- there are areas of the town that "are not well served" by high-speed internet access and residents are urged to support the formation of the CUD (Fiske, Hurst)
- the effort to upgrade local internet access in 2015 failed and this new proposal, with state and federal funding, is trying to address long-standing problems in many different communities in the region.

FY20 Annual Town Meeting Warning: Dailey reviewed process and procedures by which the business portion of the meeting will be handled (read article, motion on article, amend article (only once), debate article, call question, voice or paper vote, reconsider, vote) and then asked all present to rise, stretch, turn and greet/introduce themselves to each other and to welcome everyone to this community meeting. After lots of movement, laughter and animation, Dailey resumed the meeting.

Article 1: A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of and to accept the reports of the Town Officers as published and the motion carried by voice vote.

Article 2: A motion was made and seconded to authorize the collection of taxes on real and personal property by the Town Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before Friday, November 6, 2020 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Friday, November 6, 2020 and the motion passed by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

Article 3: A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of $2,148,247 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2021, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds (and as detailed in the *Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 2019,* pages 23-36) and after an extended discussion wherein residents and administrators variously noted that

- the 2021 budget will increase the tax rate by about 2½ cents
- the cost of a trash bag at the transfer station is increasing from $1 to $2, the first increase in 14 years (and it was not considered practical to have to make change which would have been required if the cost per bag increased only to $1.50, as example)
- discussion is on-going about the Swop Shed, as well as possible relocation of the shed to the Cole Hall property ; a show of hands indicated many people were interested in an off-site location for the shed, although many residents also expressed concern about keeping the shed, regardless of location, clean, uncluttered and not an eyesore; residents also gave rousing applause to "build a better shed" for the people managing the shed as well as for Jack, the Pembroke Corgi, who safeguards the building
- the contract with TAM expires this year; TAM has been acquired by Casella Waste Management, and it is uncertain what that acquisition will mean to the Shaftsbury transfer station, and all that will be made clear once contract negotiations begin
- Delinquent Tax Revenues were consolidated with all taxes collected several years ago although interest on delinquent taxes continues to be reported as a separate line item
- the salary for Kiernan, the Town Administrator, was below average when that person first started, and is only now coming into line with other administrators; that Kiernan is "above average, saves the town thousands of dollars every day and earns that salary every day" (Scoggins) which was followed by yet another enthusiastic round of applause

And after the question was called, the motion passed by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

Article 4: In response to Dailey's request to transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting:

- Rozycki informed residents that they could sign up for the free on-line Park McCullough Library monthly newsletter, welcomed everyone to "come and enjoy" the library, that "although the internet might get you a thousand answers to a question, the library will get you the right one", that there has been a 54% increase in use of the library over the last 4 years, and said that "it is an honor and privilege to serve you all" and was greeted with a round of applause
- in response to McClintock's suggestion that Shaftsbury might consider installation of a solar array on the capped landfill (as many other communities have already done) as a way of providing energy to Cole Hall as well as other parts of town (the proposal received a round of applause), Scoggins noted that several companies have approached the town regarding such an installation, and although there appears to be "potential risk and no significant cost savings" by doing this, the Board is "willing to listen to anyone who has the experience"
- Zink read aloud the letter from the Director of the Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) included on page 74 of the annual report, who noted that PAVE is committed to providing support, services and the pathway to healing for victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking and which included providing those services this past year to 32 Shaftsbury residents, as well as providing emergency shelter to 89 adults as well as 58 children in PAVE's service region totaling 3,745 nights of shelter services; and to which residents gave Zink a round of applause
- Winslow, speaking on behalf of the Bennington Free Clinic (see page 65 of the Annual Report), asked residents to support the Clinic's $1,000 request which will assist the Clinic in providing medical care, support and services to those in the community who do not have health insurance; a comment also greeted by applause from those present
- Polling, speaking on behalf of the $1,000 request from the Sunrise Family Resource Center, noted that the Center provided support services to 65 Shaftsbury families during the previous fiscal year, which included financial assistance for child care, referrals, interventions, and homeless issues (also applause)
- Lillie, speaking in support of WBTN's request for $5,000 funding, noted that "no one at the radio station gets paid" and local support like this "is the only way we can keep it going". Baker also noted that "anyone can do a radio show. Just come on down!"
- Spenser asked residents to approve a non-binding resolution to name Shaftsbury as a Second Amendment Sanctuary town which would allow residents to own and carry a variety of guns (but not assault rifles) and "to be able to better protect our rights and families", and after a lengthy discussion wherein residents variously noted that
    - Some folks "don't feel particularly safe going to a grocery store with people packing guns and not subtle about carrying them" ((McClintock)
    - Police response time sometimes isn't as rapid as one would like
    - The term "sanctuary city" has particular meanings and could result in defying any future legislation restricting gun ownership or gun carrying

  A motion was made and seconded to approve a non-binding resolution to designate Shaftsbury a Second Amendment Sanctuary Town. After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the original motion to table discussion and have a proper, warned hearing on this issue, whereupon a motion was made and seconded to call the question, and that motion passed by voice vote. The motion to table discussion and hold a public hearing on the proposal then passed by voice vote, three or four opposed

- Foreman's question to residents about whether or not the pot-luck dinner before town meeting should be repeated next year was met with resounding applause
- Mellinger's admission that the cake she "merely decorated" which was served during the pot-luck "was actually made by Mrs. Hannaford", and this also was met with thunderous applause
- Fenwick expressed appreciation and thanks to everyone for taking the time to hear and discuss ideas which may run counter to what many folks might think
- In response to Baker's request for information about school related issues (which, because of the merger last year of the four elementary districts in the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union, the school board meeting historically held prior to Shaftsbury town meeting did not occur), McEnaney, who is a member of the board of the merged districts, noted that there was a meeting of that board at the Bennington Fire House earlier in the evening and that he would try to ensure that Shaftsbury residents who are members of that school board will arrive early before town meeting next year to field questions/discuss issues and/or will ask to be placed on the agenda and speak during that meeting
- McEnaney also noted that the meetings of the recently formed school board are all posted to the Southwestern Vermont School Union (SVSU) website and are warned and open to the public
- Mayer also reported that the 2/26/20 edition of Vermont Digger included a report on education issues and finance in Vermont over the last several years.
- Dailey also noted that the monthly meetings of the Selectboard are also warned and open to the public, everyone welcome.

At 9:05pm, and after calling for but hearing no further comments, Dailey reminded voters that the polls will be open at the Buck Hill Road Fire Station 7am-7pm Tuesday March 3, 2020 for consideration of ballot articles and community appropriations. A motion was then made and seconded to adjourn the 2020 Town of Shaftsbury Annual Floor Meeting and, by voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard G. Bump

OFFICIAL RESULTS OF OFFICERS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
1034 VOTERS - MARCH 3, 2020

SELECTMAN
2 Years
Art Whitman 899
Write-In 4
Blank 131
TOTAL 1034

SELECTMAN
3 Years
Anthony Krulikowski 828
Write-In 7
Blank 199
TOTAL 1034

MODERATOR
1 Year
Thomas J. Dailey 873
Write-In 1
Blank 160
TOTAL 1034

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR
1 Year
Merton Snow 858
Write-In 2
Blank 174
TOTAL 1034

LISTER
3 Year
Larry Johnson 812
Write-In 2
Blank 220
TOTAL 1034

AUDITOR
3 Year
Lisa Lent 829
Write-In 0
Blank 205
TOTAL 1034

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS
3 Years
William Hession 765
Write-In 2
Blank 267
TOTAL 1034

TOWN AGENT
1 Year
Write-In 21
Blank 1013
TOTAL 1034

1ST CONSTABLE
1 Year
Write-In 30
Blank 1004
TOTAL 1034

2ND CONSTABLE
1 Year
Write-In 16
Blank 1018
TOTAL 1034

OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ARTICLES AND COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
1034 VOTERS - MARCH 3, 2020

5. Shall the Town of Shaftsbury enter into a communications district (CUD) to be known as the Southern Vermont Communication Union District, under the provisions of 30 V. S .A. chapter 82?

YES…643 NO…209 BLANK…182

6. Withdrawn

7. Shall the Town of Shaftsbury create a Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund and transfer all monies in the Cemetery Reserve Fund to the Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund?

YES…743 NO…180 BLANK…111

8. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendment to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:
Delete item 0.4, Table of Uses, from the Town of Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws and Land Use Regulations.

Yes…232 No…95 Blank…86

10. Community Appropriations to Determine:

1. Shall the Town appropriate $8,500 to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?

YES…796 NO…191 BLANK…47

2. Shall the Town appropriate $5,225 to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?

YES…879 NO…112 BLANK…43

3. Shall the Town appropriate $1,000 to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?

YES…855 NO…147 BLANK…32

4. Shall the Town appropriate $475 to the Bennington County Conservation District?

YES…754 NO…228 BLANK…52

5. Shall the Town appropriate $1,000 to the Bennington Free Clinic?

YES…839 NO…162 BLANK…33

6. Shall the Town appropriate $18,000 to the Bennington Free Library?

YES…644 **NO…344** **BLANK…46**

7. Shall the Town appropriate $600 to Bennington Little League?

YES…760 **NO…218** **BLANK…56**

8. Shall the Town appropriate $4,560 to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?

YES…781 **NO…205** **BLANK…48**

9. Shall the Town appropriate $1,700 to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?

YES…582 **NO…385** **BLANK…67**

10. Shall the Town appropriate $600 to the Center for Restorative Justice?

YES…672 **NO…307** **BLANK…55**

11. Shall the Town appropriate $200 to the Green-Up Vermont?

YES…852 **NO…142** **BLANK…40**

12. Shall the Town appropriate $1,850 to the Habitat for Humanity?

YES…750 **NO…231** **BLANK…53**

13. Shall the Town appropriate $24,000 to the John G. McCullough Free Library?

YES…643 **NO…350** **BLANK…41**

14. Shall the Town appropriate $2,000 to the Martha Canfield Library?

YES…551 **NO…412** **BLANK…71**

15. Shall the Town appropriate $2,800 to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?

YES…768 **NO…216** **BLANK…50**

16. Shall the Town appropriate $1,500 to the Park McCullough House

YES…611 **NO…374** **BLANK…49**

17. Shall the Town appropriate $450 to the Project Against Violent Encounters?

YES…819 NO…175 BLANK…40

18. Shall the Town appropriate $950 to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?

YES…800 NO…185 BLANK…49

19. Shall the Town appropriate $2,500 to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?

YES…709 NO…268 BLANK…57

20. Shall the Town appropriate $1,000 to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?

YES…683 NO…291 BLANK…60

21. Shall the Town appropriate $1,100 to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?

YES…777 NO…201 BLANK…56

22. Shall the Town appropriate $900 to the Tutorial Center?

YES…739 NO…241 BLANK…54

23. Shall the Town appropriate $300 to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?

YES…849 NO…139 BLANK…46

24. Shall the Town appropriate $1,000 to the VT Center for Independent Living?

YES…783 NO…193 BLANK…58

25. Shall the Town appropriate $500 to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?

YES…872 NO…121 BLANK…41

26. Shall the Town appropriate $5,000 to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)

YES…521 NO…440 BLANK…73

STATE OF VERMONT
Bennington County, SS:
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY

March 2021 Annual Meeting Warning

Shaftsbury residents, qualified to vote at the Annual Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet virtually via zoom on **Sunday, February 28, 2021, at 3:00 PM** to hold a public information hearing by electronic means. Upon completion of the information session, the Meeting will stand adjourned until **Tuesday, March 2, 2021, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM** when voting by Australian ballot will commence at the Town Garage on North Road for the election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles.

Shaftsbury residents may submit an application to the Town Clerk to have their names added to the voter checklist no later than **12:00 PM on Monday, March 1, 2021** to be eligible to vote on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at the polls. Any voter may apply for an early voter ballot with the Town Clerk until **12:00 PM on Monday, March 1, 2021.** Registration to vote can be done online by going to **mvp.vermont.gov**. Residents registering on Election Day must do so only at the polling place of their physical residence.

TOWN OF Shaftsbury

REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

NOTICE and AGENDA

The Selectboard for the Town of Shaftsbury will hold a public informational hearing by electronic means on February 28, 2021 at 3:00pm to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2021 Town Meeting Warning.

Information on how to access the remote hearing:

Topic: Town Meeting Day 2021 // 3p Shaftsbury (7p Pownal)
Time: Feb 28, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81444299707?pwd=aXdJVE5RTnBxeG9OemV5dVlrNDV3Zz09
Meeting ID: 814 4429 9707
Passcode: 117844
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,81444299707#,,,,*117844# US (New York)
+13017158592,,81444299707#,,,,*117844# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 814 4429 9707

Passcode: 117844

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbAtlbS4At

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Hearings" to understand how these electronic hearing will be managed. If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) to David Kiernan at administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov.

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote hearing software in advance of the meeting. **If you have difficultly accessing the hearing, please call 802 442 8868.**

AGENDA

The agenda items will be discussed but not voted on. Voting will be by Australian ballot on Tuesday March 2, 2021.

1. 3:00pm Call to Order
2. 3:05pm Additions or deletions to the agenda
    - Public comment
3. 3:10pm To hear reports of Town Officers
    - Public comment
4. 3:40pm Review and discuss Article 1: Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, Wednesday November 10, 2021 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Wednesday, November 10, 2021?
    - Public comment
5. 3:45pm Review and discuss Article 2: Shall the Town appropriate $2,174,230 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal year 2022, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
    - Public comment
6. 4:10pm Review and discuss Article 3**:** To Determine: Shall the Town vote to exempt Shaftsbury Community House Inc., from payment of town and school property taxes for a period of five years
    - Public comment

7. 4:20pm Review and discuss Article 4**:** Shall the town raise and appropriate $10,000 to establish a reserve fund to be called the Fire Department Airpack Reserve Fund to be used for replacement of firefighter breathing apparatus in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?
8. 4:30pm Review and discuss Article 5: Community Appropriations to Determined.
    - Public comment
9. 4:45pm Discussion of other non-binding business
    - Public comment
10. 5:00pm Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021
7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM
Town Garage North Road

1. Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, Wednesday November 10, 2021 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Wednesday, November 10, 2021?

2. Shall the Town appropriate $2,174,230 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal year 2022, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?

3. To Determine: Shall the Town vote to exempt Shaftsbury Community House Inc., from payment of town and school property taxes for a period of five years?

4. Shall the town raise and appropriate $10,000 to establish a reserve fund to be called the Fire Department Airpack Reserve Fund to be used for replacement of firefighter breathing apparatus in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?

5. Community Appropriations to Determine:

1) Shall the Town appropriate **$8,500** to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?
2) Shall the Town appropriate **$5,225** to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
3) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,000** to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
4) Shall the Town appropriate **$475** to the Bennington County Conservation District?
5) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,000** to the Bennington Free Clinic?
6) Shall the Town appropriate **$18,000** to the Bennington Free Library?
7) Shall the Town appropriate **$600** to Bennington Little League?
8) Shall the Town appropriate **$4,560** to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
9) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,700** to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
10) Shall the Town appropriate **$600** to the Center for Restorative Justice?
11) Shall the Town appropriate **$200** to the Green-Up Vermont?
12) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,850** to the Habitat for Humanity?
13) Shall the Town appropriate **$24,000** to the John G. McCullough Free Library?
14) Shall the Town appropriate **$2,000** to the Martha Canfield Library?
15) Shall the Town appropriate **$2,500** to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
16) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,500** to the Park McCullough House
17) Shall the Town appropriate **$450** to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
18) Shall the Town appropriate **$950** to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
19) Shall the Town appropriate **$2,500** to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
20) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,000** to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
21) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,100** to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
22) Shall the Town appropriate **$900** to the Tutorial Center?
23) Shall the Town appropriate **$300** to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
24) Shall the Town appropriate **$1,000** to the VT Center for Independent Living?
25) Shall the Town appropriate **$500** to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
26) Shall the Town appropriate **$5,000** to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)
27) Shall the Town appropriate **$500** to Shireskids?

DATED at Shaftsbury, Vermont this 29th day of January 2021.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD

Tim Scoggins, Chair

Art Whitman, Vice Chair

Ken Harrington,

Joe Barber

Tony Krulikowski

INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT FOR REMOTE HEARINGS

Remote Public Informational Hearing

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

Accessing the Hearing

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

Participation

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

Initially, the hearing host/organizer will mute all participants. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the Moderator.

Please review the following guidelines:

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

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

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Overview of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2020 (FY2020):

The Town of Shaftsbury ended the year with a net change to the unassigned fund balance of -$154,029, adjusted to -$153,804 using the Modified Accrual Basis of accounting.

There was a fairly small unfavorable variance on the revenue side, and a larger one on the expenditure side. There were two main reasons for the latter. One was an unexpected outlay in equipment repair resulting from one vehicle in the fleet. The other was the conscious decision to address years of backlogged maintenance on the roads, with the result that we started FY2021with the roads in much better shape than they have been in years. This did necessitate overspending our gravel, chloride and culvert budgets by over $74,000, but even so our unassigned fund balance is still within an acceptable range. We are currently forecasting it to bounce back up this year.

	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget	Variance Favorable/(Unfavorable)
Total Revenue	2,084,322	2,052,120	98.5%	(32,202)
Total Expenditures	2,084,322	2,206,149	105.8%	(121,827)
Total General Fund	0	(154,029)		(154,029)

The auditing firm of Sullivan, Powers & Co. again undertook an external audit of the Town for FY2020. (It is now Town policy to have an external audit done annually.) Their complete final audit report will be available on the Town website and at the Town Offices.

On a personal note: the pandemic made tax collection very challenging this year. I want to express my gratitude to the people of Shaftsbury for being so adaptable as we were forced to move away from in-person payment. I was particularly encouraged that so many residents embraced the convenience of online payment through the Town website at shaftsburyvt.gov. The "e-check" or bank transfer option is a flat $1.50, can be used 24/7 and provides an instant, time-stamped record of payment. Remember that it is available to pay not only tax and water bills, but also clerk and zoning fees.

Melanie Dexter, Shaftsbury Town Treasurer

AUDITORS REPORT

During fiscal year 2020, the Auditors met to reconcile the town's bank statement, audit the Reserve Fund and review the General Journal Entries.

At the close of fiscal year 2020 the Auditors completed examinations of the Town Treasure's Records including purchase orders, invoices and checks, comparing these items with the Select board Warrants and the Detailed Transaction Report. This examination was on the basis of an estimated 35% sample of records.

The Auditors have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shaftsbury as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. These financial statements are based on information supplied by the Town Treasurer and were prepared by the outside auditor, Sullivan and Powers. The Auditors responsibility is to express an opinion concerning these financial statements based on our review. In our opinion the financial statements referred to above present the financial position and changes in financial position of the Town of Shaftsbury as of June 30, 2020, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caslin, Lisa Lent

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2020

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage these funds for the purpose of providing income for fund purposes while protecting the purchasing power of the funds through capital appreciation.

The town received $19,020 as a transfer of income from individual accounts, as follows:

Cemetery Perpetual Trust	7,397
Recreation	5,288
School	1,599
Library - Restricted	670
Library - Unrestricted	562
Grandview Cemetery	3,504
	$ 19,020

The funds were established for the benefit of the Town and local townsfolk. The trustees recognize the fund purposes as they strive to make certain the funds are used as they were intended.

Robert Steuer
Barry Mayer
William Hession

Continued on next page

CEMETERY TRUST FUND
These funds, with accruing net income, are set aside by the Selectboard to acquire equipment needed for the care of our cemeteries or for the procurement of additional land if and when that becomes necessary.

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE
These funds result from payments made to the Town of Shaftsbury to provide for the perpetual care of cemetery lots. An amount for this purpose is included in the price of each lot sold. Monies received by the Town from this source become part of the principal of the fund and may not be used for any other purpose but to produce income for perpetual care. This income is used by the town for cemetery care under the supervision of the Selectboard. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

HUNTINGTON CEMETERY FUND
An 1890 gift in trust by Calvin Huntington established the Huntington Cemetery Fund to provide income "to keep in repair the family grave stones of his relations in the town grave yard." The Bennington Probate Court in 2000 appointed the Selectmen of the Town of Shaftsbury as successor trustees to the Huntington Cemetery Trust. The Select Board voted "to turn management of the Huntington Cemetery Fund over to the Trustees of Public Funds" at its June 20, 2005 meeting. The Trustees received the Huntington Fund in July 2005.

The Huntington Fund principal may not be expended for any purpose. Income from the Huntington Fund may only be used for the stated purpose of the Fund.

SCHOOL FUND
The School Fund, derived from any payments or bequests to the Town of Shaftsbury School District, provides that the net income from the fund be paid annually to the school district.

LIBRARY FUND-RESTRICTED
All net income is paid annually upon request to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association to purchase books for the library at the Shaftsbury Elementary School.

LIBRARY FUND-UNRESTRICTED
In June 1994 the trustees received a check for $10,000 from the estate of Tirzah J. Sweet as an unrestricted bequest to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library, located in the Shaftsbury Elementary School. Net income is credited to the fund. Monies from this fund are requested and disbursed at the discretion of the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association.

HEALTH FUND
All net income is to be credited to the Shaftsbury Health Fund. Income can be drawn from the Health Fund as needed for current activities related to community health.

RECREATION FUND
The Selectboard established this fund to function as an endowment providing income for use in supporting recreation projects in the Town of Shaftsbury. Prior town recreation saving accounts together with Howard Park contributions were either transferred or deposited into this fund to make up its principal. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year for use by the recreation committee.

JULIA MATTISON FUND
A 1919 will of Julia E. Mattison, a Shaftsbury resident established this fund. The Bennington Probate Court distributed the funds to the Town in a 1926 order following Ms. Mattison's death. Fund income provides care, comfort and maintenance of any aged and needful women who are residents of the Town of Shaftsbury under the terms of Ms. Mattison's will. The Selectboard determines recipients of assistance from this fund at its discretion.

GEORGE W. HAWKINS FUND
A generous legacy from a former resident, George W. Hawkins, established this fund in 1976. Net income is credited to the fund. The fund is unrestricted as to use and monies are disbursed at the discretion of the Selectboard. It has been the Selectboard's policy to maintain a minimum principal of $80,000.

HOWARD PARK FUND
Florence Howard kindly bequeathed half of her estate to the town in 2017. The funds are to be earmarked for any use relating to Howard Park. The funds are invested to protect the principle while net income is reinvested back into the fund. The Selectboard has discretion over the use of the funds as they relate to Howard Park.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY
Land was conveyed to the North Bennington Cemetery Association in 1911 "…for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring and holding real and personal property to be used for and in connection with a cemetery or burial ground in Shaftsbury, Vermont; of selling and conveying lots therein; erecting of the necessary structures; soliciting and holding trust funds and making contracts for the perpetual care of burial lots therein, with authority to do all things requisite and proper to accomplish said purpose." Since assuming responsibility for the cemetery in 2018, the annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Fund	Raymond James Starting Balance 30-Jun-19	Income	Gains (Losses)	Additions	Withdrawals	Investment Fees	Rounding	RJ Ending Balance 30-Jun-20	People's Bank Ending Balance 30-Jun-20	RJ & People's Ending Balance 30-Jun-20	Allocation of Investment Fees: 2020 Income	2020 Gains	Percent to Income	Fees to Income	Net Income
Cemetery Trust	29,599	1,717	(693)	-	-	(196)	-	30,427	12	30,439	1,717	(693)			
Cemetery Perp Trust	141,267	7,814	(3,018)	-	(6,912)	(833)	-	138,318	52	138,370	7,814	(3,018)	50%	417	7,397
Huntington Cemetery	61,192	3,543	(1,370)	-	-	(386)	-	62,979	24	63,003	3,543	(1,370)			
School	30,990	1,698	(761)	-	(1,617)	(197)	-	30,112	11	30,123	1,698	(761)	50%	99	1,599
Library - Restricted	13,162	718	(337)	-	(678)	(96)	-	12,769	5	12,774	718	(337)	50%	48	670
Library - Unrestricted	11,059	604	(281)	-	(572)	(84)	1	10,727	4	10,731	604	(281)	50%	42	562
Health	32,180	1,862	(747)	-	-	(212)	-	33,083	13	33,095	1,862	(747)			
Recreation	101,998	5,591	(2,336)	-	(5,349)	(606)	1	99,299	37	99,337	5,591	(2,336)	50%	303	5,288
Julia Mattison	35,013	2,026	(808)	-	-	(230)	1	36,002	14	36,016	2,026	(808)			
G.W. Hawkins	122,711	6,953	(2,588)	5,300	-	(761)	1	131,616	50	131,666	6,953	(2,588)			
Howard Park	38,803	2,244	(875)	-	-	(252)	-	39,920	-	39,920	2,244	(875)			
Grandview Cemetery	67,593	3,706	(1,569)	-	(4,236)	(404)	-	65,090	-	65,090	3,706	(1,569)	50%	202	3,504
Total Public Funds	685,567	38,476	(15,383)	5,300	(19,364)	(4,257)		690,342	221	690,563	38,476	(15,383)		1,111	19,020

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage the funds of the purpose for providing income while protecting the purchasing power of funds through capital investment. D.B. McKenna & Co., Inc. provides investment advice to the Trustees.

Shaftsbury Public Funds were invested as follows at June 30, 2020

Money Market Funds and Bank Deposits	$ 82,053
Certificates of Deposit	0
Bonds	0
Equity Mutual Funds	608,510
	$ 690,563

Distributions of FY Income

Cemetery Perpetual Trust	7,397
Recreation	5,288
School	1,599
Library - Restricted	670
Library - Unrestricted	562
Grandview Cemetery	3,504
	$ 19,020

Respectfully submitted

Robert Steuer
Barry Mayer
Bill Hession

Professional Audit Report available at www.shaftsburyvt.gov or call 802-442-4038 to ask for a print out.

Budget FY2022

14-Jan-21

Revenues:		Budget FY20	Actual FY20	Budget FY21	FY21 YTD 1/1/2021	Budget FY22
Tax Revenues						
Current Tax Revenue		1,701,804	1671893	1,779,101	1,853,488	1,861,076
Taxpayer Prebates from State		24681	24565	0	144	0
		1,726,485	1696458	**1,779,101**	1,853,632	**1,861,076**
Other Tax Revenue						
Late Homestead Penalty		2051	4786	2051	1151	2051
Delinquent Tax Revenue		0	0	0		
Delinquent Tax Interest		8635	11897	10,000	5362	10000
Education Billing Fee retained		0	9258	9,000	0	9000
Tax sale Fees		0	0	0		
	Total	**10,686**	25941	**21,051**	6513	**21051**
Intergovernmental Revenue						
Railroad Taxes		65	992	900	0	900
State Land Use		36530	39171	39000	42,543	42,000
VT Forests and Parks		0	0	0	0	0
State PILOT Federal Land PILOT Program		18610	11912	14500	53645	14500
Federal Land PILOT		6400	3605	3600	0	3600
Vermont State Highway Aid		158800	162836	158800	125509	165508
Government Grants		0	0	0	4359	0
	Total	**220,405**	218516	**216,800**	183,513	**226,508**
Charges for Services:						
Water Charge for Labor		5016	0	2500	0	2500
Brush fees		125	5	125	0	125
Access Permits		10500	8660	9000	600	9000
PAYT Revenues		32600	29836	62000	16431	62000
Town Clerk Fees		xxx		xxx		

Zoning Permits		5850	5765	6000	3340	6000
	Total	**54,091**	44266	**79,625**	20,371	**79,625**

		Budget FY20		Budget FY21		Budget FY22
Licenses:						
Dog licenses		3750	2348	3750	329	3750
Beer and Liquor Licenses		130	0	130	0	130
Marriage Licenses		0	220	100	530	100
	Total	**3,880**	2568	**3,980**	859	**3980**
Fines and Forfeits:						
Dog Fines		400	0	400	0	400
Civil fines		4500	1873	2000	339	2000
Sheriff Fines		xxxx		xxxx		
State Police Fines		xxxx		xxxx		
	Total	**4900**	1873	**2400**	339	**2400**
Interest Income	Total	**1200**	2318	**2700**	1334	**2700**
Miscellaneous Income	Total	**0**	4913	**0**		0
Howard Park						
Trustees of Public Funds		2300	5349	3000	5288	5000
Fees		100	0	100	50	100
Interest earnings		0	0	0	0	
Misc. Income		0	0	0	0	
Key Deposits		0	0	0	0	
Town Rec Fund Transfer		1500	0	0	0	
	Total	**3,900**	5349	**3,100**	5338	**5100**

		Budget FY20		Budget FY21		Budget FY22
Cemetery Revenue						
Buriel fees		1500	1540	1500	1000	1500
Burial Permits		0	0	0	110	0
Lot Fees		3600	3388	3600	4650	3600
Cemetery Trusts - perp		3000	11148	3000	7397	5000
Grandview Lot Fees		0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Revenue		0	2000	0	0	0
Corner Markers		1800	150	1800	300	1800
Grandview Perp trust		x	x	x	3504	3500
Grandview - Other rev.		0	0	0	2000	2000
	Total	**9,900**	18226	**9,900**	18961	**17400**
Clerk Revenue						
Recording fees		41640	31394	42000	29655	42000
Birth certificates		0	0	0		0
Misc. revenue		300	298	300	200	300
	Total	**41,940**	31692	**42,300**	29855	**42300**
Other Income						
Proceeds from long term debt		0		0	0	0
Insurance proceeds		0		0	0	0
Trans surplus fund balance		0		0	0	0
Sale of Equipment		0		30,000	115095	0
Listers Copies		0	42	0	0	0
Other income		0	4870	0	5490	0
	Total	**0**	4912	**30,000**	120,585	0
Operating Transfers In						
Prior Fund Balance		0	0	0		0
	Total	**6935**	0	0		0
	Total	**2,084,322**	2,052,120	**2,190,957**	2,261,849	**2,262,140**

Budget FY 2022

14-Jan-21

General Government	FY20 Budget	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Buget	FY21 YTD 12/1/2020	FY22 Proposed	
Administration						
Select Board Stipend	3250	3250	3250		3250	
Meeting Recording Clerk	0		0		0	
Town Administrator Salary	70000	70000	76000	40098	77520	
Administrative Support Wages	0	0	0		0	
Employee Health Premium*	0	0	0		0	
Health Plan Administration	1000	814	1000	374	1000	
Employee Health Ins Deductable*	0	0	0		0	
FICA	5075	5309	5354	3354	5620	
AFLAC Admin Short term Diability		669	900	360	927	
Insurance and Bonds	56831	62915	58536	3121	64000	
Retirement Contribution	4025	4025	4246	2455	4457	
Unemployment Insurance	1400	142	333	836	333	
Professional Services	13000	11,495	15000	14172	12000	
Postage	1500	956	1200	1573	1200	
Meetings & Training	500	340	500	0	500	
Staff Development	0		0		0	
Video Website	3950	2258	4800	4216	4800	
Advertising and Legal Notices	2500	1300	2500		2500	
Dues and Subscriptions	11000	12641	12750	13302	13388	
Office Supplies	1500	1838	2000	1813	2000	
Office Equipment	3000	4942	2500	872	2500	
Bank Service Charges	0	0	0		0	
North Street Property Expenses	0	0	0		0	
Miscellaneous Expenses	1000	1451	1200	1186	1200	
Total Administration	**179531**	**184345**	**192,069**			***197,195***
Cole Hall -Town Offices						
Custodial Wages	4345	3033	5000	215	0	
FICA	315	226	362	22	0	

	20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Contract Services	0	163	0	1367	6552	
Repair and Maintenance	3000	5027	3000	386	3000	
Operating Supplies	2300	4101	2300	656	2300	
Utilities	5100	7508	5100	3761	5100	
Heating Fuel	5000	1924	5000	465	4000	
Total Cole Hall	**20060**	**21982**	**20762**			***20,952***
Elections & Vital Statistics						
Town Clerk Salary	40,334	40334	43,544	23,445	44,370	
Assistant Town Clerk	8,419	7701	10,672	10,145	10,885	
Poll Worker Wages	2000	628	4000	2885	2000	
TC Health Ins.	6,790	6987	7,213	2,921	7,790	
TC Health Deductable	2,000	1766	2,000	1,063	2,000	
AFLAC Admin Short Term Disability		365	600	196	618	
FICA	3,535	3710	3,640	2,599	4,006	
Retirement Contributions	2,319	2975	2,389	1,466	2,551	
Travel & Meetings - Clerk	500	96	500		500	
Travel & Meetings- Elections	500	1319	500		500	
Machine Equipment/Supplies - Elections	3,000	4019	5,500	6,733	3,000	
Operating Equipment Supplies Clerk	6,000	3260	4,000	1,589	4,000	
Professional Services	0	466		55		
Total	**75,397**	**73626**	**84,558**			***82,220***
Finance:						
Accounting/Payroll-Bookeeping Wages	11,073	6,483	8,406	2,930	8,574	
FICA	803	482	801	237	622	
Bookkeeping Supplies			0		0	
Payroll	2,750	2516	3,000	1,267	3,250	
Total	**14,626**	**9,481**	**12,207**			***12,446***

		20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Auditing							
Auditor Wages		1,700	525	1,700		1,700	
FICA		130	40	130		130	
Travel & Meetings		200	0	200		200	
Town Report		3,000	3647	3,500		3,500	
	Total	**5,030**	**4212**	**5,530**			***5530***
Delinquent Tax Collection							
FICA		1,300	1446	1,300	889	1,300	
Supplies		800	730	800	316	800	
	Total	**2,100**	**2176**	**2,100**			***2100***
Treasurer Services							
Treasurer Salary		22,000	22000	24,000	12,923	24,480	
Assistant Treasurer				0		0	
Bank Service Charge		1320	660	660	330	660	
Billing Supplies		3000	2102	3000	1317	3000	
Other Services			40	250	40	250	
FICA		1,595	1683	1,740	988	1,775	
	Total	**27,915**	**26485**	**29,650**			***30,165***
Listers							
Wages		13,104	11,441	13,498	4,963	13,798	
FICA		951	825	979	425	998	
Professional Services		15,000	18570	15,000	3,487	16,600	
Tax Maps		2500	6615	2500	713	2500	
Computer Maintenance		500	1426	500	712	500	
Travel & Meetings		250	0	250		250	
Dues & Subscriptions		300	0	300		300	
Operating Supplies		400	55	400		400	
	Total	**33,005**	**38932**	**33,427**			***35346***

		20 Budget	FY20 Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Public Safety							
Animal Control:							
ACO Wages		600		600		600	
Monthly Stipend		6,304	6300	6,494	2,625	6,624	
FICA		46		46		46	
Veterinary Expense		750		750		750	
Tags/Miscellaneous		450		450		450	
	Total	**8,150**	**6300**	**8,340**			***8470***
Emergency Management							
Equipment Maintenance		800	919	800	685	800	
Travel & Meetings		200	0	200		200	
Operating Supplies		400	0	400		400	
Emergency Shelter Equipment		0	0	0			
	Total	**1400**	**919**	**1400**			***1400***
Fire Department							
Chiefs Stipend		2,600	2600	2,600		2,600	
FICA		189	0	189		189	
Insurance & Bond		2,550	2130	2,550	-2,130	2,550	
Fire House Maintenance		11,000	13068	5,000	227	5,000	
Fire Truck Maintenance		8,000	9041	8,000	2,911	8,000	
Communications		3,000	1861	3,000	1,656	4,500	
Training		2,000	395	2,000	395	2,000	
Operating Supplies		750	920	750	362	750	
Utilities		10,000	13018	10,000	6,303	10,000	
Firehouse Heating Fuel		11,016	6455	11,016	537	11,016	
Gas, Oil & Diesel		4,000	223	4,000		4,000	
Extrication Equipment		2,000	0	2,000		2,000	
Equipment Replacement		14,000	8219	20,000	7,078	20,000	
	Total	**71,105**	**57930**	**71,105**			***72605***

		20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Fire Warden							
Opearating Supplies		250	1032	250		250	
Vehicle and Equipment		1500	0	1500		1500	
	Total	**1750**	**1032**	**1750**			***1750***
Law Enforcement							
Constable Wages		200	0	200		0	
Sheriff Services		40,143	36,495	33,743	15,300	35,430	
	Total	**40,343**	**36495**	**33,943**			***35430***
Emergency Medical		**25,000**	**25000**	**25,000**		22,500	***22,500***
HIGHWAY		**Budget 20**	**FY20 Actual**	**FY21**			
Highway Administration:							
Highway Wages - Regular		278,990	274,766	289,400	144,539	295,188	
Highway Wages - Overtime		35,410	17,892	37,496	5,110	38,246	
Employee Health Insurance - Premium		60,144	62,446	65,171	26,608	74,936	
Employee Health Insurance- Deductable		16,000	7,132	16,000	3,231	16,000	
Disability Insurance		2,162	0	0		0	
AFLAC Short Term Disability			2,345	4,500	1,298	4,635	
FICA		22,794	21,466	23,706	12,118	24,174	
Retirement Contribution		18,078	16,499	17,162	9,341	19,172	
Uniform Cleaning		8,000	9,778	10,000	5,415	0	
Travel & Meetings		300	749	300		300	
Steel Toe Footware		600	700	600	196	600	
CDL Physicals		800	0	800		800	
FT DPW CLOTHING ALLOWANCE						3,000	
	Total	**443,278**	**413,773**	**465,135**			***477,051***

	20 Budget	FY20Actual		FY21	YTD	FY22	
Highway Construction & Maintenance							
Subcontract Costs	12,100	14,948		12,000	18,794	0	
Signs	4,000	5,388		4,000	1,916	4,000	
Tree Removal	15,000	5,460		17,500	1,299	17,500	
Bridges and Guardrails	2,000	2,000		0		0	
Paving	0	1,586		0	195	0	
Operating Supplies	1,000	2,188		3,000	4,229	5,000	
Gravel	90,000	132,959	42,959	90,000	36,712	90,000	
Chloride (Dust Control)	50,000	67,634	17,634	60,000	28,475	60,000	
Winter Salt	48,800	49,652		48,800	6,699	48,800	
Winter Sand	52,000	58,096		52,000	3,555	52,000	
Level& Sealing	5,000	0		5,000		0	
Di-Cleaning	1,000	0		0		0	
Rentals	4,000	12,800	8,800	15,000	16,512	3,000	
Property Rental	0	1,800		0		0	
Culverts	5,000	18,618	13,618	5,000	3,715	2,000	
Capital Improvement Projects				0		0	
Highway Vehicle Purchase				0		0	
Sidewalk Construction Maintenance				0		0	
State MRGP Fees		1350		2,043		2,043	
Total	**289,900**	**374,479**		**314,343**			***284,343***
Highway Equipment Maintenance							
Truck 1	1,000	5,864		2,050	4,112	3,075	
Truck 2	2,000	10,214		2,050	6,248	3,075	
Truck 3	1,000	9,182		2,050	7,384	3,075	
Truck 4	1,000	35,726		2,050	9,718	3,075	
Truck 5	2,000	1,096		2,050	12,722	3,075	
Truck 6	1,000	2,065		2,050	156	3,075	
Truck 7	2,000	1,512		2,050	262	3,075	
Truck 8	2,000	7,565		2,050		3,075	
Truck 9	1,000	2,123		2,050	302	3,075	

		20 Budget	FY20Actual		FY21	YTD	FY22	
#10 Dodge 3500		1,000	206		2,050	942	3,075	
Backhoe		1,000	1,937		2,050	906	3,075	
JD Loader		1,000	235		2,050		3,075	
Volvo Excavator		2,000	3,585		2,050	472	3,075	
Cat Grader		2,000	6,640		2,050	1,764	3,075	
JD Grader		1,000	1,262		2,050	536	3,075	
JD Tractor/Mower		1,000	10,172		2,050	789	3,075	
Cat Traxcavator		1,500	484		2,050		3,075	
Plows and Sanders		2,000	4,986		2,050	1,749	2,350	
Sidewalk machine		1,500	1,926		2,050	2,012	2,350	
JD Surplus Loader			2,621		0		0	
Rentals			4,070		0		0	
Communications		500	0		500		500	
Gas, Diesel & Oil		58,650	45,507		58,650	14,171	50,000	
Machinery & Equipment		6,000	8,119		10,000	6,603	12,000	
			167,097					
	Total	**93,150**	167,097	73,947	**108,100**			***119,475***
Highway Garage								
Professional Services			3705		1,500	725	1500	
Repair & Maintenance		500	1,845		1,000	585	1,000	
Operating Supplies		4,000	3,113		4,000	673	4,000	
Utilities		3,745	7,721	***3,976***	4,000	2,638	7,200	
Heating Fuel		6,242	867		6,500		6,500	
Machinery & Equipment		1,000	12,882	11,882	2,000	2,729	2,000	
	Total	**15,487**	**30,133**		**19,000**			***22,200***
SOLID WASTE FACILITY								
Attendant Wages		16,317	16919		16,807	8,317	17,143	
FICA		1182	1320		1219	654	1243	
Professional Services			1165		2000	800	2000	
Management Contract		70,260	68088		72,368	28,370	74,539	

		20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Methane Well Monitoring		400	0	400		400	
Solid Waste Implementation Plan		18,000	16344	19,000	6,666	21,500	
Subcontract Costs				0		0	
Groundwater Monitoring		18,000	22,842	26,000	10,515	26,000	
Solid WasteRemoval		24,000	24585	25,000	11,054	26,000	
Tire removal			0	0		0	
Repairs & Maintenance		1,000	959	1,000	100	1,000	
Operating Supplies		1,000	103	1,000	27	1,000	
Sticker Costs		2,000	1705	2,000	-1,705	2,000	
Transfer Station Utilities		500	300	500	126	500	
Landfill Utilities		300	0	300		300	
Gas, Diesel & Oil				0		0	
Hazardous Waste Days				0		0	
	Total	**152,959**	**154330**	**167,595**			***173,625***
STREET LIGHTS							
Hawks Avenue		425	289	500	147	500	
S. Shaftsbury Village		8,500	10667	9,000	5,381	10,000	
	Total	**8,925**	**10956**	**9,500**			***10,500***
Park & Recreation							
Salaries & Wages				0		0	
FICA				0		0	
Professional Services			2185	2,000	386	2,000	
Building ConstructionMaintenance Repair		2,000	697	2,000	1,407	2,000	
Equipment Maintenance			332	0		0	
Refund Key Deposit			0	0		0	
Operating Supplies		500	248	500	154	500	
Equipment				0		0	
Utilities		500	445	500	202	500	
Reimbursement Gas				0		0	
Capital Improvements				0			
	Total	**3,000**	**3907**	**5,000**			***5000***

		20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
CEMETERY EXPENDITURES							
Superintendent Salary		7,000	8062	7,500	3,903	7,650	
Cemetery Committee Assistant				3120		3246	
FICA		508	600	770	315	790	
Contract Services		25,000	25096	26,000	13,717	27,000	
Repairs & Maintenance		4,000	3,332	5,000	2,745	5,000	
Travel & Meetings		400	239	400	67	400	
Corner Marker Installation		200	75	1,300		200	
Corner Markers		1,300	375	1,300	500	1,300	
Transfer to Perpetual Care Fund		5,400	0	5,400		0	
Miscellaneous				200		0	
	Total	**43,808**	**37779**	**50,990**			***45,586***
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT							
Development Review Board							
Board Member Stipends		500	400	500		500	
Meeting Recording clerk Wages				0		0	
FICA				0		0	
Professional Services		1820		1900		1900	
Travel & Meetings		500		500		500	
Advertising & Legal		1000	58	1000	1204	1000	
Operating Supplies		100	0	100		100	
Town Clerk Recording Fees				0		0	
	Total	**3,920**	**458**	**4,000**			***4000***
Planning							
Board Member Stipends		500	400	500		500	
Meeting recording clerk				0		0	
Zoning Administrator Wages		11,000	9,626	11,330	5,592	11,557	
FICA		841	718	822	445	838	
Professional Services		3500	3500	500		500	

		20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
Travel & Meetings		250	0	250		250	
Advertising & Legal		200	231	500		500	
Printing			186	0		0	
Operating Supplies		150	78	200		200	
Transfer to Planning Grant Fund				0		0	
	Total	**16,441**	**14739**	**14,102**			***14,345***
COUNTY TAXES							
County of Bennington		**29,500**	**30193**	**30,200**	30,768		***31106***
TRANSFERS TO RESERVES							
Cole Hall		10,000	10000	10,000	10,000	0	
Equipment		90,000	90000	110,000	110,000	115,000	
Fire Warden truck		1,000	1000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Fire Truck		55,000	55000	60,000	60,000	85,000	
Garage reserve fund		0	0	0		0	
Paving Reserve		35,000	35000	45,000	45,000	18000	
Sidewalk Reserve		0	0	0		0	
Cemetery Reserve		4,000	4000	4,000	4,000	0	
Park reserve		3,000	3000	3,000	3,000	0	
Culvert Reserve		5,000	5000	10,000	10,000	10000	
Audit Reserve		15,000	15000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
Veterans Memorial		3,000	3000	3,000	3,000	0	
Class 3 Road Fund		49,000	49000	100,000	100,000	100000	
Reappraisal Reserve Fund		5000	5000	0			
AIRPACK RESERVE FUND						10,000	
	Total	**275,000**	**275000**	**361,000**			***354000***

	20 Budget	FY20Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES						
Interest Expense	1,000	576	1,000	1,372	1,000	
Lease Payment 2010 JD Grader			0		0	
Lease Payment 2012 IH & 2011 JD Backhoe			0		0	
Lease 2013 IH Tandem 2013 IH Fire Truck			0		0	
Lease 2014 IH Tandem	37,147	38394	0		0	
Lease 2013 Dodge & 2013 Excavator			0		0	
492 North Street			0		0	
510 North Road			0		0	
Garage Bond Payment	81935	81935	80942	65727	79890	
2021 Mower State Loan					24000	
Total	**120,082**	**120905**	**81,942**			***104890***
FY Total						
COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS						
Arlington Rescue Squad	7000		8,500	8,500	8,500	
Bennington Area VNA	5225		5,225	5,225	5225	
Bennington Coalition for the Homeless	1,000		1,000	1,000	1000	
BCCD	475		475	475	475	
Bennington Free Clinic	1000		1,000	1,000	1000	
Bennington Free Library	17750		18,000	18,000	18000	
Bennington Little League	600		600	600	600	
Bennington Project Independence	4560		4,560	4,560	4560	
BROC	1700		1,700	1,700	1700	
Center for Restorative Justice	600		600	600	600	
Green -Up Vermont	200		200	200	200	
Habitat for Humanity	1850		1,850	1,850	1850	
John C. McCullough Free Library	20000		24,000	24,000	24000	
Martha Canfield Library	2000		2,000	2,000	2000	
Paran Recreations	4300		2,800	2,800	2500	
Park McCullough House	1500		1,500	1,500	1500	
PAVE	450		450	450	450	

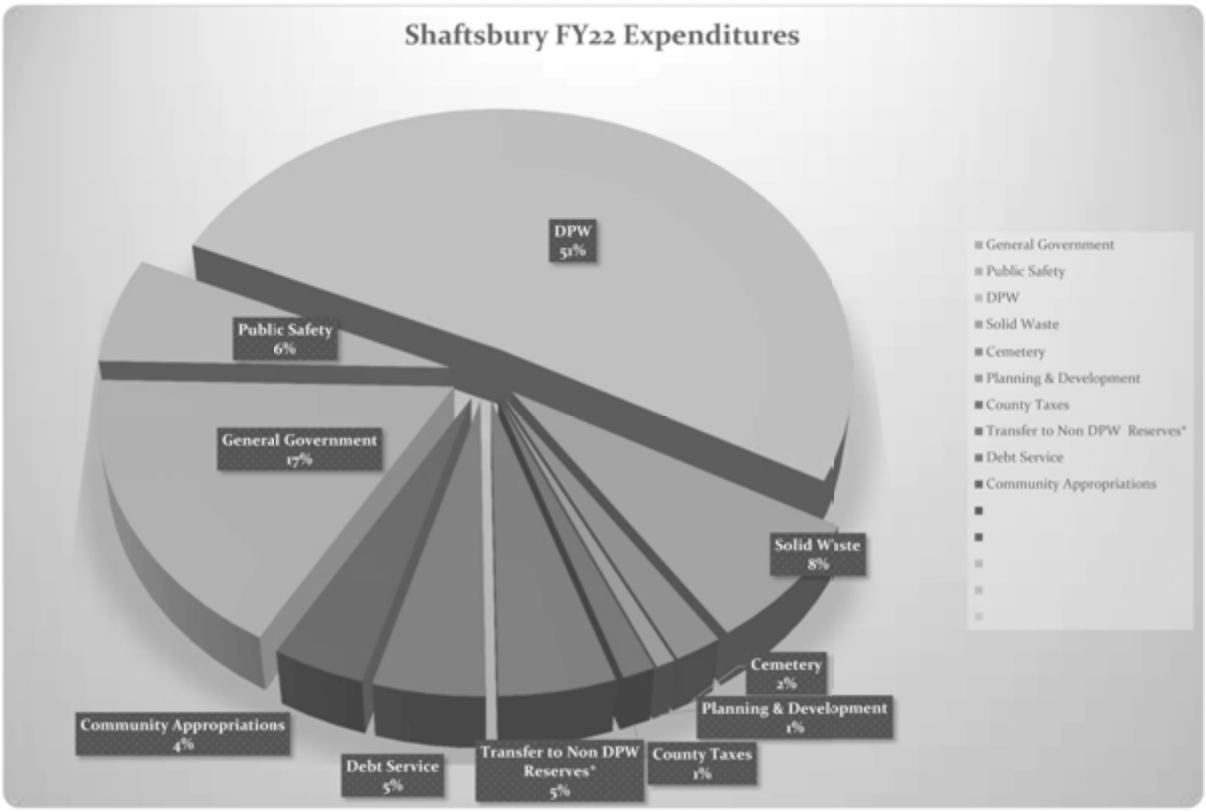
	FY20	FY20 Actual	FY21	YTD	FY22	
RSVP	950		950	950	950	
Shaftsbury Historical Society	2500		2,500	2,500	2500	
Sunrise Family Resource Center	1000		1,000	1,000	1000	
SW Vermont Council on Aging	1100		1,100	1,100	1100	
Tutorial Center	900		900	900	900	
VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impa	300		300	300	300	
VT Center for Independent Living	1000		1,000	1,000	1000	
Bennington County Association Against Child .	500		500	500	500	
Shires Media Partnership -WBTN	5000		5,000	5,000	5,000	
Shireskids					500	
	83460	83,485	**87,710**			**87,910**

	FY20	FY20 Actual	FY21	FY22	
FY Year Total					
	2084322	**2,206,149**	**2,240,458**	**2,262,140**	1% increase
		Increase	156,136	21,682	
		Non tax revenues	418,367	401,064	
		Raised by property tax	**1,822,091**	**1,861,076**	
	Tax rate	0.4211	0.4449	0.4592	
With local agreement adjust	Tax rate	0.4256	0.4496	0.4638	estimate
	per 100G	$421.00	$444.90	$459.20	
with local agreement adjust	per 100G	$426.60	$449.60	$463.80	est. FY22
		Increase per 100,000 valuation	$23.00	$14.20	

$35.50 tax increase FY22 for property value of $250,000

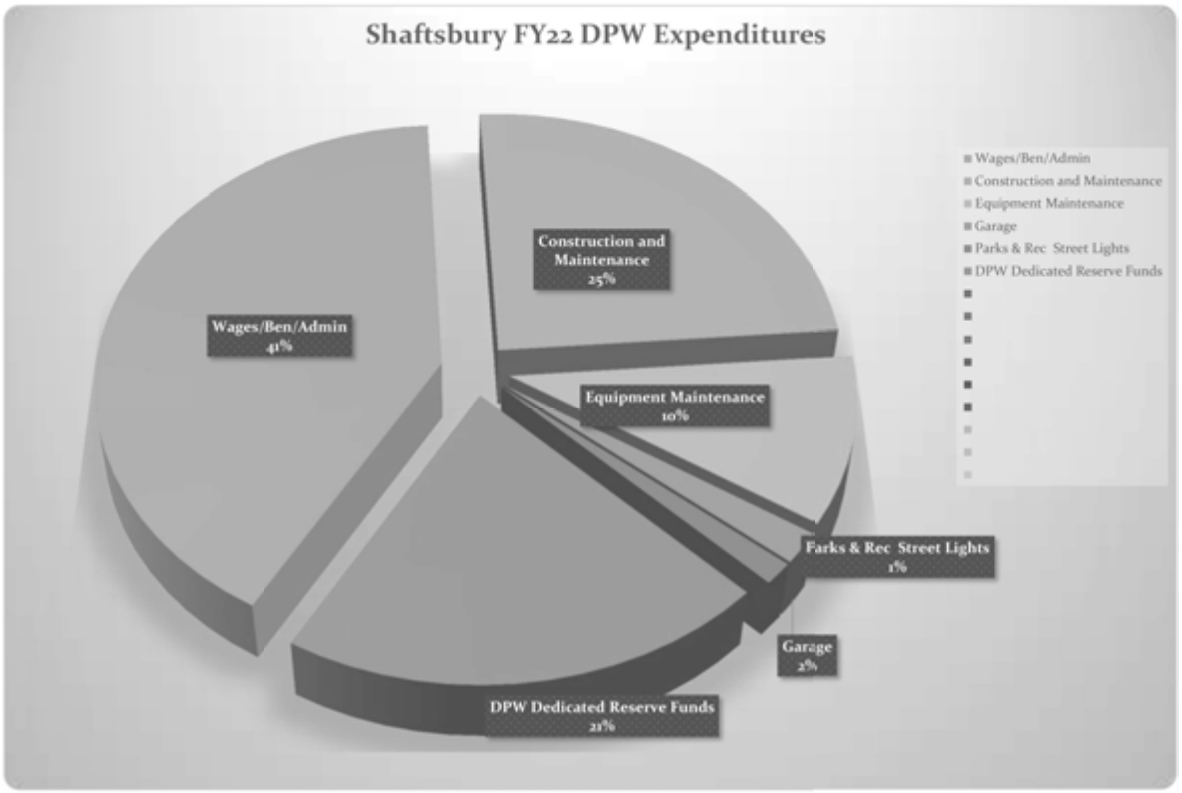
Tax figures based on FY20 Grand List (4,052,429) and FY22 non-tax revenues of $401,064.

Asset Type	Amount
General Government	$ 385,954
Public Safety	$ 144,655
DPW	$ 1,157,018
Solid Waste	$ 173,625
Cemetery	$ 45,586
Planning & Development	$ 18,345
County Taxes	$ 31,106
Transfer to Non DPW Reserves*	$ 111,000
Debt Service	$ 105,942
Community Appropriations	$ 87,910



DPW Reserve Funds included in DPW $270,000

Asset Type	Amount
Wages/Ben/Admin	$ 472,500
Construction and Maintenance	$ 284,343
Equipment Maintenance	$ 119,475
Garage	$ 22,200
Parks & Rec Street Lights	$ 15,500
DPW Dedicated Reserve Funds	$ 243,000



DPW related transfers to reseve accounts included in DPW

SELECTBOARD

Despite all the calamities of 2020, Shaftsbury is doing OK. Vermont has fared well, seeing the lowest death rate of any state. The civil unrest that rocked the country did not turn violent here. And so far, no murder hornets. Many of our neighbors face economic uncertainty resulting from the pandemic's disruptions, but compared to other parts of the country, we are doing OK.

Town government continues to function via teleconference and controlled access to records. Tax receipts are comparable to previous years. We are holding the line on our already lean budget, proposing less than a 2% increase. There will be no major construction projects this year, but we are confident we can maintain essential services, maintain the roads, and make modest improvements here and there. Credit goes to our Cole Hall staff who have handled each new challenge with energy and innovation. Thanks to them, we are doing OK.

We continue to make improvements to access and esthetics at Cole Hall. The old garage and salt shed are gone, and it looks better already. We will be seeking grants to improve handicap access and do something about the unattractive second floor stairs. We envision Cole Hall becoming an attractive town center focal point, for inside meeting and outside gatherings.

Shaftsbury has received another donation of Frank Howard art. Miriam S. Sargent of Manchester, NH, donated "Coming Home" to our collection. The work joins several others donated by Tom Fels of North Bennington that adorn the second-floor conference room at Cole Hall. While Cole Hall is currently closed due to COVID, we look forward to returning to normal operations so that the public can enjoy this collection of fine art from "Shaftsbury's artist."

Budget Notes

In anticipation of a lean year due to economic fallout from COVID, our FY22 budget is very tight. Salaries are increased to keep pace with inflation only. No new construction projects are planned. The only exception is the long talked about culvert in Shaftsbury Hollow. Through years of planning, grants are now in place that require execution of that project this year. Expenditures overall are up less than 2%, increasing the average tax burden by barely $35/year. Credit Town Administrator David Kiernan with again crafting a budget that gets the most out of every dollar.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Where do I start when talking about the year 2020? This has been a tough year for everyone and we are all still trying to get used to a new "normal". Last March the decision was made to close the Town Offices to the public because of the COVID Pandemic. While my office is closed, I do meet people outside to help with things that need done in person, I also take appointments for research so that we can keep the real estate transactions moving forward in Shaftsbury. I miss seeing the people of the town and look forward to the day that the Town Offices will reopen.

The town was fortunate to receive a grant last year which has allowed us to have all of our Land Record books scanned so we will always have a backup of them. We are also working on getting these records online so they can be searched even if someone can't make it in to the office.

We had a record breaking election in November with 79% participation! The elections in August and November were very different last year with all of the new COVID rules in place and they look to be the same in March, 2021. I need to thank everyone who participated by voting early, coming to the polls and wearing a mask to help protect my poll workers and especially everyone who came forward to help at the polls during this stressful time. I could not have done this without their help. I also could not have done this without the help of my assistant, Gina Jenks, Thank you Gina!

I also need to thank each and every one of you for being so very understanding with our new normal at the Town Office. While we might be closed to the public at this time, we ARE here for you.

Marlene Hall, CVC
Town Clerk

VITALS REPORT

Births	Marriages	Deaths
14	16	26

LISTERS' REPORT

This last year has been interesting, to say the least. First the Corona virus descended upon us, uninvited, and it and proved to be a most unwelcome guest. Our fair state of Vermont has handled it better than most and still is near the top in keeping it from being a runaway freight train. However, it has left its mark with all of us with fear and concern and we are not out of the woods yet.

Our professional appraiser, Jeremiah, left in April but he did keep his hand on things to see us through Grieving and then to start the new fiscal year. However, once he had gone to his new job we missed his coming to our office regularly and lending his expertise. Our software company was to assign us a new "Jeremiah" but they were stretched thin and it has taken them a while. We are still far from being caught up but progress is being made now with Nate (said new Jeremiah) working remotely.

Many of you have found our office locked to outsiders, though we in Cole Hall have continued to do our work. We are still available by phone or email and will continue to serve you in that way to the best of our ability.

I again would like to remind everyone that the Listers are involved with property assessments, not taxes. When you Grieve in the summer you are doing so only on the assessment of your property. If you wish to discuss or vent your unhappiness with your property taxes I encourage you to talk to the folks in Montpelier, or write letters to them, and also to the Select Board and the School Board here in Shaftsbury. They would value your thoughts on the matter and of course community input and participation is always recommended.

Our hours are still Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 AM to 12:00 noon.

Diana H Mayer

Chair, Board of Listers

DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF	JUNE 30, 2020		
2014 Taxes			
Caton	Alan L. & MonaJo	**3367.75**	B
2015 Taxes			
Caton	Alan L. & MonaJo	**3481.02**	B
2016 Taxes			
Caton	Alan L. & MonaJo	**3501.40**	B
2017 Taxes			
Caton	Alan L. & MonaJo	3504.28	B
Dunn	Cheryl A.	693.67	*
Harmon Jr.	Richard	29.24	*
Kozloski	Ronald & Robin	771.21	*
Statewide Corporation		40.09	
Statewide Corporaton		20.05	
Total 2017 Taxes		**5058.54**	
2018 Taxes			
Burnham	Barbara J.	641.37	P
Caccamo	Clint E.	960.64	
Caton	Alan L. & MonaJo	3579.47	B
Dalton	Elaine H.	178.46	
Dunn	Cheryl A.	693.67	*
Erb	Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	98.65	
Fox Estate	Mary C.	1488.91	*
Gardner	Noreen S.	236.13	*
Harmon Jr.	Richard	556.56	p
Joly	Wendy	751.90	
Kozloski	Ronald & Robin	3446.46	*
Krawczyk	George C.	1450.33	
Ringwood	Fredrick	488.22	*
Shores	Shane	55.85	
Statewide Corporation		40.95	
Statewide Corporaton		20.48	
Val Erb and Son BU		68.88	
Walker	Jeff	474.65	
Total 2018 Taxes		**15231.58**	
2019 Taxes			
Allen Family Trust		2708.02	
Atherton	Mark & Holly	812.98	
Bodenstab	Orin	824.55	*
Borden	Kevin P. & Jane M.	706.68	*
Bossong	Rose	777.17	*
Bouteiller	Alfred & Dorothy	235.41	*

Brown		Beatrice	610.80	P
Burnham		Barbara J.	2484.74	
Caccamo		Clint E.	2263.13	
Caton		Alan L. & MonaJo	3669.85	B
Charpentier		Ida M.	111.83	*
Cloud		Michael B. & Amy L.	5.80	
Coulter		Wayne D.	3967.56	
Dalton		Elaine H.	385.50	
Davis		Jon	5047.32	*
Denio		Christopher	81.77	*
Dunn		Cheryl A.	1089.82	P
Erb		Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	101.15	
Fitz		Amanda	127.33	*
Fox Estate		Mary C.	4302.71	P
Galusha		Charlotte	707.96	
Gardner		Noreen S.	1834.80	P
Gordon		Sandra J.	1034.53	*
Harmon Jr.		Richard	570.61	
Harris		Robert & Teri	314.52	
Hein		Richard F.	85.20	*
Jamieson		Michael & Judith Jane	1173.80	*
Joly		Wendy	858.78	
Joly		Wendy & William	14.31	
Kennedy		Kenneth M. & Mary A.	7234.74	*
Kennedy		Kenneth M. & Mary	1706.11	*
King		Cheryl L.	83.62	*
Knowlton		David	573.51	*
Kozloski	x	Ronald & Robin	3793.90	P
Krause		Ryan S.	1856.44	*
Krawczyk		George C.	4998.10	
Levin		Corrinne J.	457.24	*
Maser		Barbara	1630.24	
Miller		Anthony & Barbara	594.14	*
Nadeau		Ronald & Nancy	343.51	P
Noble		Mark	324.59	*
Peters		Dan R. & Lynn M.	368.74	*
Pike		Blake A.	494.65	*
Ringwood		Fredrick	1826.32	*
Shores		Shane	57.25	
Statewide Corporation			41.98	
Statewide Corporaton			20.99	
Strohmaier		Henry M.	946.38	*
Val Erb and Son BU			171.75	
Walker		Jeff	486.64	
White		Tyler	2666.03	*
Total Taxes 2019			**67585.50**	
GRAND TOTAL UNPAID TAXES			**98225.79**	

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS

YEAR	AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2019	AMOUNT COLLECTED	DELINQUENT AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2020
2014	3367.75	0	3367.75
2015	3481.02	0	3481.02
2016	3541.46	40.06	3501.40
2017	17158.25	12099.71	5058.54
2018	66610.49	51378.91	15231.58
SUB TOTAL	94158.97	63518.68	30640.29
2019	259130.38	191544.88	67585.50
TOTAL	353289.35	255063.56	98225.79

Respectfully Submitted

Merton Snow

Merton Snow
Delinquent Tax Collector

* Denotes paid in full as of Dec.31st, 2019
P Denotes partially paid
B Filed Bankruptcy

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 website at www.bcswavt.org and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance) provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept 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 One World Center, Goodwill, and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items a transfer stations, retail establishments and at household hazardous waste collection events
- 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

This past year the Alliance assisted 40 businesses as well as several major event organizers primarily via phone, email, and webinars due to COVID-19. Given COVID-19, meals and snacks in most schools are served in classrooms rather than lunchrooms. To help with this, the Alliance received 170 food scrap buckets from the Agency of Natural Resources that we distributed to 17 schools along with instructional signage to allow for food scrap collections within classrooms.

The Alliance held two household hazardous waste events with nearly 500 participating households. We also sold over 180 backyard compost bins and 60 green cones to residents. In 2021, we will hold three household hazardous waste events for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns. The spring event will be in Bennington and the fall in Dorset. We will hold a third event for residents and businesses of Searsburg and Stamford given the long driving distance they have to either of our other events. Check the website above for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the 13 towns, but this past year received grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT

This report covers the fiscal period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Over the years I've found it interesting to observe different trends and statistics. This is usually related to maybe the number of unclaimed Hounds, unlicensed impounded dogs or maybe the length of time adoptable dogs have remained with me until compatible homes can be found. Of course we all are too well aware of how everything about our lives and world has changed since the arrival of Covid-19 and its impact on just about every aspect of life as we now know it.
Animal Control work has been no different and has seen both positive and frustrating aspects. I'm happy to say, whether coincidence or not, it has been much quieter.
I believe a big factor is that so many people who would typically be gone most to the day were now home and either looking to adopt a companion to share that time with or were now willing and able to spend more focused attention on their dogs.

Only 8 dogs were impounded during this period. 1 was adopted and 2 of the remaining 7 were Arlington dogs who were dodging traffic on the RT 7 highway. They were very lucky to have been rescued that day and the owners were shocked to learn they had roamed so far.
Usually written warnings are issued either in person or by mail to maintain records as well as to insure owners are made aware of the fact complaints have been lodged and/or failure to license their dog/s. I always prefer to speak to the owners in order to get a feel for their willingness to comply and to be able to offer tips and training based on my extensive professional history. Since the Pandemic I have found many more owners earnestly looking to learn and implement corrective measures. By doing so I am heartened to know that the lives of not only the owners and/or neighbors but especially the dogs will be greatly improved. As with so many others, I now do much of my work from home when possible and have had so many encouraging and rewarding consults with owners as well as complainants. If there are any silver linings to be had in these times it may be the education of those owners who only needed guidance and answers to help them along the path as responsible dog owners.

Animal bite cases were evenly split between dogs and cats during this period with 4 of each species involved. 1 victim underwent treatment after an unprovoked attack by a stray cat that could not be identified. 1 of the dog bite cases involved an unknown dog that bit a jogger in a remote area. This victim already had been vaccinated against rabies as a result of being on active duty in the military. The dog was never identified.
Rabies IS still in our wildlife and can be spread to our domestic animals so the advice to not approach ANY unknown animal remains the best line of defense. Teach this to your children, Please!

As always I can be reached at 375-6121. A machine is always on to insure you reach me as soon as possible, please use it to leave the requested details outlined in the message. You can also email me at : rebholzer@yahoo.com Be sure to put "Animal Control" in the subject line.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Mullgan A.C.O.

VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP)

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

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

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

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

VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society has held a "DRIVE UP & POKE! RABIES CLINIC" for several years now. This type of clinic allows us to maintain a safe distance from people while vaccinating dogs and cats. All people stay in cars, masks are required. Pre-registration is encouraged. If you would like the paperwork we've developed to share with whomever usually does rabies clinics in your area, we'd be happy to share.

Thanks!

Sue Skaskiw, VVSA Director/ VSNIP Administrator: 802-672-5302.

Rabies Clinics

TRACTOR SUPPLY STORES: RABIES CLINICS FOR CATS & DOGS. CALL AHEAD TO BE SURE INFO IS CURRENT!

Bennington: 300 Depot St. 05201 802-440-9937 TIME: 5:00 – 7:30 12.3.20 / 1.28.21 / 2.25.21 3.25. 21 / 4.22.21

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC)

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.

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials and volunteer boards and commissions, the BCRC serves as a regional center for work in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, solid waste management, and emergency management. The BCRC regularly conducts and sponsors public meetings and workshops on these topics throughout the region.

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 in the region has become one of the BCRC's main program areas. Economic development planning at the BCRC, including dedicated staff directed by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation, supports business retention, growth, and recruitment. An outgrowth of this economic development work involves a cooperative effort across the region and with Windham County to develop a US EDA approved Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The BCRC also has provided staff support for a major downtown redevelopment project in Bennington that grew from brownfields and community development work overseen by the Commission. 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. Other important accomplishments have included: assistance with updates to several municipal comprehensive plans and land use bylaws, development of municipal energy plans and support for local energy committees, village center and neighborhood development area designations, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan in cooperation with the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, and planning for transportation and other local infrastructure.

Some of the key projects to be undertaken by the BCRC in the coming year include: continued work on the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, energy plan implementation activities, workforce and business development initiatives, cooperative programs with the Lightning Jar entrepreneurial center, water quality management plans and projects, assessment of brownfield sites throughout the region, building redevelopment and reuse strategies, regional food systems planning, expanded education and outreach to support waste reduction and recycling goals, completion of municipal hazard mitigation plans, and management of intersection improvement and multi-use pathway projects.

The BCRC is governed by locally appointed commissioners from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. Our office, located at 111 South Street in Bennington, is open Monday through Friday. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: www.bcrcvt.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Sullivan, Director

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I July 2019 through 30 June 2020

We had another good year of progress and notable happenings during this reporting period. First of all, Austin Martinka was hired on a part-time basis to assist with cemetery projects. His youth and strength permitted us to up-right several headstones that required more with than one person which increased productivity significantly. It was a real pleasure to work with Austin who is energetic, dependable and conscientious.

VILLAGE CEMETERY: Only a few headstones required straightening. One large headstone was knocked off it's base by the fallen pine tree, but no damage and the road crew helped us set it back on it's base. The remainder of the pine tree that had fallen was removed by Ed Pike, tree expert. The road crew also removed a pile of gravel that had accumulated from burial preparations.

CENTER CEMETERY: We placed two granite posts at the east end to keep traffic from encroaching the burial sites. These posts were salvaged from the old Maple Hill north road fence. The road crew folks filled potholes and cleaned up the excess gravel and stones collected at the old section on the east side.

WAITE CEMETERY: With the help of Henry Martinka and his equipment we were able to upright a 7 ½ foot obelisk monument which had fallen decades ago and was buried under earth and sod. Thanks to Henry for volunteering his expertise and equipment for this project. The obelisk was a memorial for the Wait family, dated 1834. Also, a good stretch of fence line was cleared of stubble and overgrowth. Several headstones were up-righted as well.

MAPLE HILL CEMETERY: We put in a 160 foot split rail fence to replace the old iron fence along the north road that was too brittle to fix. We also installed a split rail gate at the end of the north road.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY: Two older cedar trees were taken down that were a danger to nearby headstones. The fence line on the south end was gleaned of unwanted growth, and several headstones were up-righted. A large limb from an old maple tree fell, but miraculously missed headstones.

INACTIVE CEMETERIES: We did not get to do any work in the three inactive cemeteries (Little Rhode Island, Hollow, and Elwell). However, these cemeteries are included in the contractual semi-annual clean-up along with lawn care in the five active cemeteries.

Mr. Michael Albans was selected to replace the undersigned as Superintendent of Cemeteries for the Town of Shaftsbury effective July 2020. Mike possesses a good knowledge of cemeteries and will upgrade the administrative functions via computerization, a task long needed. Please give Mike the same outstanding support you have given me over these last ten years.

My sincere thanks to Chairman Tim Scoggins and all the Select Board Members, along with Chairperson Kathy Cardiff and all Cemetery Committee Members. I also want to extend thanks to David Kiernan our Town Administrator, Marlene Hall our Town Clerk, and our Shaftsbury Road Crew for their outstanding support and guidance.

Most importantly, thank you to the Shaftsbury residents for their compliance with our cemetery rules, and for keeping their loved ones resting places in tip top shape.

Ken Coonradt
Cemetery Superintendent "Retired"
24 November 2020

Zoning Administrator

The Zoning Administrator is responsible for impartially enforcing the Town's Zoning Bylaw, issuing permits and violations, working with the Development Review Board and Planning Commission, as well as maintaining accurate and complete files of land use in the Town.

Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles was appointed in September 2014.

Office Hours:
Monday-Wednesday 9 am-noon
Telephone : 802-442-4038 x 5
E-Mail: zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov

Permit Application Summary

Type of permit	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2021
Houses	5	4	6	3	6	8
Mobile home	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	16	34	35	20	13	13
Pools	2	1	1	0	0	0
Subdivisions	3	5	6	3	6	1
Home occupations	0	1	1	3	3	1
Commercial buildings	0	2	0	0	0	0
Camps	3	1	1	0	0	0
Signs	3	2	1	1	2	0
Accessory structure	16	17	18	25	15	22
Other*	6	2	10	4	6	3
Violation	3	0	0	0	0	0
Curb Cut	7	5	4	4	10	3
Zoning letters of compliance	31	39	60	50	55	54
Fence	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	95	113	143	113	117	115

- Variance, ag exempt structure, unpermitted structure

Respectfully Submitted
Shelly Stiles
Zoning Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Many of the road projects completed in FY 2020 represented improvements required by the state's Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). This statewide program was put in place to reduce the impacts of roads on water quality. (Runoff from roads accounts for a large percentage of the phosphorus entering our waterbodies. Phosphorus contributes greatly to algae blooms and die-offs of aquatic life.)

Some of these projects were completed with substantial assistance from the state-sponsored grant programs called Better Roads and Grants in Aid. They were put in place by contractors with assistance from the road crew, and included:

- On a section of Shaftsbury Hollow Road, approximately 12" of unstable surface material was removed. A geotextile road bed separator was put down, and upon it was placed 12" of granular borrow and a 6" covering of crushed sure pack. At the same time, ditches were cleaned or reestablished and trees and stumps preventing the ditches from working effectively were removed. Weaver Excavation was the contractor.
- On North Road, 400' x 22' x 4" of new pavement was laid down by Beaudoin Paving. New guard rails were installed on the steep hill near Route 7A. The Town crew removed the old pavement, laid down new gravel, and improved drainage in preparation for the project.
- On Myers Road, Meyers Road, 275' x 22' x 4" of new pavement was laid down by Beaudoin Paving. The Town crew again prepared the site for the project.

Other projects were undertaken by the Town crew alone. They included:

- On Cross Hill Road, stone-lined ditches were installed on four road segments, two new 15" culverts were installed, and 150 feet of 6" HDPE perforated under drain was put in place.
- On Myers Road and West Mountain Road, under-drain projects were installed.
- On Townline Road, Lower East Road, East Road, Rod and Gun Club Road, Cold Spring Road and Meyers Road, culverts were replaced.
- The Town crew rented a roadside mower to do fall mowing. (Spring mowing was contacted out.) The Town plans to purchase its own tractor and mower in the near future.
- Routine grading.
- Brush and tree work during the winter and spring.

The Town expects to soon purchase a 2021 International single axle dump truck with plow equipment. We will trade in the 2009 International single axle dump truck toward the purchase of that new truck.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Yannotti,
Department of Public Works Foreman

Shaftsbury Fire Department

The Shaftsbury Fire Department responded to 66 calls this year.

The Shaftsbury Fire Department saw a significant decrease in its call volume that can only be contributed to the COVID crisis. The State of Vermont did an exemplary job in keeping the First Responders up to date with information not only to serve you our community better, but to keep all of us safe when going to emergency calls. I would like to thank my firefighters for all their extra efforts in responding to request from the community to participate with drive by parades and celebrations, which included birthdays and special events. These parades were a shining moment in a very dark time.

This past September we took ownership of a new Pumper/Tanker, Engine 2, Truck 65. This piece of Apparatus was built by the Toyne Manufacturing Company. It is a state-of-the-art truck that will serve the Town of Shaftsbury for many years to come.

Last Spring, we removed the carpeting on the second floor of station 1. We had the hardwood floors sanded and urethane to bring them back to their original condition. The transformation is truly remarkable and will last a lifetime.

Emergency Response 2020

Structure Fires – 5

Car Accidents/Extrication – 17

Vehicle Fires – 1

Haz Mat Responses – 1

Wildland Fires – 4

Weather Related - 9

Good Intent – 19

Assist EMS – 1

Mutual Aid – 9

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Joseph Vadakin
Shaftsbury Fire Department

2020 Legislative Report

Last year's legislative session stretched well beyond the normal May adjournment date. After working through June and then pausing for a summer recess, the House reconvened for five weeks before finally wrapping up at the end of September.

Our work was done entirely remotely after the pandemic sent everyone home from Montpelier in mid-March. That work initially involved a flurry of legislation enabling the state to respond to the public health emergency (e.g. allowing greater access to telemedicine, and requiring insurers to cover the costs of Covid testing and care), and then expanded to focus on the abrupt and unprecedented change to the economy. Eventually we passed a balanced budget for fiscal year 2021 (through June 30) that appropriated over one billion dollars in Corona Relief Funds while projecting significant reductions in revenues from the income and sales taxes.

During the session, I worked with other members of the Health Care Committee to address the looming shortage of primary care providers by increasing scholarship funding (Act 155); create more pricing transparency for hospital services through the development of an interactive dashboard (Act 159); and cap insulin co-payments beginning in 2022.

We also approved an administration proposal to assign mental health professionals to state police barracks. As we know, law enforcement is often called to respond to situations that might better be handled by mental health workers, sometimes with tragic outcomes.

Other significant legislation enacted during the session included the establishment of a regulated marketplace for growing and selling marijuana (and expunging previous convictions of possession of less than 2 oz); updating law enforcement training and revising use-of-force standards; increasing the minimum wage to 11.75 in 2021 and $12.55 starting in 2022; and the creation of a Climate Council through the Global Warming Solutions Act, requiring greenhouse gas reductions. The last two items were enacted over gubernatorial vetoes–notably, only the 11th and 12th overrides in the state's history.

Vermont's short-term financial outlook has improved significantly since last summer, with actual tax revenue close to pre-pandemic levels (largely because of the growth in online shopping). At the same time, there is a growing strain on the state's pension funds that threatens the long-term picture.

Vermonters with input on pending legislation are always welcome to call the State House to register their opinion. With remote legislating a possibility into the spring, feel free to contact me directly as well. I can be reached at 802 491-7832 or ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us. You can also reach out if you need help connecting with state or federal government official, or if you just want to share your concerns or ideas.

I am happy to be representing you in Montpelier and look forward to a time in the near future when we can meet in person.

Respectfully submitted,
David Durfee, State Representative, Bennington 3

PLANNING COMMISSION

Much of the energy of the Commission was spent this year in reviewing the role of Roadside Commercial zoning. The Selectboard was determined to expand the district. The argument was put forth that existing nonconforming businesses along Route 7 were in danger. The Commission put forth two proposals for limited expansion. Neither seemed to meet the expectations of the Selectboard. The Bennington County Regional Commission weighed in with the opinion that expansion of Roadside Commercial was not in alignment with the Bennington County Plan and state planning goals which seeks to concentrate commercial uses in the downtowns. The final piece of this story was the public getting involved. Citizens including some of the business owners in the commercial cluster around Hidden Valley Road testified without exception that this was a misguided idea and would diminish the quality of life. An e-mail campaign against expansion directed at town officials seemed to have some effect. To date nothing has happened.

The Commission has been working on a new bylaw covering dog breeding and boarding facilities. Presently these kennels are not covered in any way by zoning. We are aware of two such facilities in Shaftsbury and see the need for such. However this is a very sensitive subject that has the potential to disrupt the peace of a neighborhood. We are proceeding cautiously.

Additionally the Commission has reviewed several applications for commercial solar installations including site visits as part of the state permitting process.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Williams
Chair, Shaftsbury Planning Commission

SHAFTSBURY RECREATION COMMITTEE
Town of Shaftsbury Update for 2020

Shaftsbury town parks offer recreational opportunities for its residents and neighbors. We are dedicated to developing and revitalizing them into active community parks.

The new Howard Park sign that makes the park's location easier to find, announces the entrance to the park. The required Vermont State issued Wayside Park Sign application has been submitted. Once we receive the go ahead from the state, it will be installed at the approved location on 7A and point the way to our parks.

We adhered to numerous state issued park use restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. New Rules of Use forms were created for park use by Groups and also Private Events. This was done in order to comply with all health and safety guidelines

Norshaft Lions members volunteered their time and muscle power: constructed two benches to be placed outside the tennis area, painted the pavilion with a fresh coat of stain. We thank the Lions for their continued commitment to Howard Park and the Shaftsbury community.

Sara Case continues to feature story boards along the Linda Tilgner Trail. A new story board can be enjoyed along the trail twice a year. Also, we have had a generous donation made toward the creation of a dog park at Howard Park by a member of our Shaftsbury community.

Our town participated in "Vermont Green Up Day," the first Saturday in May. Green Up Day is an annual event. If you are interested in taking an active part, please give Dave Kiernan a call at the town office (442-4043).

A survey was taken asking the residents in the Cleveland Ave. neighborhood if they would be interested in an ice skating rink at the Cleveland Ave. Park. Our survey results did not yield practical significance in order to get a definitive answer. In its stead, we are developing a town wide recreation survey. This will enable us to receive input from the Shaftsbury community for long range planning for both park facilities.

Howard Park pavilion and fields can be reserved by contacting Deena Ruege. Appropriate forms will be emailed to you.

The Recreation Committee meets the 4th Friday of the month at 10 a.m. via Zoom. If you have questions, need information on reserving the facilities, or would like to join us, contact Deena Ruege at gruege03@aol.com. New committee members are always welcome!

The Shaftsbury Recreation Committee is committed to following all state guidelines in order to provide an inviting recreational experience for our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Deena Ruege, Chairperson/Recording Secretary

2020 TOWN TREE WARDEN REPORT

There's a new unwanted, uninvited guy in town, and he could be a budget buster. It's an invasive insect called the Emerald ash borer (EAB). A native of China, where is not a problem and is little known. It was first discovered in Detroit, in 2002. Since then it has spread to -35--- states and ----5--provinces in Canada. Killing literally millions of ash trees. If there is any good news it is not known to harm any other species.
It was first discovered in Vermont , in the town of Orange, in 2018, although entomologists think it could have been there for 10 years. In the summer of 2020 it was found on a sticky trap in Shaftsbury. Another trap in town did not have any. It now has been found 14 towns with specimens but highly likely in many more. See map at www.vtinvasives.org
The predictions of what this will do in Shaftsbury is that 99% of all ash trees will die. Depending on the density of the population most will be gone within 10 or so years.

Here is what we know:

1. With 70.4 miles of mostly tree lined town roads, among the highest in the state, we have for planning purposes approximately 7400 ash trees. (70.4 x 5280 x 2 (as both sides of the road are tree lined), and an ash conservatively every 100 feet.)

2. An ash tree does not usually die in the first year of an attack but will become weakened and the wood becomes brittle with each following year. They then become too dangerous for hand falling with a chain saw.

3. According to the US Forest Service tree removal costs are $18 per inch of diameter for cutting and removal of a healthy tree with a chain saw. Double that for a tree that must be cut with a bucket truck.

4. Hand cutting of dying or dead trees should be prohibited.

Here is what we should do:

1. Conduct an inventory of all ash, and hazardous trees along town roads. Information needed is location, diameter, health, and whether electric lines are present. Grant money may be available. Contact http://vtcommunityforestry.org/
2. Keep road crews trained in felling and chain saw safety. NO tree should be cut unless he or she is entirely comfortable with the felling.
3. Work with Green Mtn. Power on tree removals.
4. Increase Highway budgets.
5. Investigate additional equipment needed.
6. Mark ash and hazardous trees for removal during dormant time into two categories. Those that can be safely taken down by hand and those that require a bucket truck. Priority should be given to cutting the large healthly trees by hand before they become too dangerous.
7. Investigate tree disposal site in town, where wood can be taken and hopefully turned into a product.
8. We are lucky to have at least 5 locally independent contractors with bucket trucks qualified to help.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim White, Shaftsbury Tree Warden

2020 WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Hello, my name is Joshua Brace. I am the new Shaftsbury Water Superintendent. First of all, I would like to tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in Arlington, VT which is similar in size and population to Shaftsbury. After high school, I decided to further my education at Lyndon State College where I received a bachelor's degree in environmental science. Upon completion of my degree, I started working at Stratton Mountain, as a water and wastewater operator. I have been working there for 3 years. With the increase in people staying at the mountain this year, there have been some adjustments with our operating procedures. Stratton also has a much more complex system, making the increase in occupancy a new challenge. Many of you might not know, but Stratton has the largest spray field in Vermont. The spray field is where our finished wastewater is sprayed throughout acres of wooded terrain.

Although this is not the career I thought I would find myself in, I have taken a great interest in the complexities of providing safe drinking water to the communities I serve. I look forward to applying my knowledge from operating the water system at Stratton Mountain, and bringing it to the residents of Shaftsbury. I pledge to provide excellent service, and safe drinking water throughout my years of service to the town.

I would also like to give a huge thank you to Joe Herman, a longtime resident and water operator of Shaftsbury, VT. I know Joe has done a lot for this town and I aspire to gain the respect that he has throughout my years of service. Joe has been a great mentor and resource as I begin to learn the system.

BENNINGTON COUNTY
COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
"WORKING TOGETHER MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

SHAFTSBURY 2020 TOWN REPORT

Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH) continued to serve the complex needs of those experiencing homelessness in 2020.

BCCH gratefully acknowledges the Town of Shaftsbury's support for Bennington County families and individuals experiencing Homelessness. BCCH strives to prevent and end homelessness by providing emergency overnight shelter, short term emergency housing, and transitional housing. We are committed to providing more than just a bed. Our programming provides the building blocks necessary for people to become self-sufficient so that they may sustain permanent housing and remain independent. Because we strive for sustainable solutions, clients are required to participate in coordinated case management with our staff and partner agencies. Other offerings include workshops on budgeting, cooking and employability skills as well as individual support in seeking employment, housing, and services to meet their various needs.

BCCH's mission states we are Dedicated to Collaboration, Coordination, and Implementing Services to the Homeless in Bennington County and Promoting Awareness. In fulfilling this mission, we operate 2 shelters in Bennington, serving the entire county – 966 Main Street shelter for adults and Thatcher House, our family shelter; both shelters operate year-round. We are also actively involved in community efforts to serve and support those experiencing homelessness by partaking in numerous community efforts and by partnering with local agencies in our work such as PAVE, DCF, Sunrise, GBICS, Shires Housing, BHA, BROC and Economic Services.

This past year has been unique in both challenges and success. The COVID-19 pandemic involved several months of daily pivoting with our services and our shelters. With a dual goal of keeping those we shelter healthy and continuing to provide services, we worked tirelessly with the State of Vermont's OEO and Department of Health to stay current and abide by health protocols as they developed and continually evolved. We also immediately kept our 966 Main shelter open 24/7. Our major successes during this global crisis included intense partnerships with other local entities as well as expanding staffing to include an Outreach Case Manager position to serve those being sheltered in motels by Economic Services. We also had great success in supporting several individuals and families to obtain permanent housing during the pandemic.

While our original plans involving transitioning to the new family shelter, 300 Pleasant Street, were delayed, our primary goal for the upcoming year is a successful move which will provide improved space for our families as well as being more energy and cost efficient. BCCH is also committed to continually strengthening and expanding our work with community partners.

A portion of the BCCH annual budget is made up of state grants. The remainder of the budget is made up of town funding appropriations, foundation grants, and donations from our community. Town participation is a crucial part of our annual budget and we greatly appreciate the support from Shaftsbury.

Sincerely,
Stephannie Peters
Executive Director, Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless

Serving Bennington, Windham and Windsor Counties
160 Benmont Ave., Suite 90 Bennington, VT 05201
802-772-7875 | caliberti@svcoa.net | rsvpvt.org

Shaftsbury Annual Town Report – FY 2020

Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP), an AmeriCorps Seniors program, is for people age 55 and older who want to volunteer in their community. We help local non-profit organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers to meet community needs. Your town's funds help us to continue to support and develop programs for seniors who wish to volunteer. Our staff and administrative costs are covered by federal funds from the AmeriCorps Seniors Program. Our program covers Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties.

There are currently 20 volunteers living in Shaftsbury.
Prior to the pandemic, 2 volunteers were leading our Bone Builders class at the Shaftsbury Methodist Church. We are hopeful that when it is safe to resume, this class will be able to pick up where it left off. 1 volunteer has taken on the role of checking in with participants on a regular basis during the pandemic. The Carpenter Shop Food Pantry was one of the beneficiaries of our Stuff the Bus food drive in January. During the pandemic, 2 volunteers donated not only time, but also materials to fix a ramp for someone in need. 1 volunteer is assisting with sewing masks and scrub caps for those in need during the pandemic.1 volunteer is continuing to deliver meals on wheels to homebound individuals during the pandemic.1 volunteer has also been helpful in assisting at the monthly blood drives located in Bennington. 3 volunteers assisted with preparing taxes for individuals through the AARP Tax-Aide Program.

During the current and unprecedented times, GMRSVP has not seen any increases in funding through any of the stimulus packages provided by the federal or state entities. Our program did not meet the criteria or apply for any of the other funding opportunities. 48% of our volunteers continue to serve during COVID-19 and we are pivoting our programming to continue to serve the community, addressing social isolation, wellness, and food insecurity. We look forward to all our volunteers returning to service once deemed safe to.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lenora Volkmer in our Bennington County office at (802)447–1546 to learn how you can volunteer in Arlington.

Bennington Little League

P.O. Box 4603, Bennington, Vermont 05201

To the Shaftsbury Community Appropriations Committee,

The Bennington Little League program has been in continuous operation since 1957 offering a quality youth sports opportunity to Bennington County. We pride ourselves in providing a safe and educational environment for all of the 280 plus children we serve. We provide opportunities for players ranging from age 5 through 12 to play on one of 4 different divisions to ensure both safety and progression for each child, customizing our approach for the success of the individual as well as the team.

As you know, Bennington Little League and the Norshaft Little League merged almost 10 years ago, and in doing so, we were lucky enough to inherit the field in Howard park, as well as one in North Bennington at Lions Park. Though a great benefit to our program and the children playing in it, they are a ton of work. Unlike most youth sports fields, baseball fields require an enormous amount of maintenance. With the onset of Coronavirus, we were unable to do our usual maintenance, last season but plan to get back to hit this spring. Unfortunately, the infield is in desperate need of attention as the grass has taken over so it will require more work than normal. As always, our volunteers are committed to getting it back to playing shape. Out plan is to utilize this location for both practices and games from early April through mid July and sometimes beyond depending on post season needs. This year it is likely with the new mandates that we will need this field more than ever, so we feel grateful to have the Town's support.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Shaftsbury for their past and hopefully continued support. The money we receive goes directly to the maintenance and improvements necessary each season. We look forward to getting back to baseball in 2021.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey M. Metcalfe
President
Bennington Little League

VNA & HOSPICE
of the Southwest Region
Serving Bennington and Rutland Counties

Our family caring for your family since 1946

Town of Shaftsbury

TO THE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF SHAFTSBURY:

In 2019, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, formerly known as Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice provided Bennington County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to our most senior population facing end-of-life care, we continued to bring medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

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 health care services to some of Bennington County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2019, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 141,507 visits to 3,212 patients. In the town of Shaftsbury, we provided 1,431 visits to 61 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.

Ronald J. Cioffi
CEO

Dan DiBattista
President of the Board of Directors

Paran Recreations
COVID Summer

Frankly, our major accomplishment during COVID summer was that we actually were able to open. Due to state (Vermont) imposed restrictions, we were forced to remain closed until July 7th. Once we opened, we had to comply with state health and safety requirements. In order to do this we had to limit the number of people at the lake at any one time, collect contact tracing information, take everyone's temperature, close our snack bar, cancel all special events (many of which are fundraisers) provide additional training for all staff, bring in special cleaning staff, equipment and materials and hire a safety monitor to help patrons follow the rules. The kids and their families that came to Paran were extremely grateful that we opened! Because of our commitment to the families of our region we are currently working with the schools to offer "out of school time" activities for families whose kids are attending school on ZOOM.

All summer our board and staff leaders met weekly, sometimes more often, to keep Paran open and safe. We had some very difficult experiences and made many decisions that supported health and safety but were not good for our bottom line. We used social media to communicate with our community every day and coordinated with the towns and other youth serving organizations to keep ourselves open and safe. No one related to Paran tested positive all summer.

We did receive another State Recreational Facilities matching grant this fall and will be using it to install a new "fishing dock" on the western side of our beach front. We look forward to seeing more people enjoy that past time when the weather improves in the spring.

Communication, collaboration and resilience are key for us. If we did not have the support of our community partners (the towns, the Rec Center in Bennington, the towns (Bennington, Shaftsbury and North Bennington) the schools and the police) we never would have been able to open and stay open. Developing clear guidelines for guests and communicating regularly through social media was very important.

We understand that we did not fulfill our normal goals for this summer but we feel that just opening to the public was a great accomplishment! We do have a deficit because we had to limit the number of people using the lake, had to pay additional staff to maintain health and safety and were not able to run any of our fundraising events. We are using our time this winter totry to raise additional funds and plan for a great summer in 2021. We hope we can continue to rely on support from the community of Shaftsbury to help us make it through!

Vermont 211 Referrals in Shaftsbury

Vermont 211 is a 24/7 Information and Referral program of the United Ways of Vermont. By dialing 211 or by texting your zip code to 898211, you will receive up-to-date information and referrals on health and human services for your area and region. (Text between 8:00am-8:00pm, Monday-Friday.)

Our 211 system in Vermont is at the fingertips of every resident and every phone. 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 professionals by phone or by text. Vermont 211 is here to offer help and to offer hope.

- One call or text 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 or text; most often the name of the caller is not even taken. Language translation services are also available.
- 211 maintains the integrity of the 9-1-1 system; saving that vital community resource for life and death emergencies.
- 24-hour availability every day of the year by phone or by clicking on vermont211.org
- 211 is an easy way to find or give help in your community.

In times of disaster, Vermont 211 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 city, 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.

Residents of Bennington County contacted 211 by phone or text 1,677 times between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. The top services sought were housing/shelter, public assistance, and public safety. There were 175 searches of 211's database conducted by people identifying themselves as Bennington County residents—including four identifying themselves as Shaftsbury residents.

Residents of Shaftsbury made 28 contacts to Vermont 211 during fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020) for a range of needs, resulting in 26 referrals. The referrals included resources and services in the following categories: Income Support and Employment; Basic Needs; Consumer Services; and Organizational/
Community Services.

The agencies receiving the most referrals were: Vermont Department for Children & Families—Economic Services Division; Vermont Department of Health; Southwestern Vermont Health Care; Battenkill Valley Health Center; and BROC Community Action.

These referrals may not represent unique individuals; sometimes multiple referrals are given to the same person.

Want to subscribe to our monthly newsletter?
Our e-newsletter shares monthly statistics on the needs of Vermonters, highlights resources and keeps you up to date on new initiatives. To see or subscribe to our newsletter, go to: http://www.vermont211.org/news/monthly-newsletter

Vermont 211 Partners with Help Me Grow
Vermont 211 participates in the Vermont Department of Health's statewide Help Me Grow initiative. Help Me Grow provides a centralized telephone access point, via Vermont 211, for parents, caregivers, and providers to get information and referrals for local services for children birth through age eight. Help Me Grow Child Development Specialists answer questions about children's behavior and development and help identify children who are at risk for delays, so that services can begin as early as possible. Help Me Grow Child Development Specialists are available from 8:00am – 5:00pm Monday-Friday by dialing 211, x6.

BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (BCCD)

The mission of the BCCD is to promote rural livelihoods and protect natural resources in southwestern Vermont. Our work in fiscal year 2020 included:

Agriculture technical assistance and outreach was provided to farmers county-wide, to develop nutrient management plans, conduct soil and water samples and assist with resources and grants. Livestock exclusion fencing was provided for a local dairy farmer to keep cattle out of a small tributary in Manchester, in conjunction with the Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). We also participated and provided grant writing for the Northshire Grown: Direct CSA (a project of Merck Forest and Farmland Center - MFFC), which provides directly marketed produce to customers and assists producers during Covid. This effort also supports Neighbors in Need, by providing free food to community members who need it the most.

Partnering with the Town of Bennington and Shelly Stiles (previous BCCD district manager) to research and apply for the necessary permits to connect Headwaters Park with the old One World Conservation property and Y woods in Bennington. Permits were obtained for a new floater's trail and additional hiking access down and across Jewitt Brook.

Participated in the Batten Kill Watershed Comprehensive Invasive Species Management Association (CISMA) including the management of an Eco Americorp Service member and projects like a workshop for Orvis; newspaper articles; and social media outreach.

A VT DEC Trees for Streams / Pur Projet buffer planting was completed in North Bennington to reduce sediment and nutrient run-off into the Walloomsac River. Planting occurred in partnership with the PMNRCD. Over 1000 trees were planted at this site. Future buffer plantings are scheduled for Spring 2021. Outreach was also provided to landowners throughout the county, who would benefit from similar plantings.

Participated in forest connectivity research and outreach, via a High Meadows Grant shared with MFFC. Ecologically significant land that is susceptible to parcelization was identified in the Taconic Forest block (Rupert, Arlington, Sandgate, Manchester, Dorset). Outreach and site visits began this fall, in conjunction with VT FPR County Forester, Cory Creegan.

Developed three stormwater projects, one of which we will apply for design funding at the next grant opening. Projects were located along River Road in Winhall, Bennington College in Bennington and on private property in Woodford. Culverts were also assessed in Rupert and Dorset, in conjunction with USFWS and the Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) for aquatic organism passage. We will seek funding in upcoming months for culverts in need of replacement.

Assisting with the development of the new 5-year Battenkill, Hoosic and Wallomsac Basin 1 plan.

Topographic surveys and 50% engineered designs were obtained for stormwater system improvements at the Arlington school and library complex. In the upcoming months, these designs will be developed to 100% with the input of the Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union.

Started a new outreach effort with Trout Unlimited (TU) and the Battenkill Watershed Alliance (BKWA) to provide outreach, education and project development along the Battenkill and its tributaries. This effort has been supported by the US Forest Service and VT Fish and Wildlife.

BCCD has also worked to improve its internet presence with a newly developed website and increased facebook posts, more to come soon.

Working closely with USFS Green Mountain National Forest, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, our regional planning commission, many municipalities, and several local and regional non-profit organizations to further our congruent missions.

Respectfully submitted by
Katy Crumley, District Manager

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity®

ANNUAL REPORT November 2020
Bill Hoyt – Board President

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 pay an interest free mortgage thru monthly payments that include escrow for property taxes, insurance, and Homeowner Association fees, where applicable. Homebuyers' monthly payments never exceed more than 30% of their income. The monthly mortgage payments help build more 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 2020 (July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020), BCHfH was well on its way to completing three houses and 10 home repair projects by June 30, 2020. Then COVID-19 hit, and we were required to suspend operations for 2 ½ months. We got back to building and reopened our ReSale Store the first week of June, although with fewer volunteers due to strict Reopening Protocols. We finished one of our three FY20 houses before June 30th, and the Greene family moved home to the Jennifer Lane neighborhood of Manchester Center in mid-August. By late November, we completed the second of our three FY20 houses, along Corcoran's Way in Bennington; closing is set for December 7th with the Furciniti-Julius family. We currently are working to finish the third house, which is in Manchester Center. Our home repair program remains on hold at this time, but we were grateful to finish nine home repair projects in FY20 with homeowners who needed ramps and simple exterior repairs in order to remain 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 improvement 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 construction programs.

Two Shaftsbury residents are homeowners through our Habitat program, and we have done home repairs for two others. Many Shaftsbury residents have helped with our construction projects. One Shaftsbury resident serves on our Board of Directors. We encourage residents of Shaftsbury to apply for homes and home repair projects and to contact us about available land purchase opportunities. We are grateful for the Town of Shaftsbury'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 at www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Hoyt, President, Board of Directors

BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY

Basic computing skills and the ability to navigate the Internet are necessary for citizens to succeed in our 21st Century society. As more and more government agencies, businesses and employers require online access and minimal computing skills, the library continues to bridge the "Information Divide" by providing access to timely and relevant information and technology resources. Expanded virtual services and assistance throughout the current pandemic are services we provide to fulfill this need.

In response to the pandemic and to avoid becoming a vector for spreading the COVID-19 virus, the library discontinued open access to the library in mid-March and instituted "library takout" services soon after. Throughout the governor's mandated quarantine, the library continued to provide critical resources, including library takeout, online and phone reference assistance, summer reading activities, programs and handouts, deliveries to day care centers, book giveaways at the library and during food distribution events.

Library takeout allowed patrons to continue borrowing video and reading materials while the library was physically closed for public use. Online and phone reference continued 5 days a week and free 24/7 wi-fi service has been available without interruption. Fines for overdue books were suspended indefinitely to exposure.

The library subscribed to a video streaming service while library staff developed virtual programming including weekly story hours in order to continue to offer a high level of service to area residents. Expanded outreach through social media and our website continues to provide links to a broad variety of online health, educational and recreational materials which are updated frequently.

A "silver lining" of the mandated closure was that it provided an opportunity to complete building improvements with dedicated funds raised through our Capital Improvement Campaign. These included updating the Main Street building's heating system, installing new flooring throughout the library and painting the library's interior and portions of the exterior.

This summer a phased reopening allowed access to computers, reference and children's room assistance and collections and expanded homeschooling resources, while a ramped up cleaning routine kept patrons and staff safe.

The Bennington Free Library is a unique institution, supporting the life-long interests of a diverse community. Our success is due, in part, to the financial support received from the Town of Shaftsbury. Shaftsbury residents have been enthusiastic patrons of the library for many years, and with your support we will continue to provide the relevant and quality resources they deserve. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted

Lynne Fonteneau McCann, Library Director

BENNINGTON PROJECT INDEPENDENCE

Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report

Bennington Project Independence was honored to have the opportunity to celebrate over 42 years of providing exceptional Adult Day Services for older persons, younger adults with disabilities and their families from Shaftsbury.

BPI provides a safe, sensitive and supportive day program for adults age 18 and older. We serve people who feel isolated without the support of family and friends, persons dealing with bereavement or other emotional issues such as anxiety or depression, persons with delicate or chronic medical conditions that would benefit from personal care or health monitoring, persons facing end-of-life challenges, younger persons with acquired brain injury as well as serving persons in all stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive impairments who benefit from compassionate, specialized assistance. Our Members have the opportunity to receive care and support during the day and then return to the comfort of their own homes or their family's homes in the evening. Currently 8% of our Members live in Shaftsbury. We serve an average of 45 people a day at the Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center on Harwood Hill.

At our inviting, home-like facility, Bennington Project Independence was able to provide a wide range of individually-tailored services including meaningful, life-enriching adult activities, educational presentations and mentally stimulating activities, nursing, wellness and personal care, social work support, delicious and healthy meals, opportunities for socialization, intergenerational experiences, pet visits, fitness groups, art and music therapy, our nustep personal fitness training program, as well as community trips and tours. We are also a VA Adult Day Health Center dedicated to supporting our veterans and their families. The comprehensive services provided by BPI and the innovative Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center facility are considered to be models for our State and the Nation.

BPI is committed to providing comprehensive services for our members and their families as well as our greater community. Bennington Project Independence offered free Basic Fall Prevention Tai Chi classes for the community. With a grant from the National Caregiver Initiative through the Southwestern VT Council on Aging, BPI was able to expand the Second Wind Dreams Virtual Dementia Tour program for the community. This experiential program is designed to raise sensitivity and understanding of how persons with dementia may be experiencing the challenges of daily living. BPI was pleased to make the Virtual Dementia Tour available free of charge to caregivers and interested community partners in Shaftsbury and throughout Bennington County.

With the arrival of the COVID 19 pandemic and concerns for the at-risk individuals who attend day services like BPI, the Governor and the Vermont Dept. of Health ordered the suspension of in-person services at all of the Adult Day Services in Vermont. BPI suspended in-person services in Mid-March. Realizing that the pandemic may take longer to get under control and seeing the effects of isolation and the loss of our support and services on individuals and families, BPI developed an Adult Day without Walls model. We began making weekly telephonic check in calls with our members and their families. Our Nurse provided telehealth support as needed. Our Social Worker provided support and assistance for individuals and families and converted our monthly Families Together caregiver support program to a zoom format. Our creative Activity staff embraced both the telephonic personal contact with a wide variety of zoom activities and establish a BPI You Tube channel for on-going exercise and fitness programs. Our vans could be seen delivering personalized activity packets and home baked goodies to our Members. All the while, BPI developed comprehensive COVID 19 infection control protocols and procedures. We made additional alterations to the Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center to meet facility upgrades that will help provide the healthies and safest environment for our members and staff when we are able to resume in-person services. The well-being and safety of our members, their families, our staff are our primary concerns. As we move forward the addition of telehealth and on-line activities will enhance the range of services that Bennington Project Independence will be able to provide for our members, their families and our communities.

Bennington Project Independence is honored to be of service to the residents of Shaftsbury.
We are extremely grateful for the continued support and look forward to continuing to provide the highest caliber of care and range of Adult Day Services for the residents of Shaftsbury well into the future.

BROC COMMUNITY ACTION

December 04, 2020

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action has assisted **89** residents in the Town of Shaftsbury. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains $1,700.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Shaftsbury as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org

CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

It is with your town support, the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) was able to serve over 1,225 individuals this past year. Even in a year with an unprecedented pandemic, CRJ continued to provide county-wide, community justice programs and intervention services. CRJ's programs are based on the principles of restorative justice, a philosophy of justice that focuses on the people and communities harmed by crime; it emphasizes bringing together everyone affected by wrongdoing to address needs and responsibilities.

Some CRJ highlights from this past year include:

- CRJ launched a new program this past year called Threads. Threads is a teen clothing boutique shop that accepts donations of quality, gently used clothing. Any teen can come shop at Threads and all clothing and accessories are free of charge.
- 165 individuals with suspended licenses were assisted to get legally back on the road.
- 238 youth and adults participated in CRJ's Court Diversion Programs; after successful completion, including repairing the harms caused to their victims, the individuals' criminal records were expunged.
- 124 youth cited for underage drinking or possession of marijuana participated in CRJ's screening, education and treatment program; successful completions resulted in dismissal of civil charges.
- 173 students in Manchester, Arlington, and Bennington were served through CRJ's school-based Truancy Program and Restorative Alternative Program.
- 138 at-risk teens received services through one of CRJ's many youth intervention programs such as The Lounge (after school program), movie nights, mentoring and life skill development.
- 47 adults reentering the community from incarceration were supported through a variety of programs to help them positively reintegrate into the community.
- 340 individuals were served through CRJ's many other programs including victim impact classes, risk assessments and screenings, pre-charge programming and expungement assistance.

CRJ is grateful for your continued support in helping individuals to get their lives on the right track, empowering victims to have a voice in the justice process, and helping to restore and strengthen our communities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director

Shaftsbury Historical Society

It seemed as though it was January 2020 yesterday and COVID was not on anyone's mind. Now I am writing the annual letter again. 2020 was a lost year thanks to the Covid pandemic. We would like to thank all members (past and present), volunteers, and the town for allowing us to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's History!
Our season started February 8th with a Governor Galusha Birthday party which was well attended and seemed like a good omen for 2020 and the historical society. Governor Galusha was actually present at the event with Walt Klinger impersonating the Governor. After that event, as we all know, Covid reared its ugly head. Unfortunately we had to cancel the 2020 open house in April and postpone another ordinary hero celebration in May. With big thanks to Ken Coonradt, the 'Heritage Service' was again held at the Baptist meeting house in July. Thank you Ken!

At this point we are unsure when we will be able to host a group of people at the homestead or anywhere. We will keep you posted. Stay tuned!

Vicki Dejnozka is still a pseudo treasurer and book keeper. Thank you for your assistance. Keeping everything documented and recorded and providing a treasurer report monthly is a big help. We would like to have a full time treasurer as a member in the organization. Anyone interested? We continue to look for an office assistant to assist in the meeting recordings and helping organize the office. It has been 2 years since we've had a board Secretary and Treasurer. Please contact the Historical Society if interested in helping.

During COVID times we were able to clean up the property. Thank you Ed Legacy. We were able to patch the roofs on the barns at the homestead as well as weather tight the north barn. We also pulled the knot weed around the base of that barn, This will be an ongoing process to eradicate this invasive species. We also patched the roof of the 'horse thieves holding house' at the cemetery. These are temporary and the permanent fixes will occur in the future. We continue to look for contractors interested in fixing the spires on the 'Baptist Meeting House'. We have had an estimate that was later rescinded. If anyone is able and willing to take up that task please reach out to the historical society. The Society and Town would be forever grateful.

I don't believe will be having any events this year because of COVID but if things change we will get the word out. Our goal is to make the Shaftsbury Historical Society and the Governor Galusha Homestead something the town will be proud of. We enjoy being the stewards of Shaftsbury's history and are always looking for new ideas and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mitchell R. Race, President for the board

John G. McCullough Free Library
2020 Report to Town of Shaftsbury (revised for length)
Please note: a complete, 5- page report is available upon request.

Organization Contact Information:
John G. McCullough Free Library
2 Main Street/ PO Box 339 North Bennington, VT, 05257
802.447.7121 www.mcculloughlibrary.org
Director: Jennie Rozycki mclibrary@comcast.net

Mission: The John G. McCullough Free Library is an essential community center: a comfortable and welcoming place where people of all ages can satisfy their curiosity, stimulate their imaginations, become informed citizens and connect with the online world. The library cultivates a stable, vital, and dynamic community by facilitating lifelong learning and literacy at all levels.
The McCullough Library will enter its 100th year of service to Shaftsbury residents in 2021. The Library provides free access to a wide variety of materials, opportunities, and community events to support lifelong learning, inform and enhance civic engagement, and to bring neighbors closer together. We pride ourselves on friendly, responsive, professional service and a welcoming atmosphere for all.

Membership: Shaftsbury residents are encouraged to activate their free McCullough Library accounts. email McCulloughLibraryClerk@gmail.com or use our new, easy online form to get started: https://forms.gle/WyBc3Jwh6A9QPdYd8 .

Monthly e-Newsletters: Are a great way to learn about all the McCullough Library offers. Email the Library Director to subscribe.

Continuing Response to COVID-19 and Book Pickup Service: To protect public health, the McCullough Library building closed to the public in mid-March 2020, and has offered safe, reliable Book Pickup service since June. Book Pickup will remain the McCullough Library's method of service until reopening the building to the public is safe. Community events will remain virtual or outdoors. To request books, DVDs, audiobooks on CD and more, please call, email McCulloughLibraryClerk@gmail.com, or use our new, online request form: https://forms.gle/487y28SV3Nkvk7eJA. Book pickup times are Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 PM- 6:00 PM and Saturdays from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM.

Wi-Fi and Digital Services: A strong Wi-Fi signal is detectable outside the library building, and continues to be an essential service for students and those working from home. Use of the McCullough Library's collection of ebooks and digital audiobooks sharply increased this year. With grant funding, the McCullough Library became the first library in Vermont to offer free access to Lynda.com, a collection of 15,500+ job and technology skills courses and video tutorials. Access to Kanopy, a video streaming service, will be available in early 2021.

Martha Canfield Library Annual Report

Town Report 2020

The Martha Canfield Library is here to help you read, learn and expand your horizons in a variety of ways. Even with a pandemic, we have worked to find ways that you can still access the majority of our services with curbside pickup for books, movies, games and puzzles, interlibrary loan, and printing services. We have 24/7 online access to audio and ebooks, along with other databases for research and classes through the links on our website: marthacanfieldlibrary.org. All you need is your library card barcode. Our library assistant Holly has held virtual storytimes on Facebook, and we have offered virtual programs for adults as well as children. And, thanks to a grant from the Berkshire Bank, we were able to provide activity kits and free books for over 125 children during our summer reading program, Imagine Your Story.

The Russell Vermontiana Collection had a busy year, darkened by the COVID-19 pandemic and the unrelated death of David L. Thomas, longtime supporter, member of the library Board, local preservationist through the Arlington Townscape Association and local history expert. The collection received important donations of Kenny family memorabilia related to the Green River Inn, Arlington ledgers and photos, Dorothy Canfield Fisher letters and memorabilia, a Norman Rockwell framed print, trophies awarded by the Arlington Fire Department for their auto shows, Hale Company records, a sampler made by an 8-year old Arlington girl in 1826, artifacts from the Remember Baker Mill saved by Tom Weakley, photographs of local events and families, and local history and genealogy related to the Gowey, Bentley, Barney and Brophy families. Research queries were received from throughout the United States including California, Texas and the east coast on genealogy, local, state and business history of our service towns of Arlington, Sandgate, Sunderland and Shaftsbury.

We greatly appreciate your support through the years as we strive to provide services essential to a well-informed community. Let us know how we can help: check our webpage, follow us on Facebook, email with requests and questions, call us.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Skidmore, Director, Sheila Kearns, President, Board of Trustees

Martha Canfield Library, 528 East Arlington Rd., P.O. Box 267, Arlington, VT 05250

802-375-6153, marthacanfieldlibrary.org, martha_canfield_lib@hotmail.com. Russell_vermntiana_collection@hotmail.com.

GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Vermont celebrated its 50th Anniversary of Green Up Day on May 30, 2020. Although 99% of all events were cancelled due to Covid-19, Green Up Day was successfully executed with social distancing by 14,000+ volunteers, cleaning up over 241 tons of litter, and 9,000 tires statewide. It is imperative for all of us to keep building awareness and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment. Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride and engagement.

Support from municipalities is essential to our program. Funds help pay for administration, supplies (including 65,000 Green Up trash bags), promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, poster and writing contests, and a $1,000 scholarship.

Early awareness initiatives for Green Up Day tripled the number of submissions to our annual poster art and writing contests and produced 184 applicants for our first scholarship. We were able to offer "Greener" bags made with 70% post-consumer waste; add a Green Scuba team to clean in Lake Champlain; and had over 100 editorial stories in the news as well as a national mention in the *Washington Post*.

Donations can be made to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at **www.greenupvermont.org.**

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

Green Up Day, May 1, 2021

Thank you!

Project Against Violent Encounters

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) is a non-profit agency located in the heart of Bennington that works to serve all members of the community. We are committed to providing compassionate support, practical services, and the pathway to healing and safety for countless victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking.

PAVE has grown tremendously over the years in order to meet the needs of countless victims in Bennington County. PAVE operates a 24-hour crisis hotline, as well as comprehensive support services, including court and social service advocacy, case management, emergency financial assistance, access to legal services, access to emergency shelter, supervised visitation programming, parenting classes, community awareness, school-based violence prevention education and more.

In the past year, we provided 33 Shaftsbury residents with comprehensive services; 6 making initial contact with us via the hotline. These residents received advocacy services ranging from emotional support & safety planning to emergency shelter, transportation, and civil and legal advocacy. Through PAVE's Family Time Supervised Visitation program 4 Shaftsbury families with 9 children received services.

For many victims, the crisis hotline is their lifeline to PAVE. Staff and volunteer advocates remain the backbone of the support we offer, but staffing this hotline 24 hours/day continues to be one of our biggest challenges. Working a crisis hotline might mean providing emotional support via phone, but it often means responding in the middle of the night to the hospital for someone who has been sexually assaulted; sometimes that person is a child.

Domestic violence is a major cause of homelessness. Our emergency shelter program met the needs of **65 adults and 39 children** with **5,028 nights of shelter services**, providing families a safe place to stay until permanent housing could be obtained. We are happy to report that starting in 2021 PAVE will also be offering transitional housing for individuals exiting emergency shelter that still need continued support for up to 12 months. Funding from the Town of Shaftsbury would assist us in providing these much needed services for families in crisis.

PAVE has worked with over 3,500 individuals in the Bennington County schools to offer prevention workshops for children and teachers throughout the school year to discuss bullying and strategies that promote healthy relationships. PAVE also offers an outreach program that provides information and training to medical and mental health professionals around the issues of domestic and sexual violence.

On behalf of PAVE staff, Board of Directors, and families, we would like to thank the residents of Shaftsbury for their continued support of PAVE, without which we couldn't do the work we do.

Warmest regards,

Nadia Lucchin, Executive Director
P.O. Box 227 Bennington, VT 05201
pave@pavebennington.com
802-442-2370

The TUTORIAL CENTER, INC.

Founded in Bennington in 1971, 2021 marks the Tutorial Center's 50th year of helping the region's children and adults achieve educational, career, and life success! Please accept our thank you for the many years of support for our work. Your support enables us to help EVERY child or adult who comes to us for help.

The Tutorial Center has long-established learning centers in both Bennington and Manchester, enabling Bennington County residents to easily access our services where they live or where they work. Education is an ever-evolving art and The Tutorial Center seeks to model our services to respond to contemporary demand. I take pride in our welcoming and flexible approach. And we are proud of our success at expanding remote instruction during this momentous year and look forward to leveraging the new possibilities this presents.

Our educational support services include tutoring for all ages, adult literacy, dropout prevention, English language classes for non-English speakers, the High School Completion Program, GED preparation and testing, job readiness training, workplace literacy for employees, software and technology training for business, enrichment classes, SAT preparation, PROV professional testing and our innovative and nationally-recognized YAP experience for at-risk young adults.

This past year we provided tutoring for 91 students, in subjects ranging from beginning reading to algebra, calculus, technology, and foreign languages. Most were from low-income families. Over 90% of these students made measured educational progress under our guidance. These results show up in local schools as increased standardized test scores, and in local businesses as more productive employees.

Town of Shaftsbury appropriation funds support our tutoring work, enabling us to offer tutoring to any student who needs our assistance to succeed in school or to avoid becoming a dropout. All students who come to us for academic support receive support, regardless of a family's ability to pay.

Ninety-nine adults were enrolled in our free adult education services, including 7 Shaftsbury residents, benefitting from 302 hours of instruction. In all over 5980 hours of free instruction was provided to our students.

High-quality educational activities that respond to community needs – and produce lasting community impacts – that is what your Town funding supports. We thank you, and we look forward to your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Fish, Executive Director

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY
SUMMARY REPORT

Request Amount: $1,000.00

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

In FY'20 (10/2019-9/2020) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 236 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 5 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 124 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 89 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 61 individuals with information on assistive technology; 36 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 573 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served 41 people and provided 30 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. Due to the pandemic VCIL was able to start a new (temporary) program, Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency (RISE) which served 12 people in its first few months. The Rise Program can help provide an array of items or services if the needs are directly related to the Covid-19 epidemic.

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

During FY'20, 8 residents of Shaftsbury received services from the following programs:

- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- VT Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

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

VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

Report of Services for Town of Shaftsbury

Report of Services for Town of Shaftsbury

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2020 Fiscal Year was an exciting one. In September, we held a successful fundraising and awareness event, Dancing With The Stars of Burlington, and have sustained our outreach efforts throughout the state to ensure that all Vermonters are aware of our services. The number of clients we serve has continued to increase annually. A new referral system was also developed in the fall, which is intended to increase the number of referrals we receive from eye care providers, thus connecting more clients with life-changing vision rehabilitation therapy.

As with many nonprofits, VABVI had to make several adjustments in light of COVID-19. We quickly adjusted from providing services in client homes and schools, to providing remote services via telephone and video conferencing. We are continuing to accept new clients and are currently providing remote services. We will be resuming in-person services as soon as it is safe to do so, and are continuously developing protocols to keep staff and clients safe when we are able to meet face-to-face.

It's clear to us at VABVI that our mission and services will continue to play a critical role in the lives of many Vermonters well into the future. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have adapted our services and are working nonstop to support anyone living in Vermont who is experiencing vision loss.

SMART Device Training Program (formerly known as the iOS Training Program): The program has served 239 clients across Vermont since it was established in 2018. Now, due to COVID-19, the SMART Device Training Program is more important than ever. Current social distancing protocols have led to our blind and visually impaired clients to become increasingly at risk for feelings of isolation and loneliness. In addition, with many healthcare providers now only seeing patients via "telehealth," it is critical that our clients know how to utilize technology. Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapists (VRTs) are providing remote services to program clients who are in need of assistance. Clients who received technology training prior to COVID-19 have reported that the skills learned in this program have been invaluable throughout the pandemic.

PALS (Peer Assisted Learning and Support) Groups: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and to discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. Now, due to social distancing requirements, PALS groups are operating remotely via Zoom and telephone.

HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence): The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills. This program is currently being conducted remotely.

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, meet adult mentors, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This year's IRLE Camp, which was going to take place throughout Southern New England with activities at the Mystic Aquarium and Roger Williams Zoo, has been postponed until 2021.

During Fiscal Year 2020, we served 1,804 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 1 adult and 1 student in Shaftsbury, and 57 adults and 16 students in Bennington County.

For more information about VABVI's services or to volunteer, please contact Shannon Turgeon at (802) 863-1358 ext. 217, or at sturgeon@vabvi.org. Visit us our website at www.vabvi.org and feel free to "like" us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/vabvi802/.

Serving Our Community Since 1968
ARLINGTON RESCUE SQUAD INC
66 Chittenden Drive / PO Box 295, Arlington, VT 05250
802-375-6589 Office - 802-375-2716 Fax
ArlingtonRescueSquad.org

Thankfully, Arlington has not seen a large number of calls for Covid-19 patients. However, the Squad must take on the added burden of ensuring protection for all our Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and citizens on every call. With each call, we wear CDC required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), we clean or discard equipment, and sanitizing the ambulances thoroughly for our next call. This has meant an increased cost and time for PPE, supplies, and processes. We have been resourceful in finding donated materials, accessing all possible emergency funding, and applying for all available grants.

While we have incurred an increase in costs, the biggest impact of the Covid-19 virus has been a dramatic drop in 911 calls. This has reduced revenue significantly. Being that we staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, we needed to reevaluate our budget structure. We can't budget around our 911 calls, but we need to budget for our 911 readiness. Our billing structure will continue to stay the same. We only bill our patient's insurance when we transport that patient to a hospital. That is the only time we bill. We do not bill for lift assists, welfare checks, nor calls that do not require a trip to the emergency department or our patients just do not want to go. Billing and payment in the EMS world are much different than in the business world. Insurance is paid out at an agreed price. Not what they are billed. In most cases, they pay half of the billed price and the rest is the responsibility of the patient. With each call, there are set costs. Each time we're dispatched, there is a cost. Each time the ambulance goes out on a call, there is a cost. Every day we staff for 24/7 readiness, there is a fixed cost. This is where your towns appropriations helps cover those costs. Of the 45 calls we have had this year (January 1 to 27, 2021), 21 of those calls we did not transport.

We continue to need volunteers to join the rescue squad. As recent events have demonstrated, First Responders are the lifeblood of our society and they are appreciated more than ever. The feeling of pride and accomplishment you will gain by providing service to your neighbors is immeasurable. We're always looking for volunteers that want to be trained as First Responders. This is the first level of EMS and is a great way to get involved without a huge commitment of time for training. It is extremely valuable knowledge and very rewarding for anyone over the age of 18 that wants to learn life-saving skills and contribute to the health and safety of their community. For the first time ever, Arlington Rescue Squad is able to offer housing for night time volunteers. This way, individuals that have wanted to volunteer for Arlington Rescue Squad (but live outside the 5 minute response time) can now help and volunteer!

Arlington Rescue Squad is always ready to help everyone in our community. Thank you for your generous support and donations. Thank you for voting yes for your Town Appropriations for Arlington Rescue Squad. Please visit our website to learn more about how to volunteer and part of the amazing team of dedicated volunteers and staff. www.arlingtonrescuesquad.org

Arlington Rescue Squad is also HIRING staff. www.arlingtonrescuesquad.org/APPLY

Thank you.
Josh Williams - Executive Director - jwilliams@arsvt.org

MISSION

Shire Kids is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving access to books and early literacy programs for children in Southern Vermont. Reading and learning are the building blocks for lifelong success. It promotes individual freedom and empowerment. We believe every child has the right to learn and read, and lack of books should not stand in their way.

Shire Kids is the Local Champion for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Bennington County and the town of Danby, Vermont

What is the Imagination Library?

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails a high-quality, age-appropriate book each month to children from birth to five years old. The program is free to the families enrolled, and available to all families within our geographic designation. Books cover a spectrum of topics including facing adversity, celebrating gender and ability differences, and highlight Latino, Black and Native American characters.

TOTAL BOOKS MAILED

9,420*

*since inception in Bennington County in July 2019

TOWNS SERVED

Arlington
Bennington
Bondville
Danby
Dorset
East Dorset
Manchester
North Bennington
Pawlet
Pownal
Rupert
Peru
Readsboro
Sandgate
Shaftsbury
Stamford
Sunderland
Winhall
Woodford

TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED

1,016

ACTIVE ENROLLED CHILDREN

865

GRADUATED CHILDREN

151

shirekidsvt.org PO Box 218, Dorset, VT 05251 nicole@shirekidsvt.org

Thank you to our sponsors

We couldn't do this work without you

STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

CHARLES R. WOOD FOUNDATION
Investing in Children, Healthcare and the Arts

Stewart's Shops

Southwestern Vermont HEALTH CARE

The Vermont Country Store

LAWRENCE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, LLC

Sunrise Family Resource Center

Bennington County's Parent Child Center

2020 has been an unprecedented year of upheaval, reorganization, collective creativity, compassion, patience and empathy. Almost overnight, Covid 19 forced a pivotal shift in how we support families. Home visiting shifted to remote or socially distanced outside face to face meetings. The Learning Together Program shifted to remote academic and life skill instruction. Housing assistance, resource and referral support all shifted to a remote platform. Zoom became a daily word. Internally, we were forced to temporarily close our Early Care and Education Program in accordance with Governor Scott's mandates, but find new ways to stay connected to the families. Daily family check ins became routine, home delivery of educational materials, food, diapers and more became commonplace. We had to meet our families where they were in the moment.

Sunrise Family Resource Center, Bennington County's Parent Child Center met the challenge. We continued supporting the families who needed our services while making plans for a safe return to our campus. We had masks, gallons of hand sanitizer, lots of soap and water. Wash your hands! Stay 6' apart! The message was clear, and so was our commitment to our community. We would prevail and will be stronger and better positioned when it ends!

One of our buildings is currently undergoing renovations to provide a full working kitchen for the students in our Learning Together Program. A kitchen that will facilitate safe distancing and allow them to stay in the same building with their classrooms. We have updated our HVAC systems to provide for increased airflow and energy efficiency in our buildings. We renovated space to provide safe areas to meet with families during cold or inclement weather. We designed and implemented outdoor family activities in various towns throughout our County. These undertakings are providing increased accessibility, and real time support to families from throughout Bennington County. We did all of this while maintaining our regular day to day administrative operations-with limited on-site hours and full remote access. Our new website provides more resource information and forms for folks to have immediate access to. We are constructing an agency food pantry stocked with necessary supplies for our families to access as needed.

We partnered with CRJ and UCS to develop a program designed to support Bennington County Youth during this pandemic. The program goal is to help them feel less isolated, and to provide them the supports they need to be healthy and engaged.

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, SFRC continues to rise to the need of our community. Our commitment has not waivered. For over 50 years we have been Strengthening Families and with support from the Communities we serve, will continue to do just that.

With gratitude,

Denise Main, Executive Director

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

About the League. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state. The most recent audited financial statements are posted on our website, vlct.org/about/audit-reports, and show that our positive net position continues.

Member Benefits. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 139 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- Legal, consulting, and education services, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. In 2020, VLCT's timely legal and technical assistance included answering more than 4,000 legal questions and publishing guidance, templates, research reports, and several new groups of FAQs explaining how municipalities can implement the state's COVID-19 requirements. To support Vermont's towns and cities in responding to the pandemic, VLCT quickly researched, assembled, and distributed important information about fiscal impacts, grant opportunities, and how to adapt town operations, hold public meetings remotely.
- Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials who carry out their duties required by state law, as well as pertinent statewide topics. In response to the pandemic, the League provided online trainings, a virtual week-long conference, and timely announcements and information from state officials about how to comply with requirements and access to funding and assistance.
- Representation before the state legislature and state agencies, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to achieve tangible results on pressing issues such as responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, road and bridge repair, cybersecurity, housing and economic growth, renewable energy, emergency medical services, equity and inclusion, and ensuring the quality of our drinking water. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.
- Access to two exceptional insurance programs. The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Employment Resource and Benefits (VERB) Trust provides unemployment insurance, life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products to members at a competitive price. Both programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are only available to VLCT members.
- Access to a host of educational and informative materials and member conferences, including a news magazine, handbooks, reports, articles, and events that all focus on the needs of local government and provide additional educational and networking opportunities.

At the heart of all these activities is VLCT's commitment to serving as a good steward of member assets, and we are proud of the progress we continue to make in that effort. Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions, and to access resources that can help each official and employee carry out the important work of local government. For a comprehensive list of member benefits and services, please visit vlct.org/memberguide to download the VLCT Member Guide.

To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, visit the VLCT website at vlct.org.

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