

TOWN OF CABOT, VERMONT

Chartered 1781



Cabot Plains Road, courtesy of Brittany Butler

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS

For the Period
July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 (FY20)

TOWN PUBLIC HEARING ON 2021-2022 AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES

By ZOOM ID #633-116-0345/Password - 7yarBj

Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

TOWN ANNUAL MEETING by AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING ONLY

Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Town Meeting Voting at the Willey Building, 3084 Main Street, Cabot

CABOT TOWN CLERK

3084 Main Street * PO Box 36 * Cabot * Vermont 05647

Phone: 802-563-2279 * **Fax:** 802-563-2423

E-mail: tcocabot@gmail.com * www.cabotvt.us

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

TOWN OFFICERS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Office	563-2279
Town Clerk: Fax	563-2423
Town Garage	563-2040
Cabot Public Library	563-2721
Fire Warden: Andrew Luce	563-2723
Cabot School	563-2289
Superintendent's Office	684-3801
Cabot fire Department (EMERGENCY)	911
Cabot Ambulance (EMERGENCY)	911
Zoning Administrator: Brittany Butler	563-2041
Health Officer: Valarie Covell	563-2513
Listers	563-3139
Cabot Chronicle, Cabot Mentoring &	
Cabot Community Association	279-4309

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

(Elected at General Election)

Cedric Alexander	563-3259
Sue Carpenter	426-4192
Fred Ducharme	563-2102
Gwendolyn Hallsmith	851-7697
Caleb Pitkin	563-9965
Judy Pransky	563-2730
Carla Payne	563-2390

DOG LICENSES

Neutered or Spayed: \$10:00

Un-neutered: \$15.00

FEES INCREASE 50%

AFTER APRIL 1st

PLEASE REMEMBER TO

LICENSE YOUR DOG BY

APRIL 1, 2021

(You must license your dog in the Town where the dog resides)

Hardwiick Veterinary Clinic

64 N Main Street, Hardwick, VT

Will provide a clinic during the month of March on Saturday's. 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Please call them for further information 802-472-8400.

MEETING DATES

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Tuesday: 6:00 p.m.
Planning Commission	1st Thursday: 5:00 p.m.
Fire Department	2nd & 4th Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.
Listers	as needed
Conservation Committee	2nd Monday, bi-monthly: 7:00 p.m.
CCIF Committee	2nd Tuesday: TBD
Cabot Trails Working Group	2nd Wednesday: 7 p.m.
School Board	1st & 3rd Monday: 6:00 p.m.
Development Review Board	as needed
Cemetery Commissioners	as needed
Willey Building Committee	Last Tuesday of the month: 6 p.m.

TOWN PERMITS

Driveway Access:	\$40.00
Development Review Board:	\$85.00
Zoning Permit and Fee:	\$40.00 Allow at least 15 days
Fire Permit:	Permits obtained from a Fire Warden
Other Permits	See Cabot Town Website: www.cabotvt.us

BULK REMOVAL DAY FOR CABOT RESIDENTS ONLY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE TOWN OFFICERS**

**TOWN OF CABOT
VERMONT**

**FOR THE PERIOD
JULY 1, 2019 – JUNE 30, 2020
(FY20)**



THE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT IS DEDICATED TO

PETE ACKERMANN

and THE RESIDENTS and BUSINESSES OF THE TOWN OF CABOT

Peter Ackermann was an amazing dad, husband, grandfather, and active community member who poured his heart and soul into every job he did. He taught his two sons how to run a dairy farm, use power tools, and do electrical work, and in his free time-built scale models of farm equipment. Peter was born in Meadville, Pennsylvania on March 3rd, 1956, and he was raised in Cabot, Vermont, which he called home for 60 years. Anyone would tell you that he made every person he met feel special. He put all that he had into making everything he did his own version of perfect. A perfect family, perfect home, and perfect life. And up until his last day it was perfect. Pete perfect.



Courtesy of Sue Ackermann

We, also, want to thank each and every one of you for how we worked together to support these businesses throughout these trying times. Thank you once again, and may we all continue our support for the businesses here in Cabot, Vermont.

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SCHOOL REPORT MAILED INDEPENDENT OF CABOT ANNUAL REPORT

2021 – WARNING TOWN OF CABOT - 2021

The Legal Voters of the Town of Cabot are hereby warned and notified that on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 the polls will be opened from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the Willey Building to vote by Australian Ballot to transact the following business:

Art. 1. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize payment of real and personal property taxes on August 19, 2021 and November 18, 2021 by delivery to the Cabot Town Hall postmarked on or before that date; and, Establish that overdue taxes will bear an interest at a rate of one percent per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5136; and, Establish the amount of the penalty charged by the collector of delinquent taxes for payments made after the due date for payment to 8 percent of the tax collected pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1674(3)A) (Australian Ballot)

Art. 2. To elect a Selectperson for a term of two years (Australian Ballot).

Art. 3. To elect a Selectperson for a term of three years (Australian Ballot).

Art. 4. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a term of one year (Australian Ballot).

Art. 5. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for a term of three years (Australian Ballot).

Art. 6. To elect a Library Trustee for a term of three years (Australian Ballot).

Art. 7. To elect a Willey Building Committee Member for a term of three years (Australian Ballot).

Art. 8. Shall the Town of Cabot vote to exempt 100% of inventory tax of manufactures and merchants pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3848? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 9. Shall the Town of Cabot approve the installation of an electric vehicle (EV) charging station located at the Willey Building, the costs of which will be ultimately paid by Efficiency Vermont and through a Cabot Community Association (CCA) grant and private donations in an effort to encourage tourism and patronage of local businesses while vehicles are being charged? It is intended that the costs of the electricity for charging are to be recouped from the electric vehicle owner utilizing the charging station based on the kilowatt hours used? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 10. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot direct the CCIF committee to pay off, in single lump sums from the CCIF Fund, the interest rate subsidies totaling approximately \$13,250 and the town garage loan commitments of \$115,156.98, when the total annual expenses and payments for all commitments are projected to exceed the annual limit as authorized by the CCIF Plan? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 11. Shall the Town of Cabot authorize the Select Board to sell a piece of property located on 3339 Main Street, Parcel Id #10-103.000 the Green Mountain Masonic Lodge, with the Masons having a lifetime estate to occupy the third floor, currently assessed value of \$262,264 (according to last year's town report inventory list) with the proceeds of the sale to be deposited in the General Fund as a land sale? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$674,199.55 to defray the General Expenses of the Town, with an estimated \$74,200 to come from income and \$599,999.55 from local taxes? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 13. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$794,342.38 to repair and maintain the Highways of the Town including summer, winter and special treatment, of which an estimated \$132,600 is to come from income and \$661,742.38 from local taxes? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 14. Shall the Town of Cabot authorize utilizing funds from the CCIF fund, to be used to forgive the outstanding Willey Building Loan balance in the amount of \$24, 532.78? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 15. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the Cabot Conservation Fund? [Australian Ballot]

Art. 16. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve the following appropriations? (all amounts listed below are approved as requested and included in Article 12)

American Red Cross	500
A.W.A.R.E.	1,000
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	500
Central Vermont Council on Aging	1,600
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	3,200
CIRCLE	600
Family Center of Washington County	500
Friends of the Winooski River	300
Good Beginners of Central VT	300
Green Mountain Transit	733
Green Up Vermont	100
Home Share Now	150
Joe's Pond Association	750
Kingdom Animal Shelter	500
Onion River Food Shelf	1,000
OUR House of Central VT	250
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	300
Mosaic formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team	500
Twin Valley Senior Center	3,000
Vermont Association for the Blind	300
Vermont Family Network	250
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	250
West Danville Community Club	500
Woodbury-Calais Food shelf	<u>139</u>
TOTAL	\$17,322

REGISTER TO VOTE:

There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to vote on the day of election. You can register to vote prior to voting by visiting the Cabot Town Clerk's Office or going online to olvr.sec.state.vt.us. Registration will be available at the Town Clerk's office on any day prior to the election between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Registration will be available on Election Day during the hours the polls are open, which is 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Willey Building, 3084 Main Street, Cabot, VT.

BALLOTS: All ballots will be mailed to the Town of Cabot registered voters. Ballots may be returned to the Town of Cabot Town Clerk's office by mail, drop box by the back door, ring the doorbell on the right side of the back door or you may bring it in on voting day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on March 2, 2021.

The legal voters of the Town of Cabot are hereby notified and warned to a **ZOOM ID #633-116-0345/Password - 7yarBj** meeting on **Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** for a Public Hearing to inform the voters on the following Articles which shall be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 2, 2021:

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Cabot Selectboard held on Friday, January 22, 2021. Received and recorded in the records of the Cabot Town Clerk's Office, Cabot, Vermont, on Friday, January 22, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

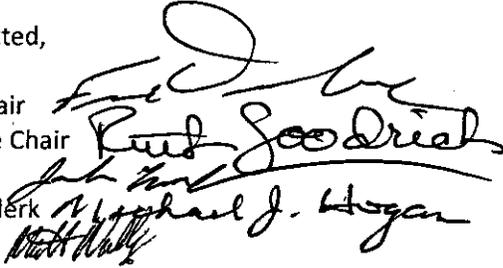
Fred Ducharme, Chair

Ruth Goodrich, Vice Chair

John L. Cookson

Michael J. Hogan, Clerk

Matthew Nally



Dated this 22nd day of January A.D. 2021

Attest: Betty Ritter, Town Clerk

This Warning was recorded before posting, Attest: Betty Ritter, Cabot Town Clerk



Courtesy of Rollin Tebbetts

ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING SPECIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS

- A. **American Red Cross** (802-391-6499 / redcross.org/nne) prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of disasters and emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. **(Requested \$500)**
- B. **A.W.A.R.E. (Aid to Women, Men and Children in Abuse and Rape Emergencies)** (802-472-6463 / www.awarevt.org) strives to prevent and heal the trauma of domestic and sexual violence in a way that people of all ages are empowered to act towards themselves and others with awareness, empathy, respect and personal responsibility. In 2018, AWARE served 214 people directly affected by violence, in the greater Hardwick area including Cabot. **(Requested \$1000)**
- C. **Central VT Adult Basic Education, Inc.** (802-476-4588 www.cvabe.org) is committed to providing accessible literacy instruction for adults and teens in Central Vermont. CVABE is a free service providing basic literacy instruction in reading, writing, math and computers, English language learning and citizen preparation, HS diploma and GED programs and academic skill readiness for work, career training or college. On average, 2-3 Cabot residents have enrolled annually. Cabot is served by learning centers in Barre, Montpelier and Morrisville. **(Requested \$500)**
- D. **Central VT Council on Aging** (802-479-0531 / www.cvcoa.org) provides older residents of Cabot with information and assistance, health insurance counseling, case management services (promoting long-term care and accessing services and benefits), transportation, mental health counseling, family caregiver support, legal support, volunteer services and more. **(Requested \$1600)**
- E. **Central VT Home Health & Hospice** (802-224-2235 / www.cvhhh.org) provides high quality, medically necessary home health and hospice care to all Central Vermonters at home. In FY 18, CVHHH provided a total of 2398 visits to 59 Cabot patients. CVHHH is asking for a slight increase to cover increased number of services, increased costs and increasing number of patients unable to pay for deductibles or co-pays. **(Requested \$3200)**
- F. **Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter)** (www.circlevt.org / 24-hour Toll Free Hotline: 1-877-543-9498) is a community-based organization dedicated to ending domestic abuse, provide advocacy, support services and shelter to help abuse survivors build on strengths to shape fulfilling lives for themselves and their children. Due to confidentiality issues, the majority of clients do not disclose their town of residence. Staff responded to 5,781 hot line calls in Washington County in FY18. In addition to the toll free Hot-Line, Circle provided emergency shelter, educational programs, emergency court advocacy, assistance with protection orders, support groups, and referrals. 6 Cabot residents self-identified on hotline calls or availed themselves of other services. **(Requested \$600)**
- G. **Family Center of Washington County** (802-262-3292 / www.fcwcvt.org) supports the growth and development of young children and their families. In FY 2018, 69 individuals in Cabot benefited from child care financial assistance, home visiting services, playgroups, child care and other resource referral services, job development program and/or attended community events. **(Requested \$500)**
- H. **Friends of the Winooski River** (802-279-3771 / info@winooskiriver.org) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Winooski River watershed. Cabot is a partner in the Winooski Headwater Community Partnership, together with the towns of Marshfield and Plainfield, Friends of the Winooski and the Cabot Creamery. In 2017-2019, the Partnership has been an active participant in the Water Wise Woodlands project, including outreach to Cabot landowners and a "Walk in the Woods" on a Cabot tree farm, and continues to support volunteer water quality monitoring of the Winooski River. **(Requested \$300)**
- I. **Good Beginnings of Central VT** (802-595-7953 / www.goodbeginningscentralvt.org) provides free education, resources, community connections and home visiting for pregnant women and families with newborn infants. In 2018, 2 Cabot families were served. **(Requested \$300)**
- J. **Green Mountain Transit** (802-864-2282 / www.ridegmt.com) to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible, innovative and sustainable transportation services in Northwest and Central VT that reduce congestion and pollution. Encourage transit-oriented development and enhance the quality of life for all. **(Requested \$733)**
- K. **Green Up Vermont** (802-229-4586 / www.greenupvermont.org) promotes stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and public awareness about the benefits of a litter-free environment. **(Requested \$100)**

- L. **Home Share Vermont** (802-863-5625 / www.homesharevermont.org) provides a screening and matching service to help people remain in their homes by matching them with others looking for an affordable place to live, who then provide some household help and/or rent. **(Requested \$150)**
- M. **Joe's Pond Association** (802-684-3655 / pjhebert@charter.net) to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species into Joe's Pond by inspecting boats being launched into Joe's Pond and removing any plant material. Additionally, we do a biennial biological survey. **(Requested \$750)**
- N. **Kingdom Animal Shelter** (802-741-7387 / www.kingdomanimalshelter.com) is an all-volunteer, non-profit rescue shelter, whose purpose is to facilitate the placement of rescued, abandoned, abused or neglected animals in safe, life-long homes; They strive to prevent overpopulation and cruelty to animals. An average of 3 cats a year are accepted from Cabot. The shelter also provides opportunities for volunteering for parents and their children and responds to numerous calls asking for advice about health, behavior and strays and runs a Trap, Neuter and Return program for cats. **(Requested \$500)**
- O. **Onion River Food Shelf** (802-426-4097) is open Wednesdays and located in the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield. The food shelf serves families from Cabot, Marshfield, Plainfield, E. Montpelier, and Calais. Each person receives enough food for 3 meals a day for 3 days. Free clothing, personal items and household products are also provided. In 2018, 38 adults, 30 children and 9 seniors were served from Cabot. **(Requested \$1000)**
- P. **Our House of Central Vermont** (802-476-8825 / www.ourhouse-vt.org) is a non-profit Children's Advocacy Center serving Washington County, by providing a safe setting for child victims and adult survivors of sexual abuse, as well as non-offending family members. Our House works closely with law enforcement to conduct investigations in a child friendly environment and offers therapy, safety planning, training and referral services. In 2017, every town in Washington County used their services in one way or another, for a total of 134 cases. **(Requested \$250)**
- Q. **Peoples Health & Wellness Clinic** (802-479-1229 / www.PHWCVT.org) provides basic primary health care and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured community members in central VT who could not otherwise afford these services. Six Cabot residents sought services in 2017 (most recently completed fiscal year) for: medical visits, case management, consults, referrals for diagnostic tests, immunizations, prescriptions, dental care and health insurance enrollment assistance, resulting in 29 separate visits. PHWC has requested the same amount for the past 20 years, but have seen a steady increase in the number of Cabot patients over the last several years. **(Requested \$300)**
- R. **Mosaic formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team** (24-Hour Hotline 802-476-1388 / www.sactvt.org) provides Washington County with comprehensive services to victims/survivors of sexual violence, including legal advocacy, medical advocacy, crisis services, safety planning, support groups, educational forums and emergency overnight shelter. Due to changes in reporting practices, detailed statistics are not available for FY18. Data will be available once again next year. **(Requested \$500)**
- S. **Twin Valley Senior Center** (802-223-3322/ www.twinvalleyseniors.org) facilitates the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of independent senior citizens by providing access to community resources and services. Free transportation is provided to the center. TVSC is currently serving 18 residents from Cabot with meals, exercise and art programs at the center. These figures do not include foot clinic, blood pressure clinics and tax preparation assistance. Cabot residents have also participated in fundraising dinners, flea market and plant sales. Others have borrowed medical equipment and other supplies. **(Requested \$3000)**
- T. **Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired** (800-639-5861 ext. 219 / www.vabvi.org) provides training, support, and adaptive equipment to help visually impaired Vermonters of all ages live independent lives. In FY18, VABVI worked with 1,770 Vermonters including 104 adult clients and 13 students from Washington County. **(Requested \$300)**
- U. **Vermont Family Network** (802-876-5315/ www.vermontfamilynetwork.org) works to empower and support all Vermont families of children with special need, providing trainings, parent matches, school meeting support and a help line. In FY18, 324 families in Washington County were supported, 5 families of which live in Cabot. **(Requested \$250)**
- V. **Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program** (802-828-4582/ www.vacd.org) helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. **(Requested \$100)**
- W. **Washington County Youth Services Bureau** (802-229-9151 / www.wcysb.org) provides a range of innovative and effective programs that empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County through programs such as: Healthy Youth Program (substance abuse), Youth Development Program (case management support for youth

who had been in DCF custody), Return House Program (for youth exiting incarceration) Country Roads Program (family counseling) and The Basement Teen Center in Montpelier. In FY18, WCYSB served 7 Cabot youth. **(Requested \$250)**

- X. **West Danville Community Club** (802-684-3851 / jdkelley5@charter.net) the mission of WDCC is to maintain and enhance the Joe's Pond Public Beach and surrounding natural areas while promoting community involvement. WDCC supervises the maintenance of Joe's Pond Beach, which is also the trailhead for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. **(Requested \$500)**
- Y. **Woodbury/Calais/Cabot Food Shelf** (802-472-6292/ jan@ianbrough.com) is a non-profit community organization whose mission is to gather and share quality food so that no one in our communities goes hungry. During 2018 this food shelf served 7 monthly Cabot resident's vegetables, canned and packaged goods and meat including turkeys as well as USDA commodities. Following the VT Food Bank recommendation of providing 2/3 of a pound of food per person per day, the 2019 request fully covers the \$20 per person per year for Cabot residents. **(Requested \$139)**

NOTE: All the above repeat requests have been approved of the requested amount and included in the General Fund Budget (page 23) to be voted on by Australian Ballot. Complete 2020 annual reports and financial statements for the above organizations may be viewed at the Town Clerk's office.



Courtesy of William Walters

TOWN OFFICERS - 2020

Title	Name	Term Expires
Moderator	RD Eno	2021
Town Clerk (Australian Ballot)	Betty Ritter	2023
Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer	Michelle Leclerc	Non-Term
Town Treasurer (Australian Ballot)	Betty Ritter	2023
Collector of Lease Land Rentals	Town Treasurer	2023
Selectboard Members (Australian Ballot)	John Cookson	2022
	Fred Ducharme, Chair	2023
	Ruth Goodrich, Vice Chair	2021
	Michael Hogan, Clerk	2021
	Matthew Nally	2022
Listers	Brittany Butler	2023
	Jeanne Johnson	2022
	Jacqueline Lumbra	2023
Delinquent Tax Collector	Susan Carpenter	2021
Grand Juror	David Pike	2021
Cemetery Commissioners	Deb Bothfeld	2022
	Angela Ward	2022
	Melvin Churchill, Chair	2021
	Gwendolyn Hallsmith	2023
	Frederick Pike	2022
School Directors (Australian Ballot)	Chris Tormey	2022
	Rory Thibault	2021
	Sharon O'Connor	2021
	Lisa Olson, Chair	2023
	Michael Taub	2022
Library Trustees	Beth Wade	2023
	Kurt Steinert, Chair	2021
	Angela Ogle	2023
	Linda Gabrielson	2022
	Jeanne McCallum	2022

TOWN OFFICERS - 2020

Title	Name	Term Expires
Recreation Committee	Mary Saggerson, Chair Cameron North, Vice Chair Brock Miller, Secretary Jessica North, Coordinator Stefanie Burt Brandy Goodrich	Non-term Non-term Non-term Non-term Non-term Non-term Non-term
CCIF (Cabot Community Investment Fund) (Formerly UDAG)	Gregg Burt	Appointed by Selectboard Appointed by Selectboard Appointed by School Board 3-year term – expires 2022 3-year term – expires 2023 3-year term – expires 2021
Willey Building Committee	Fred Ducharme Brad Alexander, Chair Paul Wade Bill Wheeler Dan Dunham	2021 2023 2022 Appointed by Selectboard Appointed by Library



Courtesy of William Walters

APPOINTED BY SELECTBOARD

Title	Name	
First Constable	William Ameden	
Second Constable	Stephen Hogan	
Water / Wastewater Superintendent	Ruth Goodrich	
Pound Keeper	Cheryl McQueeney	
Animal / Dog Control Officer	William Ameden	
Fence Viewers	Glenn Goodrich	David Pike
Inspector – Coal, Wood, Lumber, Shingles	Anson Tebbetts	
Tree Warden	Roland Payne, Jr.	
Fire Warden	Andrew Luce	
Health Officer	Valarie Covell	3-year term – Oct. 2021
Town Energy Coordinator	Michael Socks	
Zoning Administrator	Brittany Butler	
Planning Commission (7 member – 1-year terms)	Jenn Miner, Chair Kate Chatot Richard Lacelle Bobby Searles	Betty Ritter, Secretary Glenn Goodrich Dawn Andrews
Development Review Board (7 members – 1-year terms)	Michael Hogan, Temp. Chair Brad Alexander Jenn Miner Amy Hornblas	Larry Gochey Stephen Hogan Jeanne Johnson, Temp.
Cabot Trails Committee	Chuck Talbert Michael Socks Dana Glazier	Gwen Hallsmith Karlyn Schmitt Paul Wade
Conservation Committee	Gary Gulka Chris Duff Cedric Alexander	Roland Payne, Jr. Dawn Andrews Jim Wolynetz
Master of Colors	Bill Wheeler	
Road Commissioner	Select Board	
Town Attorney	Tarrant, Gillies & Richardson	
Regional Planning Committee Rep.	Amy Hornblas	
Emergency Management Coordinator	Jenn Miner	
NEKSWMD Representative	Ben Davis	
NEKSWMD Representative Alt.	R.D. Eno	
Newspapers	Cabot Chronicle	Times Argus & Caledonian-Record
Leg. District Representative	Representative Henry Pearl	(Elected at State Level)

EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

TOWN OF CABOT 2019 - 2020 AUDIT REPORT JUNE 2020 Select Board's Responses to Weakness

MATERIAL WEAKNESS: None noted.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

To say the least, 2020 proved to be one of the most interesting years, not only in Cabot, but in the state, nation, and the world. We ended up cancelling events such as the Fourth of July, the commemoration of the Willey Building 100th Anniversary and any events that would have taken place in the Willey Building. We locked our doors around the first of April and they still remain locked. We are always accessible by phone or email, or ring the bell located to the right of the door. We are still hoping to have the commemoration sometime in the fall of 2021 if we are allowed to have these functions once again.

We had the general election voting take place in the Willey Building with a separate entrance and exit which enabled the voters a safe environment to vote. It went very smoothly and even though the Secretary of State's office sent out all of the ballots, we still had many people drop off their ballots on the day of election or bring their ballot in to vote. Overall, it was a very successful day and I want to thank everyone that helped make it run smoothly. We had people at the entrance and two booths in the room next to the Town Office.

The State of Vermont Legislature allowed each town to choose how to conduct their town meeting. This year, the Select Board chose to have everything Australian Ballot in order to safeguard Cabot residents and to exercise the social distancing required by the Governor. Therefore, there will be no actual Town Meeting on March 2. Instead, voting will take place on Tuesday, March 2, at the Willey Building from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with each booth and pen or pencil being sanitized after each voter. If you wish to vote in person, you will need to wear a mask and sanitize your hands before voting. We are doing all of this to help lessen the spread of the virus and to keep Cabot residents as safe as possible.

We will be having a Bulk Removal Day on Saturday, September 25, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This will be a great way to clean up all those things we wanted to dispose of and had no outlet. Our office will be posting further information through our Web site, posting flyers around town, and Front Porch Forum. Please note that this is for Cabot residents only, and one truckload per resident.

Blood draws have come to a halt during the COVID-19 crisis but we encourage you to contact the American Red Cross if you are able to donate your blood. They are in an extreme need of all types of blood and would appreciate your donation. Their phone number is 1 800 464-699. Hopefully during the summer, we may be able to do something at the Willey Building to accommodate people that would like to give blood.

We want to remind everyone that we will not be mailing the Report out unless you request it. A postcard has been sent to all registered voters regarding this. Copies will be available at the Town Clerk's Office, Cabot Library, and businesses in Cabot.

A reminder for all dog owners: We can license your dog anytime during our working hours (Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). Please be sure your dog is up to date on rabies and bring a copy of the certificate in when you register your dog(s). This must be done by Thursday, April 1, 2021, or there will be an added late fee. Fees are \$10.00 for neutered or spayed dogs, and \$15.00 for un-neutered or un-spayed dogs. The Hardwick Veterinary Clinic at 64 N Main Street in Hardwick will be conducting its Rabies Clinics this spring (March 6, March 13, and March 20, and March 27). They are very specific regarding how to conduct these vaccinations, so I would suggest that you call them for further information at 472-8400. The cost is still \$20 for Rabies.

I know I have said this time and again, but I want to thank Michelle for all her hard work and thank all of you for your support for us during these trying times. I also wanted to thank Bill Wheeler for his faithfulness in being responsible for the flags that we have in the Town. He raises and lowers them as requested by the Secretary of State and makes sure they are presentable to fly.

Betty Ritter
Town Clerk/Treasurer

SELECT BOARD REPORT

The Selectboard would like to thank the voters of Cabot for having provided us the opportunity to serve our community in 2020. The Board considers 2020 to have been a very challenging year. The COVID-19 Pandemic has changed all our lives and made us appreciate our families and neighbors more than ever. The Board started meeting remotely in March and continues as long as the virus persists as we get direction from the Department of Health or CDC. There have been some meetings with folks being masked and sitting at a distance from each other. The Willey Building is currently closed with the exception of a few employees in the Town Clerk's Office, Library, Zoning Administrator, and Listers. All meetings have been encouraged to use Zoom or other meeting applications that are available.

One of the main functions of the Board is to produce a financial budget each year for the Town to vote on at Town Meeting. The Town approved the current fiscal year budget that runs from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, at last year's meeting. We are currently through seven months of our current budget cycle as this note is being written.

Unfortunately, this year's Town Meeting will be canceled due to the COVID-19 and all articles will be voted on Australian Ballot at the Willey Building on March 2, 2021, from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. The Selectboard at its January 12, 2021, meeting approved mail-in ballots for the Town Meeting vote. Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters in the Town of Cabot. People will also be able to vote in person as they did on the November 3, 2020, Presidential Election.

The next fiscal year (FY 2022) budget that covers the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, has taken considerable work at multiple budget meetings. The Board has set aside an hour or two for special budget meetings each week to discuss expenses needed to meet the financial demands of the Town. At these meetings, various entities of the town that comprise both the General and Highway Funds presented their FY 2022 budget requests. We have had a fair amount of public input and that is very appreciated. These are public meetings and we invite the public to attend and give us their thoughts and suggestions.

FY 2022- (July 1, 2021-June 30,2022) General Fund Operating Budget is \$674,200 as compared to last year's budget of \$669,701, an increase of \$4,499. There are no General Fund projects this year. **Note:** All social service appropriations as outlined in Article 16 were fully funded as requested by the organizations listed in this town report. That total is also included in Article 12 for all General Fund Appropriations.

The FY 2022-(July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022) Base Highway Operating Budget totals \$794,342 as compared to last year's base budget of \$861,651, a decrease of \$67,309. There are no projects scheduled as we have finished the Porter Road Project that has been in the works for a couple of years. There will be some small patch paving in some needed areas.

Information on the Cabot Fire Department's updating the current station due to violations are listed in the Fire Department's report listed in the Town's Annual Report. Any questions, please refer them to Chief Walter Bothfeld, Jr.

The impact on future budgets is identified in the FY 2021 Capital Budget included separately in this Town Report. Please note that neither the General Fund nor the Highway Fund budgets include any contingency funds so that, when an unanticipated cost occurs, it may very well result in a budget deficit.

The Board is very aware of the difficult financial situation many of us face as the COVID 19 virus impacts our economy. We have tried to propose a budget that is fiscally responsible and meets the needs of the operating costs of the Town.

The projected 2021-22 Municipal Property Tax rate is 0.6492 if all the articles pass, down from 0.6535 in 2020-2021. The GRAND LIST AND TAX COMPARISON 2011-2021 report is included in the Annual Town Report, providing a 10 -year comparison of Property Tax Rates.

The taxes for the new fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022) are due in two installments divided equally: first payment due on August 19, 2021 and second payment due on November 18, 2021. By doing so, tax money will be payable in smaller amounts in two installments rather than in one lump sum. The Town may not have to obtain a tax anticipation loan to cover taxes due and pay the resultant interest that is an additional expense to the Town. The Town Wide Reappraisal was finished in 2020 and those new values were reflected in your last property tax bill. Any questions, please refer your inquiries to the Town Listers.

The Board wishes to thank Road Foreman Aldo Nunn, and Road Crew Employees Rusty Churchill and Sid Griggs for the high quality of work they performed in 2020. In addition to keeping the roads in excellent condition, they also completed multiple critical projects that are not generally visible to most of us, such as ditch clearing, culvert cleaning, brush-hogging and the like. The roads are in great shape and the Board has received many positive comments from people in town on the Road Crew's work. The Board also wishes to thank part-time summer employee Tommy Sicely for his excellent and very conscientious service to the Town.

The Board also wishes to thank Betty Ritter for her work as Town Clerk and Town Treasurer. Under Betty's leadership, the Town Offices are a welcoming and pleasant place to undertake the town's business.

We wish to thank Michelle Leclerc for her outstanding service as Assistant Town Clerk and Assistant Town Treasurer. Michelle brings efficiency, pleasantness, professionalism and spark to Cabot. We are fortunate to have her working for our town.

We would also like to thank Jennifer Miner for her tireless work as Emergency Management Coordinator. Jenn has kept the Town updated on the spread of the Corona virus and what precautions to take as a community to limit its spread. There are weekly bulletins and notices on Front Porch Forum to keep the citizens of Cabot current on COVID 19 issues.

Lastly, we wish to thank all of the Town officers and volunteers who contribute so much to the smooth functioning of our incredible community. Without all of you, Cabot would not be the wonderful community that it is today. We can never thank each and every one of you enough for all of your services to our town.

The Board meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Willey Building and we welcome your attendance. Each meeting begins with a Public Comment period where we listen to your concerns and suggestions.

Cabot Select Board 2021

DELINQUENT TAX LIST – FY 2020

Susan Carpenter – Delinquent Tax Collector

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
606 WHP LLC		460.97
Barnett, Wayne & Wendy	799.09	1,112.92
Barnett, Wayne & Wendy		17.63
Bashaw, Michael		3,026.91
Brown, Judith		1,267.65
Clark, Lori		662.30
Fiorentino, John & Bernice		21.47
Fresh Start Housing	1,872.18	1,884.93
Gagnon, Joseph		3,041.50
Guibord, Justin	94.68	815.35
Malone, Michael		3,063.98
Miner, Charles & Jennifer	1,307.77	0.00
O’Grady, Scott		233.69
Perry, Guthrie & Amber		1,388.90
Phillips, Kenneth		1,884.93
Rogers, David, Est.		707.68
Sironi, Randall, Est.	5,397.06	777.70
Takacs, Sandor		136.97
Takacs, Sandor		3,985.91
Thompson, Joshua		<u>17.21</u>
Totals	9,470.78	24,508.60

DELINQUENT TAX STATEMENT – FY 2020

	2017	2018 – Nov.	2019
Balance due - 1/1/20	1,561.47	19,242.28	131,156.78*
Adjustments to 1/1/20 balance due			-2,998.26
2020 property taxes were due in January '21 and therefore a delinquent total due does not appear in the 2020 annual report.			
Collected 1/1/20 to 6/30/20 <i>(end of fiscal year)</i>	437.78	4,522.21	73,284.77
Collected 7/1/20 to 12/31/20 <i>(final 6 months of calendar year)</i>	<u>1,123.69</u>	<u>5,249.29</u>	<u>30,365.15</u>
Balance due as of 12/31/20	0.00	9,470.78	24,508.60

Interest Collected 1/1/20 to 6/30/20 - \$4,254.25

Interest Collected 7/1/20 to 12/31/20 - \$5,709.74

Total collected - \$9,963.99

* \$133.33 increase in balance due from 12/31/19 report.

GRAND LIST AND TAX COMPARISON 2011 - 2020

Year	Grand List	Municipal Tax		Education Tax		Tax Rate	
		General ¹	Highway	Residential	Residential	Residential	Residential
2011	158,903,900.00	0.1798	0.3264	1.5033	1.4633	2.0095	1.9695
2012	162,606,000.00	0.3192	0.3735	1.3760	1.3925	2.0687	2.0852
2013	164,626,030.00	0.1101	0.2596	1.5126	1.5171	1.8823	1.8868
2014	165,855,851.00	0.2633	0.2673	1.5736	1.5094	2.1042	2.0400
2015	168,109,828.00	1.5890	0.3484	1.6511	1.5089	2.1619	2.0197
2016	171,765,153.00	0.7284	0.3314	1.7199	1.5099	2.2515	2.0415
2017	171,479,280.00	0.3106	0.3041	1.7391	1.5236	2.3540	2.1380
2018	174,789,116.00	0.2571	0.3671	1.7543	1.5910	2.3834	2.2201
2019	175,765,345.00	0.2806	0.3274	1.7305	1.5966	2.3385	2.2046
2020	177,755,100.00	0.2698	0.3837	1.6814	1.6127	2.3349	2.2662
Average \$	169,165,560.30	0.4308	0.3289	1.6242	1.5225	2.1889	2.0872

¹ Rates include any Local Agreement and Deficits amounts



Courtesy of Brittany Butler

TOWN GENERAL FUND & HIGHWAY INCOME

		2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
		Budget	Audited	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
GF Income		73,500	1,329,968	84,300	74,200
HF Income		511,300	1,100,774	1,084,255	132,600
	Total Revenue	584,800	2,430,742	1,168,555	206,800
GF Expense		672,200	669,005	669,701	674,200
HF Expense		1,086,700	1,918,234	1,766,306	794,342
		1,758,900	2,587,239	2,436,007	1,468,542
	Surplus/(Deficit)		(156,497)		
	GF INCOME				
	Administrative Charges		3,000	2,000	10,000
	Property Taxes		1,027,309		-
	Equilization		894		-
	Clerk Fees	18,000	18,565	23,000	19,000
	Grants	-	13,650		-
	Library Income	100		500	-
	Records Restoration/Rest.	3,400	4,239		-
	Delinquent Taxes	8,000	151,489		-
	Tax Sales Redemption/Sale		4,178		-
	Education Billing Fee	5,000	5,122	5,000	5,000
	FD Income		4,175		-
	Interest	12,000	14,983	15,000	15,000
	Miscellaneous Income	5,000	2,191	12,000	3,000
	Masonic Hall Fees	8,000	9,600	9,600	10,200
	Reappraisal-Restricted	8,000	7,599		-
	Recreation Committee	3,000	3,265	3,500	1,000
	Recycle Center	200	-	200	-
	Sheriff Fines	800	2,633	3,000	2,500
	State Pilot Payments			9,000	8,500
	Trails Committee		16		-
	Willey Bld Rental Income	2,000	1,060	1,500	-
	Tax Reduction Loan				
	Fire Dept. Loan				
	Willey Projects Loan		56,000		
	Total General Fund Income	73,500	11,209,433	84,300	74,200
		2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	HIGHWAY INCOME	Budget	Actual	Budget	Proposed
	HW Miscellaneous	5,000	1,230	5,000	
	HW State Highway Grants	12,000	1,416	12,000	
	HW State Aid	132,600	135,458	132,600	132,600
	HW Equipment Bond/Loan		662,670	450,000	
	HW Grants		300,000	300,000	
	HW FEMA Reimb/Culverts				
	HW Porter Road Grant			115,991	
	HW Paving Loan 6 yrs	139,000			
	HW Porter Road Bond/Loan			38,664	
	HW Better Back Roads	62,700		30,000	
	HW State Highway Grants	160,000			
	Total Highway Income	511,300	1,100,774	1,084,255	132,600

TOWN GENERAL EXPENSE BUDGET

	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	Budget	Actual	Budget Approved	Budget Proposed
Payroll - 2% increase	190,000	123,678	143,000	146,000
Payroll Taxes	18,000	13,955	14,000	15,000
Cabot Appropriations	43,600	26,353	73,100	77,500
Special Service Appropriations	21,000	21,505	10,085	17,322
Audit	12,000	11,765	16,000	17,000
Legal	15,000	13,508	15,000	13,000
Computer	2,500	-	2,000	1,000
Conservation Commission	1,600	204	1,000	500
Constable	900	1,075	900	1,000
County Tax	14,000	13,791	14,000	14,000
Debt Collector Expense	8,000	505	-	-
Deficit Reduction FY2019-2020			18,000	5,000
Dues & Subscriptions	5,000	7,741	10,900	12,000
Emergency Management			500	500
Fire Department Bond Interest	1,000	762	518	176
Fire Department Bond Principal	11,000	10,000	10,342	10,000
Fire Department Operations	55,000	59,943	50,000	52,500
Fire Department Upgrades		8,327		6,673
General Expense	2,000	3,019	2,000	2,000
Health Insurance	26,000	12,048	12,000	12,000
Insurance	15,500	13,378	12,500	14,000
Interest Expense	1,500	896	1,000	1,200
Library Expense	80,000	80,643	80,000	85,469
Lister Expense	9,000	5,495	7,760	5,360
Main St. 2466 - New Property	22,000	27,865	28,596	30,000
Masonic Hall Expense	7,500	10,227	5,000	6,000
Meetings/Elections	2,500	2,545	5,000	2,500
Office Expenses	6,000	8,168	6,000	6,000
Office Supplies	1,000	1,521	2,000	2,000
Planning Commission/DRB	1,000	602	1,500	1,000
Pound keeper	500	150	500	500
Rec. Committee Ops	10,000	14,909	10,000	8,000
Select Board Misc.	4,000	3,970	3,000	3,000
Sheriff	8,000	7,794	7,000	7,000
Recycle Center	7,700	13,833	10,500	8,000
Tax Sale		5,989		
Tax Maps	2,100	-		-
Trails Committee	500	6,834	500	500
Village Expenses	15,000	16,909	20,000	20,000
Willey Bld. Expenses	50,000	117,046	75,000	70,000
Zoning Admin.	1,800	2,050	500	500
Total General Fund Exp	672,200	669,005	669,701	674,200

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSE BUDGET

	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	Budget	Actual	Budget Approved	Budget Proposed
Payroll - 2% increase	194,000	192,251	216,006	220,326
Payroll Taxes	17,500	23,674	24,000	25,000
Audit/Legal	500	-	500	500
Bridges	5,000	-	5,000	2,500
Building Maintenance	2,000	3,516	2,000	2,000
Chloride	15,200	15,167	9,000	15,000
Clothing Allowance	2,500	4,084	3,700	3,000
Cold Patch/Paving	2,000	1,367	2,000	9,500
Culverts	12,000	9,409	18,000	9,000
Deficit Reduction FY2018-2020			18,000	15,000
Equipment Bond/Loan & Int.	63,300	233,573	86,403	86,403
Equipment Lease	39,100	419,531	-	-
Equipment Loan Loader	22,300	200,788	-	-
Equipment Repair	25,000	41,324	25,000	25,000
Fuel Expense for Equipment	38,000	30,640	40,000	40,000
Garage Supplies	4,000	2,542	4,000	3,000
Gravel	80,000	64,552	65,000	70,000
Highway Grants - Porter Rd & other roads		14,421	-	-
Health Insurance	20,000	19,080	24,000	24,000
Highway Propane	8,000	5,234	6,000	6,000
Hired/Rented Equipment	10,000	4,090	5,000	5,000
Insurance	22,400	25,953	25,000	26,000
Loan Interest			937	-
Miscellaneous	5,000	2,327	2,500	2,500
New Equipment	3,800	171,135	15,000	6,000
Paving Misc. Projects			15,000	10,000
Paving Bond Interest	6,100	5,619	5,268	3,726
Paving Bond Principal	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Paving Loan	28,500	-	52,953	28,456
Permits stormwater	3,000	-	1,000	1,000
Salt	42,000	44,574	55,000	55,000
Sand	25,000	25,200	28,000	28,000
Sinking Fund			15,000	10,000
Storage Units			25,000	
Signs & Guardrails	4,500	683	1,500	1,500
Tires	4,000	2,097	5,000	5,000
Town Garage Bond Interest	1,500	1,405	1,184	932
Town Garage Bond Principal	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Transportation Planning	2,000	-	5,000	-
Utilities	4,500	4,795	4,700	5,000
Sub-total - Highway Expense	762,700	1,619,029	861,651	794,342
Consolidated Loan			750,000	
Paving Loan Payment Project	25,000		154,655	
Paving Projects	299,000	299,205		
Sub-Total - Highway Projects	324,000	299,205	904,655	-
TOTAL – HW EXPENSE	1,086,700	1,918,234	1,766,306	794,342

CAPITAL TEN YEAR PLAN (2021-2031)

Highway Equipment Purchase/Loan Plan

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030
John Deere Grader (2015)									
John Deere Excavator (2015)									
Komatsu Loader (2018)									
Roadside Mower									
GMC Pick-up									
Freightliner (2001)									
Freightliner (2014)			222,000						
International (2017)									
Western Star (2018)									

Paving Plan/Misc.

Common Road & Misc Aprons	16,000								
Old Route 2			100,000						
215 North Road									
215 South Road									
South Walden Road									
Culverts and Structures									

Fire Department

Fire Truck (2008)									
Pierce Pumper (2011)									
GMC Rescue (2008)									
International Tanker (1999)			180,000						



Courtesy of Neil Bainton

**TOWN GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1000 · People's United - Checking - GF	7,475.78
1003 · Passumpsic Bank #4661	35,906.39
1005 · Petty Cash	100.00
1006 · Reappraisal Fund Savings Acct	49,406.59
1012 · Library C & G (People's Bank)	7,095.39

Total Checking/Savings	99,984.15
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Other Current Assets

Due from WW	7,867.61
1584a · Due to Cemetery	2,905.33
1584d · Due from Del Tax Collector	5,646.03

Total Other Current Assets	16,418.97
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Total Current Assets	116,403.12
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TOTAL ASSETS	116,403.12
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Prepaid Taxes	8,760.57
1583 · Logging Fund - REFUNDABLE DEP.	500.00
1586 · Solid Waste - REFUNDABLE DEP.	300.00
1587 · Passumpsic Bank Line of Credit	500,000.00

Total Other Current Liabilities	509,560.57
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Total Current Liabilities	509,560.57
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Long Term Liabilities

1600 · Loan - UDAG WB Renovation	32,832.78
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Total Long Term Liabilities	32,832.78
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Total Liabilities	542,393.35
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Equity

1703 · Retained Earnings	-183,315.21
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Net Income	-242,675.02
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Total Equity	-425,990.23
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	116,403.12
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TOWN GENERAL FUND PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
1445 · Adminstrative Charges	3,000.00
1450 · Education Billing Fee	5,121.69
1475 · Equilization	894.00
1500 · Current Taxes	1,027,309.29
1601 · Loan Proceeds	718,670.00
2000 · Cemetery Income	6,608.73
3000 · Clerk Fees	18,565.00
3030 · Land Record Restoration	4,238.50
3200 · Delinquent Taxes	151,489.35
3240 · Tax Sales Redemption/Sale	4,177.59
3250 · Grant	300,000.00
3251 · State Grants	13,650.00
3275 · FD Income	4,175.00
3300 · Interest Income	14,983.42
3390 · Library Income	8,766.88
3400 · Misc. Income	2,191.21
3496 · Re-Appraisal - RESERVED	7,599.00
3600 · Recreation Income	3,265.00
3645 · Masonic Hall Fees	9,600.00
3648 · Sheriff Fines	2,632.50
3649 · Trails Committee	16.00
3650 · WB Rent Fees	1,060.00
HF3030 · Miscellaneous Income	651.43
HF3032 · Driveway Permit	164.00
HF3033 · Excess Weight Permits	415.00
HF3730 · Highway Grants - Misc	1,415.71
HF3785 · State Aid	135,458.29
	2,446,117.59
Total Income	
Gross Profit	2,446,117.59
Expense	
Payroll Expenses	163,334.99
Payroll Taxes	18,602.64
4000 · Appropriations	65,105.00
4001 · Audit	11,765.00
4002 · Legal	13,046.56
4005 · Cemetery Expenses	6,608.73
4038 · Conservation Committee	204.43
4039 · Constable	1,075.14
4040 · County Tax	13,790.50
4044 · Delinquent Collector Fee	967.03
4046 · Dues & Subscriptions	7,741.03
4050 · FD Expenses	70,704.32

4091 · Fire Dept Upgrades	8,326.69
4110 · General Expense	3,019.45
4130-1 · GF Health Insurance	12,048.45
4140 · Insurance	13,378.04
4150 · Interest Expense	2,996.68
4200 · Library Operations	48,907.03
4300 · Lister	5,495.17
4350 · Appraisers	64,025.00
4370 · Main St 2466 - New Property	27,864.58
4400 · Masonic Hall	10,227.35
4500 · Meeting Elections	2,544.60
4600 · Office Expenses	8,168.12
4700 · Office Supplies	1,521.44
4800 · Planning Commission	602.29
4900 · Poundkeeper	150.00
5550 · Rec Committee Operations	14,909.08
5602 · Records Restoration - Restrict	3,092.57
6000 · SB Miscellaneous	3,969.78
6051 · Sheriff	7,793.74
6070 · Recycle Ctr	13,832.97
6150 · Tax Sale	5,988.81
6175 · Trails Comm	6,834.19
6200 · Willey Building Expense	74,320.91
6300 · Village Expenses	16,909.37
6360 · Zoning Admin	2,050.47
HF4002 · Building Maint	3,516.33
HF4004 · Chloride	15,167.12
HF4006 · Clothing Allowance	4,083.86
HF4007 · Cold Patch	1,367.10
HF4010 · Culverts	9,408.76
HF4028 · Equipment Lease	419,531.00
HF4030 · Equipment Repairs	41,290.02
HF4054 · Equipment Bond/Loan & Int.	233,572.83
HF4055 · Fuel Exp/Equipment	30,640.31
HF4060 · Garage Supplies	2,542.43
HF4061 · Gravel	64,551.75
HF4072 · GMC Sierra Truck	34.49
HF4073 · Highway Grants	14,420.87
HF4088 · Health Insurance	19,079.56
HF4089 · Hway Furnace Oil/Propane	5,233.80
HF4090 · Hired/Rental Equipment	4,090.00
HF4095 · HF Insurance	25,953.22
HF4110 · Bond Interest	7,023.15
HF4120 · Bond Principal	50,000.00
HF4130 · Loan Interest	0.00
HF4140 · Loans	200,788.02
HF4160 · Misc. Expense	2,326.75

HF4171 · New Equipment	171,134.97
HF4177 · Highway Payroll	192,250.82
HF4177a · Highway Payroll Taxes	23,674.21
HF4180 · Paving	339,829.25
HF4182 · Salt	44,574.17
HF4185 · Sand	25,200.00
HF4192 · Signs & Guardrails	682.94
HF4194 · Tire Account	2,096.64
HF4200 · Utilities	4,794.63
Total Expense	<u>2,690,781.15</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-244,663.56
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
8005 · In-Out Checks	1,988.54
Total Other Income	<u>1,988.54</u>
Net Other Income	<u>1,988.54</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-242,675.02</u></u>



Courtesy of Rollin Tebbetts

BOND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2014 HW Paving & Garage [\$500,000]					
Interest due 6-1	4,567.59	4,214.77	3,765.70	3,257.45	2,661.70
Interest due 12-1	4,567.59	4,214.77	3,765.70	3,257.45	2,661.70
Vermont Municipal Bond Principal	55,000.00	55,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Total Anticipated 2014 Bond Payment	64,135.18	63,429.54	57,531.40	56,514.90	55,323.40
2011 FD Truck Bond [\$150,000]					
Interest due 6-1	817.10	635.30	496.60	341.90	175.70
Interest due 12-1	817.10	635.30	496.60	341.90	175.70
Vermont Municipal Bond Principal	15,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total 2011 FD Truck Bond Payment	16,634.20	11,270.60	10,993.20	10,683.80	10,351.40
2008 FD Truck Bond [\$200,000]					
Interest due 6-1	593.25	300.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest due 12-1	593.25	300.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vermont Municipal Bond Principal	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 2008 FD Truck Bond Payment	16,186.50	15,601.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payment Schedule Grand Total	\$ 96,955.88	\$ 90,301.64	\$ 68,524.60	\$ 67,198.70	\$ 65,674.80



Courtesy of William Walters

REAL ESTATE INVENTORY (FY20)

Cabot School	3,000,000.00
Cabot Commons	8,200.00
Highway Department Town Garage and Salt Shed	1,000,000.00
Highway Department Grader Shed	52,500.00
Highway Department Town Garage Storage Building	26,000.00
Fire Department Fire Station	75,000.00
Houston Hill Land Fill	4,800.00
Wastewater One Family Dwelling	52,000.00
Wastewater Storage Building	125,000.00
Wastewater Sewer Treatment Building	2,110,000.00
Water Wells	30,700.00
Town Masonic Hall	262,264.00
Town Willey Memorial Building	307,000.00
Town Recreation Building	11,700.00
Cemetery Storage Buildings	5,800.00
Town 10.2 Acre Recreation Field	10,000.00
Town 40 Acre Town Forest	40,000.00
Town 4 Acre Dump	4,000.00
Town 4 Acres on US Route 2	9,000.00
Town 4 Acres and building on South Walden Road	52,000.00
Town .33 Acres on Elm Street	2,700.00
Total Real Estate	\$3,723,264.00



Courtesy of Neil Bainton

TOWN EQUIPMENT (FY20)

TOWN EQUIPMENT AND DESCRIPTION	VALUE
Cemetery Water Tank	500.00
Cemetery Small Hand Tools	550.00
Cemetery 1999 John Deere Riding Mower	1,000.00
Cemetery 2000 John Deere Riding Mower	1,000.00
Fire Department Fire Station Inventory	53,000.00
Fire Department 2011 Pierce Saber Pumper Truck	335,000.00
Fire Department 2009 GMC 5500 Rescue Truck	145,000.00
Fire Department 1999 International 4900 Tank Truck	100,000.00
Fire Department Rescue Truck Inventory	75,000.00
Fire Department Pumper Truck Inventory	30,000.00
Fire Department Tank Truck Inventory	18,000.00
Highway Department 2015 John Deere Grader	240,000.00
Highway Department 2015 John Deere Excavator	100,400.00
Highway Department 2015 Trailer	10,000.00
Highway Department 2018 Komatsu Loader	55,000.00
Highway Department 2001 International Truck and Plow	10,000.00
Highway Department 2017 International Truck and Plow	95,000.00
Highway Department 2014 Freightliner Truck & Plow	60,000.00
Highway Department 2018 Western Star Truck and Plow	114,000.00
Highway Department 2014 GMC Sierra Truck and Plow	15,000.00
Highway Department 2020 Skid Steer	40,000.00
Highway Department Plows and Sanders	5,000.00
Highway Department Chipper	2,200.00
Highway Department Chainsaws	800.00
Highway Department 2 Welders	200.00
Highway Department 2016 John Deere Riding Lawn Mower with snow blower	7,000.00
Highway Department Culvert Thawer	500.00
Highway Department Pressure Washer	1,500.00
Highway Department Generator	6,000.00
Highway Department Small Hand Tools	10,000.00
Town Clerk Office Computers/Printers	6,500.00
Town Clerk Office File Cabinets/Safes	10,000.00
Town Clerk Office Furniture/Fixtures	20,000.00
Lister's Office Computer/Printer	2,000.00
Zoning Office Computer/Printer	12,000.00
Town Library [in the Willey Memorial Building]	127,000.00
Total Equipment	\$1,478,950.00

TOWN SALARIES 2020

Brittany Butler	Lister/Zoning Admin	11,171.05
Susan Carpenter	Delinquent Tax Collector	12,066.11
Walter Churchill	Road Crew	63,652.65
John Cookson	Selet Board Member/Previous Road Comm.	8,440.00
Fred Ducharme	Selectboard Member	1,050.00
Shirley Ducharme	Custodian	10,875.81
Ruth Goodrich	Selectboard Member	1,000.00
Sidney Griggs	Road Crew	55,158.02
Michael Hogan	Selecboard Member	1,000.00
Kathleen Hoyne	Librarian	38,538.50
Jeanne Johnson	Lister	10,979.93
Michelle Leclerc	Asst. Clerk & Treasurer	48,434.63
Jacqueline Lumbra	Lister	9,839.50
Anne Miller	Library Substitute	132.00
Jessica North	Rec. Committee Coordinator	4,400.00
Aldo Nunn	Road Foreman	65,164.72
Victoria Palmer	Library Substitute	72.00
Betty Ritter	Clerk & Treasurer	48,734.65
Christina Sacalis	Library Substitute	1,116.00
Thomas Sicely	Village Maintenance	9,350.00
	TOTAL	401,175.57



Courtesy of Neil Bainton

**CABOT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
BALANCE SHEET as of JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	16,490.61
Admin Fund Checking	16,490.61
Scholarship Admin Checking Acct	394.36
Total Checking/Savings	16,884.97
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	-1,992.23
Total Accounts Receivable	-1,992.23
Total Current Assets	14,892.74

Fixed Assets

Contra Accts Receivable	1,992.23
Total Fixed Assets	1,992.23

Other Assets

WB Loan to GF	32,832.78
Trust Accounts	
Scholarship Endowment Trust Acc	221,016.25
UDAG Funds Trust Account	682,238.53
Total Trust Accounts	903,254.78
Wastewater - due 2031	405,500.00
Wastewater - 75k due 2031	75,000.00
Total Other Assets	1,416,587.56

TOTAL ASSETS

1,433,472.53

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Retained Earnings	1,841,166.01
Net Income	-407,693.48

Total Equity

1,433,472.53

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

1,433,472.53



Courtesy of Cynthia Stuart

CABOT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT as of JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Community Loan Interest Income	
Cabot Common 50K Interest	990.66
Total Community Loan Interest Income	990.66

Income From Trust & Check Accts

Bank Interest	
Scholarship Admin Checking Inte	0.20
UDAG Admin Checking Acct Int	23.57
Total Bank Interest	23.77

Scholarship Trust Earnings

realized gains/(losses)	358.14
Scholarship foreign tax withhel	-7.47
Schol Tr Ac - Chnge in Mkt Valu	9,337.60
Schol Tr Ac - Div & Int	3,217.05
Schol Tr Ac - Fees to UB	-812.22

Total Scholarship Trust Earnings	12,093.10
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UDAG Fund Tr Acct Earnings

Realized gains/(losses)	39,626.22
Foreign tax withheld	-54.98
UDAG Tr Acct - Chnge in Mkt Val	-151,728.62
UDAG Tr Acct - Div & Int	31,419.49
UDAG Tr Acct - Fees to UB	-7,460.04

Total UDAG Fund Tr Acct Earnings	-88,197.93
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Total Income From Trust & Check Accts	-76,081.06
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Loan Repayments	5,328.29
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Total Income	-69,762.11
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Expense

Debt Service - Town Garage	24,789.31
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Grants

Scholarship Grants	4,000.00
Town Meeting Grant	300,000.00
Development Grants	921.20

Total Grants	304,921.20
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Administrative Expenses

Accounting and Auditing Service	2,705.00
Postage and Delivery	-16.00

Total Administrative Expenses	2,689.00
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Loan Subsidies Paid	5,531.86
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337,931.37

Net Ordinary Income	-407,693.48
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Net Income	-407,693.48
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CABOT COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

(CCIF, formerly known as UDAG)

The purpose of the Cabot Community Investment Fund (CCIF, formerly known as UDAG) is to provide financial resources, through a fair and consistent process, to local individuals and groups for activities and projects that serve to strengthen the economic, cultural, educational, environmental, and social well-being of the Cabot community.

During the calendar year of 2020, the CCIF educational fund paid out a number of scholarships and grants. The fund also paid interest subsidies against a number of loans from the legacy Subsidized Interest program.

On Town Meeting Day, two articles of note to the CCIF fund were voted on, both of which passed:

- Article 14 authorized the Cabot Conservation Committee to receive a \$1000 grant.
- Article 15 authorized the Town of Cabot to receive \$300,000 to pay off loans for road equipment.

In early May of 2020, due to the COVID crisis and economic instability, the Select Board directed the CCIF committee to remove the fund's money from any market-facing investment accounts.

In mid-May, the Select Board directed the CCIF board to release the \$300,000 in funds allocated to the town from the fund as per the yes-vote on Article 15 on Town Meeting Day in March 2020.



Courtesy of William Walters

CEMETERY COMMISSION FINANCIAL REPORT (FY20)

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Appropriations	20,000.00
Burial Income	2,055.00
Capital Gains/Losses	-724.31
Change in Market	4,746.68
Dividend & Interest	3,308.73
Donations	100.00
Lot Sale	1,565.00
Perpetual Care	800.00

Total Income	31,851.10
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Expense

Bank Service Charges	908.15
Burial Expense	675.00
Contract	15,500.00
Insurance Expense	163.18
Misc Expense	682.50
Office Supplies	21.28
Repairs and Maintenance	1,395.00
Supplies	67.93
Fence Painting	67.93
Supplies - Other	209.55

Total Supplies	277.48
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Total Expense	19,622.59
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Net Ordinary Income	12,228.51
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Other Income/Expense

Other Income

Interest Income	7.24
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Net Other Income	7.24
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Net Income	12,235.75
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CEMETERY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

The Cabot Cemetery Commission continues to contract maintenance through Joe Mangan. Our present maintenance contract expires the end of season 2021. The commission will work on a new contract and bids will go out in September. This will give time for anyone interested to look over our cemeteries.

The commission is requesting the sum of \$20,000.00 from the town to help with the regular maintenance of the seven cemeteries.

2020 was not a very productive season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We did make some progress with the fence painting on Elm Street and we hope to complete that in the spring. Dale Walbridge did some repairs on the Elm Street fence. The fence had been badly damaged from a tree that came down in a storm. Dale did some welding repairs. Thank you, Dale Walbridge, our Cemetery fence looks so much better now.

This year we welcome new member Gwendolyn Hallsmith to the commission. We thank Ruth Goodrich for all her help and years on the Cemetery Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin Churchill, Chairman

Angela Ward, Secretary

Fred Pike

Debra Bothwell

Gwendolyn Hallsmith

EMERGENCY AMBULANCE FINANCIAL REPORT (FY20)

Beginning Balance \$25,721.26

Income:

Billing	7,516.26
Donations	150.00
Cabot Appropriation	25,000.00
EMS Grant/COVID-19	<u>1,500.00</u>

Total Income: **\$59,887.52**

Expenses:

Ambulance Repairs	1,686.18
Billing Expense	230.00
Dispatch	10,396.94
Education	1,000.00
Fuel Expense	522.00
Insurance	8,511.00
Medical Supplies	3,103.42
Dues & Subscriptions	1,094.52
Subcontractors	2,000.00
Oxygen Supplies	624.96
Trash Removal	538.15
Office, Tel & Postage	1,126.73
Stipend	3,775.00
Equipment	<u>110.00</u>

Total Expenses: 34,718.90

Ending Bank Balance **\$25,168.62**

VSECU 1 yr. CD \$20,944.42

Total Accounts **\$46,113.04**

Respectfully Submitted:
Marcy Martin, Secretary/Treasurer

CABOT EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE (FY20)

Cabot Ambulance has responded to a large variety of calls during the past year; everything from medical calls for sick people, to motor vehicle accidents, to persons with trauma or injuries of some sort, and from simple lift assists, to cardiac arrest. We have done our best to get emergency medical personnel and an ambulance to anyone who needs or requests it as quickly as we possibly can.

I would like to take a moment right now to thank all of the current members of Cabot Emergency Ambulance Service for all that they have done to help the service and respond to emergency calls, and I would like to thank Jenn Miner and Marcy Martin for their hours of time spent and dedication in helping with administrative work for the ambulance Service, and last but not least I would like to recognize and thank Kris Schmidt, one of our newer EMTs, who responded to significantly more emergency calls than anyone else on the service during this past year, and on top of that also helps me with supplies and inventory. Thank you everyone!

This past year has been difficult, trying, and stressful for many if not most people and organizations, and Cabot Ambulance was no exception. We have struggled to sufficiently staff the ambulance and cover calls before the pandemic, and are struggling even more now.

We were blessed to have all of the students from Cabot ambulance who took the EMT course through this past winter and spring pass their tests and successfully obtain their Vermont State EMT license.

However, during this past year we have also had some members who had to step down from their service with Cabot due to moving out of town or having other commitments. There were also some staffing difficulties due to members needing to quarantine at times.

When I became head of service a little over 2 years ago, there was concern that Cabot Ambulance would have to become a "fast squad" and contract out the transporting of patients to another town, but I was adamant that that should not and would not happen, because I did not feel that would be best for the residents of Cabot and was concerned about the increased response time, the amount of time that patients would have to wait to receive necessary care and also the delay in getting them to the hospital when the transporting ambulance is 25 to 40 minutes away instead of 5 to 15 minutes.

We were blessed with a fair number of new members in the first several months of 2018, but as the pandemic grew, it became (understandably) increasingly difficult to get volunteers, to say nothing of the logistics of doing appropriate training and maintaining certifications. There was a time where there were no actual EMS certification classes happening at all due to coronavirus, but fortunately those classes/training are restarted now, although they are fewer and farther between than they used to be, and more expensive. Cabot Ambulance really needs more volunteers who are willing to become trained and certified and help respond to emergency calls.

As much as I would really hate to lose Cabot Ambulance, or to see it become a non-transporting fast squad, I am afraid if we continue on the path we are currently on in terms of finances and staffing, we will no longer be able to maintain a transporting Ambulance Service in Cabot for more than another year or two. And it is not just Cabot, there are many other towns with volunteer agencies that are struggling as well; volunteerism seems to be at an all time low. It is totally understandable, but a real problem nonetheless.

If there is anyone who lives in or near Cabot and would be willing and able to help the ambulance service and your local residents when they are in need, we would love to have your help!!

If you would like an application, you can reach out to any of our officers, including myself, Jenn Miner, and Marcy Martin, and we would love to talk to you and help you get started.

The only initial certification classes scheduled right now are EMT classes taking place in Bennington Vermont, but there may be others started or scheduled during the next few months. I believe these Bennington classes are hybrid, so, while you would have to travel down there some, a good portion of the class would be online.

The start dates for the upcoming EMT classes are: February 7, April 4, and June 6. The classes are about 3 to 4 months long, and would be followed by clinical time spent doing hands-on skills and getting experience, and then testing.

If you have questions or would like further information or an application, the best way to get a hold of us would probably be through the ambulance service email that all of the officers can access: CabotambulanceVT@gmail.com. You can also email me at 1danpeterson10@gmail.com

Let's keep Cabot Ambulance going!

Daniel Peterson, President



FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

ITEM	2019 - 2020	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
	Budget	Audited	Budget Approved	Budget Request
Electricity	2500	1881	1500	2500
Building Maintenance	4500	4280	4500	6500
Supplies	850	2265	850	850
Heating Fuel	4000	2563	3000	4000
Insurance	9500	7115	7800	7500
Miscellaneous	3000	6126	1700	3000
New Equipment	7500	9466	7500	7500
Radios & Repair	1800	3147	1800	1800
Sewer/Water	1600	1340	1600	1600
Dispatch	14250	10846	14250	11750
Telephone/Tablet	0	332	0	0
Truck Fuel	1000	537	1000	1000
Equipment Repair	2000	3637	2000	2000
Truck Repair	2500	6408	2500	2500
Total	55000	59943	50000	52500

FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER FUND (FY20)

Beginning Balance , July 1, 2019		2,281.88
Income:		
Donations	1,052.00	
Breakfast Money	-	
Total Income:	1,052.00	
	Total	3,333.88
 Expenses:		
	Total Expenses:	2,991.04
 Ending Balance, June 30, 2020		342.84

Respectfully Submitted,
John Christman, Treasurer

FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

I would like to thank all Cabot residents for their continued diligence on limiting the spread of this pandemic and taking care of neighbors in a difficult time. Like so many of you, your Fire Department (CFD) had an exceedingly difficult year safely dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. With modifications per the Governor's Executive Orders and public health advice, we continued to serve Cabot and adjacent communities 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Stringent precautions were put in place early on: N100 masks were placed on every seat in every department vehicle, disinfectant bottles and wipes were made available, entry into the station was restricted to emergency response members on official business and meetings required mask wearing and social distancing. As the pandemic continued, like many others, we switched business meetings to Zoom rather than in person. Many of our members have started getting the COVID-19 vaccine as fire departments are included in category 1A of the vaccine distribution plan in Vermont.

Following these precautions, we continued to respond to calls, and conduct training outside, including checking dry hydrants, practicing operation of Village hydrants and sharpening our vehicle extrication skills. Cabot is fortunate to not only have a municipal hydrant system in the Village, but 13 dry hydrants located around the Town. They provide a convenient source of water for firefighting, saving lives, property and even lowering your home insurance rates. We are very appreciative of landowners who have allowed us to install these dry hydrants but also folks who have helped keep them plowed, shoveled out and accessible in the winter.

Fire calls in 2020 consisted of: 73 calls - 19 alarm activation's, 21 motor vehicle accidents, 9 fires within the home, 11 brush fires, 1 rescue from the woods and 12 misc. calls- lockout, good intent, alarm service calls, etc.

Although our annual pancake breakfast was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, we continue to sell green E-911 signs for your house or driveway entrance. These signs are vital for fire and ambulance personnel to locate your residence, particularly at night or in heavy rain or snow.

We are fortunate to have and maintain good equipment, but we are now at a point where we will have to replace our 21-year-old tanker, as 20 years is the standard acceptable lifespan of fire apparatus. There are several options we are looking into to best fit the needs of our town. A committee from our members will be carefully exploring all options.

As your Fire Chief, I wish to thank all of our firefighters who give so much of their time and energy serving our town without any pay. We are all volunteers, and it is never easy to rush out on a fire call in the middle of supper or at 2 AM on a cold winter night. We are always looking for members, including anyone willing to help with non-emergency activities-basic maintenance of trucks and equipment or other skills. We would be grateful to have you join us. Please feel free to contact me at Chief@Cabotfiredept.com

Be Safe,
Respectfully submitted,
Walter Bothfeld Jr

LIBRARY INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

	2019 - 2020 Budget	2019 - 2020 Audited	2020 - 2021 Approved	2021 - 2022 Request
INCOME				
Appropriation - Town	80,000	80,000	85,470	85,469
Total Income	80,000	80,000	85,470	85,469
EXPENSES				
Payroll	37,961	39,465	39,099	41,054
Payroll Taxes	4,423	4,633	4,575	5,033
Books - Adult	2,860	3,284	3,289	3,625
Books - Juvenile	1,936	1,862	2,226	2,450
Books - Audio / Video	1,980	1,889	1,980	1,800
Books - News/Magazines	500	487	500	500
Custodial	870		870	870
Dues & Subscriptions	425	876	1,080	1,500
Equipment	200	628	200	200
Library World	475	450	475	475
Maintenance	200	934	200	200
Mileage	75	-	75	75
Miscellaneous		-	50	50
Postage	1,000	453	1,000	1,100
Programs	2,000	2,100	2,000	1,594
Substitutes	1,700	-	1,700	2,100
Supplies	400	484	400	420
Telephone & Internet	1,300	691	1,300	1,500
Training	100	-	100	100
Insurance	1,400	1,178	1,480	1,500
Insurance - Health	20,285	21,229	23,950	19,323
Total Expenses	80,090	80,643	86,549	85,469



Courtesy of Kathleen Hoyne

CABOT PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

The Library Trustees and I would like to express our deepest gratitude to Cabot Library patrons and all town residents for their continued support and patience during these trying times. The Cabot Public Library remains a very busy place, especially throughout the pandemic, as people seek connection during this period of isolation. Since May 4th, the library has been open for curbside service, interlibrary loans, providing access to free audio/ebooks, printing services and broadband access via Wi-Fi that serves the public areas around the building. Outdoor pop-up library sessions were offered while the weather permitted throughout the summer and fall. We look forward to opening again for in-person visits as soon as the Select Board considers it safe to open the Willey Building to the public.

During this time of restricted building access, we've taken the opportunity to make some improvements. Thanks to a generous bequest from Kathryn Welsh, we had beautiful new cherry shelving installed in the reading room, matching the shelving in the main library room and greatly expanding the amount of space available to house our growing collection. The superb job was completed this past summer by Jon Deerfield, from Real Tree Woodworking. Funds from this bequest also enabled us to purchase two new computers, three new computer desks, and a set of new drapes. Additionally, thanks to the volunteer efforts of John Grosvenor, and Paul and Beth Wade, the floors and windowsills were refinished. Many thanks also to the Steinert/Sacalis family and Linda/Jeff Gabrielson for their work refinishing tables, shelving books, setting up and installing the new computer stations and moving furniture.

We are excited to announce that the Cabot Public Library was recently awarded a 2020-2021 CLiF (Children's Literacy Foundation) Rural Libraries Grant, which provides our library with \$2,000 worth of new children's books, will support fall and spring programs for elementary school students with free book giveaways, and provide an additional \$500 toward book purchases for the school library.

As we are unable to host our youngest patrons in person, Beth Wade, our Story Hour volunteer secured a \$3,000 grant from the American Library Association for a program entitled "Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries". The program will take place during the winter months of 2021 and will include collaborations with the Cabot Community Theater to produce video productions of well-loved children's stories. Art-based activity packets will also be created and offered to families to help parents keep their children engaged during the coming months.

We are also pleased to announce that we are now able to offer improved broadband coverage in the Willey Building parking area through the installation of a WiFi extender, which provides a stronger signal (extending up to 400 feet) and better service outside the building. This was made possible free of charge through the Vermont Department of Public Service. Visitors can connect to the "Cabot Hotspot" free of charge, and no password is required.

Before the pandemic reached us last year, we were fortunate to host a variety of successful in-person programs. Many thanks to David Carpenter for organizing monthly Contra dances, Christyn King for Saturday morning Yoga, and Beth Wade and Mary Lou DeLacy for weekly Story Hours for our preschoolers. Special thanks to Ama Peyman, Anne Miller and Netdahe Stoddard for developing a series of programs to celebrate Black History Month last February. Vermont authors, poets and musicians all came together for unforgettable evenings of celebration. We also participated in the Vermont Reads program based on *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas which featured a book discussion and film screening. Despite the pandemic, we were able to continue with Community Book/Discussion meetings held monthly, via Zoom. The Vermont Humanities Council sponsored a themed series entitled *The Seven Deadly Sins*. As usual, the Library also offered a summer reading program, *Imagine Your Story!* which included the delivery of activity packets with new colored pencils to all elementary school children.

My deepest thanks to the Cabot Library Trustees who went above and beyond this past year as they navigated uncharted territory with Library operations during the pandemic. Thanks also to the Friends of the Library for

their donation of a new laptop computer and to the many volunteers who spend countless hours helping in a myriad of ways.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kathleen Hoyne,
 Library Director

LIBRARY COMPUTER GRANT FUND

Beginning Balance, June 1, 2019			10,690.20
Income:			
	Interest	8.52	
	Donations	8,758.36	
	Summer Program	0.00	
	Replacement Books	0.00	
	Total	8,766.88	
Expense:			
	Books	226.60	
	Equipment	11,345.00	
	Miscellaneous	783.77	
	Postage	6.32	
	Total	12,361.69	
Ending Balance, June 30, 2020			7,095.39

RECREATION DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

INCOME	2019 - 2020	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
	Budget	Audited	Budget Approved	Proposed Budget
Town Budget	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	8,000
Rec Fund	2,408.32	3,273.06	1,628.98	1,629
Fees	3,500.00	3,265.00	3,200.00	3,500
Total Income	15,908	16,538	14,829	13,129
EXPENSES				
Coordinator	5,200	5,167	5,200	5,200
Electric	300	269	300	300
Water	400	440	400	400
Wastewater	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Porta Potties	500	500	625	625
Miscellaneous	600	21	600	600
Facility Repairs	500	130	500	500
Girls on the Run	500	-	-	
Little League	700	-	-	
Lacrosse	1,000	-	-	
Skating Rink	1,000	936	1,000	-
Soccer	800	2,092	1,900	1,800
Summer Camp	1,000	300	1,000	600
Field Repairs(Ditching done by Cabot)	500	2	500	-
Insurance	200	1,110	200	200
Basketball	200	2,141	1,550	1,100
Supplies	-		-	
Total Expenses	15,200	14,909	15,575	13,125



Courtesy of Lynn Lehoe

RECREATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

The mission of the Cabot Recreation Committee is to provide all community residents, both young and old, access to a variety of recreational activities and events. We would like to thank the volunteer community members and those who have helped make these opportunities available for our local children and neighbors year after year. Special thanks should go out to the taxpayers of the town for your continued support. Without you, our programs would not be possible.

Highlights of our activities from the past year include:

The skating rink: This continues to be a wonderful addition to the community. Susan Socks and family, along with many other community volunteers, build and maintain the rink for everyone to enjoy. There is not a day that goes by when the rink is up and running that you won't see people of all ages out skating, playing hockey, etc. An informal estimate has the skating rink as one of our most utilized recreational assets.

Youth Basketball and Soccer: Throughout the year we continue to organize soccer and basketball. The fall soccer and winter basketball programs are K through 6th grade. On average year to year, we see 25 to 50 kids a season or even more come out to play a given sport. The various tasks involved to coordinate soccer and basketball are: field upkeep, scheduling practices and games in coordination with the school, finding volunteers to coach and referee and keep the clock and scoreboard, communication with coaches, schools, parents, ordering supplies equipment, and uniforms, and even filling in as a coach if needed.

Summer Camps: For several years now, we have offered summer camps and clinics for children involving sports, the arts, and life skills where volunteers have been available. Summer camps were not available for Summer 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions; however, we're hopeful to continue this program for Summer 2021.

The Rec Committee is always looking for volunteers! Please consider joining!

Respectfully submitted- Jessica North

Committee Members:

Cam North

Jess North

Brock Miller

Mary Saggerson

Stefanie Burt

WASTEWATER FUND INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

ITEM	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	Budget	Actual	Budget Approved	Budget Proposed
Administrative Costs	9,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
Audit/Legal Fee	4,200	2,705	3,000	3,000
Bond Interest	6,448	13,311	12,664	11,586
Bond Principal	27,960	24,182	21,926	22,788
VT EPA Loan	3,085	-	3,085	3,085
Capital Investment	16,100	-	-	
Capital Expense	28,000	3,144	-	
Electric/Pump Stations	3,200	2,924	4,000	4,000
Electric/Treatment Plant	17,000	16,637	22,000	18,000
Engineering	4,000	454	500	500
Fire Alarm Monitoring	500	539	500	550
Gas	3,500	9,129	5,000	8,000
Generator Maintenance	100	-	1,000	1,000
Grounds Maintenance			-	
Improvements - Plant	2,000	4,255	1,500	2,000
Insurance - Plant	6,330	4,825	2,000	5,000
Mileage				500
Miscellaneous - Plant	2,000	1,318	500	1,000
Operation Contract	53,900	57,735	64,439	67,000
Permit Fee	400	200	2,500	200
Postage	200	35	200	100
Repairs	7,000	22,017	7,000	7,000
Sludge Removal	12,000	24,441	12,000	12,000
Supplies	7,000	2,336	8,000	3,000
Telephone	1,400	2,732	2,000	2,800
Testing Service	200	150	4,500	200
Wastewater Annual Fee	900	1,125	900	1,000
TOTAL	216,423	195,194	180,214	179,310

INCOME	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
	2019-2020	2019-2020	Approved 2020-2021	Proposed 2021-2022
Income - User Fees	153,000	159,684	163,908	176,370 *
Capital expense draw	28,000		17,000	4,000
Interest Income		2.96		
Reserve Draw for Debt service	36,000			
misc. income		(14,134)		
	<u>217,000</u>	<u>145,552</u>	<u>180,908</u>	<u>180,370</u>
Income/Deficit		(49,642)		

*Starting 07/01/2021 we will increase the rates from \$235 to \$250

WASTEWATER FUND BALANCE SHEET
as of JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)

ASSETS

Current Assets

 Checking/Savings

WW Checking Acct - People's Bk	1.35
Public Works - Passumpsic Bank	94.26
WW Union Bank-Acct-1202	396,075.00

 Total Checking/Savings 396,170.61

 Accounts Receivable

 1200 · Accounts Receivable 250.00

 Total Accounts Receivable 250.00

 Other Current Assets

 1499 · Undeposited Funds 4,064.13

 Total Other Current Assets 4,064.13

Total Current Assets 400,484.74

Fixed Assets

 Contra Accts Receivable -250.00

Total Fixed Assets -250.00

TOTAL ASSETS 400,234.74

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

 Current Liabilities

 Other Current Liabilities

 Due To Town 7,867.61

 Due to Water 1,164.24

 Total Other Current Liabilities 9,031.85

 Total Current Liabilities 9,031.85

 Long Term Liabilities

 Loan - UDAG 405,500.00

 Loan - UDAG #2 75,000.00

 Total Long Term Liabilities 480,500.00

Total Liabilities 489,531.85

Equity

 3900 · Retained Earnings -39,655.01

 Net Income -49,642.10

Total Equity -89,297.11

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 400,234.74

WATER FUND INCOME AND EXPENSE

ITEM	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
	Budget	Actual	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
Administrative Costs	2,000	2,000.00	1,000	5,000
Audit/Legal Fee	800	864.00	1,000	1,000
Bond Payment 1999	27,734	27,733.63	27,542	27,734
Water Line Loan		1,082.50	27,734	6,400
Chlorination		2,370.00		
Electricity	5,000	3,155.41	4,000	4,000
Equipment	1,000	123.30	200	200
Engineering				
Insurance	1,500	631.94	400	650
Interest Expense			900	900
Mileage				500
Miscellaneous	400	32.00	300	300
Operation Contract	6,700	7,128.19	7,000	9,500
Permit Fee	800	619.92	2,500	2,500
Postage	200	184.51	250	250
Propane	500	529.18	400	600
Repairs	5,000	455.06	5,000	2,000
Capital Investment	4,000	-		4,000
Capital Expense	1,000	-		
Sample Testing	300	1,767.50	300	5,300
Supplies	400	68.96	200	200
Telephone	900	602.40	600	650
TOTAL	58,234	49,348.50	79,326	71,683

Income	2019-2020	2019-2020	Approved Budget	Proposed Budget
	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
User Fees	65,000	63,739.38	67,000	72,847 *
bond loan income				
capital draw	4,000		13,000	
Interest		21.82		
Del 8% Collect Fee				
Misc.		50.00		
	69,000	63,811.20	80,000	72,847

Income/Deficit 14,462.70

*Starting 7/1/2021 we will increase monthly base fee to \$130

**WATER FUND BALANCE SHEET
as of JUNE 30, 2020 (FY20)**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Checking - (675068496)	16,739.48
Checking - Passumpsic Reserve	17,999.30
Checking Passumpsic #4763	<u>30,848.29</u>

Total Checking/Savings 65,587.07

Other Current Assets

Undeposited Funds 2,609.16

Total Other Current Assets 2,609.16

Total Current Assets 68,196.23

Other Assets

Due from Wastewater 1,164.24

Total Other Assets 1,164.24

TOTAL ASSETS 69,360.47

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Retained Earnings 55,186.19

Net Income 14,547.70

Total Equity 69,733.89

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 69,733.89



Courtesy of Cynthia Stuart

WATER & WASTEWATER FUND CAPITAL BUDGET 2021-2031

Wastewater System Capital Expenses

		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
Membrane	3 on 12 yr. cycle		28,000			30,000			30,000		
PLC Controller											
Aerators		1,500					1,500				1,500
Cover Sludge Tank											
UV Units	3 on 15 yr. cycle				12,000				12,000		
Pump Stations		1,000		2,000		5,000		6,000		6,000	
Total Per Year		2,500	28,000	2,000	12,000	35,000	1,500	6,000	42,000	6,000	1,500

\$14,700 minimum yearly sinking fund

Water System Capital Expenses

		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
Water Meters	105 @ 5 per year	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125	1,125
Hydrants		2,500		2,500		2,500		2,500		2,500	
Curb Stops		1,200		1,200		1,200		1,200		1,200	
Pumps - Valves			3,000				3,000				
Total Per Year		4,825	4,125	4,825	1,125	4,825	4,125	4,825	1,125	4,825	1,125

\$3,093 minimum yearly sinking fund



WATER/WASTEWATER ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

We wish to thank Utility Partners for continuing to do a fine job for our town during a difficult year. They have gone above and beyond for us in many ways.

We have had a number of breakdowns & repairs to both water and wastewater systems due to the age of the systems and normal upkeep. This is likely to be a common issue, as the systems continue to age. Due to the lack of a reserve fund available in this department to use for these repairs, it has had to be passed onto the users of the systems.

The paving was completed at the bottom of Danville Hill which was one of the final pieces of the waterline project.

Mandatory testing for both the water system and the wastewater plant will unavoidably be part of our future and we are budgeting accordingly.

We continue to remind you that if you are on the wastewater system, you cannot have a sump pump hooked into the system. Please find an alternate method of disposal of your water. It might seem like just a little bit and not make much difference, but in a wet spring if we have another inundation issue, it severely aggravates the situation and can result in higher user fees for everyone. Please be considerate of this and help us in this effort.

Thank you for your understanding and tolerance as the water was chlorinated by State of Vermont mandate during the early days of the Covid-19 epidemic.

We are in the process of creating a user's guide of information for new applicants for the water and wastewater system.

It has been a privilege to serve you for the past year as Superintendent and appreciate your input.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Goodrich

Water/ Wastewater Superintendent

RECORD OF 2020 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGES

Births

02/18/2020	Charles Richard Hook
02/21/2020	Claire Marie Brandt
03/02/2020	Rio Davis Wheeler
03/30/2020	Luca Dean Cipriano
04/24/2020	Bryce Albie Ackermann
06/08/2020	Annabelle Grace DeForge
07/14/2020	Joshua David McClain
07/24/2020	Faye Frances Randolph
08/13/2020	Jasper Jacob Golden
09/20/2020	Penelope Grace Otto
11/19/2020	Landon Max Savage
12/06/2020	Carter Bradley Bell

Deaths

03/19/2020	Barbara J. Morse
03/28/2020	Robert W. Goodwin
04/03/2020	Charles H. Bothfeld
05/01/2020	Anna Marie Chase
05/21/2020	Lucinda Gruner
06/04/2020	Otto Deiter Trautz
06/20/2020	Laureen Arena
07/21/2020	Peter John Ackermann
08/01/2020	Mary Alice Kinney
08/27/2020	Roger K. Walker
11/19/2020	Frederick K. Brown

Marriages

06/20/2020	Raymond Leonard McIntyre to Sarah Anne Halpine
09/26/2020	Kayla Rose Churchill to John-Walter Morey Miner
10/10/2020	Kaitlyn Alice Tellier to Katelyn Elizabeth Biron
10/10/2020	Jennifer Jayne Golden to Jacob Leo Golden

Courtesy of Neil Bainton





P.O. Box 245
Cabot, VT 05647
Info@CabotVermont.org
802-279-4309

A lot has changed since Town Meeting Day in March 2020. We know many of you are working through the effects of the pandemic and the CCA appreciates every act performed by community members to help our community make it through this challenging time. Our resilience, persistence and kindness will surely help us come out a stronger community on the other side.

The work of the not-for-profit CCA certainly changed this year, since we could not host any events or in person meetings, but our board, staff and volunteers remain committed to enhancing the quality of community life for residents, visitors and those doing business in Cabot. We are pleased to share our accomplishments in 2020 and our goals for 2021.

In 2020, our work included:

- Supporting *The Cabot Chronicle* advisory board and advertising sales staff as we continued publication throughout the pandemic. The Cabot Select Board questioned whether *The Chronicle* should become an online publication in an effort to save money. The CCA conducted a reader survey, which indicated overwhelming support to continue the printed version. Of 121 survey participants, 82% indicated support for a printed copy of *The Chronicle*.
- Working with Cabot not-for-profits and organizations to organize and strengthen the Cabot 4th of July Celebration to promote the entire local economy [Due to COVID-19 this event was cancelled, but planning work occurred from December 2019-May 2020];
- Expanding the Cabot Fall Foliage event to provide opportunities for local businesses to sell their products and artists to share their work [Due to COVID-19 this event was cancelled, but planning work occurred from January – June 2020];
- Organizing an inventory of producers into an online directory for customers to find products locally. COVID-19 has further heightened interest in buying local food and fiber products. There are many producers of both in the Cabot area, who are seeking to get their products to customers. This project will create an easier means to connect the two - a step beyond the more haphazard Front Porch Forum and the individual websites that are useful when people know producers exist. Additional tasks included fundraising and grant writing to support this project.
- Working with the CCA Economic Development Work Group including meetings with a consultant (with assistance from the VT Housing and Conservation Board) on the re-use of the 3065 Main Street property.
- Providing bookkeeping, administrative assistance and grant research for Cabot volunteer organizations, who, because of their affiliation with the CCA, can solicit tax-deductible donations. These organizations include: Northeast Kingdom Warriors Soccer Program, Cabot Community Theater, Friends of the Cabot Public Library, Cabot Mentoring, Ride the Ridges, and Cabot's 4th of July Celebration, allowing these groups to concentrate on their activities rather than administrative and governmental paperwork.
- Hosting weekly conference calls during the "stay at home orders" for those that sought extra support. These calls have evolved into weekly emergency management calls to identify potential risks and locate resources.
- Providing assistance to groups and businesses with determining COVID protocol and linking them with financial assistance provided by the state.
- Initiating a community conversation about safe protocol for Halloween and drafting and distributing materials outlining public health guidance. In addition, the CCA partnered with the Cabot Public Library to host a Halloween photo contest. The CCA provided the nine prizes totaling \$170.

- Assisted Cabot Creamery in the opening of their new Farmers Store by providing support for local vendors to sell their goods.
- Promoting and administering CCA grants to Cabot not for profits and grass roots organizations.
- Represented the not-for-profit sector on the planning committee for the Washington Co. Covid-19 Governor's Forum

As we look ahead, we anticipate undertaking the following additional tasks in 2021:

- Preparing for July 4 and Fall Foliage in the hopes we will be allowed to congregate or create a viable alternative celebration.
- Launching a Cabot Marketing Association comprised of business owners and interested community members to better promote Cabot to potential homeowners and travelers.
- Endeavoring to build fundraising and advertising potential to support publication The Cabot Chronicle in print and monthly
- Continuing to research and share fundraising sources and COVID-19 relief funding as it becomes available.
- Revising the CCA website to better represent the vitality and diversity of Cabot to attract new homeowners and business owners.

We welcome new volunteers and new ideas. If you are interested in being involved in any projects mentioned above or in joining the CCA Board of Directors, please contact us.

Respectfully submitted by the CCA Board of Directors:

Paul Wade, President

Frank Kampf, Vice President

Jan Westervelt, Treasurer

Jeannie Johnson, Secretary

Roz Daniels

R.D. Eno

Susan Robinson

Lori Augustyniak, Exec. Director

Cabot Community Association Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020

Income	CCA Administration	The Cabot Chronicle	
Advertising, Subscriptions		925	
Charitable contribution	15,037		
Appropriation	13,000	10,000	
PPP Loan	3,992	1,798	
Grants	500	500	
Total Income	32,529	13,223	45,752

Expenses	CCA Administration	The Cabot Chronicle	
Administrative expenses	8,311	32	
Insurance	3,808		
Economic Development Projects			
CCIF loan payments, taxes, municipal fees	4,265		
Cabot Community Fund Grants	6,070		
Printing & Postage		3,358	
Payroll	17,078	10,455	
Total Expense	39,532	13,845	53,377

Net Income	-7,003	-622	-7,625
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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT (FY20)

The Conservation Committee received a Town Meeting Grant last year to enhance our knowledge of ecologically significant natural communities in town in order to help residents better enjoy and steward their land. We hired a consulting ecologist, Matt Peters, to work with the committee and landowners to conduct field work and other analysis to identify these areas. A total of 45 landowners granted permission for Matt to visit their properties for field identification work. Given the limits of funding available, we were able to visit 29 of these. Twenty-two natural community occurrences of state or local significance were identified and visited – these included northern white cedar swamps, northern white cedar seepage forest, northern seepage forest, sweet gale shoreline swamp, intermediate fen, and rich northern hardwood forest, red oak-northern hardwood forest, and temperate acidic cliff, among others. This information was shared with landowners. A public presentation of the results was held remotely in November. Both a recording of the public presentation and the final written report will be made available on the town web site. This natural community's study is a goal in the Town Plan. We hope to find additional funding to continue the work in the future.

The Conservation Committee began a collaborative project, Water Wise Woodlands – Phase 2, with Marshfield and Plainfield Conservation Commissions, Friends of the Winooski, Central VT Regional Planning Commission, and Vermont Woodlands Association. The goal of this project is to educate and assist landowners in the three towns on management strategies to enhance the capacity of forests and woodlands to absorb rain waters and reduce flooding potential. We hope the project can also lead to more plantings of vegetative buffers along rivers and streams.

The Committee is planning to become a partner with Plainfield and Marshfield in their annual conservation plant sale. In this way, Cabot residents can have easier access to purchasing native trees and shrubs for attracting wildlife, preventing erosion, and reducing the spread of invasive plants.

Respectfully Submitted by the Conservation Committee

Cedric Alexander, Dawn Andrews, Chris Duff, Roland Payne, Jr., Jim Wolynetz

CABOT TRAILS COMMITTEE (FY20)

Initiated in May 2019, the Trails Committee completed its Municipal Planning Grant project in September 2020. Utilizing the services of Central VT Regional Planning Commission, we engaged the public in an effort to plan a course of action – an implementation plan – to guide our future efforts in developing a recreational trail network on public and private lands and roads. We encourage you to read the Plan that can be found on the Town's web site.

We are completing a trail network at the Talbert Farm and adjacent properties that will connect to the village and provide year-round opportunities for hiking, biking, and skiing. A special thanks to Chuck Talbert for his help in making this happen. We are excited to learn that the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail that passes through the northern part of Cabot will be completed in two years. The Trails Committee is improving trails in the Town Forest and is working to complete sections of the Cabot Winter Trail that Rolf Muench, a former Cabot resident worked on nearly two decades ago. In the coming year, we will be looking for trail stewards that can assist us in maintaining and improving trails. If you are interested in helping with trail maintenance, please contact any Trails Committee member.

The Trails Committee meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM and we encourage public participation.

Respectfully Submitted by the Trails Committee

Andy Gilbert, Dana Glazier, Gary Gulka, Gwen Hallsmith, Kris Schmitt, Michael Socks, Paul Wade

CVFIBER ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

CVFiber is a municipal organization much like a multi-town school or solid waste district, representing twenty Central Vermont communities, including Cabot. CVFiber's mission is to ensure everyone in its member towns has access to internet speeds of at least 100 Mbps (megabits per second) for both uploading and downloading data. Currently, many Central Vermont residences and businesses located outside more populous areas have limited access to high-speed broadband. This limited broadband availability has been highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic as students and employees shifted to remote learning and working. Slow internet access stifles economic development, creates public safety risks, limits access to telehealth services, reduces property values, and hampers residents' abilities to access common online services.

Beginning in 2019 and culminating in 2020, CVFiber conducted a community survey regarding the current state of broadband, experiences with internet providers, and future interest in offerings. Through the survey, CVFiber collected valuable information on a wide variety of topics to help guide its high-speed broadband planning.

CVFiber plans to begin building out its fiber optic network in the spring of 2021. We welcome your engagement and feedback to help us achieve this goal. Please reach out to your community representative and visit our website, cvfiber.net, or our Facebook page for the latest developments and progress toward accomplishing this momentous goal.

Respectfully submitted,

R.D. Eno (rdeno@fairpoint.net)

Cabot delegate to the CVFiber Governing Board

Courtesy of Neil Bainton



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FY20)

2020 was a year to go down in the books for many reasons. For many of us who focus on first response, emergency management and public service, the year provided an opportunity.

Just days after being appointed as the Emergency Management Director (EMD) for the Town of Cabot, the state of Vermont had its first confirmed case of COVID-19. The timing of this could not have been more opportune for a new EMD. The first order of business was reviewing and rewriting the Town's Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP). Generally, when doing the annual review of the document, we tend to focus more along the lines of a natural disaster because they are more common, of course, than a global pandemic. With the timing of this pandemic, it allowed me to review and adjust our LEMP to build a robust team of volunteers and a team to support the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), should we need to activate. It required us to think about non-congregate sheltering and alternative plans because of the pandemic.

The primary focus of Emergency Management in 2020 was community outreach and education related to COVID-19. Education topics from wearing a mask to comply with Governor Scott's Mask mandate, to social distancing, to alternative meeting venues to keep our community as safe as possible. We continue to prepare for the "what if" situation if the virus becomes more prevalent in our community, as well as prepare for the potential spread of new strains of the virus as they are identified. We communicate information about COVID-19 testing opportunities, when and how the vaccines will be distributed and changes in the guidelines to ensure we are all doing our part for a safe community.

In addition to COVID-19 preparation, we were still faced with potential weather impacts, as well as other emergency management situations that came up during the calendar year. There has been successful collaboration between the Cabot Select board, the Town Clerk, local businesses and Vermont Emergency Management to ensure our community needs are being met at both the local and state levels.

I am thankful to the Town of Cabot Select Board for the opportunity to serve the Cabot community in this capacity.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Miner
Emergency Management Director



LISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

A State-mandated town-wide reappraisal was conducted July 2019 to August 2020. The appraisal company began work in July in the usual, professional, industry- approved manner, inspecting properties by appointment, evaluating houses from inside and out, checking measurements for every structure. Then the pandemic hit hard in March. The town office closed to the public March 16, 2020, by order of the Governor. No more inside inspections. Maintaining distance from property owners. Listers unable to work side-by-side with Appraisers. The rules changed.

All the same, Listers and Appraisers did their best to place an accurate market value on each parcel, working only from the outside of buildings, sometimes over the phone, in time to meet deadlines. The 2020 property tax bills reflected these 2020 reappraised values.

What Was Accomplished?

- Reappraisal Contractor: Vermont Appraisal Company
- Cost of Reappraisal: \$71,775
- Number of Parcels Appraised: 868
- 2019 Grand List (before reappraisal): \$1,755,942.96*
- 2020 Grand List (after reappraisal): \$1,771,531.96*

**All real and personal estate is set in the grand list at one percent of its listed value on April 1 of the year of appraisal*

Exemptions:

- 29 Cabot nontaxable parcels (church, school, historical society, town properties)
- 4 State nontaxable parcels (Coits Pond, West Hill Pond, GMP fishing accesses & Molly's Falls Pond)
- 13 Veterans exemption parcels (\$40,000 reduction in each parcel taxable value)
- 149 Current Use parcel reductions totaling 13,516 acres and \$18,452,300 reduction in taxable value (reimbursed by State)
- Solar Array (\$466,700 value not taxable)

Following State guidelines to minimize virus spread to property owners and appraisers, many "best estimates" were used when eyes-on evaluation is the standard. Because of that, we worry about missing or incorrect data, which may affect the accuracy of this reappraisal. The last Cabot town-wide reappraisal was conducted in 2005/2006; we would like to get similar value from this year's effort to put off the expense of another reappraisal for as long as possible by keeping accurate data.

To that end, we invite property owners to become familiar with their appraisal data, review it for correctness, and discuss it with Listers. Until we can do that in person, email us at Lister@fairpoint.net and ask for your lister card. We can then review it together over the phone. Listers may also reach out to property owners to confirm our data. Working together to make our Grand List accurate and reflect market value will help preserve the taxpayers' reappraisal investment and put off the time we have to go through this again.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Committee Report

The NEKWMD finished 2020 by processing less recycling compared to 2019 – 2,211 tons in 2020 compared to 2,615 tons in 2019. Significant drops in mixed paper and plastic were responsible for most of the decline. A few items, including food scraps, tires, and cardboard saw increases in tonnage. E-Waste, glass, and battery tonnages were approximately the same as 2019. Recycling markets remained stable but low throughout most of 2020.

The District ended 2020 with a deficit of \$8,338.22. Revenues in 2020 were 5% above projections. While budgeted expenses were 6% above projections. The COVID19 pandemic did disrupt our work schedule for several weeks in the spring, but it does not appear to have impacted the District significantly over the course of the entire year. Legal fees and truck repairs were the primary drivers of the deficit in 2020. The pandemic will impact our budget process for 2021. The 2021 budget will be approved by the NEKWMD Board of Supervisors and not a direct vote by District members. This is a temporary one-year change directly related to changes in Town Meeting Day.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2020. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2021 with a proposed budget of \$809,527 – an increase of 1.85% compared to 2020. Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the District's 2021 budget will be acted upon by the District Board of Supervisors at their regularly scheduled meeting on March 9, 2021. The District sought and received a one-time legislative remedy in order to act on the budget internally. There will be 2 additional public hearings to receive input on the 2021 proposed budget. These meetings will be held via ZOOM on February 18 and 25, 2021 at 6pm.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and three part-time employees in 2020. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 47,600 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

2020 proved to be a challenging year beyond most anything any of us could imagine. It was no different for the Planning Commission for the Town of Cabot.

We started the calendar year off with a full panel of members, lost members including our long time Chair Charles "Chuck" Marian, recommended and accepted multiple new members, and continued to meet virtually weathering the pandemic in the safest ways possible.

In 2020 our group worked to clarify some terms located in the zoning regulations by developing a working group to focus on these between meetings. We reviewed the shoreline zoning regulations, formed a second working group to prepare to survey the community for the next revision of the Town plan that is due in a few short years, and participated in virtual trainings to ensure that all of our members are educated in their roles as members of the Planning Commission for the town of Cabot. With the assistance of the Town Clerk Betty Ritter the planning commission has also been able to put together master binders for each planning commission member that includes the historical planning commission information, the current plan, and supporting documents that will help streamline future planning, projects, and discussion. Having this information available will make the groups process significantly more efficient going forward especially in these times of virtual meetings.

Looking toward 2021 the planning commission is striving to finish definition revisions, complete the shoreline zoning recommendations, form a survey for the next version of the Town plan, and look at subdivision zoning. The planning commission will continue to evaluate its role in this changing world to make sure town planning will be reflective of the town's priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Miner, Chair
Bobby Searles, Vice Chair
Dawn Andrews, Member
Kate Chatot, Member
Brittany Butler, Member
Richard Lacelle, Member
Glenn Goodrich, Member

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

This year was challenging for everyone, including here at the Zoning Office. This year we had 51 permits pulled, which is a little more than usual, but nothing extreme: 6 new residences, 8 garages (rebuilt and/or new), 16 agricultural permits, greenhouses, and sheds, 13 decks and additions and 8 miscellaneous permits. Please contact the office BEFORE you begin your project. Depending on the project, and if state permits or board approvals are required, or not, determines the amount of time needed to approve/deny a permit that has been submitted. Permit application's can be found on-line at Cabotvt.us under forms. This year the fee for a zoning permit was raised from \$17.00 to \$40.00. Permits are valid for one year, if work has not begun within a year the permit is void, once work has started the permit is valid until complete. I hope that this year is less challenging for all of us. Have a great year. Don't hesitate to call or e-mail the office with any questions or concerns you may have 563-2041 ZAcabot@fairpoint.net.

Thank you,

Brittany Butler

SENIOR CITIZENS ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

Because of the pandemic during 2020 the Seniors were unable to have meetings and dinners. The total spending was \$60.00.

We will not ask for an appropriation this year as our balance is \$1,111.73.

Erma Perry
Treasurer



Courtesy of Bobby Searles

TREE WARDEN ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

Emerald Ash Borer now confirmed in Cabot

During December 2020, the Town of Cabot was added to the confirmed area of Emerald Ash Borer infestation. The infestation has now expanded to include the South end of Cabot along the Marshfield/Cabot Town Line. The EAB infestation will likely continue to slowly spread Northward further into Cabot at approximately one and half miles each year. For residents in the affected area this means you should identify Ash trees in yards and along driveways that will become hazardous when the trees succumb to the EAB infestation. Removal of trees as soon as there are signs of EAB infestation is advisable. Ash trees infested with EAB become very brittle and dangerous to remove within about two years. Reading the February article 'Advice from the Tree Warden' in the Cabot Chronicle will be helpful identifying trees infested with EAB. The article also includes a link to the VT Invasive website with photos of Ash trees dying from EAB infestation. If Ash trees are taken down due to infestation, all wood from the Ash trees should remain in the infested area. Moving Ash that has visible signs of EAB infestation is not advisable; the State of Vermont is trying to slow the spread of EAB.

Roland Payne, Jr., Tree Warden



Courtesy of Neil Bainton

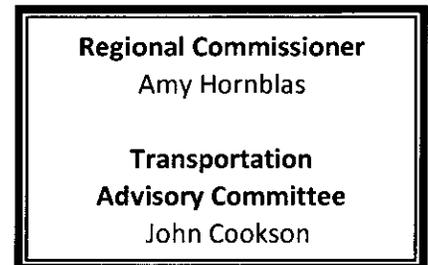
CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

2020 ANNUAL REPORT -- TOWN OF CABOT

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission is a consortium of 23 towns and cities in Washington County and western Orange County. The Commission provides planning, development, and project implementation assistance to communities. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners.

2020 Cabot Activities

- ❖ Conducted training in QGIS to assist with parcel data management.
- ❖ Supported participation in ICS 402 and Emergency Management Director course.
- ❖ Provided COVID assistance regarding emergency health orders for municipal building use and state contact for facial coverings purchase.
- ❖ Assisted with Local Emergency Plan update including development and adoption of permission form for inter-municipal information sharing.
- ❖ Developed a Trails Master Plan in partnership with the Cabot Trail Committee.



CVRPC Projects & Programs

- ❖ *Municipal plan and bylaw updates:* Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through education, bylaw modernization and plan updates.
- ❖ *Brownfields:* Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.
- ❖ *Transportation planning:* Coordinate local involvement in transportation decisions through the Transportation Advisory Committee and provide studies, plans, data collection, and counts.
- ❖ *Emergency planning:* Better prepare our region and state for disasters by coordinating with local volunteers and the state on emergency planning, exercises, and training.
- ❖ *Energy conservation and development:* Foster projects that support energy conservation to save energy and tax dollars and identify opportunities for renewable energy generation.
- ❖ *Natural resource planning and project development:* Implement activities to protect water resources/ supplies, enhance recreational opportunities, maintain the forest products industry, and enhance environmental health.
- ❖ *Regional plans:* Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the development, adoption, and implementation of a regional plan.
- ❖ *Geographic Information System services:* Provide municipalities, state agencies, and regional groups with mapping and data analysis in support of their projects.
- ❖ *Special projects:* Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- ❖ *Grants:* Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, and write grant applications.

The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Our most recent Audit is available at <https://centralvtplanning.org/about/financial-audits/>.

Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource -- please contact us at 802-229-0389 or cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
10 ELM STREET
MONTPELIER, VT 05602
W. Samuel Hill Sheriff
802-223-3001

November 01, 2020

Town of Cabot
Members of Selectboard

Re: Annual Report
July 01, 2019 – June 30, 2020

The Washington County Sheriff's Department has assisted with public safety within your community for many years. In our Annual Report I normally talk about what the Department has done, County wide, as well as with in you community. This year I thought it might be interesting to give you a little history of Washington County and the Sheriff's Department.

In 1810 Jefferson County, Vermont was established. The first Sheriff took office in 1811. At that time Sheriffs served a term of two years. In 1814 the name was changed to Washington County, renaming the County after George Washington. Washington County is approximately 695 square miles and is one of two Counties (Washington and Lamoille) that are not bordered by another State or Canada. Montpelier is the Shire Town and is also the State Capital. The current State House is actual the 3rd, as the first two burned down. In 1820 there were 14,113 people in living in Washington County. The 2019 numbers show 58,409 people now living in the County.

Washington County's first jail was built into the dwelling erected by Montpelier's founder, Jacob Davis, shortly after his arrival as the first settler in 1787. That building was given to the County by his son Thomas Davis and was rebuilt in granite in 1832. Another jail was built in what is now known as Jail House Common, at 24 Elm Street, Montpelier. Completed in 1900, a new Jail and Sheriff's residence was built at its current location, 10 Elm Street, Montpelier. The Sheriff's house is now the Sheriff's Office and the Jail had been remodeled into Probate Court, but now houses the County Offices and Passport office.

There have been 43 Sheriffs since 1811. Three Sheriffs held office for two terms, but their terms were separated by other Sheriffs holding the office. Sheriff Henry Lawson was the longest serving Sheriff, holding office from 1927 to 1953 - 26 years. I have held the office since July of 2004.

My uncle, Harold Potter, held the Office of Sheriff between 1960 and 1968. He left office to become the first director of the Vermont Police Academy, which I have been teaching at for twenty-one years.

The Sheriff's Office currently has six full time Deputies, two office staff members, the Sheriff and many part time Deputies. The Office performs its statutory functions of transporting prisoners, mental health patients and juveniles as well as serving civil process. We also are responsible for security at the Civil Court in Montpelier. The office contracts with 10 towns within the County for motor vehicle patrol as well as performing a multitude of security and traffic details throughout the County. The Sheriffs Department also regularly assists other County law enforcement agencies when needed.

The Sheriff's Office is funded in three ways. First, we receive funds from the County budget which pays for our basic office support and staff. Second, the state pays the salaries of the Sheriff and the two state transport Deputies. Third, all other funding to support the office and pay deputy salaries comes from revenues raised by the Department. Vermont Sheriff's Departments are tasked, by statute, with transporting prisoners and serving civil process, but are given no vehicles or equipment to do so. Thus, Sheriff's Departments must raise revenues in support of the Office, in order to perform State mandated functions.

County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2020 generated 2229 total incident reports, to include 695 Vermont Traffic Citations and 1333 Traffic Warnings.

In the course of our patrol efforts in Cabot the following Vermont Traffic Complaints, Warning and Incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol in your town.

We are proud of the work we do and take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work.

Professionally,
W Samuel Hill
W. Samuel Hill
Sheriff

WILLEY BUILDING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT (FY20)

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, work on the Willey Building has been limited to general maintenance and a few small projects undertaken by town employees who work in the building on a regular basis. Betty Ritter and Michelle Leclerc made sure that town business continued safely throughout the year. They were instrumental in making it possible for our citizens to vote in a safe manner, either by absentee ballot or in person. Our Town Librarian, Kathleen Hoyne, along with John Grosvenor and Paul and Beth Wade spent many hours of their own time refinishing the floor in the Library Reading Room. Kathleen has also made it possible for our citizens to enjoy continued access to library resources safely and efficiently this year. We thank all of them for their efforts. We said farewell to a committee member, Steve Godin, who stepped down in March. The select board appointed Betty Ritter to fill his seat. We thank Steve for his service and welcome Betty.

The pandemic also forced the postponement of the Willey Building Centennial Celebration, which had been scheduled for October 3rd and 4th of 2020. The celebration has been tentatively rescheduled for the corresponding weekend in 2021. Fundraising and coordination will resume in early 2021 with plans revised as necessary. Those interested in contributing in any way are asked to contact the Town Clerk or the Willey Building Committee as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Alexander, Fred Ducharme, Dan Dunham, Betty Ritter, Paul Wade, Bill Wheeler



**Cabot Town Meeting
Cabot School Gymnasium
March 3, 2020**

Fred Ducharme, Chair of the Select Board welcomed everyone to the Annual Cabot Meeting. He wanted to pay tribute to Ted Domey who served this town in many capacities. We observed a moment of silence.

We then began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Art 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

A motion was made by Mike to nominate R. D. Eno, seconded by Fred. Motion carried. R. D. Eno was the moderator and carried forth the rest of the meeting.

Art 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot hear the reports of the Town Officers?

A motion was made by Walter Bothfeld and seconded by Jim Goodrich. Motion carried. No discussion. The moderator explained that the Town Report Warning has been replaced with a new warning and copies of this are at the back of the gym if needed.

Mike Hogan spoke on behalf of the Select Board regarding the budget and the one we are voting on today is the 2020-21 budget beginning on July 1, 2020. We are currently four months from this fiscal year ending. Throughout the year we try to conduct meetings regarding the budget prior to the Select Board meeting and they usually last one-two hours. We need to take into consideration what the Town needs. Betty and Michelle work very hard for all the work they have done during this past year to keep the Town running smoothly along with all the minutes they take and the reports being done. In closing I would encourage as many as can come to the Select Board Meetings to come. The Board meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month beginning at 6:00 p.m. We do want to hear from you. We would rather have a room full of people to show that democracy works and want to hear your concerns. I also want to welcome you to this Town Meeting. Thank you very much. Are there any other questions to present to the Select Board at this time? There were none and we moved to the next Article.

Art 3. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize payment of real and personal property taxes on August 20, 2020 and November 19, 2020 by delivery to Cabot Town Hall postmarked on or before that date; and,

Establish that overdue taxes will bear interest at a rate of one percent per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5136; and,

Establish the amount of the penalty charged by the collector of delinquent taxes for payments made after the due date for payment to 8 percent of the tax collected pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1674(3)(A)?

Article 3 moved by Skip Bothfeld, Roman Kokodyniak.

Jessica Miller: Is this amendable? I was wondering since this is in 3 parts can one part be amended.

The Moderator stated that since this Article is not by Australian Ballot it can be amended. No amendment was offered. No further discussion. Motion passed on voice vote without opposition.

Art 4. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot elect all Town Officers required by law, according to law?

Articles 5, 6, 7, and 8 are elected by Australian Ballot. However, there are other Town Officers not elected by Australian Ballot. Those positions are two lister positions, Cemetery Commission, Grand Juror, Library, there are two positions, CCIF, one position, Rec Committee.

We will start with the Listers – one vacancy, who had been appointed.

Jeanne Johnson, a lister – nominates Jacqueline Lumbrá for the position vacant. Seconded by Norma Bermingham. No further nominations. On motion by Jeanne Johnson, seconded by Jeff Haslett, passed by voice vote without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Jacqueline Lumbrá, who was elected.

For the second vacancy, Jeanne Johnson nominated Brittany Butler, who was appointed when Shirley Ducharme resigned, for a full term. Jeff Haslett seconded. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Brittany Butler, who was elected.

We will not be electing the Auditor positions until we find out if it is passed to eliminate this position by Australian Ballot.

Delinquent Tax Collector. Judy Pransky nominated Sue Carpenter, seconded by Jenn Miner. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Susan Carpenter, who was elected.

Grand Juror – office is now held by David Pike. Judy Pransky nominated David Pike, second by Skip Bothfeld. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for David Pike, who was elected.

Cemetery Commissioner – one two-year term. Mike Hogan nominated Ruth Goodrich, seconded by Marcy Martin. Michael Taub nominated Gwen Hallsmith, seconded by Judy Pransky. No further nominations.

David VanDeusen: Is the cemetery on Old Center Road being maintained by the Commission? Melvin Churchill, chair of Cemetery Commission: Yes, we do maintain, but not as much as other cemeteries. Do you have a problem?

David: Yes I do. It looks awful, some of the Green Mountain Boys are buried there and it does not show much respect for them.

Melvin: I do agree with you. A lot of the stones are made out of lead or other types of stones and they have deteriorated and weathered over the years and it would take a lot of money to restore a lot of those stones, which the Cemetery Commission does not have. We have had the same budget for years and sometime in the future, hopefully, we can receive more money to restore these stones.

Gwen Hallsmith: I live down the road from this historic cemetery, I would like to see it taken care of but I am also interested in green burial – if that is allowed in Cabot, the 3.5 feet instead of the 6 feet which is a big difference.

Ruth Goodrich: A lot of work has gone into our cemeteries and this summer I would like to say a public thank to these folks that were staying up at Covenant Hills Campground. They totally redid the fences in the Hope Cemetery on Houghton Road along with trimming all the brush. We supplied a couple of gallons of paint. We do a lot on the cemeteries, but we are short of volunteers.

Melvin: We have had some experience in green burials and we have had permission to do this.

After an inconclusive voice vote, Moderator called for a ballot vote. Gwen Hallsmith was elected.

Gwen - 57

Ruth - 43

Library Trustees – two positions open on the Library Trustee Board – currently occupied by Beth Wade and Angela Ogle. A motion was made by Kathy Besch to nominate Beth Wade for one position, with a second

by Angela Ogle. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Beth Wade, who was elected. seconded by Angela. Motion carried. Beth Wade was elected. For the second position Beth Wade nominated Angela Ogle, seconded by Will Ameden. No further nominations. One a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Angela Ogle, who was elected.

CCIF (formerly UDAG) Committee – the position occupied by Oliver Welters, who has resigned and does not wish to serve again. Jim Goodrich was nominated but declined. David VanDeusen nominated Jason Monaco, seconded by Adam Overbay. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Jason Monaco, who was elected.

Willey Building Committee – one position. Will Ameden nominated Brad Alexander, seconded by Skip Bothfeld. No further nominations. On a voice vote, without opposition, the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Brad Alexander, who was elected.

Recreation Committee – currently serving are Mary Saggerson, Stefanie Burt, Brock Miller. Cameron North, Jessica North, Brock Miller; stepping down are Chuck Talbert, Sonja Bailey, Tamara Feldman and Richard Hourihan. Judy Pransky moved, Skip Bothfeld seconded to instruct the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for each of the following: Cameron North, Jessica North, Brock Miller, Stephanie Burt, and Mary Saggerson. Motion passed on voice vote, without opposition.

Art 5. To elect a Selectperson for a term of two years. [Australian Ballot]

Matt Nally-411; Undervotes – 107; Write in – 10: Frank Kampf – 1, Susan Carpenter – 1, Kelly Everheart – 1, Terri Nunn – 2, Brian Greaves – 2, Steve LaPage – 1, Peter Lloyd – 1, Blank - 1

Art. 6. To elect a Selectperson for a term of three years. [Australian Ballot]

Fred Ducharme – 417; Undervotes – 97; Write-in – 14: Steve Godin – 1; David Pike – 1; Nedahe Stoddard – 1; Anybody – 1; Steve Hogan – 1; Isaiah Mulligan – 1; Rick White – 1; Gwen Hallsmith – 1; Celeb Pitkin – 1; John Doe – 1; Terri Nunn -1 ; Peter Lloyd – 1; Blank – 2

Art. 7. To elect a Town Clerk for a term of three years. [Australian Ballot]

Betty Ritter – 411; Undervotes – 97; Write-in – 21: Michelle Leclerc – 12; Janet Newton – 1; Jessica Miller – 5; Janet Westervelt – 1; Anyone – 1; Blank - 1

Art. 8. To elect a Town Treasurer for a term of three years. [Australian Ballot]

Betty Ritter – 413; Undervotes – 96; Write-in – 19: Michelle Leclerc – 8; Janet Newton – 1; Jessica Miller – 4; Kathleen Besch – 1; Jan Westervelt – 1; Anyone – 2; Blank - 1

Art. 9. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$669,701 to defray the General Expenses of the Town, with an estimated \$84,300 to come from income and \$585,401 from local taxes? [Australian Ballot]

With respect to the line item for “Appropriations,” many residents questioned the Selectboard’s decision to lower the requested funding for some organizations and deny funding for some others.

Michael Hogan explained that the Selectboard was trying to reduce the budget so the taxes would be approximately the same, and so reduced all line items across the board. The Selectboard does hold budget meetings and welcomes residents to attend. They are posted and on Front Porch Forum

It was suggested that "Appropriations" not be part of the general budget but be warned separately. Many people expressed the view that that appropriations were cut too far without any input from the residents. For example: Friends of the Winooski was cut entirely. Many feel that this is totally unacceptable and would like to have a better way of handling this procedure.

Janet Westervelt felt that Home, Health, and Hospice was cut drastically and they have done so much for Cabot.

Mary Carpenter - disappointed that Home Health and Hospice receive money instead of the paving of the parking lot.

Roman – Because this is on the Australian Ballot we cannot amend this, and it is wrong. Many residents felt that the special appropriations should not have been cut as much as they were, even to the point of eliminating some.

Carla Payne also stated that that these special organizations fill the gaps for state government and the town.

James Wolenitz – he is disappointed with these issues - Friends of Winooski – He offered to volunteer his time in the interim to help with the solution.

Dawn Andrews - small amount of a few hundred makes a big difference for these organizations to get grants, etc.

With respect to Willey Building, maintenance expenses include CCIF (UDAG) and Passumpsic Bank loan expenses, electricity, janitorial supplies, utilities, improvements. Larry Gochey wanted to know why we do not have a generator for the WB. Mike responded that we do not have the money for this.

With respect to 2466 Main Street property, purchased by the Town as a possible site for a new fire station and presently vacant, Kathy Besch noted a \$6,000 line item and asked about plans for the property. The Selectboard responded that the sum includes payments on the \$90,000 purchase loan. The future of the fire department is undecided. The Town is concentrating on fixing the current station, putting a plan together with grants because no taxes are coming in from this property.

David VanDeusen: This budget discussion clearly shows there are challenges. Recommends that we go back to traditional town meeting. *(Round of applause)*

Sandy Pond: If we vote no on the budget, what will happen? Will we vote on another budget. Mike stated yes.

Carla Payne: The nature of town meeting is going by the wayside. Moving it to evening would be a drastic mistake. The school meeting is in the evening and has poor attendance.

Steve Godin suggested that we have a two-part town meeting - reviewing the budgets then coming back a month later to vote. Mike stated that the law already requires an informational meeting open to all.

David VanDeusen: Offered a non-binding motion:

"The people of Cabot support the restoration of our local direct participatory democracy through a traditional Town Meeting system of self-governance. A binding floor vote should be warned and voted on next Town Meeting Day in March, 2021."

Motion passed by hand vote.

It was suggested that we try to make the agenda more detailed. This was duly noted by the Select Board and will be re-evaluated for our next budget sessions.

Undervotes – 27 Yes – 360 No - 141

Art. 10. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$1,766,306 to repair and maintain the Highways of the Town including summer, winter and special treatment, of which an estimated \$1,084,255 is to come from income and \$682,051 from local taxes? [Australian Ballot]

Undervotes – 22 Yes – 405 No – 101

Art. 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Select Board to sell a piece of property located on VT Route 215 North, Parcel Id #01-002.100, estimated to be 0.80 acres in size and Grader Shed, current assessed value of \$52,500 with the proceeds of the sale to be deposited in the Highway Fund as sale of land? [Australian Ballot]

Dan Dunham - petition right of first refusal he spoke to the Select Board and said this could not do this on a bid process. Steven Godin – We have no use for the shed anymore. Highway - storage units cost \$25,000 - why selling one and buying something else. Fred stated that we are trying to consolidate, and have it all at the town garage.

Undervotes – 20 Yes – 390 No - 118

Art. 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Select Board to sell a piece of property located on 973 South Walden Road, Parcel Id #05-007.000, referred to as the Gary Curtis Property estimated to be 4.00 acres in size and a dwelling, current assessed value of \$93,500 with the proceeds of the sale to be deposited in the General Fund as sale of land? [Australian Ballot]

James Wolentiz: How can we sell this? Fred: The Town received it at a tax sale. He explained that we own the property if no one bids on it, then if no one claims it within a year and day, the Town has the right to sell the property.

Undervotes – 19 Yes – 450 No - 59

Art. 13. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Select Board to grant Faith in Action the sum of \$2,500 to support that non-profit entity providing services to Cabot residents? [Australian Ballot]

Undervotes – 19 Yes – 386 No – 123

Art. 14. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support the Cabot Conservation Fund? [Australian Ballot]

Undervotes – 16 Yes – 387 No - 127

Art. 15. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve a grant the sum of \$300,000 from CCIF funds to be used to pay off the remaining leases for highway equipment saving the town over \$46,000 in interest? [Australian Ballot].

Rory – There is a 15% remaining balance. The CCIF is a long-term investment not a cash resource. He has grave concerns about this proposed use's impact on the sustainability of the fund.

Adam: Currently 1.1 million in the CCIF, plus an additional \$250,000 in an education fund. These funds are currently accessible. There is some dispute about the Wastewater loan given years ago.

Derek: What are CCIF Funds used for? Adam Overbay: To support economic development, but Adam stated he cannot speak much on the history as he has just joined the CCIF.

Melvin: The Town should not take money from CCIF for the operating fund.

Ruth: Coronavirus is on the horizon. We do not want to damage the CCIF, and we will not spend it. Look for what is best for the CCIF and Town.

Mike: However the funds are now at risk because of coronavirus situation. Many investments are taking a hit. We will be meeting with the broker and CCIF in the very near future. Steve Godin wanted to know why couldn't the \$300 k be a loan instead of a grant. Want to have the fund stay around for a while.

Carey Harvey: Regardless of what the markets are going to do, vehicles depreciate.

Undervotes – 10 Yes – 262 No 256

Art. 16. Shall the Town of Cabot eliminate the position of Auditor as allowed by the Legislature under 17 V.S.A. § 2651b, passed in 1998. The Towns financial statements are currently audited by a certified public accounting firm. The Town reports and other related documents will be prepared by the Town Clerk's office. [Australian Ballot]

Undervotes – 41 Yes – 377 No – 110

Art. 17. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$794,823, at no expense to the Town of Cabot? [Australian Ballot]

Undervotes – 24 Yes – 471 No - 33

Art. 18. Shall the Town of Cabot approve appropriate a sum of \$5,469.63 to the Cabot Public Library, to support library services and cultural programs in the Town of Cabot? This is an addition to the \$80,000 already in the general budget and would cost taxpayers an additional \$2.75/\$100,000 household worth. The total amount (\$85,469.63) has been approved by the Library Trustees. [Australian Ballot]

Kathy Besch - If Library Trustees asked for it they should get it.

Beth Wade - SB asked for level funding, but the additional request is needed to support health insurance for the librarian (70%) and a 20% cost of living salary increase.

Undervotes – 16 Yes – 346 No - 166

Art. 19. Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve a grant to the Cabot Conservation Committee the sum of no more than \$6,980 from CCIF funds available for Town Meeting grants in the year 2020, for the purpose of providing funding for the proposed "Managing Your Land with Nature in Mind" project? [Australian Ballot]

Gary: this will help to improve habitat - good start to see what we have natural communities such as Whirlpools, swamps - help to educate landowners Town.

A question from the floor: What happens if there are rare species on properties? Gary: It is up to landowner to report this kind of information. It only may come into play only if with Act 250 decisions on critical habitat or dealing with public land .

Amy Hornblas - loves wildlife – and spoke there concerns about regional mapping. This has all been done. Cautious about planning. Legislature - is not mapping for us.

Ruth: Conservation concerns many people. Where does this information go? We must be very cautious. We want this information to stay in Cabot - major concerns. It seems that the State wants to dictate everything for our property.

Melvin - Agree with what Ruth - if we want to see more farmers - do not vote for this.

Undervotes – 37 Yes – 286 No - 205

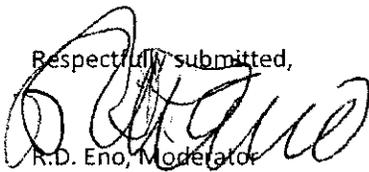
Art. 20. To transact any other non-binding business that may come before said meeting.

Judy Pransky - Kitty Toll – said to please call her with any questions.

Karen – Wanted to everyone to know about Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Please support it.

Skip motion to adjourn, seconded by Beth Wade, motion carried and we adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



R.D. Eno, Moderator



Fred Ducharme, Chair of Select Board



Betty Ritter, Town Clerk/Treasurer



Homeowner's Guide to Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a 1/2-inch long, metallic green beetle originally from Asia that feeds on and burrows in all species of North American ash trees. It was first identified in the Midwest in 2002 and has since killed millions of ash trees in over 30 US states and 3 Canadian provinces.

EAB was discovered in Vermont in 2018 and poses a serious threat to Vermont's ash trees, both in forests and in urban areas.



Adult Beetle



Larvae

STEP 1: ARE THERE ASH TREES ON MY PROPERTY?

Since EAB only attacks ash trees (genus *Fraxinus*), first determine if you have ash trees on your property. The most commonly planted species are green and white ash. Look for these features to determine if you have ash trees.

Bud and Branch Arrangement

Branches and buds grow directly opposite each other -- they are not staggered. When looking for opposite branching in trees, consider that buds or limbs may die. Not every branch will have an opposite mate.



Leaves

Leaves are compound and composed of 5-11 leaflets. Leaflet edges may be smooth or toothed. The only other oppositely branched tree with compound leaves is boxelder (*Acer negundo*), which usually exhibits three to five leaflets.

Bark

On mature green and white ash trees (left), the bark is tight and features a distinct pattern of diamond-shaped ridges. Black ash trees have a flakey bark as they age. On young trees, the bark is relatively smooth.

Seeds

When present, seeds are dry, paddle-shaped samaras. They usually occur in clusters and typically hang on the tree until late fall or early winter.



STEP 2: I HAVE AN ASH TREE - IS IT INFESTED WITH EAB?

Learn the signs and symptoms of EAB to determine if your tree is infested. But be careful: infestations of other pests on ash trees can sometimes create symptoms similar to those caused by EAB infestations. Learn more at VTinvasives.org.

Signs and Symptoms of EAB



Dieback of foliage



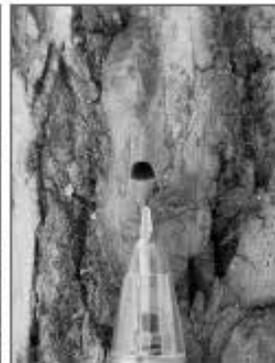
Woodpecker Activity



Insect Galleries



Sprouting



D-shaped Exit Holes

STEP 3: WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Effective management of EAB takes several factors into consideration, including the distance to the nearest infestation or the extent of the current infestation. Once EAB arrives in an area, it will remain a constant threat to ash trees for many years to come. *If you desire to keep your tree, it is likely that protective treatments with an insecticide will be needed for the rest of the tree's life.* For professional help, find an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist at TreesAreGood.org.

Is your tree infested with EAB?

YES

Is the infestation in its early stages? Does the tree exhibit less than 50% canopy thinning? And is the tree worth saving?

YES

Consider treatment options or remove and replant a tree of a different species.

NO

Remove and replant a tree of a different species.

NO

Has EAB been detected in or near your town?

YES

If the tree is healthy and important to preserve, consider treatment options. If not, consider removing the tree and replanting a tree of a different species.

NO

Keep an eye on your tree(s) for signs of EAB and stay informed about the spread of the beetle.

If you choose to remove your tree, the wood does not have to go to waste. There are several ways that you can recover some of the value and put the wood to good use around your home, such as firewood, lumber, or landscaping materials. Whatever you choose to do with your removed ash trees, be sure that no ash wood leaves the area.

Report suspicious findings and learn more at VTinvasives.org



Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program

Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation in partnership with University of Vermont Extension
Photos courtesy of forestryimages.org

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- Alcohol and Drug Programs
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- Independent Living Services
- Legal Assistance
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- Mentoring
- Military, Family and Community Network
- Parenting Programs
- Senior Resource and Referral
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