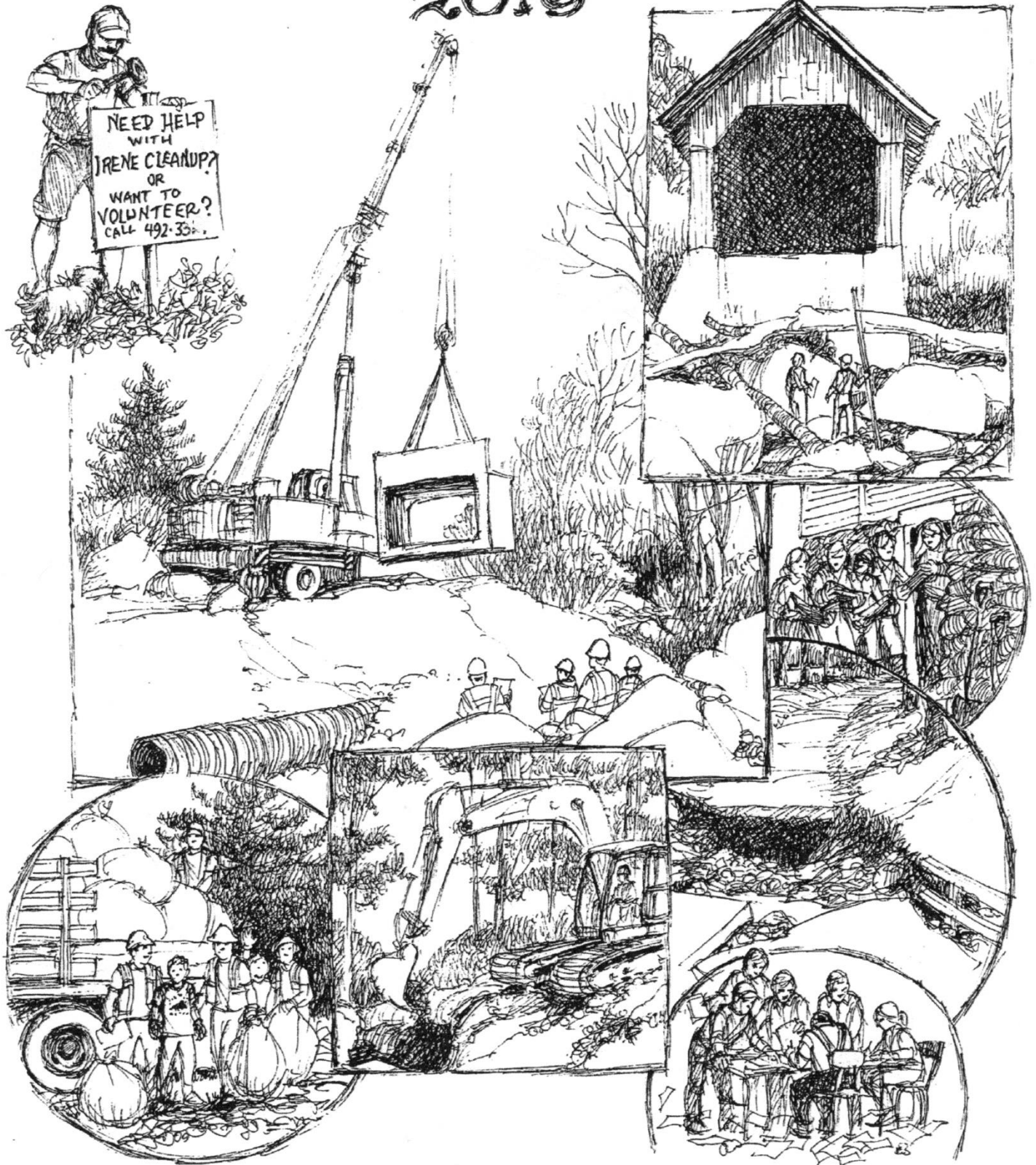


# TOWN OF Shrewsbury Vermont

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



On August 28, 2011 Tropical Storm Irene deluged Shrewsbury. It swept away roads, bridges, and culverts, damaged homes, destroyed cars and isolated some parts of town. It was Shrewsbury's worst natural disaster within memory. This past year, eight years later, the last Irene related work was completed, the Cold River Road Pre-Disaster Mitigation Project. The 2019 Shrewsbury Town Report is dedicated to all those who helped the town recover from Irene, both those who responded immediately, and those who helped bring all the recovery projects to eventual completion.

So many contributed to the town's eventual recovery in ways large and small that we do not have space to name everyone. This article recognizes a handful of those who stepped forward during the crisis and afterwards. We hope the few who are named will represent the many who are not. Everyone is deserving of thanks, even if not recognized.

Two cousins, Jamie and Russell Carrara were among the first responders to the disaster. Russell, as the Shrewsbury Fire Chief, led the fire department in being prepared even before Irene struck. Anticipating the storm, SVFD volunteers had tested and readied their generators, emergency equipment and fire department vehicles. When the storm hit radio communication was maintained between the Northam and Cuttingsville fire stations. Volunteers went house to house in some areas making sure people were safe. In Northam, Russell enlisted his father Duane to use his excavator to pull a plugged bridge and a culvert which were causing water to be diverted into and around homes. This action saved at least two homes from significant damage and the possibility of destruction.

Surveying the damage, Shrewsbury Road Commissioner Jamie Carrara initially felt overwhelmed yet led the town road crew consisting of (L to R in picture below) Steven Bruce, Herb Carrara (who came out of retirement), Jamie Carrara, and Gil Pitts. They worked around the clock to rebuild roads and



Members of the Shrewsbury Road Crew as of 2011

install temporary culverts. Volunteers assisted the road crew helping to open culverts, divert water and cut trees. Orville Woods, Duane Carrara, Bob Beardmore and Jay Webster provided immediate and longer term assistance with their heavy equipment. Before winter most town roads were open, usually with temporary fixes to bridges and culverts.

Jamie's work, however, was far from over after the initial crisis. As road commissioner he monitored all road reconstruction with project engineers and contractors to ensure work was properly completed. In total, eight bridges and culverts were replaced.

In the days after the storm, Shrewsbury Town Clerk Mark Goodwin kept the town office open long hours making it a "command post" for the recovery effort. He maintained communications between town officials, the fire department, and other volunteers, as well as state and federal officials working in town. The town office became an information clearing house for the recovery effort.

Irene Gordon initially served as the town's emergency management coordinator, spending many hours interfacing with state and federal officials and taking them to survey the damage as well as coordinating with town officials and volunteers.

Stan and Louise Duda organized volunteers to do cleanup, with as many as 60 people participating. Muck from multiple basements was shoveled out and shoreline debris, including downed trees, was

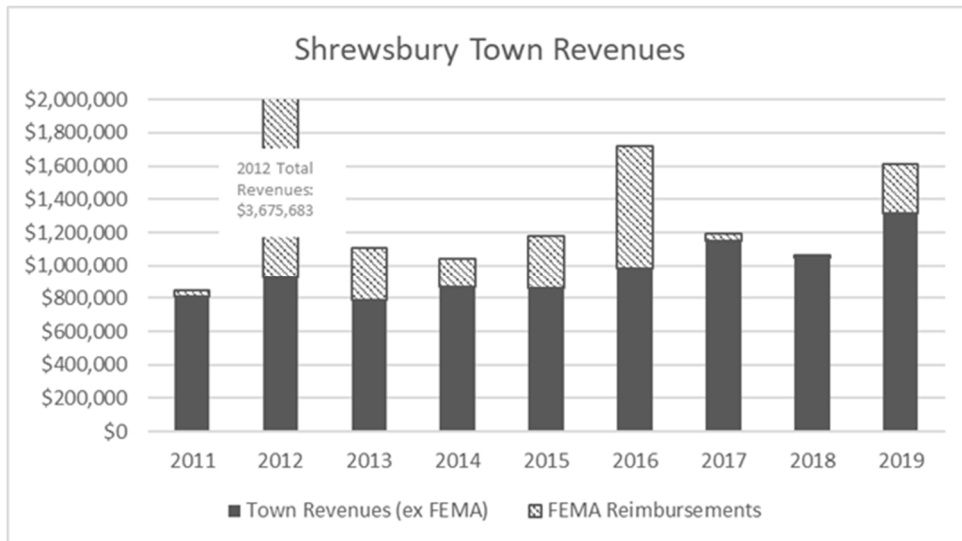
collected and removed. Louise also wrote a grant which resulted in a repeater being installed which retransmits wireless communications to ensure broader emergency coverage in the future.

The Shrewsbury Selectboard, which consisted of Bert Potter, John Wood, Mike Stewart with Steven Nicholson and Aaron Korzun serving later, was ultimately responsible for the reconstruction of town roads, bridges and culverts. A massive amount of paperwork was generated to meet FEMA requirements for federal reconstruction reimbursement. John Wood “Woody” initially represented the selectboard, meeting with project engineers, Vermont Agency of Transportation officials and tracking the bidding, permitting and required paperwork. Rich Biziak volunteered by collecting road work data and entering it into FEMA approved forms with relevant documentation. Woody credits Shrewsbury Treasurer Linda McGuire with obtaining a bank line of credit which paid for projects until FEMA’s first check of approximately \$700,000 was received. Over the next eight years, Linda spent many hours processing incoming invoices and issuing payments for recovery work. Selectman Steven Nicholson picked up where Woody left off. He worked diligently over a long period to ensure the town received full FEMA reimbursement for the final projects that were completed.

Throughout the Irene recovery and rebuilding process the town employed the services of Otter Creek Engineering (OCE). Shrewsbury’s Mark Youngstrom, who was OCE’s principal engineer in its Rutland office, was a constant resource for all of the projects, both as an OCE professional engineer and as a town resident who provided much unpaid assistance. OCE designed road, culvert and bridge projects, wrote contracts, put the projects out to bid, made sure projects were done to specifications, provided assistance to the town in securing FEMA reimbursement, maintained FEMA required documentation, and coordinated closely with Vermont AOT and Vermont Emergency Management officials to make sure FEMA requirements were understood and met. Mark also provided regular updates in the Times of Shrewsbury.

For the Cold River Road Pre-Disaster Mitigation Project, Shrewsbury’s Alan Shelvey, who is also a professional civil engineer, volunteered his talents. Alan provided effective documentation of the embankment’s slippage, a condition which would have eventually destroyed the road. Alan’s documentation persuaded both the selectboard and state officials to relocate the road and ultimately resulted in the state authorizing reimbursement.

Federal and state reimbursement for all Irene related projects, 2011 through 2019, totaled \$3,852,891.34. The chart (left)



shows Town Revenues and FEMA reimbursements as reported each year. Shrewsbury’s share of the cost for the regular FEMA projects was less than 5%. For the Cold River Road Mitigation Project the town’s share was 25%. While Irene was a huge natural disaster, the town now has significantly improved infrastructure for a small fraction of what it could have cost the taxpayers.

We can be grateful to all those who helped the town recover and rebuild. It was an unprecedented and monumental undertaking for Shrewsbury and it was done well. Irene showed just how strong Shrewsbury’s community really is.

Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 ANNUAL REPORT**  
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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS** *as of December 31, 2019*

Elected Office	Term	Elected officer(s)	Term Expires
MODERATOR	1 Year	Eldred French	2020
TOWN CLERK	3 Years	Mark Goodwin	2021
TOWN TREASURER	3 Years	Linda McGuire	2021
SELECTBOARD	3 Years	Bert Potter Aaron Korzun Steven Nicholson	2020 2021 2022
AUDITORS	3 Years	Richard Biziak Sanford Bragg Lee Wilson	2020 2021 2022
LISTERS	3 Years	Sharon Winnicki Ronaele Bowers Sue Kennedy	2020 2020 2022
MILL RIVER UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS	3 Years	Andy Richards-Peelle Adrienne Raymond	2021 2022
TOWN GRAND JUROR	1 Year	Barry Griffith	2020
TOWN AGENT	1 Year	Barry Griffith	2020
1 <sup>ST</sup> CONSTABLE	1 Year	Vacant	2020
2 <sup>ND</sup> CONSTABLE	1 Year	Vacant	2020
COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES	3 Years	Randy A. Page	2021
CEMETERY COMMISSION	3 Years	Larry Carrara Vacant Vacant	2020 2021 2022

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE ELECTED AT GENERAL ELECTION**

Justices of the Peace are elected for two-year terms every other year. Current justices were elected November 6, 2018 to serve from February 1, 2019 through January 31, 2021. All JP's will be up for election November 3, 2020 with new terms beginning February 1, 2021.		John Berryhill	2021
		Larry Carrara	2021
		Barry Griffith	2021
		Betsy Jesser	2021
		Trish Norton	2021
		Adrienne Raymond	2021
		Lee Wilson	2021

Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTBOARD<sup>(1)</sup>**

ACT 64 ADVISORY BOARD		Aaron Korzun	2020
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER		Vacant	2020
CLERK OF THE SELECTBOARD	1 Year	Mark Goodwin	2020
COMMUNITY MEETING HOUSE TRUSTEES <sup>(2)</sup>	3 Years	Mark Youngstrom Liesbeth van der Heijden Annette Parish	2020 2021 2022

Town of Shrewsbury 2019 OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTBOARD <sup>(1)</sup> (continued)			
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	4 Years	Grace Brigham Christina Clarke Cynthia Thornton Pam Darrow Louise Duda Peter Grace Connie Youngstrom	2020 2021 2021 2022 2022 2023 2023
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD	3 Years <sup>(3)</sup>	Scott Darling Bruce Bullock Mark Youngstrom Alan Shelvey Vacant	2020 2021 2021 2022 2022
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR <sup>(4)</sup>		Vacant	2020
EMERGENCY MGMT. COORDINATOR		Vacant	2020
ENERGY COORDINATOR		Davis Terrell	2020
FEMA ADMINISTRATOR		Steven Nicholson	2020
FENCE VIEWERS		Randy Page Bert Potter Mike Stewart	2020 2020 2020
GREEN UP DAY COORDINATOR		Connie Youngstrom	5/2/20
HEALTH OFFICER		Kathy Felder	2020
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES, & WOOD		John Wood	2020
LIBRARY BOARD		Debbie Blech	2022
PLANNING COMMISSION	3 Years <sup>(3)</sup>	Francis Wyatt Hunter Berryhill Brian Jelensits Melissa Reichert Laura Black Vacant	2020 2020 2021 2021 2022 2022
POUND KEEPER		Gillian Gaines	2020
REGIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE		Gerry Martin	2020
ROAD COMMISSIONER		Jamie Carrara	2020
RUTLAND REGION TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL		Vacant	
RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION		Aaron Korzun	6/30/20
SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE COMMUNITIES		Bert Potter	4/15/20
TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN DEPUTY FOREST FIRE WARDEN		Kevin Brown Alan Ridlon Jr.	6/30/23 6/30/23



Town of Shrewsbury

**2019 OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTBOARD<sup>(1)</sup> (continued)**

TREE WARDEN		Gary Salmon	2020
WEIGHER OF COAL		John Wood	2020
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	3 Years	Adrienne Raymond	2021

**OTHER TOWN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

TOWN ROAD CREW (Appointed by Road Commissioner)		Dan Cavoto, Matthew Yrsha	
TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANTS (hired by Selectboard)		Paul Young, Brian Wilder	
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK (Appointed by the Town Clerk for the term of the Town Clerk's service))		Betsy Jesser	2021
ASSISTANT TOWN TREASURER <sup>(5)</sup>		Christina Clarke	2021

- (1) All appointments expire on date of Town Meeting in March of year shown unless otherwise indicated.
- (2) Three of seven positions appointed by selectboard.
- (3) Term of office determined by selectboard.
- (4) Selectboard chair serves if vacant.
- (5) Appointment effective for treasurer's term of office unless changed by the treasurer.



Some of many volunteers that received Friend of Shrewsbury Conservation Commission T-Shirts, designed by SCC member Grace Bringham, for their support of various conservation efforts in town. **Front Row:** Chryl Martin, Grace Bringham, Iris Bringham, Christina Clarke; **Back row:** (left to right) Sabrina McDonough, Jennifer McDermott, Jonathan Gibson, Eliza Mabry, Ann Vanneman, Pam Darrow, Brian Jelensists, Lynn McDermott. Gary Salmon, Nancy Bell, Scott Garren, Judith Thomas, Gerry Martin, Mark Youngstrom, Russ Reay, Becky Bates.



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**WARNING for 239<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 3,2020**

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The legal voters of the Town of Shrewsbury in the County of Rutland are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. to take action by Australian Ballot on the following matters:

1. To elect all town officers as required by law:

One Moderator	1-year term
One Selectboard Member	3-year term
One Auditor	3-year term
One Lister	1-year of three year term
One Lister	3-year term
One Grand Juror	1-year term
One Town Agent	1-year term
One 1st Constable	1-year term
One 2nd Constable	1 year term
One Cemetery Commissioner	1-year of three year term
One Cemetery Commissioner	2 year of three year term
One Cemetery Commissioner	3 year term
2. Shall the Town approve a total general fund expenditure of **\$1,127,244**, of which **\$299,763** shall be raised by taxes and **\$827,481** by non-property tax revenues and surplus funds?
3. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,500** for the Town Office Reserve Fund?
4. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,500** for the Town Garage Reserve Fund?
5. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Office Equipment Reserve Fund?
6. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$50,000** for the Town Road Equipment Fund?
7. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Records Restoration Reserve Fund?
8. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$35,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund?
9. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$14,000** for the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House?
10. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$35,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Operating Fund?
11. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$7,500** for the Shrewsbury Library?
12. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$2,500** for the Shrewsbury Historical Society?
13. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$4,224** for dues to the Rutland Regional Ambulance Service?
14. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$250** to help support the Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District?
15. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$2,526** to help support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
16. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Green Up Vermont organization?
17. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$130** to help support the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)?

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**WARNING for 239<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 3, 2020**

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18. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$700** to help support the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?
19. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,192** to help support Rutland Mental Health Services?
20. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support New Story (formally the Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter)?
21. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$600** to help support BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont?
22. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Rutland County Parent-Child Center?
23. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support Vermont Adult Learning/Rutland County Basic Education?
24. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$170** to help support the Vermont Center for Independent Living?
25. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Rutland County Humane Society?
26. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Child First Advocacy Center?
27. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support the American Red Cross of NH/VT?
28. Shall the taxes be postmarked on or before, or in the hands of the Treasurer no later than 7:00 P.M., **Friday, October 9, 2020**

Dated: **January 29, 2020**

Shrewsbury Selectboard

/ss/

Bert Potter, Chair

Steven Nicholson

Aaron Korzun

/s/

Attest: Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

The informational meeting for the annual Shrewsbury Town Meeting will be held at the **Shrewsbury Community Meeting House, 88 Lottery Road. 6:00 P.M., Monday, March 2, 2020.**

Early / Absentee Ballots are available by contacting the Town Clerk at the Shrewsbury Town Office - 492-3511 or [shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net](mailto:shrewsburyclerk@vermontel.net) or [My Voter Page - Vermont](#)

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**238th ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday March 4, 2019 Informational Meeting**

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The informational meeting for the Town was called to order at 6.00 pm. March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by Moderator Eldred French, present were Selectboard members Bert Potter, Steven Nicholson and Aaron Korzun. Also present were approximately 35 voters at the commencement of the meeting.

Logan Nicole spoke first. He wanted to make sure folks are aware of how he is attempting to keep folks appraised as to what he is doing in the Legislature in particular and what some of his colleagues are working on as well. Logan listed the ways he is trying to keep constituents posted, citing periodic articles in the Times of Shrewsbury, coffee at Pierce's or the Belmont General Store. He indicated that he is a member of the Human Services Committee particularly focused on child care. Logan indicated that he is aware of and also working with other members of the Legislature regarding issues of Telecom, power outages and 911 system outages. In response from a question from the floor, Logan spoke to the issues impacting, attracting and maintaining the work force, particularly young people in the work force.

As a courtesy, the Selectboard ceded the floor to representatives of MRUUSD, Andy Richards-Peele and Adriene Raymond, Shrewsbury Directors on the MRUUSD Board. The representatives summarized the budget and explained in summary fashion those items on the MRUUSD Warning that will be voted on via Australian Ballot. Discussion summarized budget items for instruction as well as the proposed bond for facilities improvements and infrastructure. In response to a question in regards to consolidation two years on, the response from Andy Richards-Peele was that reactions generally regarding the merger appear to be positive and consolidation was going well. This year there is a bond request primarily to be utilized for energy efficiencies for the District. Based on a "performance contract" by which the savings are guaranteed. The guarantee stipulates that if the improved systems do not realize savings, then the contractor will pay the savings difference directly to the District.

The Mill River Unified Union School District Information segment of the meeting concluded at 6:35 PM

7:00 p.m. the Town Informational Meeting commenced.

Moderator Eldred French conducted a review discussion of the Shrewsbury Town Warning beginning with Article 2.

Bert Potter presented information regarding misprints on specific line items in the Town Report: Salt (Pg. 26) should be \$30,000 not \$3,000, and pg. 27 Paving (Pg. 27) should read \$160,000 for 2019 not \$16,000. Bert explained the mistake as a transposition of zeros. The Selectboard indicated that although the totals for the budget would be impacted by the misprinted sums, it is expected that there will be un-anticipated receipts from FEMA to more than offset the mis-stated line item amounts. FEMA surplus will be used to offset cashflow issues during the coming year, while two large construction projects; Cold River Rd relocation and Lottery Rd culvert replacement are commenced. It was noted that the specific budget oversight of those line items is significant and it was suggested that the Selectboard be encouraged to write something for the Times of Shrewsbury as well as formulate a capital budget.

A theme of lack of young people integrating into the town, particularly staffing of volunteer organizations was heard both from organizations, like the SVFD and Selectboard for the Boards and Commissions and their various efforts these volunteer organizations contribute to the Town.

The meeting recessed at 8:30 pm. Voting by Australian ballot is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, beginning at 10 am.

Minutes approved by: Barry Griffith – Justice of the Peace  
Betsy Jesser - Justice of the Peace  
Attest: Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

Date: 3/8/2019

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**Results for 238<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 5, 2019**

---

1. To elect all town officers as required by law:

One Moderator	1-year term <b>Eldred French</b>
One Selectboard Member	3-year term <b>Steven Nicholson</b>
One Auditor	3-year term <b>Lee Wilson</b>
One Lister	1-year term <b>Ronaele Bowers</b>
One Lister	3-year term <b>Susan Kennedy</b>
One Grand Juror	1-year term <b>Barry Griffith</b>
One Town Agent	1-year term <b>Barry Griffith</b>
One 1st Constable	1-year term <b>No one write-in with requisite number of votes</b>
One 2nd Constable	1-year term <b>No one write-in with requisite number of votes</b>
One Cemetery Commissioner	2-year term <b>No one write-in with requisite number of votes</b>
One Cemetery Commissioner	3 year term <b>No one write-in with requisite number of votes</b>

One Mill River Unified School District Director      3 year term - **Adrienne Raymond**
2. Shall the Town approve a total general fund expenditure of **\$1,499,670**, of which **\$501,505** shall be raised by taxes and **\$998,165** by non-property tax revenues and surplus funds?

**YES – 192    No -45**
3. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,500** for the Town Office Reserve Fund?

**YES – 204    No -34**
4. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,500** for the Town Garage Reserve Fund?

**YES – 205    No -33**
5. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Office Equipment Reserve Fund?

**YES – 199    No -39**
6. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$50,000** for the Town Road Equipment Fund?

**YES – 202    No -36**
7. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,000** for the Town Records Restoration Reserve Fund?

**YES – 192    No -45**
8. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$35,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund?

**YES – 195    No -43**
9. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$12,000** for the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House?

**YES – 194    No -44**
10. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$35,000** for the Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department Operating Fund?

**YES – 203    No -34**
11. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$7,500** for the Shrewsbury Library?

**YES – 200    No -38**
12. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$2,500** for the Shrewsbury Historical Society?

**YES – 189    No -49**
13. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$4,224** for dues to the Rutland Regional Ambulance Service?

**YES – 211    No -27**

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**Results for 238<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 5, 2019**

---

14. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$250** to help support the Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District?  
**YES – 184 No -53**
15. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$2,526** to help support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?  
**YES – 205 No -32**
16. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Green Up Vermont organization?  
**YES – 198 No -40**
17. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$130** to help support the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)?  
**YES – 195 No -38**
18. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$700** to help support the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?  
**YES – 187 No -45**
19. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$1,192** to help support Rutland Mental Health Services?  
**YES – 158 No -35**
20. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support New Story (formally the Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter)?  
**YES – 195 No -38**
21. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$600** to help support BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont?  
**YES – 177 No -55**
22. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Rutland County Parent-Child Center?  
**YES – 182 No -50**
23. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$500** to help support Vermont Adult Learning/Rutland County Basic Education?  
**YES – 176 No -55**
24. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$170** to help support the Vermont Center for Independent Living?  
**YES – 184 No -47**
25. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$150** to help support the Rutland County Humane Society?  
**YES – 193 No -39**
26. Shall the Town raise, appropriate and expend **\$400** to help support the Child First Advocacy Center?  
**YES – 176 No -54**
27. Shall the taxes be postmarked on or before, or in the hands of the Treasurer no later than 7:00 P.M., **Friday, October 11, 2019?**  
**YES – 210 No -21**
28. Whereas, the State of Vermont is making insufficient progress towards its stated goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Vermont's energy use by 85 – 95% renewable energy by 2050, shall the Town urge the State to set firm interim goals and move decisively to meet these, in a way that is clear and fair to all citizens?  
**YES – 152 No -78**
29. Shall the Town establish a reserve fund designated for the purpose of holding funds raised by the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission?  
**YES – 171 No -59**



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 BOARD OF AUDITORS REPORT**

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The Board of Auditors is pleased to present this Annual Report as required by Vermont statutes. We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shrewsbury for the year ended December 31, 2019 as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the town officers and organizations submitting the reports. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Based on the records available to us, in our opinion the financial statements included in this report present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Shrewsbury and the organizations it supports financially as of December 31, 2019, as well as the results of their operations for the year then ended.

We conducted our audit in accordance with 24 V.S.A 1681-1684, which, among other things, requires that we examine and adjust the accounts of all town officers and all other persons authorized by law to draw orders on the town treasurer. Our objectives were to 1) validate the correctness of the town accounts, 2) detect errors or fraud in these accounts and 3) verify the financial condition and results of operations of the town as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019. Town auditors are also expected to review the internal controls practiced by the Town.

To accomplish these objectives, we examined the town's financial records on a quarterly basis to verify that expenditures were supported by invoices that were approved on selectboard and road commissioner orders and documented on bank statements. For each quarter including year end, we tracked tax payments, reconciled monthly bank statements for the town's general fund and performed proof of cash to tie bank statements back to the town's general ledger.

We also reviewed the town's year-end financial statements, including the budget prepared by the selectboard, as well as the financial statements of town organizations which appear in this report, the transfer station punch card revenues and the grand list. On a quarterly basis as well as for year-end financial reports we used established sampling techniques to verify the accuracy of the statements.

We appreciate the cooperation of everyone who submitted reports this year, and also for providing well organized financial records for review. We also thank Mark Goodwin for his valuable assistance throughout the year, the audit process, and preparation of this Annual Report. The cooperation and assistance of the selectboard, and the Board of Listers throughout the year was also very helpful. We especially wish to thank Treasurer Linda McGuire for her assistance during the quarterly audits and review of the year-end financial statements and also selectboard member Steven Nicholson for his work on the selectboard budget

Richard Biziak

Sanford Bragg

Lee Wilson

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT**

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The Town Treasurer is elected for a three-year term. Taxes are due once a year in Shrewsbury, the voters set the date by Australian ballot. Payment must be received by the date due; U. S. Postal Service postmark is accepted. If the payment is not received timely, a warrant is issued to the collector of delinquent taxes and an eight percent penalty is charged on the unpaid balance. Current tax payments are accepted at any time before the due date and may be mailed to Town of Shrewsbury, Treasurer's Office, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738.

As required by the Government Accounting Standards Board our Town is using the modified accrual system for accounting procedures. The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the financial statements.

The Homestead Declaration is to be filed annually with the State of Vermont in order to receive the Homestead tax rate. Please review the Vermont State Income Tax package for the Homestead Declaration (HS-122) or on-line filing is available at [www.state.vt.us/tax](http://www.state.vt.us/tax) . Property Tax Adjustment Claim forms must be filed each year in order to receive a tax adjustment. For questions please call the State of Vermont 1-866-828-2865 or access their home page.

As always, it is my pleasure to be your treasurer and I look forward to serving you.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda McGuire*

Town of Shrewsbury  
**Balance Sheet**  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General Fund	Restricted and Designated Funds <sup>(9)</sup>	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash <sup>(2)</sup>	520,974	470,760	991,734
Prepaid Expenses	11,737		11,737
Receivables <sup>(3)</sup>			
Delinquent Tax Receivable	28,139		28,139
Other Receivables	26,655		26,655
Capital Assets <sup>(6)</sup>			
Land and Buildings	731,793		731,793
Machinery and Equipment	405,328		405,328
Infrastructure	3,494,542		3,494,542
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,219,167</b>	<b>470,760</b>	<b>5,689,927</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
VMBB Garage Bond <sup>(12)</sup>	20,000		20,000
Accounts Payable <sup>(4)</sup>	22,180		22,180
Other Current Liabilities	3,933		3,933
<b>Long-Term Liabilities</b>			
VMBB Garage Bond	140,000		140,000
<b>Equity</b>			
Restricted Funds		470,760	470,760
Unrestricted Equity	4,878,013		4,878,013
Excess Revenue	155,041		155,041
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b>5,219,167</b>	<b>470,760</b>	<b>5,689,927</b>

Town of Shrewsbury					
2019 RESTRICTED OR DESIGNATED TOWN FUNDS <sup>(9)</sup>					
Fund Name	Beginning Balance	Transferred from General	Disbursed	Interest	Ending Balance
Conservation Commission Reserve	0	127.45	0	0.63	\$128
Brown Bridge Grant	\$3,036	\$0	\$0	\$15	\$3,051
Townwide Reappraisal Sinking Fund	\$59,392	\$6,745	\$0	\$326	\$66,463
Cemetery Reserve Fund	\$1,307	\$0	\$0	\$6	\$1,313
Energy Grant	\$1,113	\$0	\$0	\$5	\$1,119
Garage Reserve Fund	\$16,704	\$1,500	\$0	\$90	\$18,294
Road Equipment Reserve Fund	\$152,809	\$50,000	\$129,667	\$360	\$73,502
Records Restoration Fund	\$13,640	\$5,228	\$0	\$88	\$18,956
SVFD Equipment Reserve Fund	\$222,312	\$35,000	\$0	\$1,268	\$258,580
Smith Brook Culvert Fund	\$4,366	\$0	\$0	\$22	\$4,387
Town Office Equipment Reserve Fund	\$5,413	\$1,000	\$0	\$32	\$6,445
Town Office Reserve Fund	\$16,931	\$1,500	\$0	\$91	\$18,522
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$497,023</b>	<b>\$101,100</b>	<b>\$129,667</b>	<b>\$2,304</b>	<b>\$470,760</b>

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES**  
**Year Ending December 31, 2019**

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**RECEIPTS:**

**Property Tax Receipts**

Taxes: Education Current	\$ 1,981,304.16	
Taxes: Town Current	555,322.37	
School Reconciliation Taxes	16,384.92	
Delinquent Tax	<u>104,688.24</u>	
<b>Total Property Tax Receipts</b>		<b>\$ 2,657,699.69</b>

**Other Tax Receipts**

Land Use	62,056.50	
Leased Land	30.00	
State in Lieu of Tax	34,636.80	
Federal in Lieu of Tax	12,002.00	
Railroad Tax	<u>480.16</u>	
<b>Total Other Tax Receipts</b>		<b>109,205.46</b>

**Road Commission Receipts**

FEMA	291,833.67	
Grants	520,021.44	
State Aid	132,998.35	
Weight Permits	<u>265.00</u>	
<b>Total Road Commission Receipts</b>		<b>945,118.46</b>

**Other Receipts**

Act 60 Funds	6,745.00	
Conservation Commission	127.45	
DRB Hearing Fee	548.00	
Dog Licenses	401.00	
Fines	31.00	
Interest	4,574.91	
Liquor License	485.00	
Lister Education Grant	449.95	
Miscellaneous	100.00	
Recycling	163.40	
Restoration Fees	4,316.00	
Transfer Station Card Income	16,561.71	
Zoning Permits	<u>1,763.00</u>	
<b>Total Other Receipts</b>		<b><u>36,266.42</u></b>

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** **\$ 3,748,290.03**



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES**  
**Year Ending December 31, 2019**

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**DISBURSEMENTS:**

<b>School Account</b>	\$ 2,017,592.81
<b>Selectboard's Orders (Net)</b>	210,367.24
<b>Road Commissioners Orders (Net)</b>	1,407,084.70
<b>Depreciation <sup>(7)</sup></b>	296,840.72
<b>Capitalized Improvements <sup>(6)</sup> &amp; Liability <sup>(12)</sup></b>	(497,179.11)

**Warned Items**

Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council	\$ 600.00
Child First Advocacy Center	400.00
Garage Reserve Fund	1,500.00
Green Up	150.00
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	130.00
Road Equipment Sinking Fund	50,000.00
Rutland County Humane Society	150.00
Rutland Mental Health	1,192.00
Rutland Area Visiting Nurse & Hospice	2,526.00
Rutland County Women's Network	150.00
Rutland Natural Resources Conservation	250.00
Rutland Parent/Child Center	400.00
Rutland Regional Ambulance	4,224.00
Shrewsbury Community Meeting House	12,000.00
Shrewsbury Historical Society	2,500.00
Shrewsbury Town Library	7,500.00
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department	35,000.00
SVFD-Equipment Reserve Sinking Fund	35,000.00
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	700.00
Town Office Sinking Fund	1,500.00
Town Office Equipment Reserve Fund	1,000.00
Town Records Restoration Reserve Fund	1,000.00
Vermont Adult Learning	500.00
Vermont Center for Independent Living	170.00
<b>Total Warned Items</b>	<u>158,542.00</u>
	<u>158,542.00</u>

<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ <u>3,593,248.36</u></b>
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<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ <u><u>155,041.67</u></u></b>
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Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda McGuire*, Treasurer

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Town of Shrewsbury

**2019 PAYROLL FOR TOWN OFFICIALS, APPOINTED AND EMPLOYEES**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Bert Potter	Selectperson/Transfer Station	\$	2,393.75
Aaron Korzun	Selectperson		1,000.00
Steven Nicholson	Selectperson		1,000.00
Mark Goodwin	Town Clerk Salary	24,082.88	
	Selectboard Clerk Salary	1,250.00	
	Town Clerk Fees**	12,853.00	
	Total		38,185.88
Linda McGuire	Town Treasurer		28,576.29
Christina Clarke	Assistant Treasurer		56.00
Randy Page	Delinquent Tax Collector**		12,499.89
Adrienne Raymond	Zoning Adminstrator		3,000.00
Robert Perry	Transfer Station Attendent		6,644.75
Gary Duprey	Transfer Station Attendent		3,135.50
Brian Wilder	Transfer Station Attendent		6,792.57
Paul Young	Transfer Station Attendent		2,945.25
Ronaele Bowers	Lister		3,470.56
Susan Kennedy	Lister		3,058.06
Sharon Winnicki	Lister		11,682.51
			<hr/> 124,441.01
Social Security/Medicare Matching Town Funds			<hr/> 9,519.74
<b>Total Town Payroll Expense/Calendar Year</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b><u><u>133,960.75</u></u></b>

\*\* Based on fees collected

**TOWN OF SHREWSBURY - Treasurer's Report**  
**STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED**  
**Year Ending December 31, 2019**

**GRAND LIST**

Real Estate	\$ 166,419,600
Less Exemptions	<u>12,467,900</u>

**TOTAL GRAND LIST**

**\$ 153,951,700**

**TAXES BILLED**

Municipal Grand List	1,539,517	
Tax Rate	<u>0.4287</u>	
Municipal Taxes Billed		<b>659,991.30</b>
Education Grand List-Non-Resident	687,871	
Tax Rate-Statewide Share	<u>1.5021</u>	
Education Non-Resident Taxes Billed		<b>1,033,251.10</b>
Education Grand List-Homestead	859,101	
Tax Rate-Local Share	<u>1.4850</u>	
Education Resident Taxes Billed		<b>1,275,765.83</b>
Municipal Grand List	\$ 1,539,517	
Local Agreement Tax Share	<u>0.0003</u>	
Local Agreement Taxes Billed		<b>461.91</b>

**TOTAL TAXES BILLED**

**2,969,470.14**

**TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR**

Taxes Collected	2,877,974.83
Delinquent Taxes	104,688.24
Adjustments/Changes	801.66
Refunds/Overpayments	<u>(13,994.59)</u>

**TOTAL TAXES ACCOUNTED**

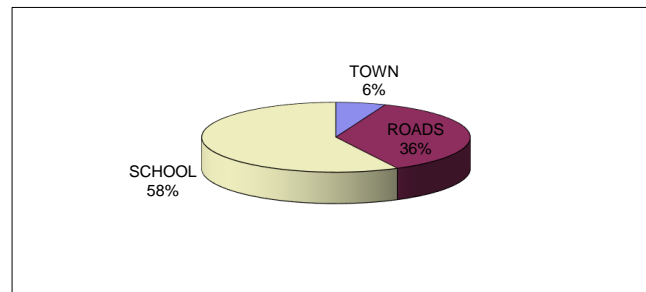
**2,969,470.14**

**TAX RATE PERCENTAGES**

The 2017 Tax Rate as follows:

General Town	0.4287	659,991.30
Local Agreement Rate	0.0003	461.91
Schools Residential	1.4850	1,275,765.83
Schools Non-Residential	1.5021	<u>1,033,251.10</u>
		<b><u><u>2,969,470.14</u></u></b>

Resident	<b>1.9140</b>
Non-Resident	<b>1.9311</b>



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Town of Shrewsbury - Treasurer's Report  
2019 TAX COMPARISON

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>GRAND LIST</u>		<u>TAX RATE</u>	<u>TAXES BILLED</u>
2019	1,664,196	Residential	1.914	2,969,470.13
		Non-Residential	1.9311	
2018	1,657,498	Residential	1.9366	3,013,766.55
		Non-Residential	1.9878	
2017	1,655,868	Residential	1.9122	2,956,890.04
		Non-Residential	1.9428	
2016	1,625,801	Residential	1.7791	2,739,762.47
		Non-Residential	1.8793	
2015	1,618,198	Residential	1.7589	2,725,958.43
		Non-Residential	1.9266	
2014	1,621,270	Residential	1.8063	2,766,744.03
		Non-Residential	1.9372	
2013	1,612,213	Residential	1.7351	2,588,722.90
		Non-Residential	1.773	
2012	1,597,952	Residential	1.6178	2,401,380.98
		Non-Residential	1.6636	
2011	1,461,693	Residential	1.84	2,607,387.99
		Non-Residential	1.74	
2010	1,464,580	Residential	1.78	2,706,405.15
		Non-Residential	1.94	

Reappraisal complete in 2010.

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Town of Shrewsbury – Treasurer’s Report  
2019 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**1. Basis of Accounting.** In 1999 the Government Accounting Standards Board issued Statement 34, introducing revised financial reporting. The new reporting required for a clean audit could impact bonds and federal grants and will provide improved accountability and comparability across municipalities.

Our town is incorporating expenditures for capital assets in excess of the \$2,500 value limit and infrastructure, and has begun reporting using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. In addition land, buildings, machinery and equipment have been valued for the balance sheet, as well as depreciation.

**2. Cash.** At year end the Town’s bank balance was \$991,733.81, which is covered by federal depository insurance, or was collateralized with securities held by the financial institution’s agent in the Town’s name. No values were unsecured and uncollateralized.

**3. Accounts Receivable.** Amounts receivable at year end, as reported in the Statement of Net Assets, and Balance Sheet are as follows:

Accounts Receivable	
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant	\$ 22,144
Delinquent tax receivable	28,139
Other Receivables	<u>4,511</u>
Total Receivables	\$ 54,794

**4. Accounts Payable.** Amounts payable at year end as reported in the Balance Sheet:

Accrued Payroll	\$ 4,567
Miscellaneous Vendors	<u>17,613</u>
Total Payables	\$ 22,180

**5. Fixed Assets.** Capital acquisitions are reflected in the related assets account group. All purchased fixed assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical costs where no historical records exist. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received.



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**Town of Shrewsbury - Treasurer's Report**  
**2019 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**6. Capital Assets.** Capital asset activity for year ended December 31, 2019 was as follows:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Increases</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Capital Assets not being depreciated:			
Land	271,223	0.00	271,223
Capital Assets not being depreciated:	271,223	0.00	271,223
Capital Assets being depreciated:			
Buildings and Building Improvements	1,072,954	0	1,072,954
Vehicles and Equipment	1,187,915	141,567	1,329,483
Roads, Bridges & Culverts	4,723,916	335,612	5,059,527
Totals	6,984,785	477,719	7,461,964
Less accumulated depreciation for:			
Buildings and Building Improvements	582,677	29,707	612,384
Vehicles and Equipment	857,749	66,406	924,155
Roads, Bridges and Culverts	1,364,259	200,727	1,564,986
Totals	2,804,684	296,841	3,101,525
Total Capital Assets being depreciated	4,180,101	-180,338	4,360,439
Government Activity Capital Assets, Net	4,451,324	-180,338	4,631,662

**7. Depreciation.** Depreciation was applied as follows to the corresponding Capital Assets:

Buildings	\$ 29,707
Vehicles and Equipment	66,406
Roads, Bridges & Culverts	200,727
Total Depreciation	\$296,841

**8. Risk Management.** The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft, damage, destruction of assets, errors and omission, injuries to employees and natural disasters. The Town maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. The Select Board believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses.

The Shrewsbury Meeting House maintains insurance coverage independently. The Meeting House Committee annually provides a copy to the town of the insurance policy covering the meeting house.

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Town of Shrewsbury – Treasurer’s Report  
2019 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**9. Restricted/Designated Funds.**

<b>Brown Bridge Grant</b>	Funds received from the Preservation Trust to be used for the Brown Bridge.
<b>Cemetery Reserve Fund</b>	Funds designated for town cemetery maintenance.
<b>Conservation Commission Fund</b>	Funds to be reserved for conservation projects.
<b>Energy Grant</b>	Funds from NeighborWorks of Western Vermont designated by agreement of March 21, 2013 for specific use.
<b>Garage Reserve Fund</b>	Funds designated for Town Garage
<b>Records Restoration Fund</b>	Fees collected (\$5 per page for recorded documents) at Town office for restoration of Town documents
<b>Road Equipment Reserve Fund</b>	Funds designated for replacement or purchase of road equipment.
<b>SVFD Equipment Reserve Fund</b>	Funds designated for Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department fire trucks.
<b>Smith Brook Culvert Fund</b>	Funds designated for costs associated with a review of the Smith Brook culvert on Town Highway #4.
<b>Town Office Equipment Fund</b>	Funds designated for replacement or purchase of town office equipment.
<b>Town Office Reserve Fund</b>	Funds designated for improvements/repairs to the town office
<b>Town-wide Reappraisal Fund</b>	Includes funds to be used for reappraisal costs and funds designated for the purpose of maintaining and updating our equalized grand list.

**10. Transfer Station Costs.** As an additional cost of operating the transfer station, it is estimated that 50 hours of road crew wages were spent working at the transfer station, or approximately \$967 of additional expenses are directly attributed to the transfer station.

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Town of Shrewsbury – Treasurer’s Report  
**2019 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**11. Meeting House.** The meeting house building is a town asset; the meeting house committee is a separate corporate entity.

**12. Vermont Municipal Bond Bank.** The town applied for a bond of \$410,000 for the new garage and borrowed \$550,000 in a bond anticipation note. The following is the remaining payment schedule for the 20-year bond, at net interest cost of 4.51 percent.

	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Debt Service</b>
2020	20,000	7,410	27,410
2021	20,000	6,479	26,479
2022	20,000	5,536	25,536
2023	20,000	4,625	24,625
2024	20,000	3,708	23,708
2025	20,000	2,787	22,787
2026	20,000	1,862	21,862
2027	20,000	933	20,933
	<u>\$160,000</u>	<u>\$33,340</u>	<u>\$193,340</u>

**13. Pension Funds.** Town employees eligible for the Vermont Municipal Employees’ Retirement System are required to pay 2.75% of wages and the Town contributes 4.25% which are expenses in the financial statements. These rates will increase in July of 2020 to 3% for employee contributions, and the town contribution will be 4.50%. The town currently has four members. Vesting occurs upon reaching 5 years of creditable service. Additional information is available at the Vermont State Treasurer’s website.

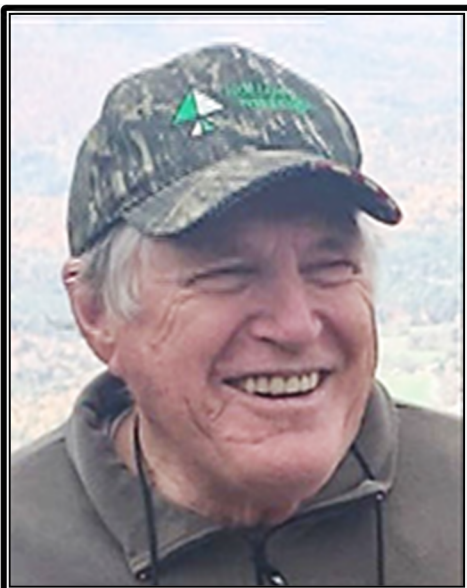
**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**2019 DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**  
**for the year ending December 31, 2019**

<b>Delinquent Taxes</b>	
<b>Balance outstanding December 31, 2018</b>	<b>\$52,517.62</b>
Warrant to Collect, October 24, 2019	+\$104,688.24
<b>Total taxes delinquent</b>	<b><u>\$157,205.86</u></b>
Less delinquent taxes collected and deposited in 2019	- \$129,066.57
<b>Balance outstanding December 31, 2019</b>	<b>\$28,139.29</b>

Notes: Fees paid in 2019 for collections - \$12,499.89. Reimbursed \$29.00 for mailings.  
\$60.00 was collected for the Town for fees on NSF checks.

<b>Delinquent taxes collected through January 1 - 31, 2020.</b>	<b>\$5,079.41</b>	
<b>Delinquent taxes still outstanding (11 accounts):</b>		
2017, 2018 - Frydel, Irene	3,700.71	
2018, 2019 - Plouffe, William & Vivian Life Est.	9,334.82	
2019 - Geary, Arthur J., Dec.	1,337.99	
2019 - Gregory, John O. III	129.38	
2019 - Guyette, Peter L	2,620.27	
2019 - Paul, Hilary	3,267.93	
2019 - Peer, Christopher M	766.64	
2019 - Phillips, Charlene	1,158.66	
2019 - Webster, Robert & McGinnis, Angela	743.48	
<b>Balance 2/1/2019</b>	<b>\$23,059.88</b>	
<b>Delinquent taxes outstanding as of December 31, 2019</b>		<b><u>\$28,139.29</u></b>

**Randy A. Page**  
Collector of Delinquent Taxes



On February 3, 2020, Shrewsbury's Collector of Delinquent Taxes, Randy Page, died unexpectedly on his tractor near his Upper Cold River Home. Randy had served in his position since first being elected in 2001. For 19 years in that role, including this year on this page, he contributed to the Shrewsbury Annual Report.

Randy was known for a ready smile, an approachable demeanor and a positive spirit. He was a highly respected member of our community. He is survived by Deena, his wife and sweetheart of 44 years, six children and eighteen energetic grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SELECTBOARD REPORT**

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The Local Emergency Management Plan, which has replaced the Local Emergency Operation plan, was approved.

The 2019 Town Plan was adopted and we thank the Planning Commission for their hard work.

The Project Completion and Certification Report, (PCCR), was signed in June ending the reimbursement process for projects completed because of damage from Tropical Storm Irene. Thanks to the Road Commissioner and Rich Bizjak for their help in completing this form. The total "Approved Project Amount" by FEMA was \$3,515,141.91. Since 2011 FEMA reimbursed the Town \$3,163,627.72; the State reimbursed the Town \$147,162.12 and the Town's share was \$204,352.07. We also received, in 2019, \$165,733.37 from the State for T.S. Irene expenses based on 3¢ times our 2011 Equalized Grand List.

Several letters were written to the Department of Public Service and to the Public Utilities Commission, (PUC), by the selectboard, in regards to the 2018 Vermont Telecommunications Plan and the Plan's lack of acknowledging the danger of losing E-911 access during extended power outages. Several community members also wrote letters and attended legislative hearings, followed by PUC workshops, in Montpelier. The townspeople's investigation also revealed that there is no complete and coordinated state database documenting loss of E-911 access and through their efforts the legislature has taken up this issue.

The Agency of Transportation repaired the railroad crossing on Town Hill Rd. reducing the hazard created by the railroad after the railbed was raised and the downhill slope was not properly paved.

The Cold River Road, by 4400 Cold River Rd., was relocated due to a landslide that was already encroaching on the road. We received a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant from Vermont Emergency Management that paid for 75% of the cost.

The town has hired a lawyer concerning an appeal of the findings of the Board of Civil Authority.

The town's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan will be updated in 2020.

The work of repairing the back wall of the town office, relocating the propane tanks, painting the outside of the building and replacing the heating system was not done this year and is in the budget for 2020.

Selectboard meetings are open to the Public and we encourage your attendance and participation. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. More information can be found on the town website ([www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)).

The selectboard would like to thank the auditors for their care and diligence in preparing the Town Report. In addition, we would like to thank all town employees, elected and appointed officials and everyone who volunteers their time in service to the town.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bert Potter  
Aaron Korzun  
Steven Nicholson



**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES-GENERAL AND ROADS**  
**BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
**Year ended December 31, 2019**

	<b>ACTUAL 2018</b>	<b>BUDGET 2019</b>	<b>ACTUAL 2019</b>	<b>BUDGET 2020</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
<b>TAXES:</b>				
Current Property Taxes	720,868		554,860	
Delinquent Tax	111,271		104,688	
Property Tax Receipts-Other			462	
Less: Warned Items	(158,642)		(158,542)	
<b>Current Property Taxes for General &amp; Roads</b>	<b>673,497</b>	<b>501,505</b>	<b>501,469</b>	<b>286,839</b>
Federal in Lieu of Taxes	11,743	11,743	12,002	12,002
State In Lieu of Taxes	32,297	31,816	34,637	34,637
Land Use Taxes	65,536	63,000	62,057	61,755
Railroad Tax	479	479	480	480
<b>Total Other Tax Receipts</b>	<b>110,055</b>	<b>107,038</b>	<b>109,175</b>	<b>108,874</b>
<b>ROADS:</b>				
Paving Grant	-	-	-	-
FEMA/State Reimbursement, T.S. Irene	16,776	-	291,834	
Cold River Rd. Relocation Premitigation Grant	13,220	469,822	373,160	
Lottery Rd. Culvert Grant	-	131,400	129,272	
Cold River Rd. Flooding Grant	51,562			
Better Roads Grant: Road Inventory			3,989	
Better Roads Grant: Cold River Road				40,000
Mitchell Rd. Flooding, Grant in Aid			13,600	-
Proceeds from Sale of Equipment	-		-	
State Aid to Roads	131,818	131,818	132,998	132,998
Services Rendered - Roads	3,294		-	
Weight Permits	245		265	
<b>Total Road Receipts</b>	<b>216,916</b>	<b>733,040</b>	<b>945,118</b>	<b>172,998</b>
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS:</b>				
Act 60 Funds	6,783		6,745	
Dog Licenses	478	470	401	400
Insurance Reimbursement - Workmen's Comp	122			
Interest Income	3,339	1,400	4,575	1,400
Leased Land	30	30	30	30
Lister Education Grant			450	
Liquor Licenses	415	300	485	400
Misc. income, Misc. fees	341	300	131	125
Recycling	171	100	163	150
Restoration Fees	804		4,316	

**Continued**

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES-GENERAL AND ROADS**  
**BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
**Year ended December 31, 2019**

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2020</u>
<b><u>REVENUES</u></b>				
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS: Continued</b>				
School Tax Reconciliation-previous year	29,632		16,385	
Transfer Station Punch Cards	17,505	17,000	16,562	17,000
Zoning Permits/DRB Hearing Fees/Subdivision Permits	1,619	1,000	2,311	1,600
Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Grant				7,613
<b>Total Other Receipts</b>	<u>63,256</u>	<u>22,619.00</u>	<u>54,573</u>	<u>30,738</u>
 <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	 <u><b>1,063,724</b></u>	 <u><b>1,364,202</b></u>	 <u><b>1,610,335</b></u>	 <u><b>599,448</b></u>
 <b>Cash Beginning Balance</b>	 157,195	 122,563	 122,563	 520,974
<b>Available Receivables less Payables</b>		14,924	-	(4,082)
<b>Cash Available for Expenses</b>	<u><b>1,220,919</b></u>	<u><b>1,501,689</b></u>	<u><b>1,732,898</b></u>	<u><b>1,116,340</b></u>

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**GENERAL EXPENSES-BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
**Year ended December 31, 2019**

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2020</u>
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>				
<b>TRANSFER STATION</b>				
Tipping Fees	9,642	10,000	8,839	10,000
Hauling	7,113	7,175	6,350	7,000
Salary-Transfer Station Attendants	20,410	20,818	19,609	20,009
Salary- Transfer Station Administrator	890	908	903	921
Payroll Expenses	1,629	1,662	1,600	1,632
Maintenance	99	3,000	36	3,000
Solid Waste Dues	4,488	4,500	4,753	4,800
Equipment/Facilities	-	1,000	450	1,000
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	1,062	1,062	884	1,000
Supplies	282	500	477	500
Workers Compensation	2,541	2,880	3,357	2,334
Solid Waste Closing Implementation Plan	-	636	-	636
Electric	1,033	1,100	1,220	1,200
Phone			204	720
Electronics Recycling	304	500	1,458	1,500
<b>Total Transfer Station</b>	<u><b>49,493</b></u>	<u><b>55,741</b></u>	<u><b>50,140</b></u>	<u><b>56,252</b></u>

Continued

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**GENERAL EXPENSES-BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
**Year ended December 31, 2019**

	<b>ACTUAL 2018</b>	<b>BUDGET 2019</b>	<b>ACTUAL 2019</b>	<b>BUDGET 2020</b>
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES (Continued)</u></b>				
<b>TOWN OFFICERS EXPENSE</b>				
Planning Commission Expense	-	500	-	1,000
Emergency Management	-	500	306	10,000
Building/Property Insurance	4,205	3,024	3,025	3,258
Public Officials Liability Insurance	1,819	1,564	1,563	1,134
Emp. Practices Liability Insurance	1,502	1,276	1,276	1,319
Workers Compensation	282	320	371	258
Office Heat/Electric	7,971	4,500	3,840	4,500
Training/Education	80	600	900	900
Postage	1,619	1,750	1,400	1,750
Supplies & Equipment	2,842	4,000	4,016	4,000
Elections	781	200	234	700
Software	1,548	1,600	2,109	1,800
Selectboard Salary	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Other Town Officers Salary	56,846	61,283	58,905	71,630
Payroll Expenses	5,575	5,738	6,331	7,610
Retirement	845	1,155	1,602	1,602
Office Communications	3,169	3,000	3,174	3,200
Mileage Reimbursement	-	90	399	100
Building Maintenance/Repair	2,601	15,900	2,198	15,900
Warnings	538	600	239	500
Town Report	1,983	2,280	2,013	2,455
<b>Total Town Officers Expense</b>	<b>97,209</b>	<b>112,880</b>	<b>96,903</b>	<b>136,616</b>
<b>LISTERS</b>				
Lister Salaries	13,392	19,000	18,463	24,000
Payroll Expenses	1,139	1,454	1,412	1,836
Supplies	1,769	1,900	224	1,900
Upgrade Parcel Mapping	1,275	1,275	1,275	1,275
Tax Appeal Legal/Consulting Fees	4,778	1,500	523	6,000
Training & Training Mileage	540	550	854	550
<b>Total Listers Expense</b>	<b>22,893</b>	<b>25,679</b>	<b>22,752</b>	<b>35,561</b>
<b>OTHER DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Animal Damage and Control	376	500	128	500
Conservation Commission	561	1,250	1,246	1,250
County Court Tax	11,452	11,801	11,606	13,165
Garage Bond Principal and Interest Payment	27,609	28,325	26,813	27,410
Interest Expense	4,207	100	-	-

**Continued**

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**GENERAL EXPENSES-BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
Year ended December 31, 2019

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2020</u>
<b><u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u></b>				
<b>OTHER DISBURSEMENTS (Continued)</b>				
Law Enforcement	-	1,000	-	1,000
Legal Fees	-	2,000	-	2,000
Rutland Regional Planning Commission Dues	975	975	975	975
Town Events	240	500	290	500
Vermont League of Cities & Towns Dues	2,230	2,230	2,287	2,287
Miscellaneous	4,954	-	119	-
<b>Total Other Disbursements</b>	<b>54,623</b>	<b>50,700</b>	<b>45,483</b>	<b>51,107</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>224,217</b>	<b>245,000</b>	<b>215,277</b>	<b>279,536</b>

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**ROAD EXPENSES-BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
Year Ended December 31, 2019

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2020</u>
<b>ROAD EXPENSES</b>				
<b>ROADS</b>				
Chloride	4,477	4,200	163	8,400
Flood Expenses	20,069	-	188	
Pre-Mitigation, Cold River Rd. Relocation	12,290	598,579	490,031	
Lottery Rd. Culvert	1,300	154,210	143,636	
Cold River Rd.				48,000
Road Inventory			5,319	
Bridge #37, (Lincoln Hill Culvert)	1			
Gravel	39,308	45,000	48,044	45,000
Salt*	29,540	3,000	32,855	35,000
Winter Sand	60,155	65,000	64,812	70,000
Erosion Control	496	500	415	500
Stormwater Municipal Rds. General Permit	240	2,000	1,350	1,350
Culverts & Bridges	6,737	7,500	6,887	7,500
Tree Removal	-	2,000	-	3,000
Paving*	244,806	16,000	135,738	160,000
Equipment Rental	3,461	4,000	2,424	4,000
Salaries	150,114	160,000	150,153	160,000
Payroll Expenses	12,147	12,240	11,458	12,240

**Continued**

**Town of Shrewsbury**  
**ROAD EXPENSES-BUDGETED AND ACTUAL**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2019**

	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2020</u>
<b>ROAD EXPENSES</b>				
<b>ROADS (continued)</b>				
VT State Retirement	6,569	6,600	6,054	6,756
VLCT Workmen's Compensation	9,477	9,457	11,531	11,531
Health Insurance/Dental Insurance	44,262	45,448	46,135	53,719
VLCT Unemployment	398	400	172	272
Training			45	100
Other	445		61	
<b>Total Roads</b>	<b>648,309</b>	<b>1,138,153</b>	<b>1,159,486</b>	<b>629,388</b>
<b>TOWN EQUIPMENT</b>				
Parts & Repairs	23,939	25,000	32,260	30,000
Tires & Repairs	5,049	6,000	5,902	7,000
Fuels & Lubricants	54,270	50,000	46,023	50,000
New Equipment	4,878	14,000	13,560	94,700
Misc. Supplies	388	500	261	500
Signs	1,013	800	74	800
Safety Equipment	622	500	30	500
<b>Total Town Equipment</b>	<b>90,159</b>	<b>96,800</b>	<b>98,110</b>	<b>183,500</b>
<b>TOWN GARAGES</b>				
Equipment	1,383	1,550	1,418	1,550
Heating Fuel	1,432	3,000	2,230	3,000
Maintenance & Supplies	1,770	1,000	617	1,000
Electricity	1,969	2,500	1,956	2,005
Communications	1,998	2,500	3,816	3,800
Buildings & Repair	164	1,500	158	1,500
Property & Casualty Insurance	13,976	11,707	11,707	11,061
<b>Total Town Garages</b>	<b>22,691</b>	<b>23,757</b>	<b>21,902</b>	<b>23,916</b>
<b>TOTAL ROAD EXPENSES</b>	<b>761,159</b>	<b>1,258,710</b>	<b>1,279,498</b>	<b>836,804</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL &amp; ROADS EXPENSES</b>	<b>985,376</b>	<b>1,503,710</b>	<b>1,494,775</b>	<b>1,116,340</b>

\*There were two typographical errors in the 2018 Town Report:

The 2019 budgeted amount for salt should have been \$30,000 not \$3,000.

The 2019 budgeted amount for paving should have been \$160,000 not \$16,000.

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

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2019 was a busy year for the Shrewsbury Highway Department. During the first three months of the year there was quite a bit of snow, wind, rain storms and thaws that kept the road crew busy pretty much seven days a week. In April, and again in June, there were flooding events that damaged the Mitchell Road, Upper Cold River Road by the Brown Bridge, and the Cold River Road where parts of the river were closest to the road.

The Cold River Road relocation project was completed in 2019 along with the Lottery Road box culvert. A grant that was for stone lining ditches on Town Hill Road was allowed to be used on the Mitchell Road to offset the cost of repairing the road and to bring the Mitchell Road into compliance with the clean water standards.

A Better Back Roads grant has been submitted to stabilize the bank of the Cold River, and the road edge of the Cold River Road where it eroded during the flooding events of 2019.

Normal road maintenance continued the rest of the year and included:

- a. Shim and overlay of 2 miles of the Cold River Road.
- b. 4834 tons of gravel were used on various roads.
- c. 7697 tons of sand were stockpiled for winter use.
- d. Thirteen culverts were installed.

James Carrara  
Road Commissioner

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**2019 Inventory of Town Equipment**  
**Estimated Value**

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2020 International 7600 cab and chassis ONLY	\$ 129,000
2017 International 7600 with plow and sander	\$ 130,000
2015 Caterpillar 12 M 3 Grader	\$ 295,000
2015 International 7600 with plow and sander	\$ 95,000
2014 Ford F-550 with plow and sander	\$ 30,000
2010 International 7600 with plow and sander	\$ 25,000
2009 John Deere 5065E tractor mower broom	\$ 28,000
2005 Caterpillar 307C Excavator with trailer	\$ 30,000
2002 International 2574 with plow and sander	\$ 7,000
2000 Caterpillar 928G Loader	\$ 35,000
1996 Caterpillar 416B Backhoe	\$ 12,000
1995 Woodchuck Brush Chipper	\$ 4,000
Chloride tank with spray bar	\$ 4,000
Miscellaneous Tools	\$ 5,000
Goosen Bale Chopper	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 834,000

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

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The town clerk is elected for a three-year term and is required by statute to be the receiver and recorder of the town's land records. Other statutory responsibilities include: voter registration and maintaining the voter checklist in conjunction with the Board of Civil Authority, as well as being the presiding officer for elections. The town clerk is the clerk of the Board of Civil Authority in matters related to appeals of lister grievances. The town clerk records town proceedings and maintains the agenda and minutes of various town boards and commissions pursuant to the Open Meeting Law as matters of public record. The town clerk maintains Vermont Department of Health vital records for the town: births, deaths and civil marriages, and issues civil marriage licenses and certified copies of other vital records. The clerk issues and maintains a record of animal licenses for the Department of Public Safety. Town clerks are asked to disseminate information from various state agencies to local constituencies. In Shrewsbury, the clerk issues and maintains transfer station vehicle permits and punch cards. The town website [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org) is currently maintained by the clerk based on the information received from the town's various boards and commissions. Shrewsbury strives to be in compliance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law mandating the posting of agendas and minutes for all municipal meetings on the town website. The selectboard and road commissioner have also been utilizing the town clerk for administrative functions.

In 2019 Shrewsbury had one election: Annual Town Meeting. 2019 being an "odd" year, Vermont statute directs town clerks and boards of civil authority to examine the checklist for eligibility and qualifications including notification to voters who are challenged by the board of civil authority.

The Shrewsbury Board of Civil Authority met in August 2019 for one lister grievance appeal which was heard and acted upon with a required site visits and written findings. The appellant appealed the BCA decision to Superior Court, and has not come to a conclusion as of this report.

There was a legislative increase authorized for recording fees in 2019. The additional fee is stipulated for enhancing restoration funds with the goal of setting aside designated funds for initiating and the utilization of electronic storage of land records.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 VITAL STATISTICS**

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	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
<b>BIRTHS</b>	6	10	4	7	8	6	13	5	6
<b>DEATHS</b>	9	9	9	9	8	7	14	20	9
<b>CIVIL MARRIAGES</b>	9	5	6	6	10	5	8	9	8

Upon recommendation of the Vermont Department of Health, no names are published in this report. The Vital Records are available at the Town Office and are public records. **Note:** The implementation date for Act 46 was **July 1, 2019**. Certified Copies of Birth & Death Vital Records will require the submission of an application from family member, legal guardian and certain other court related parties and legal representatives.

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 Town Health Officer Report**

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The Vermont legislature passed in 2018 Act 188, which seeks to improve rental housing safety. The changes in the state law affect the duties of the town health officer (THO). Beginning July 1, 2019, the law requires certain procedures when conducting an investigation of rental housing to ensure compliance with the Rental Housing Code. Also in 2018, the legislature created the Rental Housing Advisory Board (RHAB) "to act as an advisory group to the Governor, General Assembly, and appropriate state agencies on issues related to rental housing statutes, policies, and regulations" and to submit to the legislature "potential legislation or policy changes to better support decent, safe and sanitary rental housing."

Enforcement of the state's Rental Housing Health Code is a complex and difficult issue. In most towns, enforcement relies primarily on volunteer town health officers. The RHAB sees a critical need to improve the current system and find a more effective way to tackle housing quality. At this time bill S.257 has been introduced by Senators Sirotkin and Clarkson that proposes to vest authority for rental housing health and safety in the Department of Public Safety. On 1/13/2020 I attended training on Rental Housing Inspections learning about the new procedures, documentation, and reporting requirements. Other trainings via webinars for THO's were also informative and helpful.

2019 had three dog bites reported. Victims and dogs were all healthy at the end of the 10-day dog confinement period. In March a request from a renter to inspect her dwelling for concerns regarding electrical problems was received. At the time of the inspection the landlord and the tenant had an electrician doing the necessary repairs making the inspection unnecessary. As I finish my three-year term as health officer this March, I respectfully request reappointment for another three years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Felder, APRN Town Health Officer

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 ANIMAL LICENSE REPORT**

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QUANTITY	TYPE	FEE	COLLECTED
72	SPAYED FEMALE	\$9.00 EACH	\$648
62	NEUTERED MALE	\$9.00 EACH	\$558
3	UN-SPAYED FEMALES	\$13.00 EACH	\$39
5	UN-NEUTERED MALES	\$13.00 EACH	\$65
0	SPECIAL PERMIT	\$30.00 EACH	\$0
0	PET DEALER LICENSE	\$25.00 EACH	\$0
<b>TOTAL: 169</b>			
23	LATE FEES	\$4.00 EACH	\$92
		<b>TOTAL FEES COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$1,402</b>

Fees Retained by Town of Shrewsbury	\$408
Fees Retained by Shrewsbury Clerk	\$284
Fees Submitted to the State of Vermont Spay/Neuter Program	\$426
Fees Submitted to the State of Vermont for Mandatory Assessment	\$284
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,402</b>



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 BOARD OF LISTERS REPORT**

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The Board of Listers is now full with the election of Susan Kennedy and Ronaele Bowers last March. We are currently very busy with more than 30 outstanding permits. 2019 had eight grievances and one Board of Civil Authority appeal. A suit filed in 2019 against the town to appeal the BCA decision is pending into 2020.

As we enter the new tax year, we would like to remind all of our permanent residents to file their HS122 form when you file your Vermont tax returns. The state does not accept the excuse that your accountant didn't do it, so please make sure that they do so.

Our sales equalization study has been completed and we have received our new Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) numbers. They show we are in good shape even into our 10<sup>th</sup> year since reappraisal. The CLA is 102.25% and the COD is 8.22%. We are seriously looking at sending out RFP's for a town wide reappraisal as there is a shortage of appraisers. It most likely will be a couple of years until we need to do a reappraisal and hopefully that will fit when an appraiser is available. Stay tuned on that issue.

The Vermont Tax Department (PV & R division) has received funding from the legislature to develop a new computer version of grand lists. It is a work in progress, so it will be exciting to see what they end up developing.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions or help that you may need.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Winnicki, Susan Kennedy and Ronaele Bowers



Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department members and equipment  
at the 2019 Shrewsbury Day celebration

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**Town of Shrewsbury  
2019 ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

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Four new homes were permitted in 2019. One has been completed, another is almost complete, and the other two are still in the planning stages. Also permitted were a number of garages, decks, porches, and various storage buildings. Two agricultural buildings were built as well. To qualify as an "Ag." building I review the intended purpose of the building using the Agency of Agriculture's very specific definitions. These buildings do not need a permit, but you are required to fill out a Notification Form that asks for the information I need to make the classification of Ag or non-Ag. This and other zoning forms and documents can be found on the [shrewsburyvt.org](http://shrewsburyvt.org) website, picked up at the Town Office, or I can mail them to you directly.

Shrewsbury has Flood Hazard Area Regulations that regulate some renovations, repairs, and new building in Flood Hazard Areas, Special Flood Hazard Areas, and Fluvial Erosion Hazard Areas. These areas are shown in FEMA's flood maps and in the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources mapping system. Please call me prior to making plans for new structures or changes to pre-existing buildings that may be in any of these areas.

Buildings or apartments used for short-term rentals (example - AirBnB) likely need conditional use permits from the Development Review Board and all AirBnB type uses are required to fill out and follow new Health Department rules that the legislature approved last session. Contact me, if you have any questions on what or whether you need either a permit or just need to meet the state requirements.

I am once again repeating a concern that I brought to your attention last year: "temporary" storage buildings are still continuing to pop up all over town. When I call about these buildings, I frequently hear that the structure is "temporary" so the owners don't think they need a permit. **Unless you really plan for that structure to be up 6 months or less, it is not temporary for zoning purposes. These structures need to abide by the setback requirements and need, unless 64 sq ft or less, a permit.** So if you put up anything that you might/maybe leave up for more than 6 months, please apply for a permit.

The State of Vermont has authority over wastewater and potable water systems. You need to apply to them for additional bedrooms and for most repair work on already installed systems. I can answer some questions on when you do or don't need a permit and I will send you in the right direction for answers.

In closing, if you are unsure whether your planned project needs a permit, please call me to check. My listed number is my home and I am available most days and evenings for questions. I thank you all for your politeness and consideration with the permit process which, I realize, does not always please.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adrienne Raymond, Zoning Administrator

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT**

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The Shrewsbury Development Review Board (DRB) reviews applications for subdivision of land, variances from the town's zoning regulations, conditional uses, development in overlay zones and appeals from decisions of the zoning administrator.

The DRB meets as required, based on the applications received. All hearings are publicly warned and open to the public. In addition, we notify all adjacent landowners of applications in accordance with state statute. All records of applications, hearings and decisions by the DRB are retained at the town office and are a public record.

Applications to the DRB may be obtained from the zoning administrator, who will inform the applicant about the information needed by the board to conduct a hearing. The DRB's decisions are made in accordance with the town's duly adopted unified zoning and subdivision ordinances.

During 2019, the DRB held four hearings, including an appeal of the decision of the zoning administrator, resulting in the approval of three conditional uses. One application required detailed delineation of the flood hazard boundary. Applicants near flood prone areas are reminded that there are strict state regulations, which towns must adopt, regarding development near and within flood hazard areas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark P. Youngstrom, Chair



This photo shows Shrewsbury Mountain School Pre-Kindergarten students making applesauce for their Harvest Celebration. Photo by Amy Blongy

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE REPORT**

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The Shrewsbury Justices of the Peace have been steady in fulfilling their responsibilities as elected officials. Here is what we oversee:

1. Elections- Justices are members of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA). Members of the BCA serve at town elections by Australian ballot and also for statewide elections. We also are responsible for delivering absentee ballots to those who cannot vote in person.
2. Tax Abatement and Appeals- Justices are members of the Town Board for Abatement of Taxes to determine whether a taxpayer's obligation should be forgiven under certain circumstances. They also serve an important role in the Town's tax appeal process. As members of the Board of Civil Authority, justices sit to hear and decide appeals when citizens do not agree with the final decision of the listers.
3. Marriages- Justices may also solemnize marriage in Vermont.
4. Oaths and Notary- Justices may administer oaths in all cases where an oath is required, unless a specific law makes a different provision. A justice is a notary public ex officio and has all the acknowledgment powers of a notary public.
5. Magistrate- Justices of the peace may also serve as a magistrate when so commissioned by the Supreme Court.

We sat on two tax appeals, purged the check list once and oversaw elections. We lost Hull Maynard this year and we will remember his contributions as a justice throughout the years. He will be missed.

Effective February 1, 2020, your justices are Barry Griffith, Larry Carrara, Lee Wilson, Trish Norton, Adrienne Raymond, Betsy Jesser and John Berryhill.

Respectfully Submitted  
John Berryhill, Chair, Board of Civil Authority

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Town of Shrewsbury, VT  
**2019 CEMENTERY COMMISSION REPORT**

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The responsibility of the Shrewsbury Cemetery Commission is to oversee and maintain the small family cemeteries that were created during the settlement of the town in the late 1700's and early 1800's. Normally two or three families living near each other would select a piece of property that they would share for the burial of family members. Therefore, these cemeteries are important historically because they reflect the early settlement patterns and families in the town. Now in 2019 these cemeteries are almost all located on private property.

The Shrewsbury Cemetery Commission is very grateful to the property owners and neighbors who care for these cemeteries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Larry Carrara



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

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The duties of the Planning Commission are varied and include the following:

- Prepare a town plan and amendments to the town plan for consideration by the legislative body (selectboard);
- Prepare and present land use regulations;
- Undertake capacity studies and make recommendations on matters of land development, historic and scenic preservation, etc.;
- Hold public meetings that relate to the work of the Planning Commission with other departments of the municipality;
- Participate in a regional planning program.

The Shrewsbury Planning Commission (SPC) was pleased that the 2019 Town Plan was unanimously adopted by the Selectboard in April 2019. Many thanks to the Selectboard, Development Review Board members, the Zoning Administrator, and many townspeople for their participation in the process of creating/writing the Town Plan. The Town Plan was also approved by the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC).

The SPC attended Selectboard meetings to endorse the Conservation Commission's work on the plan for a parcel of land to be purchased by the State of Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and preserved for wildlife habitat and public recreation. We affirmed that many policies of the Shrewsbury Town Plan support this type of land use.

After many years of membership on the SPC, Mark Goodwin retired from his post. We thank Mark for his commitment and contributions! Mark also served on the RRPC as the Shrewsbury representative, a post which Aaron Korzun has now stepped forward to fill. Thank you Aaron! The SPC is now five members, of a maximum seven member body.

We are currently working on updating the Flood Hazard Area Bylaw as required by state statute, and to follow recent FEMA remapping. Having a Flood Hazard Area Bylaw protects river corridors and property from erosion and from damage during flood events, allows property owners access to federal flood insurance, and makes state and federal funding available to Shrewsbury for infrastructure repairs due to flood damage. We plan to prepare a draft updated Flood Hazard Area Bylaw for public hearing this year.

Other upcoming tasks include –

- Drafting several amendments to the Unified Zoning and Subdivision Regulations. We hope to get those prepared for public hearing later this year.
- Evaluating the potential value of enhanced energy bylaws for Shrewsbury.
- Incorporating upcoming 2020 census data into the Town Plan.

The SPC meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Offices on the first and third Mondays of every month. We welcome input and dialogue from everyone in our community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Black, Chair

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT**

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Whew! 2019 was a busy year for the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission. We had our usual events that were well attended by townspeople – Green Up Day, walks and talks about using game cameras, gardening for pollinators, walking in spring with a naturalist, and foraging for mushrooms. In planning for a future presentation and discussion on waste removal and recycling in 2020, we've been visiting our transfer station and learning. One fall presentation by Tim Stout on how carbon sequestration works led to the formation a working group to learn if a project is feasible in Shrewsbury with all our forested lands. For further information on this, go to our town's SCC website.

We also worked with the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation Invasive Team to develop a Municipal Invasive Plan. Invasive plants are not just plants from "elsewhere", they are defined by the state as those being particularly harmful to our environment, wildlife, and/or people. Many volunteer workers and landowners have helped the SCC target certain species that we have a chance of eliminating in many areas. We appreciated their efforts that require repeated attention over the years for successful removal at a Volunteer Appreciation Night in November.

Our most significant and time consuming project this year culminated eight years of effort. A large 527 acre property at the end of Lottery Road, once known as the Poor Farm, has long been of interest to state agencies, conservationists, hunters, the SCC, and the Shrewsbury Planning Commission because of its location as a prime wildlife corridor. The Lottery Road property is important because it is part of an undeveloped forest corridor that will provide a vital wildlife connection from Coolidge-Aiken-Jeffords State Forests to the north to the Green Mountain National Forest and other conserved lands to the south. This large critical forest block has been determined to be an important wildlife area for species migration, range habitat and critical ecological functions within Vermont. Continuous corridors become more and more critical for long-ranging species such as bear, moose and bobcat, as well as providing habitat for many other game and non-game species such as deer, grouse, fisher and songbirds.

In 2017, the Shrewsbury Selectboard appointed a committee of SCC members and concerned citizens to explore ways to conserve the property, ideally without requiring funding from the town. The outcome has done just that with a fully funded land acquisition by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department of the Lottery Road Wildlife Corridor Project by March of 2020. Generous federal and state funding, grants from the Vermont Land Trust, and local donations from many generous residents all came together suddenly in the fall of this year. This will ensure that this forest, once in the process of subdivision for residential properties, will remain conserved and unposted for both wildlife and recreational benefits.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Duda, Chair

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 TREE WARDEN'S REPORT**

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Tree warden life took a broader focus in 2019 with more emphasis on individual yard trees. In addition to road side tree questions new requests ranged from tree health analysis, to will we lose the Jeffords tree at the town hall, to working on a heritage apple tree several generations in age, to estimating tree removal costs, to recommending trees to plant, to marketing logs from a Norway spruce, to "can you come and look at trees in my yard to see how I am doing?" More directly in line with tree warden duties came an opportunity to actually plant ten trees at the Cold River Road relocation project and to correctively prune poor quality red maples planted along a town road. Another additional tree warden duty of 2019 was the completion of an inventory of all ash trees along town roads in preparation for emerald ash borers arriving in Shrewsbury. EAB expansion had been slow but in November a population was discovered in the nearby town of Londonderry.

Tree continuing education found new forms in 2019. I worked at the Vermont Flower Show in Burlington as a staff member on an EAB display. I was able to present EAB related material and gauge the general knowledge the Burlington public had regarding EAB. What resulted was a serious concern regarding the public indifference toward this certain EAB threat. I then asked several nearby towns about their EAB efforts and the result was an increase in both interest and inventories in area towns. The Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program has attempted in recent years to strengthen tree warden laws by making them clearer to understand. They have not been changed in years and the legitimate differences in interpreting the statutes between rural and urban tree wardens have muddied the waters. Several tree organizations along with the Department of Forest Parks and Recreation suggested changes to the law and I was a member of a tree warden review team whose duty was to examine how the changes would improve the "administrative" life of a tree warden, strengthen the language in the statutes, and insure that they apply to both rural and urban situations. A bill to revise these statutes has been submitted to the legislature for approval in 2020.

So tree life goes on and hazardous trees are still being removed from town roads with the assistance of the town road crew. But overshadowing all of our forests is the growing presence of EAB. Again in 2019 EAB was the "hot" topic of the New England Society of American Foresters annual meeting, the Annual Forest Health Workshop, and the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry annual Arbor Day meeting. Since multiple Vermont communities are now infested with this borer a great amount of information is available as to how dead and dying ash trees are being dealt with at the community/town level. Information about managing EAB is also readily available at [vermontinvasives.com](http://vermontinvasives.com). May the forest be with you.

Gary Salmon  
Tree Warden

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT**

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This year we did not have any brush fires. Keep up the good work! Again, we would like to remind you that if you are going to burn, burn only natural wood and call for a PERMIT from Al Ridlon Jr. or Kevin Brown. Thank you and be fire safe!

Kevin Brown	Al Ridlon, Jr.
775-6194 (H)	492-3722 (H)
775-5518 (W)	282-3642 (C)
345-8668 (C)	

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE REPORT**

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The Trustees of the Shrewsbury Community Meeting House are responsible for the management and maintenance of our treasured and historic Town Hall, constructed in 1852. The Meeting House is used by the community and church, as originally intended, for town meetings, voting, dances, hearings, church services, committee meetings, receptions and parties, concerts, weddings, funerals, food divides, quilting classes, exercise classes and other community functions. It is truly the most important building in town and the centerpiece of Shrewsbury Center.

The Meeting House board is comprised of seven trustees, with three trustees appointed by the Shrewsbury Selectboard, three appointed by the Shrewsbury Community Church and one member appointed by the trustees. The building is available for any town or church function, general community or civic group gathering, and it can be reserved for private functions by town residents. For private functions or events that are not free and open to the entire community, a reasonable usage fee is required and rental can be arranged through Julianne Sharrow. Appropriate use of the sanctuary should be arranged through the Shrewsbury Community Church (Karen Lorentz) and the trustees (Julanne Sharrow), since generally only one gathering in the building is desired at the same time. Our policy is to allow use of the building only by Shrewsbury residents, since the Meeting House is such a historic, fragile and important building to our community.

The year started out with a few surprises. First one furnace quit operating and after it was replaced the other quit, requiring its replacement. The advantage of having two heating units was proven as the building did not freeze during this fiasco. It was less expensive to replace the units than repair them. Thanks to several generous townspeople, donations helped cover this unexpected expense.

All this necessary work over the recent past has completely depleted the generous Russell Smith bequest received several years ago, which also paid for painting the building and replacing the roof. However, this was the purpose of the gift and without it our Meeting House would not be in the wonderful condition it is now. Similar gifts will assure this historic building will continue to serve our community for generations to come.

During 2020, the downstairs building improvements will be completed. The back room will be completely painted, trim replaced and new doors installed. Also planned for 2020 is the installation of a standby generator. Long recent power outages have emphasized the need to protect the building against freezing and also the ability of the building to provide a place to prepare meals and obtain temporary shelter during such conditions.

We offer a sincere thank you to those who regularly care for the building and to all who leave the building in good condition after use. Please contact the Meeting House Trustees with any suggestions for improvements or if you are interested in helping us preserve this wonderful building.

Sincerely,  
The 2019 Meeting House Trustees

Appointed by Town

Mark Youngstrom  
Annette Parrish  
Liesbeth van de Heijden

Appointed by Church

Donna Smith  
Julanne Sharrow  
Karen Lorentz

Appointed by Committee

Ed Ryan



Town of Shrewsbury  
**SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY MEETING HOUSE**  
**2019 FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$37,599</b>
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**RECEIPTS**

Town of Shrewsbury	\$12,000	
Shrewsbury Community Church	\$4,250	
Hall Rental	\$450	
Interest	\$12	
Donations	\$2,234	
Other		
Total Receipts		<b>\$18,946</b>

**EXPENDITURES**

Electricity	\$967	
Propane	\$4,607	
Telephone	\$1,377	
Custodial	\$2,520	
Maintenance	\$3,774	
Insurance	\$6,304	
Supplies	\$48	
Capital Improvements	\$16,415	
Total Disbursements		<b>\$36,012</b>

<b>ENDING BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2019</b>	<b>\$20,533</b>
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**RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Beginning <u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expended</u>	Ending <u>Balance</u>
Russell Smith Capital Fund	5911.95	0	5911.95	0

Town of Shrewsbury  
**SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY MEETING HOUSE**  
**COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS**

	<u>2018 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2019 BUDGET</u>	<u>2019 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2020 BUDGET</u>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Town of Shrewsbury	\$12,000	\$13,000	\$12,000	\$14,000
Shrewsbury Community Church	\$4,250	\$4,600	\$4,250	\$4,600
Hall Rental	\$600	\$1,000	\$450	\$800
Interest	\$23	\$25	\$12	\$20
Donations	\$1,673	\$679	\$2,234	\$500
From Russell Smith Capital Fund	\$5,226	\$5,912	\$5,912	\$0
From Cash Reserves			\$11,153	\$1,036
Total Receipts	\$23,772	\$25,216	\$36,012	\$20,956
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Electricity	\$1,220	\$1,200	\$967	\$1,200
Propane	\$4,123	\$4,200	\$4,607	\$4,500
Telephone	\$985	\$1,000	\$1,377	\$1,200
Custodial	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,520	\$2,550
Maintenance	\$2,720	\$2,500	\$3,774	\$2,500
Insurance	\$5,602	\$6,304	\$6,304	\$6,406
Supplies	\$620	\$250	\$48	\$100
Capital Improvements	\$5,226	\$7,262	\$16,415	\$2,500
Rental Refund	\$50			
Total Disbursements	\$23,047	\$25,216	\$36,012	\$20,956

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY LIBRARY REPORT**

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In 2019, the Shrewsbury Library celebrated its 44th year as an all-volunteer town library. We are requesting level funding at \$7,500, as we have since 2005. Town funds help cover basic operating costs, such as electricity, heat, telephone/internet service, maintenance and insurance.

Last year, our total operating expenses were \$22,031, slightly under budget; our 2019 revenue totaled \$25,961. For 2020, we have budgeted \$21,560 for our total operating expenses. To meet those costs not covered by our funding request, add new books and DVDs to our collection, provide on-line access to audio-books and e-books, send books to other libraries on Inter-Library Loan, offer free passes to state parks and museums, and present free programs to the community we will raise revenue through our annual fund-raising events: the Silent Auction, the Haystack Dinner & Street Dance, the Book & Bake Sale, and through our appeal letter and bi-annual quilt raffle.

In 2019, the library circulated 4,120 books, DVDs, audio-books, e-books, music CDs, park/museum passes, and snowshoes, to adults and children, an increase of 827 over last year. We recorded 3,445 visits by patrons, who borrowed materials, attended programs and fund-raising events, and used the public computers, the copier and fax machine - another increase over the 2018 total.

The “Haunted Library” Halloween event, organized by our Children’s Committee, had a record attendance again this year. Other popular children’s programs included family movie nights, Lego Saturdays, and an ice cream social at the end of the school year. Programs for adults included: Famous Books and Science Book Clubs; Shakespeare Movie Nights; Tree Warden Gary Salmon on fighting forest fires; Emergency Phone Service Issues; Anne Sarcka on her book about her mother, Elizabeth, and the founding of Spring Lake Ranch; Stefan Grace on travels in Morocco; Alternative Therapies with local practitioners; Archaeologist Charlie Paquin; the Mettawee Theatre Company; the Haystack Dinner & Street Dance; the Book & Bake Sale; Poetry Night with local poets; and the Great Silent Auction and Cookie Share.

In addition to providing information and entertainment to all ages, the library is a community gathering place. We are deeply grateful for our trustees and other townspeople who contribute their time and energy to keep the library open and welcoming, and our programs vital and well-attended. We have benefited from the town’s support over the past 44 years, and look forward to being of service in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Aleshire & Lisa Sharrow: Co-Presidents

Donna Swartz, VT Librarian

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY LIBRARY REPORT**

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BEGINNING BALANCE, January 1, 2019		\$ 75,017
RECEIPTS:		
Operating	25,961	
Capital Fund	-	
Restricted	1,000	
Total Receipts	<u>26,961</u>	26,961
EXPENDITURES:		
Operating	22,031	
Capital Fund	1,616	
Restricted	1,461	
Total Expenditures	<u>(25,108)</u>	(25,108)
ENDING BALANCE, December 31, 2019		<u><u>\$ 76,870</u></u>
<u>Capital Fund</u> - Beginning January 1, 2019		\$ 23,297
Receipts		-
Board designation of funds		-
Expenditures		(1,616)
<u>Capital Fund</u> - Ending December 31, 2019		<u><u>\$ 21,681</u></u>

Restricted and Grant Revenue and Expense:

	Beginning Balances	Receipts	Expended	Ending Balances
Ben Perry Fund	\$ 535	\$ 500	\$ 424	\$ 611
E. Jeffords Fund	3,500	-	-	3,500
Freeman Grant	40	-	-	40
Claire Hooper	683	-	-	683
Lorna MacDougal-Cohen Fund	189	-	59	130
Joyce Wilson Memorial Fund	309	-	283	26
Allan YA Book Fund	64	-	64	-
Large Print Book Fund	100	-	-	100
Viola Parker Fund	338	-	14	324
Mitch Spencer Fund	117	500	617	-
	<u>\$ 5,875</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,461</u>	<u>\$ 5,414</u>

Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY LIBRARY REPORT**  
**COMPARATIVE OPERATING REPORT**

	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget
Operating Revenue:				
Town	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
Donations & Unrestricted Grants	9,827	6,500	9,997	6,500
Fundraising	5,852	7,955	7,646	6,885
Interest Earned	102	95	83	75
Other income	642	600	735	600
Total Operating Revenue	23,923	22,650	25,961	21,560
Operating Expenses:				
Advertising	225	225	225	225
Materials: Adults	3,330	3,850	3,731	3,960
Materials: Children & YA	447	1,000	12	800
Children's Program Expense	364	500	500	600
Equipment & Repairs	260	500	630	500
Electricity	1,378	1,440	1,444	1,450
Fuel	1,198	1,300	1,853	1,800
Fundraising & events expense	336	800	1,196	1,200
Insurance	1,685	1,735	1,609	1,675
Librarian Expense	-	100	-	100
Maintenance	4,200	4,800	4,901	2,150
Miscellaneous	86	100	107	150
Septic	1,200	1,250	600	1,250
Postage	-	100	22	100
Postage-Interlibrary loan	607	750	573	750
Program Expense	1,514	2,200	2,523	2,600
Supplies	326	500	577	650
Telephone	1,451	1,500	1,528	1,600
Total Operating Expense	18,607	22,650	22,031	21,560
Excess of operating revenue over operating expenses	\$ 5,316	\$ -	\$ 3,930	\$ -

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT**

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The Shrewsbury Historical Society is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization. Our annual request for \$2,500 from the town will help us continue to fund maintenance costs and operating expenses.

We appreciate your support and encourage you to visit the interesting eclectic collections housed in our museum, the former Cuttingsville church. The museum is open Sundays 1-3pm from the first Sunday in July to the last Sunday in October, or by appointment. We welcome individuals, families, and school groups. For arrangements contact Ruth Winkler at 492-3324 and for genealogy help, email Julianne Sharrow at [julanne@vermontel.net](mailto:julanne@vermontel.net).

The Society is grateful to our members who prepare new exhibits, clean the museum and provide staffing for visitors. We appreciate John Elwert's thoroughness and frugality in caring for our building and finances. He served as treasurer for 19 years! Al and Ann Ridlon, Bernard Stewart and others have maintained our historic grounds.

Ruth and Brian Winkler continue to collect and preserve our town's current history. Brian is at the ready to photograph local events as they occur, along with Gina Stewart, Chryl Martin and others. Special thanks to Ruth Winkler, Julianne Sharrow, and Ann Ridlon for graciously assisting people from near and far in their quests for Shrewsbury ancestors. Our thanks also go to Margaret Field and Peter Grace who helped show Mountain School students some of our collections.

The Society continues to broaden its outreach through programs of historic interest in cooperation with the library and SAGE: one-room schools, maple sugaring, farming, harvesting ice, with more to come! These events are open to all ages and have included a special version for students at the Mountain School. The *Times of Shrewsbury* has been a priceless resource and partner in our efforts.

The Society lost several dear friends in 2019. Farewell and thank you to photographer, Richard Wiedmann; former director of Preservation Trust of VT, Paul Bruhn; former state representative, Frederick Nelson Cook; founding member of SHS, Nancy Spencer; and long time members: Bill Smith, Joe Patten, John Lorentz, Charles Wiley and Hull Maynard. Also Anna Wallace who brought students to the museum with her daughter Sarah Fry, director of the After School Program.

The second annual Shrewsbury Day was blessed with perfect late summer weather. It began with a glorious parade honoring Shrewsbury families, organizations, businesses, teachers and students from our Mountain School, our veterans and fire department – all led by Bill Smith on his trusty red tractor. A surprise parade participant was the Shriners. At the Meeting House inside were exhibits, i.e., Meg Mellor spinning yarn, and outside a home grown barbeque, extraordinary games on the hillside, live music, a magic show and a live artist, Peter Huntoon, at his easel.

At the annual meeting on October 15, 2019 the following officers were elected for 2020: President, Brian Winkler; Vice-President, Grace Brigham; Treasurer, Catherine Carrara; Recording Secretary, Grace Korzun; Corresponding Secretary, Ruth Winkler, and Trustees for 3 years: John Elwert and Ann Vanneman.

Please visit our website at: [www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com) and on Facebook.

Respectfully submitted,  
Grace Brigham, *President*

Town of Shrewsbury  
**SHREWSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Financial Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2019**

**BEGINNING CASH BALANCE**

Checking Account Balance		\$ 3,197	
Money Market Acct		9,206	
Certificates of Deposit <sup>1</sup>		24,936	
<b>CASH BALANCE<sup>2</sup>, January 1, 2019</b>			<b>\$ 37,339</b>

Total Receipts	\$ 6,773		
Total Disbursements	4,068		
<b>Excess Receipts over Expenditures</b>			<b>2,705</b>

**ENDING CASH BALANCE**

Checking Account Balance		\$ 4,089	
Money Market Acct		10,633	
Certificates of Deposit		25,322	
<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE, December 31, 2019</b>			<b>\$ 40,044</b>

**COMPARATIVE OPERATING STATEMENTS**

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Town of Shrewsbury	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Membership dues	1,110	500	500	500
Fund Raising	4,873	3,000	1,129	2,000
Contributions	1,235	1,000	2,255	1,000
Interest on CD's and MM	304	200	389	350
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 10,022</b>	<b>\$ 7,200</b>	<b>\$ 6,773</b>	<b>\$ 6,350</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>				
Building Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000
Insurance	1,076	1,100	1,076	1,100
Electricity	457	475	374	475
Heating Fuel	30	50	214	50
Archival Supplies	89	150	206	150
Supplies and misc	5,284	200	2,055	200
Postage	363	375	142	375
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,299</b>	<b>\$ 6,350</b>	<b>\$ 4,068</b>	<b>\$ 6,350</b>
<b>Excess Receipts over Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 2,723</b>	<b>\$ 850</b>	<b>\$ 2,705</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

<sup>1</sup> Certificates of Deposits reported in 2018 Annual Report were understated by \$5,034.

<sup>2</sup> Ending Cash Balance reported in 2018 Annual Report was understated by \$5,034.

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Town of Shrewsbury  
**2019 SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

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Your Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department responded to 26 calls in 2019, broken down as follows: six structure fires (including mutual aid responses), seven motor vehicle accidents, four alarm activations, two chimney fires, two vehicle fires, three downed power lines, one report of smoke, and one flooding assessment.

Phillip Severy did a great job in his first full year as our fire chief. Phil has put an emphasis on training, and made arrangements for our members to work with neighboring Clarendon Fire Department on joint drills. Thursday is our department meeting night. We hold training sessions at least monthly, and also spend at least one night a month on vehicle and equipment maintenance. When we get a call, we want to make sure that both our members and our equipment are ready.

In the recent past, the fire department decided against replacing the 1950s era Cuttingsville station. We determined instead to focus on maintenance and upgrades to that aging facility. After much consideration of the best way to proceed, work began on improvements to its upstairs meeting and office space in autumn 2019. Inadequate lighting was replaced, the ceiling upgraded, the walls painted. Replacement of the flooring was begun in January 2020. We can further report on the ongoing renovations a year from now when they are completed.

Consideration has also been given to our aging vehicle fleet. The Cuttingsville fire engine is now 20 years old, and the tanker 28 years old. While loving care and careful maintenance have kept these trucks in service for decades, we know they can't last forever. A committee has been formed to consider specifications for a replacement vehicle, a process best started several years in advance. Fire trucks are not cheap; these days a new engine costs about \$600,000. Fortunately, we have been able to grow the town fire truck sinking fund and other reserve assets to help with that purchase when the time comes.

2019 was the twentieth and final year for the SVFD Race Pool, created and maintained all those years by Mark and Gina Stewart. Over that time the race pool brought in more than \$150,000 for the fire department, funds for equipment that did not have to come from taxpayer dollars. Thank you, Mark and Gina! Through the generosity of Donna and Greg Ganzer, Rustic Rooster owners, we are now selling break open tickets there to benefit the SVFD. This will help to take up the income slack. Thank you, Greg and Donna!

Annual events: The Shrewsbury Day parade and activities were great fun, a chance to put our equipment and members on display for the town. October's annual ham supper run by the wonderful SVFD Auxiliary provided another enjoyable opportunity for the community to gather. The autumn Mountain School fire safety program, organized by Safety Officer Bob Snarski, once again was a success. Continuity reigned at our Annual Meeting. Jack Perry and Al Ridlon Jr. received well-deserved exemplary service awards for their hard work on department projects. We welcomed Matt Yrsha and Junior Firefighter Phillip Severy Jr. to our team. On a sadder note, we bid farewell to former members who served the town and SVFD in earlier years: Dave Kennedy, Bill Smith, Hull Maynard. We honor their service.

The Fire Department's funding requests on the 2020 Warning are the same as last year. We appreciate your support!

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Perry, President    Phil Severy, Fire Chief    Jon Lees, Secretary    Barry Griffith, Treasurer

Town of Shrewsbury  
**SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Financial Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2019

	Actual 2018	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Budget 2020
RECEIPTS				
Town of Shrewsbury	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Raised by SVFD	\$17,716	\$15,000	\$530	\$15,000
Total Operating Income	\$52,716	\$50,000	\$35,530	\$50,000
EXPENSES				
New Equipment	\$10,686	\$10,000	\$5,256	\$10,000
Operating	\$3,658	\$4,000	\$5,729	\$5,000
Maintenance	\$5,577	\$8,000	\$3,450	\$5,000
Stations	\$12,975	\$6,000	\$3,286	\$9,000
Insurance	\$8,028	\$8,500	\$8,084	\$8,500
Communications	\$1,840	\$3,200	\$1,871	\$3,000
Heating	\$3,025	\$4,000	\$3,615	\$3,800
Electric	\$2,199	\$2,600	\$2,011	\$2,500
Dues/Training	\$1,421	\$2,000	\$550	\$1,500
Fundraising	\$3,533	\$1,500	\$1,526	\$1,500
Miscellaneous	\$100	\$100	\$99	\$100
Bank Charges	\$67	\$100	\$101	\$100
Total Operating Expense	\$53,108	\$50,000	\$35,578	\$50,000
GENERAL FUND Beginning Balance January 1, 2019				\$33,783
Receipts				
Town of Shrewsbury			\$35,000	
General Donations/Refunds			\$232	
Interest Income			\$298	
Total General Fund Receipts				\$35,530
Expenditures				-\$35,578
GENERAL FUND Ending Balance December 31, 2019				\$33,735



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Town of Shrewsbury  
**SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Special Accounts for the Year Ending December 31, 2019

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**Replacement Fund\***

Opening Balance 1/1/19	\$75,476	
Mailer Donations	\$5,960	
Break Open Ticket Proceeds	\$9,177	
Firefighter Fund Donations	\$753	
Interest Income	\$1,224	
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/19</b>		<b>\$92,590</b>

\* Includes Tim Stewart Memorial Fund & Firefighters Fund

**Minnie Shaw Endowment Fund**

Opening Balance 1/1/19	\$256,511	
Change in Investment Value	\$39,285	
Paid Investment Advisor Fees	-\$2,741	
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/19</b>		<b>\$293,055</b>

**Race Pool Account**

Opening Balance 1/1/19	\$4,453	
Donations and Interest Income	\$28,550	
Prizes and Expenses Paid	-\$15,799	
<b>Ending Balance 12/31/19</b>		<b>\$17,204</b>

<b>SPECIAL ACCOUNTS Ending Balance 12/31/2019</b>	<b>\$402,849</b>
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## 2019 SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE COMMUNITIES REPORT

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SWAC is composed of ten Rutland County towns and serves a population of approximately 14,000 people. These towns work cooperatively to comply with State laws and mandates managing solid and hazardous waste issues in an environmentally responsible and cost effective manner.

In 2019, SWAC successfully complied with all of Act 148 ANR Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) requirements. SWAC received approval of its SWIP in 2015 and will be required to produce a new SWIP in 2020. SWAC will be seeking resident and business input throughout the upcoming process. The SWIP meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and outlines how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the SWAC towns for a five-year period. All towns in Vermont are required to be included in a SWIP, and the requirements are extensive.

SWAC acts as a liaison to the State of Vermont representing the SWAC towns' interests on issues such as legislation and rule changes, SWIP requirements, and product stewardship.

SWAC is a member of the Vermont Product Stewardship Council and Product Stewardship Institute. These groups have been instrumental in getting Environmental Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation passed in Vermont. The EPR legislation requires manufacturers to be financially responsible for collection of their product(s). Efforts are underway to introduce legislation requiring manufacturers of household hazardous waste products to pay for end of life disposal of their products.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE:** SWAC contracted with ENPRO Services of Vermont to hold four household hazardous waste (HHW) events. Collected at the events were oxidizers, acids, alkalines, reactives, pesticides, aerosols, flammable liquids, ammonia, mercury devices, batteries, latex, oil based, and flammable paints, propane tanks, batteries, asbestos, PCB ballasts, and antifreeze. These events are an expensive undertaking for your towns. Please consider alternative products, use the product for its intended purpose, or give to a friend, neighbor, or relative to use. To keep your communities HHW and solid waste collection costs down, remember the 4 Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Repurpose. Try to use up the product you purchase for its intended use. Leftovers? Consider giving it to a neighbor friend, or charitable organization.

**2020 HW Schedule:** May 16, Rutland Town Transfer Station, 218 Northwood Park; October 10, Fair Haven Transfer Station, 3 North Park Place. All event times are 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Date yet to be determined - Pawlet at Dorset School. The SWAC website provides additional information as it becomes available. All events are free to all SWAC residents. ANY SWAC resident can attend ANY of the events.

**Between events:** Residents of SWAC towns may purchase a non-district permit to utilize the Rutland County Solid Waste District Gleason Road transfer station and hazardous waste depot. This permit allows access to the Gleason Road facility and provides drop-off of household hazardous waste at no charge, trash disposal at current rates, and access to recycling drop-offs. Permit purchase is available at the scale house or hazardous waste depot at the transfer station or at the RCSWD offices, located at 1 Smith Road, Rutland, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Permits are not available for sale on weekends at either location. Telephone 802-775-7209 for additional information and current rates.

Special thanks to the SWAC representatives and many of your town clerks. They spend countless hours assuring SWAC continues to run efficiently and effectively. **Shrewsbury was represented by Bert Potter.**

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## 2019 RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

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Rutland Regional Planning Commission is a resource for towns, is a platform for ideas, and inspires a vision for our future. We balance local desires, best practices, and regional growth for communities that are vibrant today and strong for years to come.

**We enjoyed working with the Town of Shrewsbury in 2019 – especially Mark Goodwin who served on the RRPC Board for over 15 years! Together, the RRPC and Shrewsbury achieved several accomplishments which are highlighted below:**

**Our Emergency Management Planner worked with Steve Nicholson to strengthen local emergency management capabilities. RRPC's planner not only assisted with the annual Local Emergency Management Plan update but she also worked with town representatives to collect local input on the Transportation Resilience Planning Tool. RRPC's planner also provided information on the FEMA Flood Map Update in the Otter Creek Watershed. In addition, our planner enjoyed working with Jamie Carrara to complete a Road Erosion Inventory and a Road Stormwater Management Plan for Municipal Roads General Permit compliance.**

**RRPC assisted the Shrewsbury road crew with grants in aid road projects, provided outreach on the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan and assisted the Shrewsbury Planning Commission with river corridor regulations. In addition, RRPC also helped with the Better Roads Category A inventory, the State's Fiscal Year 2021 Better Roads Grant, and updated zoning maps for the town clerk.**



Bill Smith preparing to lead the 2019 Shrewsbury Day Parade.

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## 2019 REGIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE REPORT

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***Funding Request: \$4224***

We are pleased to present our 36<sup>th</sup> annual report to the citizens we serve. Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. (RAS) has continually provided emergency and non-emergency ambulance service for thirty-six years. From 1983 to the end of the fiscal year, RAS has responded to 221,426 ambulance calls. This past year, ending June 30, 2019, the service responded to a total of 9,057 ambulance calls in our 12 communities and an additional 242 “Medic One” paramedic intercept calls. **RAS responded to 69 ambulance calls in Shrewsbury.** We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to continuing to serve the public.

We congratulate Robert “Bob” Walters, Paramedic, for being honored as our “Star of Life” at the American Ambulance Association’s Stars of Life celebration in our nation’s capital in 2019.

With the continued support of the citizens, our employees, and community governing bodies, we have successfully level funded or lowered the assessment rate for the past 35 years. Since 1990 the assessment rate has been decreased by 36%. Our current assessment rate is \$4 per capita and remains unchanged for the next fiscal year. The public support of our Membership program, direct donations, memorials and estate gifts have been vital to our continued success. Thank you.

This past year two new ambulances were placed into service to replace two older ambulances each with more than 100,000 miles of service. A state of the art ventilator was purchased for our critical care transports.

Our motto “Serving People First with Pride, Proficiency and Professionalism” is demonstrated by our employee’s commitment to continuing EMS training. Each year our employees have specialized training in Critical Care Paramedicine, ALS, BLS, Prehospital Advanced Trauma Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Neonatal Resuscitation, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Bloodborn Pathogens and a variety of continuing education programs. Our professional staff is extremely capable and dedicated.

Regional Ambulance continues to focus on training for all levels to include specialized Critical Care Paramedic training to expand our abilities for critical transfers to other hospitals.

Monthly CPR classes are taught at our Stratton Road facility. Last year, through the RAS Training Center, 2,146 people were trained in CPR. Tours, lectures, demonstrations, and CPR classes are available for the general public. Child car seat inspections are Wednesdays at the Regional Ambulance building by appointment. We completed 173 child car seat inspections this past year.

The public is encouraged to visit and talk to our employees at our Stratton Road facility. Please feel free to contact Jim Finger, Chief Executive Administrator, or your representative, if you have any questions concerning the service.

We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to serving you in the future. The board of directors, administration and employees of RAS will continue working to provide the highest quality of emergency ambulance care at the lowest possible cost to all of the citizens we serve.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Kulig, President R.A.S. Board of Directors

Gerry Martin, Treasurer  
Shrewsbury RAS Board Representative

***Funding request: \$250***

A sample of the activities the District was involved in during 2018/2019:

**Education:**

Vermont Envirothon - The District promotes this program through visits to area high school science departments. Teams of students are challenged to answer questions about conservation issues, and scores are calculated to determine the winning team. The District sponsored three teams from two high schools in the 2019 statewide competition.

Conservation Field Day/Science at the Hatchery – This event is at the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery in Chittenden for local elementary schools. Topics that students learn about include: stream ecology, forests and tree identification, fish shocking and identification, soils and the different fish species raised at the hatchery and their life cycles.

**Organization:**

RNRCD Annual Meeting – At our annual meeting Stefano Pinna, Agricultural Specialist with the District, provided a presentation regarding “Growing Hemp in Vermont”

Local Work Group - District Supervisors participate in work group meetings to assist USDA in setting local priorities for Cost Share Programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

**Programs:**

Land Treatment Planning - The District works with a Land Treatment Planner providing technical assistance to farmers for the development of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans.

Portable Skidder Bridges - Two portable skidder bridges are available for rent to loggers and foresters. These bridges reduce stream disturbance, minimizing the potential for erosion and sedimentation.

**Outreach:**

Website – Please visit our website: <https://www.vacd.org/conservation-districts/rutland> for more information about District projects and programs.

**Watershed Planning for the Otter Creek and its Tributaries:**

With funding through grant sources, the District:

- Received a final design for Green Stormwater Practices at Rotary Park in Rutland City.
- Completed the Stormwater Master Planning process in the Town of Wallingford.
- Is continuing to work with an Engineering Firm and the City of Rutland to complete the Stormwater Master Planning process for the Moon Brook in the City of Rutland.
- Is continuing to work with the VT River Conservancy, VT DEC and others to acquire easements and then remove a berm in the Cold River Watershed in the Town of Clarendon, which will serve to restore floodplain function.
- Continued to provide broader services to landowners and the public to ensure participation in the development of the tactical basin plan for the Otter Creek.
- Received an Alternatives Analysis Report that includes 30% designs for restoring stream equilibrium and erosion reduction, in a historically altered reach of the Homer Stone Brook, a tributary to the Otter Creek in Wallingford.
- Continued Water Quality Monitoring during the summer of 2019 at nine sites in the City of Rutland, one site in the Town of Pittsford and one site in the Town Chittenden. The District is interested in expanding this program for 2020 and is looking for additional volunteers to collect water samples.
- Will work with the city, towns and landowners to develop and prepare projects for future design and implementation. These projects have been identified in Stormwater Master Plans or other reports.

For further information or to be added to our mailing list or list of volunteers, please contact Nanci McGuire at 802-775-8034 ext. 117 or [nanci.mcguire@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:nanci.mcguire@vt.nacdnet.net). You can also visit us at the USDA Service Center at 170 South Main Street in Rutland.

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## 2019 VNA & HOSPICE OF THE SOUTHWEST REGION REPORT

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***Funding request: \$2,526***

The VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, formerly known as Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice is again requesting town funds to provide much needed home care and hospice services to all those in need.

Many of our patients are elders or disabled individuals who might otherwise not be able to manage their illnesses at home. We also serve mothers experiencing high risk pregnancy and infants and children with special needs. Most of our patients have either Medicare or Medicaid that often does not cover the cost of providing their needed care.

We also offer many services at no charge, such as: bereavement support groups for adults and children, flu clinics, Tree of Hope Memorial service, community education on end of life issues for groups or schools, etc.

We believe in providing the medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, location of residence, or complexity of health issues. Town funds and charitable contributions help us to make this possible.

We are very grateful to the Town of Shrewsbury for many years of support to help the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region meet our mission to serve our community. Please do not hesitate to contact 802-362-1276 if you have any questions.

In 2018, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region provided Rutland 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 Rutland County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2018, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 149,978 visits to 3,158 patients. **In the town of Shrewsbury, we provided 774 visits to 31 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.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ronald J. Cioffi, Executive Director

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## 2019 BROCCOMMUNITY ACTION REPORT

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### ***Funding Request: \$600***

On behalf of BROCCOMMUNITY Action and the thousands of people with low income or living in poverty that we serve in Rutland and Bennington counties, thank you for supporting us through the years. We continue to experience many people seeking our programs and services each day.

**Over the past year, BROCCOMMUNITY has had a strong community impact in the Town of Shrewsbury.**

- **21 individuals were assisted and had their needs met including food at our Community Food Shelf, senior USDA Commodities, housing counseling, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SsqVT, budget counseling, case management, resource and referral and income tax preparation through our Community Services department,**
- **2 homes/units were weatherized or had energy efficiency measures performed reducing energy costs through our Weatherization assistance program, and**
- **3 individuals worked on starting a small business with our business counselor through our Micro Business Development Program**

Despite the significant outcomes BROCCOMMUNITY has achieved for Shrewsbury residents over the past year, there is more work to do. People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your appropriation helps ease the struggle for more than 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we help meet the basic needs of their families.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas L. Donahue, CEO

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## 2019 GREEN UP VERMONT REPORT

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### ***Funding request: \$150***

Green Up Day marked its 49th Anniversary on May 4, 2019 with 22,000+ volunteers participating and over 43 tons of litter collected statewide. Always the first Saturday in May, Green Up Vermont is a nonprofit private organization that relies on your town's to clean up our roads and waterways. The tradition of Green Up Day began in 1970 by Governor Deane C. Davis and will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in May 2020. Green Up Vermont offers a statewide educational component for grades K-2 by providing free activity booklets to schools and hosts its annual student poster design and writing contests for grades K-12. Please visit [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org) for full details.

Support from cities and towns covers fourteen percent of our operating costs. Funds help pay for administrative and program support, which includes over 65,000 Green Up trash bags, education, and promotional outreach. Seventy-five percent of Green Up Vermont's budget comes from corporate sponsors and individual donors. Individuals can donate to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Keep up-to-date with Green Up Vermont by joining our newsletter, liking us on Facebook (@GreenUpVermont), following us on Instagram (greenupvermont), and by visiting our website. Join us: Green Up Day, May 2, 2020 and help celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

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## 2019 RSVP & THE VOLUNTEER CENTER REPORT

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***Funding request: \$130***

RSVP and The Volunteer Center is a volunteer program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through volunteer service. RSVP/VC considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Rutland County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health care, education, literacy, and the arts. RSVP/VC involves individuals in service that matches their personal interests and makes use of their varied life and professional experiences. RSVP/VC enables people to contribute to their communities while enjoying the personally satisfying and rewarding experience that community engagement offers.

RSVP also offers several free "Signature Programs" that benefit residents. These include: RSVP Bone Builders, an osteoporosis prevention program which provides strength and balance exercise classes offered twice per week at many locations in Rutland County; RSVP Rutland Reads a children's literacy and mentoring program; RSVP Veterans Connections Program, a program designed to reduce social isolation in veterans; RSVP Operation Dolls & More, which distributes nearly 20,000 new and restored items to children. Last year RSVP Operation Dolls & More with 44 partner agencies to benefit an estimated 1,500 children. We also partner with AARP to provide income tax return services to low income residents of Rutland County. Locally, RSVP/VC is the largest program of coordinated volunteer services serving the people of Rutland County with 799 volunteers. From July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, RSVP/VC volunteers provided 153,287 hours of community service. The cost benefit to the communities of Rutland County in terms of cost of services provided equals \$3,898,096.

### **Services Provided to Shrewsbury Residents**

In FY'19, Shrewsbury residents took advantage of RSVP programs such as free income tax return preparation, and our free Bone Builders osteoporosis prevention exercise classes. Shrewsbury RSVP volunteers donated their services to the following non-profit organizations: Mountain View Center, Lorreto Home, Osher, Godnick Center, One-2-One, RSVP Bone Builders, and RSVP Operation Dolls & More.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help defray the increased costs of providing volunteer placements, support, insurance, transportation, and recognition. As financial constraints affect non-profit organizations, the need for volunteers increases. With your help, RSVP & The Volunteer center will continue to respond to this need.

On behalf of RSVP & The Volunteer Center and our non-profit partners, we would like to thank the residents of Shrewsbury for their continued support of RSVP. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at 775-8220.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alix O'Meara, Director



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## 2019 SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING REPORT

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***Funding Request: \$700***

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Shrewsbury in 2019:

**The Council helped provide 1,385 meals delivered to the homes of 8 elders in your community, a service often called “Meals on Wheels.” Five Shrewsbury elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy nutritious meals; 21 meals were provided.**

**SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 15 elders in your community for a total of 85.75 hours.** Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder’s home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder’s situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

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

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## 2019 RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY REPORT

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***Funding request: \$150***

The Rutland County Humane Society provides shelter and care to companion animals while finding loving families for those at risk or homeless. We also serve our community by providing information and referral services to people dealing with animal issues. The RCHS shelter is the largest program of the agency, taking in more than one thousand animals in 2019.

Our agency is funded through fees for service, town funding, donations and special events. No funding comes from the state or federal government or national organizations. We sincerely thank those who support our operations. We can only save lives with your help.

**The Rutland County Humane Society took in 16 animals from the Town of Shrewsbury in the past year.**

Please call us at 483-9171 or visit our website at [RCHSVT.org](http://RCHSVT.org) if you would like more information about the Rutland County Humane Society.

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## 2019 NEWSTORY CENTER REPORT

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### ***Funding Request \$150***

For 40 years NewStory Center has been the single agency in Rutland County supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence by working to end the cycle of violence through support, education, prevention, and collaboration.

During FY19, NewStory Center served 816 women, men, and children through direct services such as emergency shelter, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, case management, clinical services, and the 24/7 crisis hotline. Additionally, we provide training and technical assistance to our community partners, including local law enforcement, to ensure a more effective community response to domestic and sexual violence.

The Board and Staff of NewStory Center thank the voters of Shrewsbury for their support of our agency. Thanks to you, we are able to continue to provide comprehensive services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault from your town.

We are very thankful for the help that the people of Shrewsbury have given us in the past and would be very grateful for your continued support of our mission. As our services are confidential, in some cases we might not be informed as to where our clients live.

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## 2019 RUTLAND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REPORT

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### ***Funding request: \$1,192***

In the year 2019, 28 towns in Rutland County supported the work of Rutland Mental Health Services through town giving. Our agency is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The generous support of towns such as Shrewsbury assures that quality services are available for their families, friends and neighbors. Services provided to town residents include:

- Individual Counseling for Children, Adults and Families
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Emergency/Crisis Services
- Developmental Disability Services

**During fiscal year 2019, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 1,533 hours of services to 23 Shrewsbury residents.** We value our partnership with Shrewsbury in providing these much needed services and thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted

Dick Courcelle, Chief Executive Officer

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## 2019 VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING REPORT

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***Funding request: \$170.00***

For the past 40 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the deaf how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual and systems change advocacy to help promote the full community inclusion of people with disabilities.

In FY 2019 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 provided one-on-one peer counseling to 250 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 6 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program assisted 163 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 122 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund provided 86 individuals with information on assistive technology; 46 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 499 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program which served 40 people and provided 31 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is in Montpelier. We have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Montpelier office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service 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 2019, one resident of Shrewsbury received services from our Information Referral and Assistance (IR&A) program.**

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## 2019 RUTLAND COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER REPORT

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***Funding request: \$400***

The Rutland County Parent Child Center (RCPCC) is a private, community based, nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and meeting the needs of children and families throughout Rutland County. RCPCC's mission is to "nurture strengths and independence of all children and families."

RCPCC provides parenting education classes and workshops (on site and in neighboring communities), community playgroups, home visits, pregnancy prevention programs, job training, academic classes, transportation, and childcare. All our services are free of charge, with the exception of child care for families above certain income thresholds.

**We estimate that 10 Shrewsbury residents were served in 2019.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Zigman-Feldman, Executive Director

***Funding request: \$700***

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL), a non-profit, seven-county organization, provides individuals 16 years of age and older with free, confidential, education and literacy services. We provide basic instruction in reading, writing, math and technology. Vermont residents can access our services and earn a high school diploma from their town of residence, or a GED. We also offer citizenship classes for individuals wishing to become an American citizen as well as English instruction in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages).

We provide students with the opportunity to obtain a diploma with additional options and resources including dual enrollment at local colleges, technical classes at Stafford tech, internships and other creative options.

Vermont Adult Learning is a partner in a multi-year federal grant along with VT Technical College and CCV called Strengthening Working Families Initiative or SWFI. The grant provides parents and guardians the training and skills they need for success in manufacturing jobs at no cost to qualified candidates. If you like working with your hands this could be for you. There are many manufacturing jobs currently that need trained employees in Rutland County. Please call 802-282-4310 for details.

We have been offering Northstar Basic Skills Certificates through assessments that show the level of technology competency in a variety of areas as Basic Skills, Word, Internet, Email, Word Processing and more. This can result in certificates of proof of tech skills. The certificates are very useful for employers and placing on resumes.

Vermont Adult Learning served approximately 1,411 students statewide in fiscal year 2019. **169 students were served in our Rutland County Center, including one student from Shrewsbury.** We provided 9,813.5 hours of education.

Classes are four days a week, Monday-Thursday from 9am-3:30pm with two evening classes, one on Tuesday and one on Thursday from 4:30pm-6:30pm. We also have an evening class in Poultney at the LiHigh School on Wednesdays from 6pm-8pm.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the voters of Shrewsbury.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chrispin White, Regional Director

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## 2019 CHILD FIRST ADVOCACY CENTER REPORT

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***Funding request: \$400***

The Child First Advocacy Center (CFAC) serves as a central agency through which reports of suspected child abuse can be channeled for investigation and victim recovery. CFAC was established in 1995 and became a fully Accredited Member of the *National Children's Alliance (NCA)* in 2004. We share with NCA the passion to minimize the traumatic effect of child abuse upon the children and families of our community. CFAC is a non-profit organization serving Rutland County to assist family's in the discovery, intervention, treatment and prevention of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and children affected by violence. We provide a safe comfortable environment for forensic quality and child appropriate interviews, training for professionals, and collateral referral services for victims and their non-offending family members. Our agency serves families of all socio-economic levels and is committed to providing quality services regardless of the ability to pay.

In calendar year 2019, The Child First Advocacy Center served 224 clients and 205 family members in Rutland County. **We were able provide wrap around services and support to at least eleven (11) Shrewsbury residents, 5 families, as they began their recovery from the effects of trauma.** In addition, we continue to provide community awareness and education at no cost, in an effort to provide adults with the ability to recognize, react and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse and increase each school district's ability to complete the legislatively mandated ACT 1 initiative also known as Child Sexual Abuse Awareness training for Educators, Community Members and Student's grades K-12.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Loomis, Executive Director

***Funding request: \$500***

#### Disaster Response

In the past year, the American Red Cross responded to 14 disasters assisting 62 residents of Rutland County. Most commonly, these incidents were home fires. Red Cross workers were on the scene to provide food, clothing, lodging, emotional support, and more to families during their hours of greatest need. Our teams also provide Mass Care to first responders. Things like food, water, and warm drinks strengthen the brave men and women of your fire and police departments as they answer the call to keep your residents safe.

#### Home Fire Campaign

Last year Red Cross staff and volunteers worked throughout Rutland County to educate residents on fire, safety and preparedness. We installed 8 free smoke alarms in homes and helped families develop emergency evacuations plans.

#### Service to the Armed Forces

We proudly assisted 22 of Rutland County's service members, veterans and their families by providing emergency communications and other services, including counseling and financial assistance.

#### Blood Drives

During the last fiscal year, Rutland County hosted 81 blood drives with the Red Cross collecting an impressive total of 3,188 pints of lifesaving blood.

#### Training Services

Last year Rutland hosted 96 courses where 791 residents were taught a variety of lifesaving skills such as first aid, CPR, babysitting skills and water safety.

#### Volunteer Services

Rutland County is home to 24 American Red Cross volunteers. We have volunteers from all walks of life who are trained and empowered to respond to disasters in the middle of the night, to teach safety courses, to help at our many blood drives, and so much more. The American Red Cross is proud that 90% of its staff is made up of volunteers. They are truly the heart and soul of our organization.





Shrewsbury Mountain School participating in the 2019 Shrewsbury Day celebration



Grace Bringham enjoying the weather, activities and community at the 2019 Shrewsbury Day

**Acknowledgement:** The cover page was drawn by Grace Bringham. When asked by the Shrewsbury Board of Auditors, she enthusiastically agreed to take on the task. Her talents yielded a collage of images which reflect the scope of the damage caused by Tropical Storm Irene and the myriad efforts to recover from the devastation. Reclaiming our town from Tropical Storm Irene required a community effort, and Grace is a prime example of community involvement. Thank you, Grace!

**Photo Credits:** Louise Duda pg 3; Gina Stewart pg 32; Amy Blongy pg 34; Chryl Martin pg 50; Rich Biziak (SMS) and Chryl Martin (Grace Bringham) Inside Back Cover.

*Town of Shrewsbury  
9823 Cold River Road  
Shrewsbury, VT 05738*

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Information Meeting

Monday, March 2, 2020

Shrewsbury Community Meeting House

Meeting begins at 6:00 PM

Current Resident  
Shrewsbury, Vermont 05738

Australian Ballot

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Shrewsbury Community Meeting House

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM