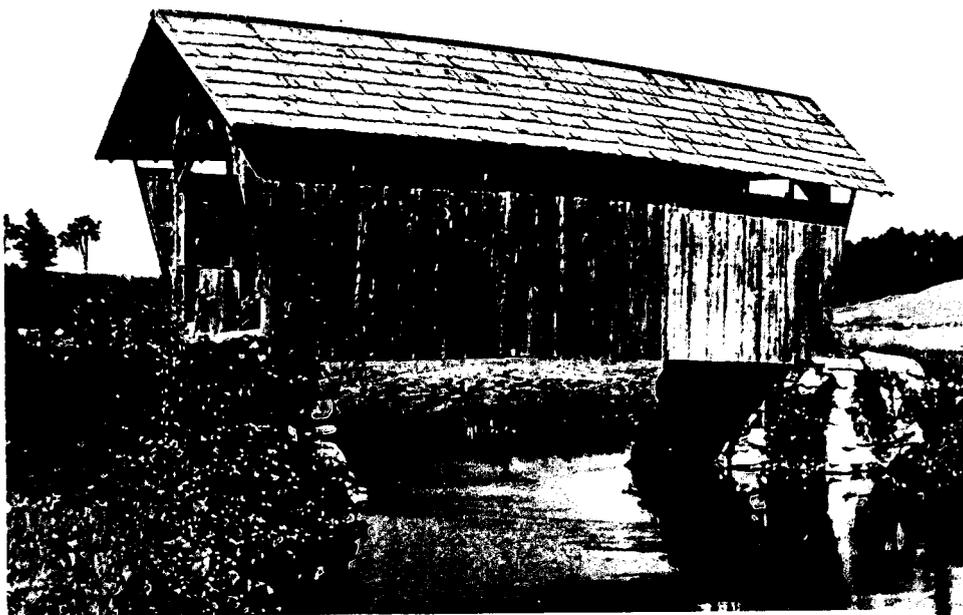


Town of  
**MARSHFIELD**  
**VERMONT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE TOWN OFFICERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31  
**2003**



**MARTIN BRIDGE in 1937**

The bridge and adjoining property were  
generously donated to the Town of Marshfield in  
2003 by Charles "Chip" Thorndike

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# TOWN OFFICERS

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**Moderator** ..... Thomas Maclay

**Town Clerk & Treasurer** ..... Bobbi Brimblecombe

## **Selectpersons**

Term Expires 2004 ..... John Warshow

Term Expires 2005 ..... George Longenecker

Term Expires 2006 ..... Christopher Martin

## **School Directors**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Patty Coffrin

Term Expires 2005 ..... Nancy Everhart

Term Expires 2006 ..... Fred Wilber

## **Auditors**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Marion Burnham

Term Expires 2005 ..... Thomas Maclay

Term Expires 2006 ..... Sallie Dix

## **Listers**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Lois Burnham

Term Expires 2005 ..... Edwina Valenza

Term Expires 2006 ..... Jackie DiMatteo

**Tax Collector** ..... Harold Hayward

**First Constable** ..... Lois Burnham

**Second Constable** ..... Dwight Duke

**Town Juror** ..... Homer Brown

**Town Agent** ..... Michael Caccavo

## **Budget Committee**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Michael Caccavo

Term Expires 2005 ..... Thomas Maclay

Term Expires 2006 ..... Marion Burnham

Term Expires 2007 ..... Sallie Dix

Term Expires 2008 ..... Deanna Martin

**Library Trustees**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Deanna Martin  
Term Expires 2004 ..... Judith Sargent  
Term Expires 2005 ..... Bill Barber  
Term Expires 2006 ..... Jennifer Skinder  
Term Expires 2006 ..... Bruce Westcott

**Cemetery Trustees** ..... Board of Selectpersons

***Appointed by Selectpersons***

**Fire Chief** ..... Thomas Maclay

**Fire Warden** (Term expires 6/30/2005) ..... Thomas Maclay

**Cemetery Sexton** ..... Ronald Pitkin

**Recreation Committee** (for one year term)

Robert Buchanan                      Kelly Carpenter  
Sandy Paritz                              Kate Smith

**Planning Commission\***

Term Expires 2004 ..... Laura Johnson  
Term Expires 2004 ..... John Stork  
Term Expires 2005 ..... Mike Fritz  
Term Expires 2005 ..... Robert Light  
Term Expires 2006 ..... Jeanne Matthew  
Term Expires 2006 ..... Wayne Kowalski

\* The Town Selectpersons and Village Trustees are Ex-officio members.

**Representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**

Term expires May 2004 ..... John Stork

**Representative to Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission**

Transportation Advisory Committee ..... vacant

**Development Review Board**

Term Expires 2004 ..... Thomas Daley  
Term Expires 2004 ..... Martin Johnson  
Term Expires 2005 ..... Jon Groveman  
Term Expires 2006 ..... James Arisman  
Term Expires 2006 ..... Gary Wilson

**Zoning Administrator** ..... Robert Light



## TOWN MEETING 2003

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Town Meeting was opened by Moderator Tom Maclay at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at Twinfield Union School. The Moderator explained that no discussion could take place on Articles 17 and 18, to be voted by Australian Ballot. He then declared a brief recess to allow Representative Tom Pelham address the meeting. The meeting reconvened at 9:15.

**Article 1.** To elect all Town Officers required by Law.

**Moderator:** Thomas Maclay 1 year

**Town Clerk & Treasurer:** Bobbi Brimblecombe 1 year

**Selectperson:** One Selectperson for three years.

Nominated: Vivien Fritz, Chris Martin, Paul Bishop, and Shawn Codling. Paul Bishop declined the nomination. Vivien and Shawn spoke about their qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve. Joanne Martin spoke for Chris.

Ballots cast: 120  
Necessary for election: 60

Chris Martin	62
Vivien Fritz	40
Shawn Codling	17
Spoiled	1

Chris Martin 3 years

**Auditor:** One Auditor for three years:

Sallie Dix was nominated. It was moved and seconded to cease nominations – all in favor. It was moved and seconded to have the clerk cast one ballot for Sallie Dix. All in favor.

Sallie Dix 3 years

**Lister:** One Lister for three years:

Jackie DiMatteo was nominated. It was moved and seconded to cease nominations – all in favor. It was moved and seconded to have the clerk cast one ballot for Jackie DiMatteo. All in favor.

Jackie DiMatteo 3 years

**Tax Collector:** Harold Hayward 1 year

<b>First Constable:</b>	Lois Burnham	1 year
<b>Second Constable:</b>	Dwight Duke	1 year
<b>Town Juror:</b>	Homer Brown	1 year
<b>Town Agent:</b>	Michael Caccavo	1 year
<b>Budget Committee:</b>	Deanna Martin	5 years

**Library Trustees:** Two trustees for three years:

Nominated: Bruce Westcott, Vivien Fritz, Jennifer Skinder, and Janet Nielsen. Vivien and Janet declined the nominations. Bruce spoke about his desire to serve, and Leif Richardson spoke on behalf of his wife Jennifer Skinder. The two trustees were elected on one motion.

Bruce Westcott	3 years
Jennifer Skinder	3 years

**Article 2.** To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

One Director for three years

<b>School Director:</b>	Fred Wilber	3 years
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**Article 3.** To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

Rodger Lawrence asked how Act 60 has helped the Town, and why our statewide education tax rate is not 1.10 as Act 60 intended. Selectperson John Warshow stated that Marshfield is a receiving town and most households are eligible to receive a prebate. Bobbi Brimblecombe explained that the 1.10 rate is applied to the State's calculation of fair market value and our common level of appraisal results in a higher tax rate. John explained that the Town Selectboard has appealed our common level of appraisal but no final hearing date has been set because of a case pending before the Vermont Supreme Court. The case deals with how the State calculates the common level of appraisal.

Bob Light asked about the possibility of discussing Articles 14 and 15 now to find out if taxpayers would like quarterly tax bills. Tom suggested that Article 3 will have to be dealt with first.

Alan Whitcomb asked about when the 12-year old pumper will need to be replaced. Tom Maclay indicated that we should have another 10 years without trouble, and noted that in the past, the Fire Department has put only surplus

money into the equipment fund each year, but this year there is a line item in the Fire Department budget for a deposit to the equipment fund.

Lawrence Black stated that in the eighties, the Town voted to use less salt and chloride on the Town roads because the chemicals wear down vehicles and increase pollution. Selectperson George Longenecker stated that salt is used on the paved roads but only sand is used on the back roads. Calcium chloride is used on the back roads in the summer to keep them from breaking up. Dennis Florio feels that the road crew is doing a good job. Linda Goldberg feels that the roads are overplowed and oversalted, and the town equipment is overused, and overmaintaining the roads makes people drive faster. Barbara Bohn is grateful to our road crew and thinks they are doing a great job. Bernie Carpenter stated that the trucks are loaded with sand all day long and that is uncalled for. Nancy Pery stated that the roads need taking care of for school buses and for safety, and she has no complaints. Road crew member Tim Davis stated that the Town doesn't use any more salt now than when he was hired 5 years ago, and according to a recent seminar by the Vermont Local Roads program, Marshfield uses less salt than Cabot, Plainfield, and East Montpelier, significantly less. Lois Burnham thinks the road crew is doing a good job and our roads are better than the roads in Cabot and Peacham that she travels while delivering mail. Tom Maclay stated that the Fire Department sees the results of people driving too fast and not knowing how to drive in winter. Bruce Westcott thanked Tim for his information and stated that he doesn't want to tell the road crew how to do their job. Suzan Condon questioned what the chloride is doing to her well. Tim Davis stated that the road crew applies the chloride and then immediately follows with water. This activates the chloride immediately and keeps it from washing off the road, and it only penetrates 4" to 6" into the road so it shouldn't affect her well.

On behalf of the residents of Marshfield, John Warshow thanked the fire department for the tough job that they do. Firefighters Dwight Baker, Buster Brown, Hap Hayward, Tim Maclay, Tom Maclay, Don Marsh, Ronald Pitkin, Johnny Schmitt, and Merv Spooner were recognized for at least 25 years of volunteer service, and they were each presented with a monogrammed jacket. Tom Maclay noted that he, Buster, and Ronald have served for 40 years. He thanked the Town and spoke about the merits of volunteerism.

It was moved and seconded to accept the reports of the officers as printed and read. All in favor.

It was moved and seconded to suspend the rules to allow consideration of Articles 14 and 15 at this time. The motion passed by a standing vote with approximately 85 in favor, 35 against.

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to have the Town taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, August 15, 2003.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Bobbi Brimblecombe spoke about the logistics of changing from one payment schedule to another. The first year would be confusing because the first payment would be due about the same time as Town Meeting, and escrow companies already have difficulty paying one installment on time. She noted that she could switch the due dates if that is what people really want, but even with one due date for each tax, people are welcome to pay as early and in as many installments as they choose.

Alan Taplow suggested that people should keep their money in the bank until tax time.

Bernie Carpenter suggested that more due dates could lead to more delinquent penalties.

Renee Lawrence stated that it would be easier for the younger generation who have a hard time saving if they could have quarterly bills.

Gary Wilson thinks the billing should be left the way it is.

David Mangan thinks the money should be left in the people's hands as long as possible.

Pat Pyne thinks it should be left the way it is because less paperwork is best, and people need to take more responsibility for saving.

Betsy Chodorkoff questioned why the first payment is due in August. Bobbi explained that the grand list is finished in June and the education liability is delivered by the State at the end of June, and the tax rate is set as soon as possible after that. The municipal taxes are collected as soon as possible because the Town has to borrow money in anticipation of taxes every year, and the shorter the term, the less interest is owed.

Tim Morris stated that expenses are lower in the summer and he would rather pay taxes in the summer than in the winter when heat and electricity bills are higher.

Tom Blachly asked whether the Town has considered discounts for people who pay their taxes early. Tom Maclay stated that the Town tried it at one time but it

didn't work out. John Warshow explained that the discount that could be given would be so low that people wouldn't be likely to bother.

Renee Lawrence noted that if people started paying their taxes in March, the Town wouldn't have to borrow so much money. Bobbi agreed.

Steve Bronstein suggested that the issue is worth discussing but maybe it should be passed for now until more research can be done so that we can come to the meeting next year with a tentative plan.

Article 14 was passed by voice vote with all in favor.

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to have the School taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, November 7, 2003.

Moved and seconded to accept the article as printed. After discussion about whether this article would be affected by Article 10, it was approved by voice vote with all in favor.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$616,861.00 to be allocated as follows, with \$442,752.76 to be raised in taxes:

- \$535,031.00 for the payment of indebtedness, general expenses, and the support of highways and bridges (\$134,282.24 from Other Income, \$400,748.76 to be raised in taxes);
- \$31,884.00 in support of the Marshfield Fire Department;
- \$10,913.00 in support of the Marshfield Planning Commission (\$2,730.00 to be raised in permit fees, \$8,183.00 to be raised in taxes);
- \$1,937.00 in support of the Marshfield Recreation Committee;
- \$37,096.00 in support of the Old Schoolhouse Common (\$37,096.00 to be raised through building lease/rentals, no taxes anticipated)

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed. Bernie Carpenter asked why we are raising \$800,000 in taxes. Bobbi Brimblecombe explained that the total to be raised in taxes is \$442,752.56.

The motion carried with all in favor.

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$39,701.00 in support of the Jaquith Public Library.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Nancy Dix Perry stated that she is a Friend of the Cutler Library in Plainfield and she wonders why the Jaquith Library is asking for such a large appropriation. She wonders why the library is spending so much on insurance and retirement expenses and why they need an assistant.

Former trustee Cynthia Martin stated that the Trustees scrutinized the budget and tried to keep to a minimal increase, and as a Town employee, the Librarian is entitled to the compensation that she receives. Mrs. Perry thinks that the library should use more volunteers and do more fundraising.

Librarian Susannah Blachly noted that usage of the library is up 20% but the budget has only increased by \$1,000.

Bobbi Brimblecombe stated that the Librarian's participation in the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System is mandatory according to Vermont statute.

Bernie Carpenter feels that other organizations that use the library should pay.

Brett Engstrom stated that when the Naturalists use the library for their meetings, they always make a donation, and as a former trustee he feels that we have an exceptional library and he is very proud of it and we should support it.

Mimi Arnstein asked why the cost of health care is tripling. Bobbi explained that the former librarian was covered for part of a year by her previous employer so we only had to pay for part of a year, and rates are up 14% this year.

Dennis Florio reminded voters that our library allows us to have access to almost any book through inter-library loan.

Nancy questioned the transportation expenses. Susannah replied that she attends meetings at the regional library, and she will attend various training sessions this year.

Susannah also pointed out that everything at the library is free.

Joe Gainza pointed out that the projected cost if the United States goes to war with Iraq will amount to \$300,000 for the Town of Marshfield, so \$39,000 is not very much. Nancy replied that we are comparing the library with Plainfield, not Iraq.

Dot Knowles pointed out that Plainfield has an apartment over their library to help defray the costs.

It was moved and seconded to call the question – all in favor. The article passed by voice vote.

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$3,300.00 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Hap Hayward stated that the Historical Society is only asking for money to cover their rent. New President John Johnson agreed. The article passed by voice vote.

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Bob Light questioned whether this appropriation includes mowing the cemeteries. George explained that we use the appropriation and the income from investments and the sale of grave lots to pay for mowing and also capital repairs. The article passed by voice vote – all in favor.

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 in support of the Cabot Ambulance Service.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Jenny Warshow spoke about the need for volunteers. The ambulance service pays for the required training. Bob Light stated that the Cabot Ambulance and Plainfield FAST Squad saved his life during the past year and without them he wouldn't be here. The article passed by voice vote – all in favor.

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$4,500.00 in support of the Plainfield First Response (FAST Squad).

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Jules Rabin asked the difference between the Cabot Ambulance and the Plainfield FAST Squad. Jenny replied that the Cabot Ambulance service transports victims to the hospital. The Plainfield FAST squad assists them when getting the patient ready for transport. The article passed by voice vote.

**Article 10.** Shall the voters approve the following:

- 1) Taxes must be in the hands of the Treasurer before the close of the Town Office on the due date;
- 2) However, if a payment arrives after the due date, bearing a legible US Postal Service postmark (but not a "metered postmark") showing that the payment was mailed to the correct address on or before the Monday prior to the due date, then the Treasurer will accept the payment as current.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Bobbi Brimblecombe gave some background information about this article. A taxpayer mailed their tax payment on the Monday before the due date but the payment did not arrive by Friday. The warrant was prepared and delivered to the delinquent tax collector on Saturday, and their payment arrived on the following Tuesday. There is nothing in the law to allow her the discretion to remove their name from the warrant. In the interest of treating everyone fairly, we need a policy that will allow us to treat everyone the same. She explained that one problem with the article as warned is that there is no difference between a metered postmark from a private office and a metered postmark from a small post office such as ours – they use the same postage machine. In the past when the Town accepted postmarks the Treasurer believed there were problems with fraudulent postmarks. The Town installed a mail drop this past year to allow people to drop off their taxes when the office is closed. She explained that one benefit to having the taxes in hand on the due date is that the warrant can be prepared sooner to allow the Delinquent Tax Collector to get bills out sooner, before another month's interest is added.

A voter who works for the postal service stated that any post office will gladly date-stamp any letter. That date stamp would be recognizable as a genuine date stamp.

Renee Lawrence asked whether the payments could be accepted if postmarked by the date due. Bobbi replied that there will still be a question of whether the postmark is genuine unless it is hand-stamped. One of the goals of accepting postmarks was to help people who are homebound, but if the payment has to be carried into the post office to be hand stamped, the policy won't help them.

A voter asked if the warrant has been turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector but it is ascertained that a mistake has been made, can their name be taken off the list? Bobbi explained that we need a clear policy approved by the voters to allow her to amend the warrant. Right now the law allows abatement, but there is no way to abate just interest and penalties without abating taxes. The Treasurer can decide not to put a person on the warrant in the first place but

Bobbi feels that there should be a clear policy so that she isn't left to decide whether or not to exempt someone from paying the penalty.

Someone asked about whether there is an appeal process if someone's name has already been added to the warrant. Bobbi explained that the goal of item #2 is to allow her a means for removing someone's name once the warrant has been completed, because the town would be giving her permission.

A voter asked whether the article gives Bobbi the flexibility that she needs and whether or not she supports it.

John Warshow suggested that we change the wording in item #2 to say that it has to be a US Postal Service *hand-stamp* instead of *postmark*.

A voter repeated the question to Bobbi. She replied that the easiest policy for the Treasurer is to require that taxes are in the office by the due date, but she feels that it is unfortunate that the people did everything that they thought was right and they still had to pay a penalty, so she is in favor of a policy that will give her discretion when it is obviously not the taxpayer's mistake. She worries about how difficult it will be to communicate the policy.

Nancy Dix Perry stated that everyone should deliver their taxes in person.

A voter suggested that there will always be exceptions, and the decision should be appealable. Bobbi explained that there is an abatement policy in the statutes. There is no overseeing body that you could appeal to.

Doreen Mears suggested that the taxes should be held until the due date so that people could mail their payments much earlier. Bobbi stated that it would be too difficult to hold 800 tax payments until the last day, and payments are deposited on the date they are received so that the money can earn interest for all of us.

Dennis Florio suggested that we should address electronic funds transfer as well. Vivien Fritz warned everyone that when you use electronic transfer, you should be aware that your bank may mail a paper check to the Town and it may take one or two days for the payment to be mailed.

Vivien asked what happens if you have your payment hand-stamped but it gets lost in the mail. No matter what rule we make, you are responsible for paying your taxes by that day. You need to check to see if the payment has been received. Bobbi stated that a taxpayer mailed her check in Danville and checked with the office a few times to see if it had arrived. She had to drive to Marshfield to present a second check in person, and the original check arrived two weeks late.

Hap Hayward is worried about how the mortgage companies will handle this new policy as they are often delinquent. Tom suggested that taxpayers make sure their mortgage companies pay the late fees.

Jenny moved to amend the article to replace the word "US Postal Service postmark" with the words "US Postal Service *hand stamped* postmark." Seconded.

Suzan Condon suggested that we need to establish an appeal process for someone who has an illness or crisis or whose payment is lost by the postal service. Bobbi suggested that we would be asking the appeals process to override state law. There is an appeals process through the Board of Abatement but there is nothing that we as a Town can do to override that process. Lawrence Black explained that in the case that precipitated this, the Board of Abatement received conflicting opinions from the Secretary of State's office and the Vermont League of Cities & Towns, so he feels that there is still a choice whether to abate.

The motion to amend the article as stated above passed by voice vote. The amended article passed by voice vote.

The meeting recessed at 12:10 for lunch. The meeting reconvened at 1:10.

**Article 11.** To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$6,010.00 to be allocated as recommended by the Budget Committee:

Battered Women's Services/Shelter	350.00
Central Vermont Community Action Council	300.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	800.00
Central Vt. Economic Development Corp.	300.00
Central Vermont Home Health	2,000.00
Northern VT RC & D	50.00
Onion River Food Shelf	300.00
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	200.00
RSVP	300.00
Twin Valley Seniors	400.00
Vt. Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired	250.00
Washington County Diversion Program	150.00
Washington County Youth Services Bureau	250.00
Wheels	100.00
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	260.00

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed.

Nancy Dix Perry asked about RC&D. Tom Maclay explained that they have given the Town several grants for fire protection equipment and dry hydrants.

She asked why we are being asked to contribute to the Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf. Tom explained that some Marshfield residents are going there to get food.

Bernie Carpenter stated that he doesn't want to give any money to Wheels because they are making a profit. Bernie moved to remove the \$100 contribution to Wheels from this article. Seconded.

Beth Stern stated that Wheels is a non-profit organization serving people in Marshfield. They take seniors to appointments and meals, and she feels that we should support them.

At this time Georgia Meyer spoke on behalf of the Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf. She noted that they are also a USDA distribution site, and the Onion River Food Shelf approached Calais for an appropriation. The amount that they are requesting is \$29.20 per person for the 9 Marshfield residents who come to them for food. She noted that usage of the food shelf is up 40% and the face of hunger is changing in Vermont.

The proposed amendment to remove Wheels from the article was defeated by voice vote. The article passed by voice vote as originally warned.

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed. All in favor.

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide funds for the amounts previously voted.

Moved and seconded to accept this article as printed. All in favor.

**Article 16.** To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Jules Rabin thanked Catherine Jay for using the portable microphone and likened it to a ramp for someone in a wheelchair.

Ellie Blachly questioned the \$500 expense for an insurance deductible for a lawsuit. John explained that the Board had problems with a resident who was disruptive at meetings and threatened public officials. On the advice of the town attorney the resident was barred from attending meetings. A lawsuit was filed and defended by the Town's insurance company. The insurance company settled the lawsuit and the resident agreed to abide by Roberts' Rules of Order. Bernie Carpenter stated that he filed the lawsuit and you can say anything you

want at a town meeting. Pat Pyne thanked him for standing up. Ellie suggested that this is a good source of income. If you need money you only have to harass town officials and draw a lawsuit. Bernie stated that he did it legally.

Renee Lawrence moved to have the town research the feasibility of quarterly tax payments and report back next year. Seconded – passed by voice vote.

Jules Rabin thanked Tom Maclay for his service as moderator. The crowd thanked the Eastern Star and Plainfield Methodist Church for providing lunch.

The open meeting adjourned at 1:32. A total of 159 legal voters checked in to the open meeting.

**Article 17.** To see if the voters will adopt as permanent the wireless telecommunications facilities interim bylaw as enacted by the Town of Marshfield Selectboard on July 31, 2001.

YES	125
NO	26
BLANK	1
SPOILED	<u>1</u>
	153

**Article 18.** To see if the voters will adopt the amended zoning regulations approved by the Town of Marshfield Selectboard on December 3, 2002.

YES	115
NO	34
BLANK	3
SPOILED	<u>1</u>
	153

The foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of Town Meeting held on March 4, 2003. Attest, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

## 2003 AUDITORS' REPORT

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As directed by 24 VSA §1681, the Auditors have examined the financial records of the Town and the supporting data. We believe that all records and accounts contained herein are a true and accurate account of the Town's financial affairs.

State Law 24 VSA §1684 requires that the Auditors publish a statement showing the condition of the Town's indebtedness, trust funds, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit. A list of these follows:

### - Assets -

	Interest Rate	Balance
Cash on Hand		203.02
General Fund - Sweep Account	0.41%	59,856.44
General Fund - Money Market Account	4.39%	700.22
Sidewalk Account	2.81%	150,444.14
A/R Delinquent Taxes	12.00%	61,038.67
Bandstand Fund	0.30%	1,360.66
Bridge Fund	0.51%	27,779.57
Equipment Fund	0.51%	7,480.99
Fire Dept Equipment Fund	0.55%	17,842.43
Fire Dept Equip Fund CD	3.60%	14,000.00
Fire Dept Ed Duke Fund	0.55%	8,707.89
OSC Building Fund	0.55%	6,838.18
OSC Revolving Loan Fund	0.55%	5,379.83
Paving Fund	0.55%	21,208.79
Paving - Creamery St Acct	4.39%	887.76
Playground Fund	0.50%	3,409.16
Reappraisal Account	0.10%	3,880.22
Special Account	0.55%	10,345.97
Contains:		
Act 200		55.18
Pet Control Fund		2,454.96
Records Restoration		4,223.23
Revolving Loan Fund		1,713.44
Sign Fund		1,899.16

### -Indebtedness-

	Interest Rate	Balance
Underground Storage Tank Loan	0.00%	3,580.50
Loader Loan-State of VT	2.00%	21,800.00
Truck Loan	1.94%	26,000.00
Sidewalk Loan	2.16%	150,000.00

The investments of the various departments, boards and commissions appear with their reports.

## SELECTBOARD REPORT

---

2003 was a very busy year. The Town was awarded several grants totaling over \$340,000.00. The Fire Department received grants totaling \$57,044.00 for new radios, self-contained breathing apparatus, extrication equipment, and a portable pump. Three additional grants totaling \$287,300 from the Vermont Agency of Transportation went towards a new sidewalk along U.S. Route 2 in the Village, the reconstruction of Creamery Street, and deck and abutment repairs to the School Street bridge near the Old Schoolhouse Common.

Chris Martin was elected to the Selectboard after Laurie Colgan decided not to seek another term. The town-wide re-appraisal was completed in May. In June we became aware that the Twinfield Union Agreement was resulting in a disproportionate amount of taxes being paid by Marshfield following the inception of the new state funding method under Act 60 & Act 68. In August we sought clarification of this from the Superintendent's office. Since that time we have been working with the Plainfield Selectboard, the Schoolboard, the Superintendent's office and our new State Representative Heather Shouldice to remedy this inequity. At the time of printing, a vote has been scheduled to amend the Twinfield agreement, but the vote will be cancelled if the legislature acts to correct the situation, which appears likely.

In September we were approached by the owner of the Martin covered Bridge, Charles Thorndike. He offered the bridge and adjoining property 120 acres+/- which was valued at \$87,200.00 to the Town in exchange for the school taxes due in November in the amount \$1,321.08. The Selectboard accepted this offer and the bridge and land now belong to the town. The two stone abutments and the two main carrying beams of the bridge are in need of immediate repair. We have applied for rehabilitation grants from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Additional funding will be necessary to make needed repairs to bridge, thus we have put Article 10 in the warning for your consideration.

As always our dedicated road crew Dan Tetreault, Tim Davis, and Tim Ksepka were busy with winter plowing and sanding, mud season, spring grading of all roads, summer work of ditching, culvert replacement and equipment maintenance. The small Ford truck was replaced with a new International. This year we intend to replace the Caterpillar backhoe/loader with a small excavator so that we can ditch more efficiently. We have reviewed our equipment fund with respect to planned replacements and income for the next 10 years. We believe

that the current funding level of \$50,000 will be adequate to make all necessary equipment replacements without increasing the annual contribution.

We have applied to the Vermont Agency of Transportation to change the legal status of Nasmith Brook Road from U.S. Route 2 to Twinfield, School Street from U.S. Route 2 to the fork at Upper and Lower Depot Roads, and Hollister Hill from U.S. Route 2 to the Eaton Cemetery Road from Class 3 to Class 2. The State approved our request in January for Nasmith Brook Road and Hollister Hill Road. No changes to these roads will result and none are planned. However, we will be eligible for more annual state-aid, and we will now be eligible for 80% state funding for repairing those sections of these roads that are currently paved. All three roads need to be re-paved and we hope to do it this summer, with the new state aid and town funds.

After making allocations to the bridge and paving accounts in December we still had nearly \$32,000 surplus, which we have carried forward to reduce taxes this year. Our present budget is up 4%, but due to the 2003 surplus and projected increases in other income our budget request is a net decrease over last year.

Finally we are bringing several proposed changes in the zoning by-laws to you for consideration by Australian Ballot vote Town Meeting Day, and we urge you to support them. Please see the report on zoning and planning on page 44 of the Town Report.

We are most appreciative of your support, the efforts of the many people who volunteer their time and energy to various town functions, and the tireless work of the Town's dedicated employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Marshfield Selectboard  
John Warshow, Chair  
George Longenecker  
Chris Martin

## BUDGET AND ESTIMATED TAX RATE

Year	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Administration/Highways	385,659	444,937	465,724	483,677	510,218	535,031	554,703
Fire Department	29,260	30,945	29,220	33,320	29,660	31,884	32,900
Recreation Department	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,800	1,937	1,812
Planning & Zoning	<u>0</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,755</u>	<u>8,183</u>	<u>11,221</u>
Total Selectboard Budget	414,919	480,882	500,944	523,997	548,433	577,035	600,636
Less Other Income	-132,647	-149,602	-121,700	-127,490	-146,480	-125,720	-133,363
Less Surplus	<u>0</u>	<u>-25,030</u>	<u>-19,985</u>	<u>-22,125</u>	<u>-9,559</u>	<u>-8,562</u>	<u>-31,715</u>
Total Taxes for Select. budget	282,272	306,250	359,259	374,382	392,394	442,753	435,559
Cemeteries	3,500	3,500	5,000	3,500	5,000	5,000	7,500
Historical Society	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	3,300	3,300	3,400
Jaquith Library	25,957	27,593	29,000	35,410	36,860	39,701	42,695
Other Appropriations	<u>10,060</u>	<u>14,610</u>	<u>13,850</u>	<u>17,835</u>	<u>14,510</u>	<u>15,510</u>	<u>15,400</u>
Total Taxes to be raised	324,189	354,353	409,509	433,527	452,064	506,264	504,554
Tax rate	0.57	0.61	0.68	0.71	0.73	0.61	0.60**

\*\* estimate

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Comparative Balance Sheet December 31, 2003

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>Total (Memo Only)</u>
<b>- Assets -</b>			
Cash on Hand	203.02		203.02
Sweep Account	59,856.44		59,856.44
Money Market Account	700.22		700.22
Sidewalk MM Account	150,444.14		150,444.14
Delinquent Taxes	61,038.67		61,038.67
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	(61,038.67)		(61,038.67)
Equipment Fund MM		7,480.99	7,480.99
Reappraisal Fund-VNB		3,880.22	3,880.22
Special Acct. Savings		10,345.97	10,345.97
Bridge Fund Checking		27,779.57	27,779.57
Paving Account		21,208.79	21,208.79
Bandstand Fund		1,360.66	1,360.66
Fire Dept Capital Equip. Fund		17,842.43	17,842.43
Fire Dept - Ed Duke Fund		8,707.89	8,707.89
OSC Building Fund		6,838.18	6,838.18
OSC Revolving Loan Fund		5,379.83	5,379.83
Playground Fund		3,409.16	3,409.16
Creamery St Paving Acct-CNB		887.76	887.76
Fire Department CD		14,000.00	14,000.00
Reserved for Long-Term Debt	<u>3,580.50</u>		<u>3,580.50</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>214,784.32</u></b>	<b><u>129,121.45</u></b>	<b><u>343,905.77</u></b>
<b>- Liabilities -</b>			
Damage Deposit	1,461.04		1,461.04
Payroll Liabilities	2,139.08		2,139.08
Sidewalk Loan	150,000.00		150,000.00
Underground Storage Tank Loan	3,580.50		3,580.50
Loader Loan - AOT		21,800.00	21,800.00
Truck Loan		<u>26,000.00</u>	<u>26,000.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>157,180.62</u></b>	<b><u>47,800.00</u></b>	<b><u>204,980.62</u></b>
<b>- Fund Balances -</b>			
Fund Balances, 12/31/02	25,889.04	88,291.64	114,180.68
2003 Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>31,714.66</u>	<u>(6,970.19)</u>	<u>24,744.47</u>
Fund Balances, 12/31/03	57,603.70	81,321.45	138,925.15

## INCOME BREAKDOWN

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
<b>Current Taxes Collected</b>				
Town Taxes	426,153.28	506,263.76	476,519.91	504,554.15
School Taxes	1,017,186.01		1,163,958.54	
Total Collected	1,443,339.29		1,640,478.45	
School Taxes Paid	<u>(1,091,470.00)</u>		<u>(1,264,693.00)</u>	
<b>Net Current Taxes</b>	<b>351,869.29</b>		<b>375,785.45</b>	
Del. Taxes Collected	<u>104,277.74</u>		<u>132,623.17</u>	
<b>Total Taxes Collected</b>	<b>456,147.03</b>	<b>506,263.76</b>	<b>508,408.62</b>	<b>504,554.15</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
Surplus	9,559.19	8,562.24	8,562.24	31,714.66
Current Use Refund	29,837.00	25,000.00	32,075.00	28,000.00
Highway/State Aid	71,548.28	65,000.00	74,864.92	68,000.00
Interest on Del. Taxes	6,447.16	5,000.00	7,015.01	5,000.00
Interest Income	11,566.97	6,200.00	9,045.99	6,700.00
Auto. Registration Fees	158.00	100.00	177.00	200.00
Office Fees	13,802.87	8,000.00	17,518.08	8,000.00
Records Restoration	1,861.00	1,000.00	2,851.00	1,000.00
Dog Licenses	1,816.00	1,800.00	1,887.00	1,800.00
Pet Control Fees	996.00	870.00	939.00	900.00
Marriage/Civil Union Lic.	207.00	200.00	322.00	200.00
Liquor/Tobacco Licenses	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00
Vermont Forests & Parks	5,405.91	5,000.00	5,625.63	5,000.00
Sanding Reimb. Twinfield	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
OSC Loan Repayment	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>2,461.83</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>5,743.21*</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>160,217.21</b>	<b>134,282.24</b>	<b>171,176.08</b>	<b>164,064.66</b>
<b>Total Admin. Income</b>	<b>616,364.24</b>	<b>640,546.00</b>	<b>679,584.70</b>	<b>668,618.81</b>
<b>*Miscellaneous Income</b>				
Plowing - East Montpelier			750.00	
Plowing - Peacham			500.00	
Restitution			217.06	
Kennel Permit			10.00	
Green-Up donations			26.00	
Land Use Change Tax			103.00	
Green Up Grant			278.40	
traffic fines			3,838.50	
NSF Check			20.00	
overpayment of delinquent taxes			<u>0.25</u>	
<b>Total Miscellaneous Income</b>			<b>5,743.21</b>	

## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>				
Gross Wages				
Clerk Treasurer	28,381.50	29,238.00	29,238.00	30,408.00
Assist./Office Help	14,018.90	12,600.00	12,646.48	13,177.00
Public Works	106,162.39	107,720.00	108,093.61	112,028.00
Listers	4,531.50	7,500.00	6,846.20	6,000.00
BCA	532.00	500.00	675.00	500.00
Officers:				
Auditors	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
Fire Warden	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
First Constable	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00
Second Constable	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00
Health Officer	250.00	500.00	625.00	500.00
Selectboard	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total Gross	157,451.29	161,633.00	161,699.29	166,188.00
Benefits Administration	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Health Insurance	23,009.90	26,400.00	24,624.84	25,261.00
Social Security	9,804.56	10,578.00	10,181.59	10,948.00
Medicare	2,293.00	2,474.00	2,381.17	2,561.00
Retirement	8,063.95	8,217.00	8,252.13	8,546.00
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>200,872.70</b>	<b>209,552.00</b>	<b>207,389.02</b>	<b>213,754.00</b>
<b>Administration Expense</b>				
Unemployment Ins.	1,322.00	1,617.00	1,617.08	2,459.00
Workmen's Comp.	4,722.87	5,713.00	6,193.35	8,815.00
Employment Practices Ins.	423.00	529.00	529.00	772.00
Multi-Peril & Trucks Ins.	3,909.00	4,462.00	4,436.00	12,081.00
Town Officers' Liability Ins.	1,110.00	1,275.00	1,275.00	1,748.00
Tax Anticipation Note Int.	8,708.02	5,800.00	5,661.30	7,000.00
Legal Services*	3,547.50	3,000.00	3,288.00	3,000.00
Town Report	980.40	1,200.00	966.35	1,200.00
Postage	2,180.00	2,000.00	2,613.32	2,500.00
Supplies	2,494.42	3,200.00	2,750.32	3,000.00
Records Restoration	360.00	1,000.00	2,162.00	1,000.00
Telephone	1,294.64	1,300.00	1,560.58	1,400.00
Advertising	349.60	750.00	703.33	750.00
Printing	399.20	500.00	407.62	500.00
Mileage	639.60	1,000.00	825.50	1,000.00
Training	1,299.00	1,500.00	1,255.00	1,500.00
Office Equipment	1,737.00	2,800.00	1,955.83	2,000.00
Computer Expense	1,121.36	1,700.00	3,212.92	2,700.00
Office Maint./Janitorial	1,629.00	1,000.00	780.00	1,000.00
Health Officer expense	63.04	100.00	0.00	100.00
County Tax	8,308.00	9,500.00	8,168.00	10,000.00
Clerk's Office Rent	7,680.00	7,680.00	7,680.00	7,680.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>54,277.65</b>	<b>57,626.00</b>	<b>58,040.50</b>	<b>72,205.00</b>
*Legal Services	5,695.02		5,202.56	
Less Reimbursed	<u>(2,147.52)</u>		<u>(1,914.56)</u>	
Net Legal Services	3,547.50		3,288.00	

**Highway Infrastructure**

Sidewalk Expenses	0.00	0.00	147,624.12	0.00
Less Sidewalk Grant	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(146,611.62)</u>	<u>(1,012.50)</u>
<b>Net Cost This Budget</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,012.50</b>	<b>(1,012.50)</b>
Paving Expenses	4,935.80	10,000.00	118,634.50	10,000.00
Less Paving Grant	0.00	0.00	(94,671.60)	0.00
Transfer to/ (from) Paving Account	<u>8,064.20</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(5,962.90)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Net Cost This Budget</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>
Bridge Repairs	0.00	5,000.00	58,502.50	5,000.00
Less Bridge Grant	(21,800.00)		(45,000.00)	
Transfer to/ (from) Bridge Account	<u>8,360.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(502.50)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Net Cost This Budget</b>	<b>(13,440.00)</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
Private Contracts	<u>6,141.67</u>	<u>7,500.00</u>	<u>7,132.64</u>	<u>7,500.00</u>
<b>Total Infrastructure</b>	<b>5,701.67</b>	<b>22,500.00</b>	<b>39,145.14</b>	<b>21,487.50</b>

**Garage Expenses**

Heating & Electricity	4,703.55	3,000.00	3,525.70	3,000.00
Supplies	551.35	1,200.00	746.31	1,200.00
Telephone	907.92	750.00	1,035.20	850.00
Rubbish Removal	494.90	1,000.00	332.44	1,000.00
Water & Sewer Expenses	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Fuel Tank Loan	1,193.50	1,194.00	1,193.50	1,194.00
Fuel Tank Assessment	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Uniforms	1,839.22	1,820.00	1,922.07	1,820.00
Misc. Garage Expenses	<u>1,477.37</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>2,040.04</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
<b>Total Garage Expenses</b>	<b>11,267.81</b>	<b>11,564.00</b>	<b>10,895.26</b>	<b>11,664.00</b>

**Materials**

Salt	11,198.25	10,000.00	10,328.79	10,000.00
Crusher Run Gravel	7,694.29	9,500.00	4,344.03	9,500.00
Staymat	38,454.94	40,000.00	37,690.38	45,000.00
Stone	536.50	1,000.00	2,045.26	1,000.00
Winter Sand	37,454.55	33,000.00	50,766.18	33,000.00
Culverts	4,981.57	7,000.00	3,041.70	4,000.00
Cold Patch	377.96	300.00	0.00	300.00
Signs/Safety Equipment	447.76	700.00	613.62	700.00
Mulch Hay	356.50	500.00	0.00	500.00
Welding	236.96	1,000.00	280.49	1,000.00
Equipment/Vehicle Fuel	8,357.14	10,000.00	10,481.66	10,000.00
Grease & Oil	3,975.03	1,500.00	856.99	1,500.00
Chloride	9,230.20	11,000.00	9,087.03	10,000.00
Tire Chains	1,840.00	2,500.00	3,465.40	3,000.00
Tools	1,785.82	1,000.00	777.91	1,000.00
Compressor/Washer/Sander	9.07	100.00	0.00	100.00
Erosion Control Measures	1,769.65	5,000.00	899.30	4,000.00
Misc. Materials	<u>2,414.93</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	<u>1,363.04</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>
<b>Total Materials</b>	<b>131,121.12</b>	<b>138,100.00</b>	<b>136,041.78</b>	<b>138,600.00</b>

**Equipment/Maintenance**

2000 Loader	491.20	500.00	0.00	1,000.00
Grader	3,106.15	7,500.00	2,914.69	7,500.00
Loader/Backhoe	1,899.63	2,500.00	578.29	2,500.00
'98 International	2,260.66	2,500.00	3,111.29	2,500.00
2001 International	1,778.56	2,500.00	2,487.98	2,500.00
2004 International	0.00	0.00	431.95	1,500.00
'99 Ford 1.5 Ton	3,927.10	2,000.00	3,346.64	0.00
Sanders	1,229.49	1,500.00	2,060.00	2,000.00
Plows	4,868.44	2,500.00	3,096.05	2,500.00
York Rake	0.00	350.00	180.72	1,000.00
Chain Saws	418.27	500.00	104.44	500.00
Chipper	40.00	1,000.00	7.50	1,000.00
Transfers to Equip. Fund	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Misc. Equip. Expenses	<u>639.72</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,273.21</u>	<u>1,300.00</u>
<b>Total Equip. Maintenance</b>	<b>70,659.22</b>	<b>74,350.00</b>	<b>69,592.76</b>	<b>75,800.00</b>

**Miscellaneous**

VLCT Dues	972.00	1,252.00	1,252.00	1,372.00
Elections Expense	2.89	25.00	0.00	75.00
Marriage/Civil Union Lic	195.00	150.00	225.00	150.00
Solid Waste	3,141.60	3,142.00	3,166.80	3,200.00
Traffic Control	3,472.00	1,500.00	958.60	1,500.00
9-1-1 Signs/Expenses	28.23	100.00	115.38	100.00
Twinfield Field Notes	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,333.00
Repeater Station	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Lister Services/Supplies	934.33	1,750.00	1,072.11	1,000.00
Rabies Control -Town	412.00	870.00	540.00	900.00
Rabies Control - State	284.00	300.00	310.00	300.00
Miscellaneous	<u>2,915.77</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>2,854.74*</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>12,607.82</b>	<b>10,339.00</b>	<b>10,744.63</b>	<b>13,180.00</b>

**Transfers**

Records Restoration Fund	1,501.00		689.00	
Pet Control Fund	581.00		399.00	
Reappraisal Fund	<u>7,000.00</u>	<u>11,000.00</u>	<u>11,000.00</u>	<u>7,000.00</u>
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>9,082.00</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	<b>12,088.00</b>	<b>7,000.00</b>

**Other Town Departments - see individual reports for breakdown**

Fire Department	29,660.00	31,884.00	31,884.00	32,900.00
Buildings & Grounds	13,128.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recreation	1,136.33	1,937.00	1,479.65	1,812.00
Zoning & Planning	8,116.62	8,183.00	7,158.30	11,221.00
Jaquith Public Library	36,860.19	39,701.00	39,701.00	42,695.31
Cemeteries	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	7,500.00
Historical Society	<u>3,300.00</u>	<u>3,300.00</u>	<u>3,300.00</u>	<u>3,400.00</u>
<b>Total Other Departments</b>	<b>97,202.01</b>	<b>90,005.00</b>	<b>88,522.95</b>	<b>99,528.31</b>

<b>Outside Appropriations</b>	<b>15,010.00</b>	<b>15,510.00</b>	<b>15,410.00</b>	<b>15,400.00</b>
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<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>607,802.00</b>	<b>640,546.00</b>	<b>647,870.04</b>	<b>668,618.81</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b><u>616,364.24</u></b>	<b><u>640,546.00</u></b>	<b><u>679,584.70</u></b>	<b><u>668,618.81</u></b>
<b>Surplus/(Loss)</b>	<b>8,562.24</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>31,714.66</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**\*Miscellaneous Expenses:**

Transportation to CVRPC meetings	76.76
Insurance deductible - truck accident	500.00
Delinquent taxes - Gumprecht/Grout	342.58
Green Up Expenses	560.87
School tax - Thorndike property	1,321.08
Historic Preservation grant application - copies	<u>53.45</u>
<b>Total Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>2,854.74</b>

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
<b>Outside Appropriations</b>			
Battered Women's Svc/Shelter	350.00	350.00	350.00
Cabot Ambulance	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Central Vt Community Action Cou	300.00	300.00	300.00
Central Vt Council on Aging	800.00	800.00	800.00
Central Vt Economic Devel Corp	300.00	300.00	300.00
Central Vermont Home Health	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Family Center of Washington Cty	300.00	0.00	0.00
Green Mountain Transit Agency	0.00	0.00	100.00
Northern VT RC & D	50.00	50.00	50.00
Onion River Arts Council	0.00	0.00	100.00
Onion River Food Shelf	300.00	300.00	300.00
People's Health & Wellness	200.00	200.00	200.00
Plainfield Fast Squad	4,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
RSVP	300.00	300.00	150.00
Twin Valley Seniors	300.00	400.00	300.00
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually	250.00	250.00	150.00
Vt Ctr for Independent Livin	210.00	0.00	0.00
Washington County Diversion Prg	0.00	150.00	150.00
Washington Cty Youth Serv Bur	250.00	250.00	250.00
Wheels	100.00	0.00	0.00
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	<u>0.00</u>	<u>260.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>
<b>Total Outside Appropriations</b>	<b>15,010.00</b>	<b>15,410.00</b>	<b>15,400.00</b>

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

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<b>ACT 200 (Part of Special Account)</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 54.78
Interest	<u>0.40</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 55.18
<b>BANDSTAND FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 1,589.79
Interest	5.87	
Musicians/Concerts	<u>(235.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 1,360.66
<b>BRIDGE FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 22,739.48
Interest earned	1,306.35	
Bridge grant	45,000.00	
Transfers from General Fund	13,000.00	
Donation for Cassidy Bridge (Banbury)	5,000.00	
Repairs to Creamery Street Bridge	(58,502.50)	
Interest on short-term bidge loan (paid off)	<u>(763.76)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 27,779.57
<b>EQUIPMENT FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 26,174.18
Transfers from General Fund	50,000.00	
Interest	182.68	
Sale of Ford Truck	19,000.00	
Loan pceeds for new truck	26,000.00	
Purchase of new truck	(6,246.33)	
Principle payments - Loader	(36,432.97)	
Interest payments - Loader	<u>(1,196.57)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 7,480.99
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 18,684.91
Interest	447.88	
Transfers from General Fund	12,709.64	
Withdrawal to purchase CD	<u>(14,000.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 17,842.43
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT CD</b>		
		\$ 14,000.00
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT ED DUKE FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 8,559.69
Interest	59.95	
Donations	970.00	
Purchase of cascade air system (shared with Plainfield)	<u>(881.75)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 8,707.89
<b>OLD SCHOOLHOUSE COMMON BUILDING FUND</b>		
Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 3,904.95
Interest	14.59	
Transfers from General Fund	<u>2,918.64</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 6,838.18

**OLD SCHOOLHOUSE COMMON REA LOAN FUND**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 5,341.87
Interest	37.96	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 5,379.83

**PAVING FUND**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 26,981.46
Interest	2,896.47	
Paving grant	94,671.60	
Transfer from general fund	18,000.00	
Paving – School Street	(1,295.00)	
Paving – Creamery Street	(117,339.50)	
Interest on paving loan	<u>(1,818.48)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 22,096.55

**PET CONTROL FUND (part of Special Acct)**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 2,041.24
Interest	14.72	
Pet control fees collected	939.00	
Pet control expenses	<u>(540.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 2,454.96

**PLAYGROUND FUND**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 4,249.16
Interest	51.88	
Cash Donations/Fundraising	414.40	
Grant Proceeds	8,693.72	
Equipment Purchases	<u>(10,000.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 3,409.16

**REAPPRAISAL FUND**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 19,106.25
Interest	10.19	
Transfer from General Fund	11,000.00	
State Reappraisal Funds	5,670.00	
Paid to Vt. Appraisal Co.	(30,000.00)	
Purchases for Reappraisal	<u>(1,906.22)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 3,880.22

**RECORDS RESTORATION (part of Special Account)**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 3,508.91
Interest	25.32	
Fees collected	2,851.00	
Restoration expenses	<u>(2,162.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 4,223.23

**REVOLVING LOAN FUND (part of Special Account)**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 1,702.39
Interest	<u>11.05</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 1,713.44

**SIGN ACCOUNT (part of Special Acct)**

Balance, January 1, 2003		\$ 1,885.55
Interest	<u>13.61</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2003		\$ 1,899.16

**TOTAL, December 31, 2003****\$ 129,121.45**

## TOWN ASSETS

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		<b>Acquisition Cost</b>
<b>Property:</b>		
Mears property	37.00 acres	\$ 7,500.00
Town forest	50.00 acres	2,500.00
Gravel pit	4.00 acres	1,000.00
Railroad depot	8.10 acres	2,000.00
Gumprecht lot	1.50 acres	2,394.35
Margaret Rose lot	2.00 acres	351.48
Thorndike property	120 acres & bridge	1321.08
Roberts lot (tax sale)	.16 acre	200.00
Anderson lot	1.05 acres	1,455.00
Town garage		41,000.00
Old village school lot & bldg		1.00
Fire station and land	2.20 acres	<u>81,000.00</u>
<b>Total Property</b>		<b>\$ 140,722.91</b>
 <b>Equipment - major:</b>		
1998 John Deere grader		\$ 148,700.00
1998 International truck		66,128.52
2001 International truck		55,221.00
2004 International truck		73,153.00
Caterpillar 436B backhoe loader		99,500.00
2000 John Deere Loader		87,200.00
Chipper		12,000.00
Sander		4,045.00
Stone rake		1,500.00
Tools		9,978.65
Thaw rig		1,400.00
Roller shelves (5)		3,100.00
Card file		511.20
Adler-Royal typewriters (2)		950.00
Computers and printers		10,164.42
Office furniture		715.00
Sharp AR 200S copier		3,564.00
Sharp AL 800 copier		300.00
Fire-proof file cabinet		300.00
Map cabinet		3,136.21
Air conditioners (2)		<u>797.84</u>
<b>Total Equipment</b>		<b>\$ 582,364.84</b>
 <b>Fire Station Equipment:</b>		
1937 Chev. Amer. LaFrance Pumper		\$ 4,353.45
1991 Ford L-8000 pumper		99,167.71
1996 Ford LN 8000 tanker		<u>83,530.61</u>
<b>Total Fire Station Equipment</b>		<b>\$ 187,051.77</b>
 <b>TOTAL</b>		 <b>\$ 910,139.52</b>

## TAXES ASSESSED - 2003

### Taxable Grand List as of the Date of Rate Setting:

\$ 83,442,462 (municipal)  
 \$ 83,500,562 (education)

	Town	State-Wide Education	Local Education	Total Education	Total Taxes
Amount of Taxes Needed	\$ 506,264.00	\$ 779,030.00	\$ 485,663.00	\$ 1,264,693.00	\$ 1,770,957.00
Grand List (in 100ths)	834,424.62	835,005.62	835,005.62	835,005.62	
Tax Rate	<u>0.61</u>	<u>0.933</u>	<u>0.582</u>	<u>1.515</u>	<u>2.125</u>
Taxes to be Raised	\$ 508,999.02	\$ 779,060.24	\$ 485,973.27	\$ 1,265,033.51	\$ 1,774,032.53
Actual Taxes Billed*	\$ 508,342.08			\$ 1,263,403.08	\$ 1,771,745.16
Less Abatement	-110.05			-273.34	-383.39
Taxes Paid to Treasurer	<u>-476,519.91</u>			<u>-1,163,958.54</u>	<u>-1,640,478.45</u>
Delinquent Taxes	\$ 31,712.12			\$ 99,171.20	\$ 130,883.32

\* Reflects changes to the Grand List after the tax rate was set.

## DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX ACCOUNT

	<i>To Collector</i>	<i>Collected</i>	<i>Balance Due</i>
2000.....	2,818.29	2,633.99	184.30
2001.....	14,990.83	13,976.13	1,014.70
2002.....	44,969.40	36,475.84	8,493.56
2003.....	<u>130,883.32</u>	<u>79,537.31</u>	<u>51,346.11</u>
Bal. Due Per Ledger.....	193,661.84	132,623.17	61,038.67

### COMPARISON OF DELINQUENT TAX ACCOUNTS IN PRIOR YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Taxes Billed During Year</u>	<u>Amount of Taxes Turned Over to Collector</u>	<u>Balance of Delinquent Tax Account Dec. 31</u>
2003	1,771,745.16	130,883.32	61,038.67
2002	1,542,907.66	100,234.17	62,778.52
2001	1,463,678.32	108,203.40	66,822.09
2000	1,275,939.37	122,526.25	65,963.94
1999	1,149,456.77	112,632.76	66,014.55
1998	1,166,789.54	93,957.85	68,078.83
1997	1,138,613.48	102,635.59	84,822.26
1996	1,205,525.84	109,367.50	84,162.17

### SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING PAYMENTS TO TOWN

Payment is preferable in the form of a check or money order.

All checks are subject to deposit on the date received.

All checks which are returned for lack of sufficient funds are subject to the following policy:

1. There is a \$20.00 charge for returned checks, to be paid to the Town Treasurer.
2. If the check was payment for taxes, causing said taxes to become overdue, the tax account will immediately be turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector, incurring all pertinent penalty and interest charges.

## PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

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The following policy was approved by the voters at Town Meeting 2003:

To avoid delinquent penalties and interest, your payment must be received by 4:30 pm on the due date. Postmarks are generally not accepted, but an exception will be made if the envelope has been *hand-stamped* by the post office and mailed at least 5 days in advance (by the Monday before the tax due date). To be considered timely, you must ask the post office to hand-stamp the envelope and be sure that the postmark is legible. Metered or illegible postmarks (postal service or others) will not be accepted.

The Town Clerk's Office is open Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 – 12:00 and 12:30 – 4:30. **A payment drop box has been installed for those taxpayers who are unable to get to the office during open hours. The depository is located on the outside of the Old Schoolhouse Common, to the left of the front door.**

At last year's Town Meeting, several voters expressed interest in quarterly tax payments, and the Town Officers were asked to research the possibility of sending out quarterly bills.

Sending out bills more frequently results in higher postage and labor costs to the town, but the bigger issue is that in order to have quarterly due dates, we would have to change our fiscal year. We currently operate on a calendar year, but towns that have quarterly tax due dates operate on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year. This would substantially change the way we look at our budget. With our current system, the prior year is finished and audited before the next budget is prepared. On a July – June system, we would only be halfway through the year when the next budget is prepared, and only 2/3 of the way through the year when the budget is presented to the voters at Town Meeting.

If the town chose to change to a July to June fiscal year, we would need to have one 18-month budget as a transition period. After that, the budget year would begin in July, and the first two tax payments for that tax year would be due sometime in the fall and winter. The spring and summer payments would actually be the third and fourth payments. This would initially cause a great deal of difficulty for those taxpayers whose taxes are held in escrow.

If we keep the calendar year as our fiscal year, taxpayers have the option of paying more often than the August and November due dates. We are happy to accept quarterly or monthly payments. We also have some taxpayers who pay one half of their total bill in August, and the other half in November. I have also heard of employers who will withhold property taxes from their employees' paychecks on a weekly basis.

In addition, we have been looking into other payment options such as credit card processing. If you have any questions about tax payment options, please call me at 426-3305.

Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk/Treasurer

## FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

---

The year 2003 was a big year for your Fire Department. It was big in that we had an increase of 50% in calls from last year. Our responses to motor vehicle accidents took a big jump. I guess that people will never learn. DWI, driving too fast on slippery roads and just plain careless driving seems to be the cause of many of the accidents. Our breakdown is as follows:

Fire calls	32
Vehicle accidents	42
Hazardous materials	8
Vehicle fires	8
Grass fire	5
Brush fires	2
Automatic fire alarms	9

On the brighter side, we were the recipients of two grants which have enabled us to update all of our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and to purchase all new communications equipment which will comply with the new FCC regulations coming up in the future. We will also be able to communicate directly with the Vermont State Police and the Vermont Emergency Management Division in Waterbury.

We are also installing a radio in the Town Clerk's office so that we can communicate directly with the Town Clerk in case of emergency.

The Fire Department is also in the planning stages of setting up the Marshfield Fire House as a command center for incidents involving hazardous materials, disasters, and other incidents such as lost persons.

We are doing this because of all the hazardous materials being transported on Route 2 through our town, the fact that we are located next to the Groton State Forest which attracts a lot of campers, and other disasters such as floods which have occurred in the past.

The grants we received were from the Homeland Security Division for \$6,774.00 and Federal Emergency Management for \$41,634.00. We wish to thank these agencies for their generous awards which enabled us to upgrade our equipment at very little cost to the taxpayers.

You will notice an increase in our budget for 2004. We have to overhaul the pump on our fire engine. It has worn to the point that it will no longer pump at its rated capacity. If memory serves me correctly we had to rebuild the pump on our 1964 engine at about the same point in time. Remember, our engine is now thirteen years old. Its condition is excellent except for the pump. Once repaired, it should last for many years.

I wish to thank you all for your support in the past years. We look forward to serving you well in the future years. We are nineteen members strong at the time. Two of our members, Ed Czuchrey and Ed Jalbert are attending classes to become certified fire fighters. Faeterri Nichols makes our incident reports for the National Reporting System. Don O'Donnell keeps our electronic equipment up and running. We thank these folks for doing these things for us. It makes things a lot easier. To all the other fire fighters, my heartfelt thanks for a job well done. I am proud to be associated with such a group of people.

Your Fire Chief, Tom Maclay

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Grant Income				
2002 Fema Grant			6,936.00	
Aiken Grant			1,700.00	
2003 Fema Grant			41,634.00	
Homeland Security Grant			<u>6,774.00</u>	
<b>Total Grant Income</b>			<b><u>57,044.00</u></b>	
Grant Purchases				
Portable pump - FEMA 2002 grant			2,818.43	
Extrication Equipment - FEMA 2002 grant			4,900.00	
Radios - FEMA 2003 grant			21,297.59	
Radios - Homeland Security grant			7,023.05	
SCBA's (4) - FEMA 2003 grant			<u>16,914.00</u>	
<b>Total Grant Purchases</b>			<b><u>52,953.07</u></b>	
<b>- Regular Expenses -</b>				
Fire Dept Administration				
Worker's Compensation	1,077.00	1,500.00	736.00	1,500.00
Fireman's Disability	2,055.00	2,100.00	2,144.00	2,200.00
Medical	0.00	450.00	0.00	450.00
Office Supplies	81.22	100.00	32.33	100.00
Operating Supplies	0.00	75.00	0.00	75.00
Postage	0.00	100.00	44.18	100.00
Dues & Subscriptions	515.42	500.00	485.00	500.00
General Liability Insurance	750.00	6,184.00	6,110.00	6,500.00
E & O Insurance	1,925.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unclassified	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>150.00</u>
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b><u>6,403.64</u></b>	<b><u>11,159.00</u></b>	<b><u>9,551.51</u></b>	<b><u>11,575.00</u></b>
Firefighting				
Operating Supplies	1,308.69	1,500.00	861.58	1,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	72.67	200.00	137.39	300.00
Small Tools & Equipment	206.41	200.00	319.75	200.00
Hose	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
Personnel Protective Gear	1,150.25	1,200.00	0.00	0.00
Contract Services	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Professional Services	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Breathing App. Maint.	3,472.20	3,000.00	833.02	1,000.00
Repairs	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Unclassified	(8.02)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Major Improvements	<u>73.82</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,678.80</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Firefighting</b>	<b><u>6,276.02</u></b>	<b><u>6,900.00</u></b>	<b><u>4,830.54</u></b>	<b><u>3,700.00</u></b>
Fire Prevention				
Operating Supplies	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
Books, Handouts	<u>0.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
<b>Total Fire Prevention</b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>	<b><u>500.00</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>	<b><u>500.00</u></b>

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Fire Department Training				
Operating Supplies	74.13	200.00	192.87	200.00
Books, Training Aids	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total Training</b>	<b>74.13</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>192.87</b>	<b>300.00</b>
Fire Dept Communications				
Operating Supplies	485.83	600.00	291.00	500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	150.00	100.68	250.00
Cell Phone	137.57	150.00	152.60	150.00
Capitol West	2,148.48	2,400.00	2,248.48	2,500.00
Radio/Pager Repairs	297.80	325.00	554.95	700.00
Major Additions	<u>3,726.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Communications</b>	<b>6,795.68</b>	<b>3,625.00</b>	<b>3,347.71</b>	<b>4,100.00</b>
Fire Station				
Operating Supplies	819.74	1,400.00	1,162.44	1,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	114.22	200.00	687.65	200.00
Small Tools & Equipment	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Telephone	539.90	600.00	526.51	600.00
Insurance	349.00	400.00	402.00	425.00
Contract Services	0.00	500.00	48.00	500.00
Utilities GMP	<u>977.34</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,045.83</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
<b>Total Fire Station</b>	<b>2,800.20</b>	<b>4,150.00</b>	<b>3,872.43</b>	<b>4,475.00</b>
Trucks/Fire Fighting/Rescue				
Operating Supplies	0.00	500.00	331.26	500.00
Repair & Maintenance	3,781.49	2,000.00	888.84	5,000.00
Tools & Equipment	30.31	250.00	22.53	250.00
Vehicle Insurance	3,116.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repairs & Maintenance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>312.35</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
<b>Total Trucks/Fire/Rescue</b>	<b>6,927.80</b>	<b>3,750.00</b>	<b>1,554.98</b>	<b>6,750.00</b>
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	797.00	0.00
Transfer to Equip. Fund	382.53	1,500.00	12,709.64	1,500.00
Transfer from Ed Duke Fund	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(881.75)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>29,660.00</b>	<b>31,884.00</b>	<b>35,974.93</b>	<b>32,900.00</b>
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>29,660.00</b>	<b>31,884.00</b>	<b>31,884.00</b>	<b>32,900.00</b>

## -Capital Equipment Fund-

<b>Balance, January 1, 2003</b>		<b>18,684.91</b>
Interest	447.88	
Transfer from the general fund	12,709.64	
Withdrawal to purchase securities	<u>(14,000.00)</u>	
<b>Balance, December 31, 2003</b>		<b>17,842.43</b>

## -Ed Duke Memorial Fund-

<b>Balance, January 1, 2003</b>		<b>8,559.69</b>
Donations		
Alan Christiansen	200.00	
Barbara & Charles Bohn	100.00	
Mike and Vivien Fritz	250.00	
Audrey Huntington	200.00	
Ruth Lowry	25.00	
Peacham Pond Association	100.00	
Other	<u>95.00</u>	
Total Donations		970.00
Interest		<u>59.95</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1,029.95</b>
Expenditures		
Plainfield Air Cascade System	<u>(881.75)</u>	
<b>Balance, December 31, 2003</b>		<b>8,707.89</b>

## FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

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The wet conditions last spring kept our wild land fire incidents down this past year. My goal of no grass or brush fires continues to elude me. We had three incidents that burned three quarters of an acre. We were extremely lucky to keep the acreage to that low level.

I received over 220 requests for burning permits last year. I appreciate your requesting to burn as is required by state law. Some people continue to burn without a permit. Quite often things get out of hand and the Fire Department is called. Legally I can issue a ticket in such cases. I hesitate to do so because the first time makes people aware of the dangers of burning. Some cases are purely accidental. In all my years of serving as Fire Warden I have issued one ticket. That was to a person who continued to keep burning without a permit and caused two woodland fires.

So, before you strike that match think about it! Is it safe to burn? Do you have a permit as required by law? Call your Fire Warden and play it safe. The number to call is 426-3265 or 454-7853. We issue permits to burn natural materials such as brush, trees and untreated lumber. If you want to burn other trash call the State Air Quality Division.

Your Fire Warden, Tom Maclay

# JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## **The Year 2003 In Numbers**

This year the Jaquith Library saw 8,299 patrons, **over 2,000 more patron visits** than last year! We circulated 8,017 books, books-on-tape, and videos, borrowed 446 items from other libraries (an increase of 32% over last year), and offered free programs to over 2,000 people (an increase of nearly 50% over last year) at the library.

## **Changes to the Library in 2003**

The year 2003 brought more exciting changes to the library, thanks to the second year of funding from the Freeman Foundation. With funds once again totaling \$15,000 we were able to continue our expanded hours, making the library and its services more accessible to area residents. As a result, our patron numbers have continued to climb. We purchased many more books, books-on-tape and videos to add to our collection. We also purchased a new computer for one of the public computer stations, a flat screen monitor for the librarian's computer, installed more lighting in the adult shelving area, purchased a new library table and chairs for the reading/work area, and a new librarian's desk. Numerous patrons have commented on how great the library looks, and how welcoming it feels. We will be applying for the third, final (and much smaller) round of Freeman funding for the coming year. We hope to use that money to add to our collection, and to build much needed shelving in the librarian's work space.

An important project for the library this year was the development of a new five year plan. This past summer staff, trustees, and the library planning committee held a series of focus groups. Members of the Marshfield community were invited to come and talk about what they liked about the library, things they thought could be improved, and how they saw the future of the library. Most people seemed very pleased with the Jaquith, most notably its programming, the collection, and the welcoming atmosphere. The most common changes people said they'd like to see are more space (i.e. a bigger library), and to open the library more hours.

## **The Year 2003 in Programs**

We had a very busy year of free programming in 2003, and co-sponsored a number of programs with other local organizations. This past winter the Jaquith Library and the Marshfield Historical Society invited Vermont historian Deborah Clifford to read from her new book. Other winter programs included Robert Burns' birthday celebration, and Angella Gibbons' outdoor tracking adventure. During the summer the Jaquith joined forces with the Marshfield Recreation Committee to offer the most popular summer concert series yet. The summer reading program had "Summer Feasts" as its theme, and our six summer programs, including a concert by Jon Gailmor, were feasted on by over 300 patrons. This fall, Vermont's poet laureate Grace Paley filled the room to standing room only and gave a magnificent reading. Joe Citro told Vermont ghost stories to kids and adults alike just in time for Halloween. Our ongoing and very popular monthly book group continues to grow in membership as we now average about 15 people at each gathering. And finally, in December the Jaquith

Library and the Onion River Food Shelf offered a winter clothing drive for families in need. Over 80 people received free winter clothing, and because of its success we hope to do it again next year.

Finally, we started a home delivery service for patrons who are unable to come leave their home. If you or someone you know are in need of such a service please call us!

**Things to Come in 2004!**

Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm – Aurora in concert. An all woman troupe will sing songs of love, sacred and secular, from the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jaquith Monthly Book Group discusses the classic To Kill A Mockingbird.

Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am – Hand Puppet Making Workshop with former Bread and Puppeteer Clare Dolan.

Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm – Northern Routes in concert. Come enjoy an afternoon of traditional and original music with high energy and lots of passion. Fun for the whole family.

Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm – Film: "Last Link" by Ben Kahn, sponsored by The Jaquith Library and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. A visually gorgeous documentary, Last Link is the story of the Basque and Bearnaise shepherding cultures.

More great programs to come this spring, so stay tuned! All library programs are free and open to all. Please call us at 426-3581 for more information.

**Thank You!**

Finally, we would like to thank our many donors who gave so generously this past year. Many thanks as well to our volunteers, who offered more than countless hours in free labor to help the library run smoothly. Finally, we'd like to thank Friends of the Library co-directors Vivien Fritz and Connie Koeller, who advertised library events through their quarterly newsletter, *The Overdue News*, provided refreshments at most of the events, and sponsored several wonderful programs this past year.

Respectfully submitted by the Library Trustees and Library Director Susannah Blachly

**Winter/Spring Hours, January-April**

Monday 9-12 & 3-6  
Tuesday (closed)  
Wednesday 9-12 & 3-8  
Thursday 3-6  
Friday (closed)  
Saturday 9-12  
Sunday 1-4

**Summer/Fall Hours, May-December**

Monday 9-12 & 3-6  
Tuesday 3-6  
Wednesday 9-12 & 3-8  
Thursday 3-6  
Friday (closed)  
Saturday 9-12  
Sunday (closed)

## JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY Town Account

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Checking Bal., Jan. 1	2,172.59		843.57	
Savings Bal., Jan. 1	22,540.07		22,196.28	
Less surplus to be applied	<u>(4,724.81)</u>		<u>(3,052.00)</u>	
<b>Total, Town funds avail.</b>	<b>19,987.85</b>		<b>19,987.85</b>	
<b>- Income -</b>				
Previous Year's Surplus	4,724.81	3,052.00	3,052.00	3,046.69
Town Appropriation	36,860.19	39,701.00	39,701.00	42,695.31
ERate	1,174.27	0.00	576.00	0.00
Dividends	145.45	125.00	121.56	0.00
Bond Interest	1,012.50	1,012.00	1,012.50	1,012.00
Bank Interest	301.13	200.00	170.19	100.00
Computer Supply Income	84.00	0.00	99.10	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>36.55</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>44,338.90</u></b>	<b><u>44,090.00</u></b>	<b><u>44,932.35</u></b>	<b><u>46,854.00</u></b>
<b>- Expenses -</b>				
Books	2,972.95	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Computer/Internet	898.27	1,710.00	1,063.86	1,210.00
Electricity	251.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
Telephone	547.37	600.00	704.68	700.00
Rent	4,716.00	5,250.00	5,109.80	5,250.00
Insurance	594.00	680.00	684.00	900.00
Supplies	636.18	500.00	838.54	750.00
Postage	673.55	870.00	869.65	1,020.00
Programs	802.80	800.00	654.57	900.00
Maintenance	82.50	100.00	0.00	100.00
Equipment	95.00	150.00	60.97	150.00
Conference Fees	269.00	300.00	153.00	300.00
Transportation/Mileage	269.68	450.00	75.24	250.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	346.13	0.00	64.00	0.00
Payroll Expenses				
Librarian Salary	18,648.02	15,968.00	15,159.77	16,424.00
Library Assistant Salary	1,362.14	2,106.00	2,328.76	2,808.00
Substitute Salary	537.20	702.00	463.13	756.00
Custodial Services	271.88	338.00	192.20	330.00
Social Security	1,187.97	1,044.00	982.82	1,092.00
Medicare Expense	277.82	244.00	229.85	256.00
Retirement Expense	796.01	958.00	874.50	974.00
Medical Insurance	<u>5,050.51</u>	<u>6,820.00</u>	<u>6,876.32</u>	<u>8,184.00</u>
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b><u>28,131.55</u></b>	<b><u>28,180.00</u></b>	<b><u>27,107.35</u></b>	<b><u>30,824.00</u></b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b><u>41,286.90</u></b>	<b><u>44,090.00</u></b>	<b><u>41,885.66</u></b>	<b><u>46,854.00</u></b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b><u>3,052.00</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>	<b><u>3,046.69</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>
Checking Bal., Dec. 31	843.57		602.49	
Savings Bal., Dec. 31	22,196.28		22,432.05	
Less surplus to be applied	<u>(3,052.00)</u>		<u>(3,046.69)</u>	
<b>Total, Town funds avail.</b>	<b>19,987.85</b>		<b>19,987.85</b>	

**JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**Jaquith Account**

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>
Checking Balance, Jan. 1	4500.03	963.33
Mark Mears Balance, Jan. 1	<u>10,966.47</u>	<u>19,942.17</u>
Total	15,466.50	20,905.50
<b>- Income -</b>		
Grants	17,817.00	(123.13)
Donations	9,622.67	1,494.00
Interest	203.66	117.31
Dividends	162.79	173.10
Transfer of Book budget	0.00	1,527.16
Jaquith Book Replacement	<u>22.14</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>27,828.26</u></b>	<b><u>3,188.44</u></b>
<b>- Expenses -</b>		
Granted Payroll Expenses	6,916.13	2,270.15
Granted Books	2,107.34	269.24
Freeman Grant Purchases	3,860.14	7,857.99
Granted Program Fees	1,549.93	750.00
Other Donation/Grant Purchases	<u>7,955.72</u>	<u>29.76</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>22,389.26</u></b>	<b><u>11,177.14</u></b>
<b>Net Income/(Expense)</b>	<b>5,439.00</b>	<b>(7,988.70)</b>
Checking Balance, Dec. 1	963.33	731.77
Mark Mears Balance, Dec. 1	<u>19,942.17</u>	<u>12,185.03</u>
Total	20,905.50	12,916.80
<b>- Investments -</b>		
Liberty Funds		
Jaquith	365.847 shares	2,235.33
Town	326.843 shares*	2,036.23
*Transferred to Edward Jones Account		
Edward Jones Bond Funds		
Value December 31, 2003		25,370.94
Interest Earned		1,012.50

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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The recreation committee had a very successful year thanks to a handful of very devoted members and volunteers. Beginning in December 2002 a small but adequate ice rink was set up outside the Old Schoolhouse Common and big thanks go to Ernie Penley and Don Marsh for keeping the ice maintained. Ernie has spent countless hours creating a new, expanded ice rink this winter on the basketball court and we thank him for all of his hard work. Do feel free to come and help remove snow when there is a storm.

The Easter Egg Hunt was the next event of the year ... timed to coincide with the Old Schoolhouse Common Open House... and despite some cold weather in the morning the turnout was significant. Anne Allen and Lynnette Combs organized the mornings activities of the Easter Egg Hunt and then egg painting in the meeting room with Kelly Carpenter assisting. Many thanks to them for a great day. The summer found the playground and the ballfield very busy and thanks go to Ed Jalbert, Ellen Cooke, Paul Boffa, Marianne and Andy Perchlik, A.J. Mills and Bobbi Brimblecombe for planting the trees and working on the landscaping for the area surrounding the playground. A last minute but very successful swim program took place out at Groton State Park with Sandy Paritz organizing and Justin Campbell volunteering his time as swim instructor. Big thanks go to both of them for taking the time to pull this together. For Fall Foliage in October Anne Allen singlehandedly raised money for a Moonwalk and although the weather necessitated that it be set up in the gym the kids had a great time nevertheless. Thanks again go to Anne, Sandy, Lynnette, Kelly, Justin, Ernie, Don, Bobbi, Bob Buchanan, and Allie Bauer for all their efforts in helping the recreation committee.

Kate Smith, Chairman

## RECREATION / PROGRAMMING DEPARTMENT

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
<b>- Income -</b>				
Swimming Lessons	378.83		190.00	
Donations	<u>0.00</u>		<u>245.00</u>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>378.83</b>		<b>435.00</b>	
<b>- Expenses -</b>				
Bandstand Music	945.00		1,500.00	
Less Music Donations	<u>(945.00)</u>		<u>(1,200.00)</u>	
Net Cost of Music	0.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Little League Field	150.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Easter Egg Hunt	149.88	75.00	36.83	50.00
Fishing Derby	140.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Swim Program Expenses	81.00	0.00	96.00	100.00
Halloween Party	70.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Ice Skating Rink	156.28	200.00	217.37	200.00
Portapotty Rental	408.00	612.00	612.00	612.00
Playground Maintenance	0.00	500.00	419.95	500.00
Miscellaneous	<u>360.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>232.50</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,515.16</b>	<b>1,937.00</b>	<b>1,914.65</b>	<b>1,812.00</b>
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>1,136.33</b>	<b>1,937.00</b>	<b>1,479.65</b>	<b>1,812.00</b>

## ZONING AND PLANNING

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### **Amendments to the Zoning Regulations**

Last year the Planning Commission worked on a number of different proposals to refine the Marshfield Zoning Ordinance dated March 7, 2001. After holding many meetings to discuss different proposals, doing research into zoning ordinances of the surrounding towns, and holding a public hearing, the following five proposals are being submitted for your vote at Town Meeting as amendments to the Marshfield Zoning Ordinance.

1. We extended the definition of Camp to further specify the use as a seasonal dwelling only.
2. We changed the definition of Building Height to simplify it so that all building heights are measured the same way. We also made changes to the actual building height limits in the charts to reflect the new definition. Our intent was to simplify the wording but not alter the height of buildings allowed.
3. We introduced a time limit for a zoning permit and the completion of the project. The completion is marked by obtaining a certificate of occupancy which can be done after the structure and roof are in place, but before the interior work is done.
4. We changed Home Occupations to allow home occupations to use up to 100% of an accessory building, provided there is no change to the character of the neighborhood.
5. We changed the village and rural district sections regarding multiple dwellings per lot. In these cases where someone wants to create more than one dwelling per lot we have added additional site plan review and conditional use approval in some cases.

### **Development Review Board**

The DRB is responsible for all local review and management of developments in town. Any Permit applications that cannot be approved by the Zoning Administrator are reviewed by the DRB. Current members of the DRB are: Jon Groveman (Chairperson), Martin Johnson, Tom Daley, Gary Wilson, and James Arisman. The Zoning Administrator is Bob Light.

During 2003, 65 permits were granted, 2 were denied. Here is a breakdown of the permits granted:

New houses	7
Houses replacing existing structures	5
House additions	20
Camps	2
Accessory building/barn/shed/garage	24
Signs	3
Subdivisions	2
Site plan or Conditional use	<u>2</u>
Total	65

### **New Efforts**

This year the Planning Commission will be updating the Marshfield Town Plan. Every five years we are required by state statutes to update the Town Plan. We don't expect to make changes to the major objectives in the current Town Plan. We will look at minor areas that need updating based on changes in the Town over the last five years. We will also look at the maps to see if there are any areas that need updating.

The current Planning Commission members are listed below. I would like to thank them for their efforts during the last year. Our regular meetings are the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and your input is greatly appreciated.

From the Marshfield Planning Commission

Mike Fritz, Chairperson

John Stork

Bob Light

Wayne Kowalski

Laura Johnson

Jean Matthew

## ZONING AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
- Income -				
Building Permits	770.00	650.00	440.00	650.00
Accessory Use Permits	840.00	795.00	1,060.00	795.00
Conditional Use Permits	111.50	75.00	0.00	75.00
Subdivision Permits	150.00	300.00	375.00	300.00
Planned Unit Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Site Plan Review	306.50	150.00	65.00	150.00
Certificate of Occupancy	960.00	640.00	1,000.00	640.00
Appeal to DRB	<u>200.00</u>	<u>120.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>	<u>120.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,338.00</b>	<b>2,730.00</b>	<b>3,140.00</b>	<b>2,730.00</b>
- Expenses -				
Payroll				
Administrator	4,920.00	6,120.00	6,018.00	6,120.00
Clerk	660.00	750.00	800.00	1,250.00
Social Security	342.86	426.00	413.42	457.00
Medicare	80.19	100.00	96.69	107.00
Mileage	244.74	180.00	310.02	180.00
Total Payroll	6,247.79	7,576.00	7,638.13	8,114.00
Advertising	447.25	355.00	443.20	355.00
Legal Fees	2,748.34	1,000.00	260.00	500.00
Regional Planning Dues	1,271.60	1,272.00	1,271.60	1,272.00
Postage	18.74	50.00	0.00	50.00
Supplies	242.65	235.00	67.34	235.00
Printing	478.25	250.00	186.03	250.00
Copying	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Maps	0.00	50.00	132.00	50.00
Devel. Review Board Exp	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Miscellaneous	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>3,050.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>11,454.62</b>	<b>10,913.00</b>	<b>10,298.30</b>	<b>13,951.00</b>
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>8,116.62</b>	<b>8,183.00</b>	<b>7,158.30</b>	<b>11,221.00</b>

## PERMITS NEEDED

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**Highway Access:** A permit is required from the Selectboard for any access from property to Town highways, and from the State for any access from property to State highways.

Please be reminded that the Town of Marshfield is not responsible for driveway culverts. They must be maintained by the property owner.

**Zoning Permit:** No land or building development may commence, nor shall any land or structure be used, extended in any way, or be occupied unless a zoning permit and a certificate of occupancy shall have been duly issued by the Administrative Officer, as provided for in section 4443 of the Act. (Act 250, V.S.A. 24; Marshfield Zoning Regulations, Section 130).

**Subdivision:** No subdivision of land may legally occur without a hearing before the Marshfield Development Review Board. Application forms and copies of the Marshfield Subdivision regulations are available at the Town Clerk's Office. A sub-divider is welcome to come to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Development Review Board to ask questions.

## FEE SCHEDULE FOR ZONING AND SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

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Building permits for one and two family dwellings and additions requiring additional sewage disposal	\$62.00
Accessory buildings, additions not requiring additional sewage disposal and signs	\$27.00
Site plan approval	\$72.00
Conditional use permit	\$72.00
Site plan approval and conditional use, if applied for simultaneously	\$100.00
Planned Unit Development	\$307.00
Planned Residential Development	\$307.00
Appeal to Development Review Board	\$47.00
Certificate of Occupancy	\$47.00
Subdivision Permit	\$82.00

-The above fees include \$7.00 for recording-

Wireless Telecommunications Facility, small scale	\$500.00
Wireless Telecommunications Facility, other	\$1,000.00
Filing land plats	
11" x 17"	\$6.00
18" x 24"	\$8.00

The proper fee must be paid before the application will be deemed complete and considered.

The fee should be paid with a check or money order payable to the Town of Marshfield.

## MARSHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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January 2003 marked important events for the Marshfield Historical Society: with the gracious help of Hap Hayward the society was reorganized with new officers and resumed monthly meetings; it was also represented on the radio program "20 Towns in 20 Days"; and several of our members attended a local history exhibit workshop hosted at the new Vermont History Center in Barre.

During spring 2003, the society researched and constructed a large exhibit titled "Weaving Heirlooms for History". We selected an item in our collection, a hand-woven piece of an intricately patterned linen tablecloth that was crafted in 1850 by two sisters, Patty Bemis Pitkin and Sally Bemis Dwinell. Then we had this important heirloom professionally conserved. We added photos, graphics, text and flax spinning wheels loaned by Lee Light and Caleb Pitkin. The exhibit tells a story about the domestic work of women in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and their desire to create a fabric that became a family heirloom. The exhibit "Weaving Heirlooms for History" was prepared for the Vermont History Expo at the Tunbridge World's Fair Grounds in June. Principal exhibit team members were John Johnson, Chris Bellamy and Kate Smith.

In September 2003 the society moved to a larger classroom in the Old Schoolhouse in order to expand its collection and exhibition space. We held an open house and slide show of historic Marshfield for the Community Harvest Festival in October.

A word of special thanks to Audrey Huntington for the donation of her scrapbook collection, to Caleb Pitkin for exhibit supplies and to Chuck Bohn for framing a panoramic photograph of agricultural history donated by Greg Sanford.

Currently the society, with the help of Nathan Phillips, is excited about researching and creating an exhibit featuring Marshfield's only covered bridge, the Martin Bridge.

The society is located at the Old Schoolhouse Common and monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in documenting and preserving the historical resources in Marshfield is encouraged to attend our monthly meetings. We welcome donations of photos, documents, yearbooks, and historical items. Our publication, Marshfield, Vermont – A Photographic Album, 1860-1930, compiled and edited by Caleb Pitkin, continues to sell well. Copies of the book are available from the Town Clerk.

Report submitted by John Johnson, President.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
Checking Bal., Jan. 1	6,675.42	7,539.94	7,354.15
Cash on Hand, Jan. 1	0.00	105.00	0.00
Less Unpaid Sales Tax	<u>(23.75)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(10.50)</u>
Funds Available	6,651.67	7,644.94	7,343.65

### -Income-

Book Sales	900.00	1,026.19	
Shipping & Handling Fees	5.00	10.00	
Donations	13.75	0.00	
Appropriation	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,400.00
Interest Income	<u>109.26</u>	<u>53.97</u>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,328.01</b>	<b>4,390.16</b>	

### -Expenses-

Book Postage	0.00	7.46	
Rent	3,300.00	3,664.00	4,392.00
Other Expenses	<u>34.74</u>	<u>1,019.99 *</u>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>3,334.74</b>	<b>4,691.45</b>	

**Net Income/(Loss)                      993.27                      (301.29)**

Checking Bal. Dec. 31	7,539.94	7,354.15	
Cash on Hand Dec. 31	105.00	0.00	
Less Unpaid Sales Tax	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(10.50)</u>	
Funds Available	7,644.94	7,343.65	

### -Assets-

Number of Books on Hand, Dec. 31	287	242	
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\* Other expenses:    819.99 VT History Expo  
                              200.00 Tables  
                              1,019.99

## CEMETERY FUND

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>
Money Market Balance, Jan. 1	2,215.05	4,124.03
Bond Redeemed	15,436.05	10,428.00
<b>-Income-</b>		
Income from Investments		
Money Market Earnings	49.93	25.08
Bond Interest	3,128.13	2,554.43
Other Income		
Appropriation	5,000.00	5,000.00
Burials	1,500.00	1,100.00
Lot Purchases	<u>0.00</u>	<u>325.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,678.06</b>	<b>9,004.51</b>
<b>-Expenses-</b>		
Ronald Pitkin, Sexton	250.00	250.00
Payroll Taxes	19.13	19.13
Burials	670.00	620.00
Capital Repairs	1,260.00	0.00
Cemetery Mowing	6,000.00	6,000.00
Flags	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	<u>6.00</u>	<u>390.25</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>8,205.13</b>	<b>7,279.38</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expense)</b>	<b>1,472.93</b>	<b>1,725.13</b>
Withdrawal To Purchase Bonds	(15,000.00)	(12,000.00)
<b>Money Market Balance, Dec. 31</b>	<b>4,124.03</b>	<b>4,277.16</b>
<b>-Other Invesments-</b>		
Mutual Funds, Value on Dec. 31	47,714.98	57,809.97 *
Bonds, Value on Dec. 31	<u>39,910.00</u>	<u>42,088.11</u>
<b>Total Cemetery Funds, Dec. 31</b>	<b>91,749.01</b>	<b>104,175.24</b>

\*In 2003, \$2,387.64 in dividends were reinvested

# CEMETERY BYLAWS

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The following restrictions shall apply to the use and operation of all cemeteries in the Town of Marshfield.

1. A concrete liner, vault or air-tight urn (for cremations) shall be used for all burials.
2. All vaults or liners shall be covered with at least twelve (12) inches of earth.
3. In one standard grave lot the following shall be permitted:
  - A. One (1) standard burial and one cremated burial which shall be immediately in front of the headstone;
  - B. Two (2) cremated burials immediately in front of the headstone and one (1) infant burial;
  - C. Four (4) cremated burials.
4. Vaults and liners shall be centered as close as possible in each grave lot. Vaults/liners shall not be placed closer than four (4) feet from the edge of the travelled road.
5. No trees, shrubs or bushes shall be planted except with the approval of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners or Board of Selectmen or their authorized representative.
6. The opening date for burials shall not be earlier than May 1st and the closing date for burials shall not be later than November 1st.
7. Cost of grave lots: \$325.00
8. Excavation, back fill and reseeding:

Adults	\$400.00
Infants	\$225.00
Cremations	\$100.00

Fee for installing corner markers	\$40.00
Fee for marking location of monuments, headstones and markers	\$20.00

Adopted February 5, 1985  
Most recent revision June 5, 2001  
MARSHFIELD SELECTBOARD

## OLD SCHOOLHOUSE COMMON

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We are happy to report that during 2003, the Old Schoolhouse Common was fully rented. We are delighted to have a diverse group of tenants ranging from municipal offices of the Town Clerk, the Marshfield Historical Society, the Onion River Food Shelf and the Jaquith Library, to a massage therapist, media distributor, weaving & upholstery, a surveyor and an artist.

A small increase in rent permitted us to perform a great deal of maintenance which had been deferred for years. Marshfield resident, Ernie Penley, was hired as a part time building superintendent and on a scheduled basis we are beginning to catch up with building care. This year, the building was painted both inside and outside for the first time in many years.

The Summer Bandstand Concert Series continued this year--- many thanks to Susannah Blachly who arranged for performances by local bands. We withdrew from the regional Fall Foliage Festival in favor of a Community Harvest Festival which was geared more to Marshfield residents than tourists. The skating rink was moved to the outdoor basketball court, which will provide a larger flat surface. There was a renewed degree of cooperation between the OSC Board & the town Recreation Committee, which is working closely to provide additional opportunities to make the best community use of the Old Schoolhouse Common.

We encourage others in the community to add their energy to the activities at the Old Schoolhouse Common by becoming members of the OSC Board. We meet monthly at 7:00 every 2nd Monday--- drop in and see what we are doing.

Old Schoolhouse Common Board

Allie Bauer \*\* Ellen Cooke \*\* Kate Smith \*\* Alan Taplow \*\* Chris Whalen

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DEPARTMENT  
(Old Schoolhouse Common)**

	<u>2002 Actual</u>	<u>2003 Proposed</u>	<u>2003 Actual</u>	<u>2004 Proposed</u>
- Income -				
Lease Income				
Stage	700.00	0.00	1,438.00	1,296.00
Town Clerk's Office	7,680.00	7,680.00	7,680.00	7,680.00
Library	4,674.00	5,100.00	5,100.00	5,100.00
Smith/Blachly	4,950.00	4,950.00	4,945.00	4,944.00
Bauer	2,560.00	3,840.00	3,840.00	3,840.00
Historical Society	4,026.00	4,026.00	4,392.00	4,392.00
Levine	1,340.00	2,610.00	2,294.78	3,162.48
Food Shelf	1,440.00	2,640.00	1,825.00	1,860.00
Sunwise Surveying	<u>3,300.00</u>	<u>3,300.00</u>	<u>3,025.00</u>	<u>3,300.00</u>
Total Lease Income	30,670.00	34,146.00	34,539.78	35,574.48
Gymnasium	355.00	500.00	647.00	500.00
Bandstand Rental	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00
Meeting Room	192.85	250.00	164.50	250.00
Kitchen	21.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
Seniors	150.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Community Dinners	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
Fundraising/Fall Foliage	1,512.94	1,500.00	0.00	500.00
Other Income	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Resident Discount	(83.40)	0.00	(242.25)	0.00
Donation	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income	33,248.39	37,096.00	35,984.03	37,524.48

	<u>2002</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Proposed</u>	<u>2003</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>2004</u> <u>Proposed</u>
<b>- Expenses -</b>				
Payroll				
Building Maintenance	752.50	5,760.00	5,340.00	6,144.00
Snow Removal	0.00	0.00	359.10	250.00
Playground Maintenance	0.00	0.00	97.50	400.00
OSC Coordinator	1,530.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Security	141.52	360.00	359.39	421.00
Medicare	33.09	85.00	84.05	99.00
Total Payroll	<u>2,457.11</u>	<u>6,205.00</u>	<u>6,240.04</u>	<u>7,314.00</u>
Building Repairs/Maint.	12,015.21	2,500.00	2,151.34	2,500.00
Capital Improvements	1,497.00	2,000.00	1,091.88	2,000.00
Contract Labor	1,500.00	1,600.00	2,182.98	2,000.00
Custodial	2,505.52	2,500.00	2,362.00	2,500.00
Fire Alarm Expense	4,673.68	500.00	450.00	500.00
Electricity	3,479.02	4,000.00	3,779.58	4,000.00
Equipment Rental	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Expense	589.49	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fuel Expense	3,943.55	4,000.00	3,227.79	3,500.00
Heating Repairs	2,578.52	1,500.00	1,292.52	1,500.00
Gas	93.54	100.00	224.21	250.00
Insurance	2,587.00	3,000.00	2,980.00	3,000.00
Janitorial Supplies	592.55	300.00	625.67	500.00
Marketing & Advertising	215.00	250.00	0.00	50.00
Miscellaneous Expense	364.91	300.00	24.34	100.00
Rubbish Removal	1,232.38	1,200.00	1,249.44	1,200.00
Fundraising / Fall Foliage	388.78	400.00	119.60	200.00
Water Expense	1,504.00	1,500.00	1,504.00	1,500.00
Sewer Expense	1,560.00	1,560.00	1,560.00	1,560.00
Repayment to Town	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Transfer to Building Fund	600.00	1,381.00	2,918.64	1,350.48
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>46,377.26</u></b>	<b><u>37,096.00</u></b>	<b><u>35,984.03</u></b>	<b><u>37,524.48</u></b>
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>13,128.87</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## WASHINGTON NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION

An audit of the Washington Northeast Supervisory Union's finances has been conducted again this year and a copy of the report is available at the Superintendent's Office. As required by VSA Title 16, Section 261 a(10), the following is a summary report of the financial operation of the Supervisory Union.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	FY 2003 Audited	FY2004 Projected	FY 2005 Proposed
BEGIN BAL. ALL FUNDS, JULY 1	\$181,604.13	\$214,622.98	\$153,927.11
<b>ADMINISTRATION FUND</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue	\$288,764.86	\$290,081.00	\$307,557.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$288,764.86)</u>	<u>(\$290,081.00)</u>	<u>(\$307,557.00)</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue: Assessments	\$205,627.69	\$165,636.00	\$184,796.00
IDEA-B funds - Federal	\$97,326.00	\$114,522.00	\$114,522.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$302,953.69)</u>	<u>(\$280,158.00)</u>	<u>(\$299,318.00)</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>EARLY EDUCATION FUND</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenue: Grants	\$35,845.00	\$33,455.00	\$33,947.00
Assessments	\$30,897.19	\$27,656.00	\$27,080.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$66,742.19)</u>	<u>(\$61,111.00)</u>	<u>(\$61,027.00)</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>FEDERAL CONSOLIDATED GRANTS</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$11,002.49	\$19,739.36	\$0.00
Revenues	\$429,333.06	\$443,022.84	\$407,939.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$420,596.19)</u>	<u>(\$462,762.20)</u>	<u>(\$407,939.00)</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$19,739.36	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>CABOT SCHOOL GRANTS</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$7,592.61	\$2,382.32	\$0.00
Revenues	\$16,530.39	\$538.95	\$0.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$21,740.68)</u>	<u>(\$2,921.27)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$2,382.32	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>CABOT COALITION GRANTS</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$44,454.89	\$27,518.01	\$0.00
Revenues	\$93,399.05	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$110,335.93)</u>	<u>(\$27,518.01)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$27,518.01	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TWINFIELD GRANTS</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Revenues	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$5,000.00)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>			
Beginning Balance, July 1	\$118,554.14	\$164,983.29	\$153,927.11
Revenues	\$192,483.40	\$186,152.31	\$5,000.00
Expenditures	<u>(\$146,054.25)</u>	<u>(\$197,208.49)</u>	<u>(\$146,165.97)</u>
Closing Balance, June 30	\$164,983.29	\$153,927.11	\$12,761.14
<b>END. BAL. ALL FUNDS, JUNE 30</b>	<b>\$214,622.98</b>	<b>\$153,927.11</b>	<b>\$12,761.14</b>

Other than as noted above, all other special education aid is awarded directly to the Twinfield Union and Cabot School Districts and will be reported in those financial reports.

# DETERMINATION OF 2003 SCHOOL TAX LIABILITY

## State Education Property Tax Determination

1.	2002 Equalized Education Grand List	708,209.09	(1)
2.	Equalized state education property tax rate	1.10	(2)
3.	<b>Total state education taxes to be raised</b> (line 1) x (line 2)	<b>779,030</b>	<b>(3)</b>

## Local Share Property Tax Determination

4.	FY2004 budgeted expenditures	2,760,809	(4)
5.	Capital construction costs excluded	-	(5)
6.	Reduced expenditures for Act 60 Calculations (line 4)-(line 5)	2,760,809	(6)
7.	2004 budgeted revenues	447,257	(7)
8.	Local Education Spending (LES) (line 6)-(line 7)	2,313,552	(8)

### Determine final netted block grant

9.	FY2004 equalized pupils	270.18	(9)
10.	LES per equalized pupil (line 8) / (line 9)	8,563.00	(10)
11.	Total block grant at \$5,810 per equalized pupil (line 9) x \$5,810	1,569,746	(11)
12.	Technical Center FTE's	3.33	(12)
13.	Block grant to technical center for FTE's (line 12) x \$5,810	19,347	(13)
14.	Net block grant after withholding for tech centers (line 11)-(line 13)	1,550,399	(14)

### Calculate local share tax as a percent of statewide tax

15.	Spending above the netted block grant (line 8)-(line 14)	763,153	(15)
16.	Capital debt hold-harmless aid	1,827	(16)
17.	Adjusted spending above netted block grant (line 15)-(line 16)	761,326	(17)
18.	Adjusted above block spending per pupil (line 17) / (line 9)	2,817.85	(18)
19.	Local share percentage (line 18) / (45.20 x 100)	62.342%	(19)
20.	<b>Total Local Share Taxes to be Raised</b> (line 3) x (line 19)	<b>485,663</b>	<b>(20)</b>

## State Education Tax Distribution

21.	State ed. tax we send to the school district for block grant (line 3)	779,030	(21)
22.	Block grant support from the Education Fund if (line 21)>(line 3), (line 21) - (line 3)	771,369	(22)
23.	Amount retained by town (0.5%) if (line 3)>(line 21), 0.5% x [(line 3) - (line 21)]	-	(23)
24.	State education tax sent to the Education Fund (line 3) - (line 21) - (line 23)	-	(24)

## Local Share Education Tax Distribution

25.	Local share education tax retained by the school district (line 20)	485,663	(25)
26.	Amt. district receives from the Education Fund (line 17) - (line 20)	275,663	(26)

"Local Share Taxes to be Raised" are based on school budgets submitted to the Vermont Department of Education as required under Title 16 V.S.A. §4027 (e). Questions? Call the Vermont Department of Education at (802) 828-3151.

## **CABOT AMBULANCE SERVICE**

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This year Cabot Ambulance purchased a 2003 Ford F350 ambulance with the help of UDAG funds. We appreciate everyone's help with this purchase. The truck is full size with Granning Air Ride suspension and 4 wheel drive for those hard to reach areas when the weather is bad. There have been a few minor issues with the truck that have been resolved. On the whole, I think everyone is fairly happy with the transition from a small box to a larger one with more room to work.

In 2003, Cabot Ambulance was toned to 153 calls from January 1 - November 30. Of the 153 calls, Cabot responded to 143 and Barre Town responded to 10 calls of when Cabot was unable to have a crew. Of the 143 calls that Cabot did respond to, Barre Town assisted with 3 Mutual Aid calls requiring more than one ambulance to transport patients or ambulance mechanical difficulties. Of the 153 calls toned, Cabot transported 102 patients, Barre Town transported 15 patients, DHART transported 1 patient, and 60 patients refused treatment or transport from any service. Cabot responded to 3 fire assists.

### **2002/2003 Comparison Chart**

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Cabot	48	63
Marshfield	72	77
Walden	5	10
Peacham	3	2
Plainfield	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS	128	153

There were 78 medical emergencies, 45 motor vehicle accidents, and 29 calls that consisted of other types of accidents in the home, school, or work place. At the current time we have 4 EMT-I Techs, 8 EMT Basics, 2 Observers, and 5 CPR/Drivers.

Another change we have made this year involves billing. We no longer use SkyMED/Billing911 as our billing agent. Sheila Brown has taken over billing for Cabot Ambulance, thus giving patients a more personal approach to their billing needs from one of our own people. Sheila is more than willing to discuss billing payment plans with you as well as any other ambulance matter that comes up. She will be sending out requests for information for billing your insurances. Prompt replies are

appreciated! You may reach her at the number supplied at the bottom of this report.

We are currently looking for more volunteers from the Cabot area that are interested in becoming EMTs and working in Emergency Medical Services. The current crew finds that helping people when they are sick or hurt is very rewarding. Our call force at the current time is made up of mostly Marshfield and Walden people with only a few Cabot people on the squad. We are in desperate need of volunteers that can respond at any time of day or night. Volunteers must be responsible adults holding a valid driver's license, (must be 21 to drive the ambulance with a good driving record), and an interest in pursuing a minimum of First Responder certification. If anyone is interested, please contact any Cabot Ambulance member or call one of the officer's listed at the end of this report. We help provide training for anyone with a serious interest in pursuing this type of career.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, DIAL 911**

Sheila Brown, President; Billing Administrator .....(802) 479-5086  
Jenny Warshow, Vice President.....(802) 454-7161  
John Christman, Sr., Treasurer .....(802) 563-3119  
Marcy Martin, Secretary .....(802) 563-2260  
Cabot Ambulance Administrative Office.....(802) 563-2030

Respectfully submitted:  
Sheila Brown, President

# PLAINFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE

## Rescue Budget for 2004

Insurance	2,600.00	Plainfield Town Support	6,500.00
Dispatch	1,960.00	Marshfield Town Support	<u>4,500.00</u>
Schools & Training	2,500.00	<b>TOTAL TOWN PAYMENT</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>
Truck Repairs	500.00		
Fuel	450.00		
Supplies, Medical	1,000.00		
Equipment Replacement	1,000.00		
Conference Charges	<u>1,000.00</u>		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>11,010.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>

In 2003, Plainfield Rescue responded to 161 calls. This number of calls handled 196 patients.

We have three members who are currently in a six-month training program at CVH.

We have purchased two SCBA air systems, new radios, and an AED. These were purchased with a Homeland Security Grant that we received. We look forward to serving the communities of Plainfield and Marshfield in 2004 and hope everybody has a safe and healthy new year.

Thank you from all of the members of the Plainfield Fire and Rescue.

2002 - 2003	Total Number of Calls	Plain- field	Marsh- field	Mutual Aid	10/50' s	atv	over 65	under 18
July	13	8	5		6		5	1
August	15	9	6		7		2	
September	9	3	5	1	6		1	1
October	23	13	10		5	1	5	1
November	7	3	4		4		1	
December	24	10	13	1	7		8	2
January	17	4	13		5		5	5
February	11	5	6		3		4	1
March	9	5	4		3		2	2
April	15	8	7		3		2	1
May	7	4	3		7			
June	11	4	7		2		1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>

## BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

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The Marshfield Budget Committee recommends that the following amounts of tax monies be voted by the taxpayers:

Selectboard	640,890.48
This includes:	
Administration/Highways	554,703.00
Zoning and Planning	13,951.00
Fire Department	32,900.00
Recreation Committee	1,812.00
Buildings & Grounds	37,524.48
Jaquith Public Library	42,695.31
Historical Society	3,400.00
Cabot Ambulance	5,000.00
Plainfield Fire and Rescue	4,500.00
Cemetery Fund	7,500.00

The Budget Committee received many requests from organizations outside the Town. The following organizations have provided services to many citizens of Marshfield. We feel the voters should have the opportunity to choose the ones they wish to support.

Battered Women's Services & Shelter	350.00
Central Vermont Community Action Council	300.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	800.00
Central Vermont Economic Development	300.00
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	2,000.00
Green Mountain Transit Agency	100.00
Northern VT Resource Conservation & Development	50.00
Onion River Arts Council	100.00
Onion River Food Shelf	300.00
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	200.00
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	150.00
Twin Valley Seniors	300.00
Vermont Assoc. for the Blind and Visually Impaired	150.00
Washington County Diversion Program	150.00
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	250.00
Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf	<u>400.00</u>
<b>TOTAL OUTSIDE APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>5,900.00</b>

<b>BUDGET COMMITTEE</b> Marion Burnham Michael Caccavo	Sallie Dix Thomas Maclay Deanna Martin
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## RULES FOR DOG & WOLF-HYBRID LICENSES

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Dog licenses for the current year are available beginning on January 2. The deadline for licensing is April 1. Puppies must be licensed when they are six months old. You may license your dog via the mail if you send the following:

- Current rabies certificate (if we already have one on file, we will mail yours back to you)
- Spay/neuter certificate if applicable
- A description of the dog, including name, breed, size, color, and age
- A check for the appropriate fee, made payable to the Town of Marshfield

The 2003 dog license fees are as follows:

	Current	Late	New Dog After Oct. 1
<b>Neutered/spayed</b> dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	4.00	6.00	2.00
Town Pet Control Fee	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Rabies Control Fee	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>6.00</b>
<b>Unneutered/Unspayed</b> dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	8.00	12.00	4.00
Town Pet Control Fee	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Rabies Control Fee	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>



## 2004 RABIES CLINIC

The 2004 Rabies Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2004 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Town Garage. The clinic is open to dogs and cats. Dogs may be licensed at the clinic, regardless of whether or not they are being vaccinated.

## **Dog Licenses Issued in 2003**

Male	36	
Male Neutered	110	(including 1 wolf-hybrid)
Female	34	
Female Spayed	<u>125</u>	
Total	<u>305</u>	

### **DOG LAWS**

All dogs over six months of age and all wolf-hybrids must have a current rabies vaccination and a certificate on file at the Town Clerk's Office.

A current vaccination against rabies means that:

- 1) a dog or wolf-hybrid of less than one year of age has been vaccinated;
- 2) a dog or wolf-hybrid of one or more years, but less than two years of age has been vaccinated within the preceding 12 months; and
- 3) a dog or wolf-hybrid of two or more years has been vaccinated within the preceding 24 months.

These animals must be licensed in the town where they are kept. According to 20 VSA § 3581, for all dogs and wolf-hybrids, licenses are issued between January 2, 2004 and April 1, 2004 at the following rates: Neutered/spayed dog or wolf-hybrid: \$4.00. Unneutered/Unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid: \$8.00. After April 1, these fees increase by 50%.

In accordance with 20 VSA §3581 (c) and Town Ordinance #4, the Selectboard has implemented a license fee surcharge of \$3.00 per license for the purpose of funding a domestic pet control program. This money is used to compensate the dog officer and the poundkeeper.

In addition, under 20 VSA § 3583, a \$1.00 fee for each license will be assessed to fund state rabies control programs. This fee is forwarded to the State of Vermont.

## BIRTHS

<u>Name of Child</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Name of Parents</u>
Brown, Elizabeth Lynn	F	Shayna Lynn Brown Chad Michael Brunell
Chesaux, Ronald James Davis	M	Marnie Davis Chesaux Christophe Guillaume Chesaux
Czuchrey, Given	F	Bronwyn Becker Edward Thomas Czuchrey II
Fowler, Casee Levi	F	Brandi Rae Roberts Paul James Fowler
Fowler, Makenzie Rae	F	Brandi Rae Roberts Paul James Fowler
Glassford, Martin Edward	M	Denessa Claire Glassford Edward James Glassford
Gouge, David Reid	M	Ruth Gouge Thad Andrew Gouge
Holt, Jordyn Dennis *	M	Amy Pearle Holt Alan Wade Holt
Horgan, Janessa Elizabeth	F	Ellen Mary Smith Joseph Horgan

<u>Name of Child</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Name of Parents</u>
Mucherino, Elizabeth Arlene	F	Kathie Leigh Lewis-Mucherino Donald Wayne Mucherino
Mulligan, Hope Catherine	F	Lisa Marie Mulligan Daniel Robert Mulligan
Perchlik, Maple Sky	F	Marianne Kathleen Donahue Andrew John Perchlik
Richards-Safford, Jewelle-Awna Maria *	F	Billie Sue Richards Shane Arthur Safford
Schrum, Maria Anna	F	Carrie Marie Schrum Matthew Stephen Schrum
Schumacher, Ariel Joseph	M	Alison Joy Schumacher Michael Judah Schumacher
Sicely, Hayden Quinn	M	Pamela Lynn Sicely
Stanger, Alexander Patrick *	M	Rachel Alexa Stanger Jason Wimburne Stanger
Stephenson, Rowan Newbold	M	Mildred Stephenson Ethan Van Stephenson
Weinstein, Charles Harold	M	Theresa Rouleau Weinstein Robert Nathan Weinstein
Wilson, Ava Maria	F	Jill Wilson Gary Stephen Wilson

\* Babies born in 2002. All others born in 2003. Birthdate and town of birth have been omitted to protect against fraud.

## MARRIAGES

<u>Name of Groom</u>	<u>Place of Residence</u>	<u>Name of Bride</u>	<u>Place of Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location of Ceremony</u>
Rodney Robert Dimick	Marshfield	Dawn Lorraine DeMatteo	Marshfield	07/12/03	Barre Town
Edward Scott Fleury	Marshfield	Susan Louise Keough	Marshfield	06/28/03	Marshfield
Paul Edmund Gartski	Marshfield	Donna Kay Thomas	Marshfield	10/31/03	Marshfield
Jacob Richard Gouge	Marshfield	Grace Elizabeth Lloyd	Maine	05/03/03	Marshfield
Scott Ambrose Hook	Marshfield	Jessica Lynn Noble	Marshfield	08/23/03	Marshfield
Brandon Cameron Alexander Klarich	Marshfield	Catherine Elwert	Marshfield	06/21/03	Woodbury
David Lloyd Lovely	Marshfield	Megan Elizabeth Cayia	Marshfield	07/04/03	Marshfield
Arnold Lee Nichols	St. Johnsbury	Faeterri Noname Silver	Marshfield	12/05/03	Marshfield
Parker Robert Nichols	Marshfield	Mimi Suzanne Arnstein	Marshfield	09/29/03	Marshfield
Edward Thomas Riso	Marshfield	Amy Kathleen Ferguson	Marshfield	06/07/03	Montpelier
Steven Daniel Ritzert	Texas	Shannon Neemie Willey	Marshfield	11/14/03	Marshfield
Steven Frank Sadlowski	Marshfield	Jin Zhang	Marshfield	02/14/03	Marshfield
Douglas John Tassie	Plainfield	Carol Lynn Kreuzer	Marshfield	07/19/03	Plainfield
Thomas Scott Toffling	East Topsham	Lise Gisele Fasset	Marshfield	02/24/03	Marshfield

## DEATHS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>
Batchelder, Gordon Henry	90	M	02/04/03	Barre
Brown, Elizabeth Lynn	--	F	02/22/03	Berlin
Dutil, Bernard Edward	64	M	07/06/03	Marshfield
Dwinell, Prentiss E.	59	M	01/05/03	Marshfield
Lunge, Hazel Gokey	90	F	03/05/03	Berlin
Rogers, Sidney John	81	M	11/11/03	Marshfield
Ward, Harriet D.	98	F	12/25/02	Madison, ME
White, Leona E.	86	F	11/01/03	Berlin

## REPORT FROM THE MARSHFIELD-PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY INTERNET PROJECT

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The Marshfield-Plainfield Community Internet Project is pressing ahead with plans to bring fast Internet service to our two communities. As many of you know, the "digital superhighway" doesn't quite reach many rural areas of Marshfield and Plainfield. Instead, many of us rely on dial-up Internet service, which is exceedingly slow compared to high-speed connections available elsewhere in Vermont.

Our community group, with three members from each town, is working to change that. In November we mailed a survey to residents of both towns, asking about their interest in faster Internet service – widely known as "broadband" service. The response was far better than we had expected. More than 160 households replied (surveys are still trickling in).

Now that we've demonstrated the interest, our committee has approached various vendors, most of them Vermont-based companies, about providing the service to our towns. Based on their responses to our "Request for Information," we will select and work with the best vendor. Our primary criteria are that the service be fast, reliable, and available to as many homes and businesses as possible at an affordable price.

***It's not too late to join the effort.*** If you haven't yet completed your survey post card, please mail it in now. Or visit our web site – [www.MarshfieldPlainfield.org](http://www.MarshfieldPlainfield.org) – to complete the survey on-line. Please talk to your neighbors about this; ask them to complete a survey as well, particularly if you live in a sparsely populated area of Marshfield or Plainfield.

Our committee is hopeful that faster Internet access, perhaps "wireless" service, may be available by this summer. We thank the Vermont Council on Rural Development and its broadband project coordinators, Al and Laura Duey, for their tremendous support on this project. And we thank the selectboards in Marshfield and Plainfield for their endorsements of our effort, which, by the way, did not involve the appropriation of any of your tax dollars. If you have questions, please contact one of the committee members.

Marshfield-Plainfield Community Internet Project

### **Marshfield Members**

Jack Hoffman  
Brian Tyrol  
Mike Fritz

### **Plainfield Members**

Neil Hogan  
Sarah O'Brien  
Bryan Pfeiffer

**SUMMARY OF CIVIL ORDINANCES ADOPTED**  
**as of December 31, 2001**

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**#1 Burning and Disposal of Solid Waste**

Prohibits dumping and burning of sold waste and requires the removal and proper disposal of hazardous fluids (antifreeze, oil, gasoline) and the battery from junked or long unused vehicles.

**#2 Regulating Cemetery Operations**

Incorporates already existing by-laws and covers cemetery closure to all persons at night, vandalism, driving over graves, etc.

**#3 Regulating use of External Facilities - Old Schoolhouse Common**

Restricts the use of the Town land and facilities surrounding the Old Schoolhouse Common, motor vehicles to parking areas and graveled driveways, prohibits alcoholic beverages, and makes it unlawful to deface or destroy Town property.

**#4 Regulating Domestic Pets**

Brings together in one document the licensing, rabies, vicious dog, nuisance and disturbance control requirements.

**#5 Road Naming and Road Addressing**

Authorizes the Selectboard to name all public and private roads in Marshfield, establishes a numbering system unique for each dwelling, and requires the numbers to be displayed at each dwelling.

**#6 Traffic Ordinance**

Sets speed limits on Town roads.

The complete text of these ordinances can be reviewed at or obtained from the Town Clerk's Office.

## WARNING – TOWN MEETING 2004

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The legal voters of the Town of Marshfield, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Twinfield Union School in said Town on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at 9:00 E.S.T. in the forenoon to act upon all Articles not involving voting by Australian Ballot; and on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 to meet at Twinfield Union School between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to vote on Articles 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 by Australian ballot.

**Article 1.** To elect all Town Officers required by Law:

Moderator	1 year
Town Clerk & Treasurer	1 year
Selectperson	3 years
Auditor	3 years
Lister	3 years
Tax Collector	1 year
First Constable	1 year
Second Constable	1 year
Town Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Budget Committee	5 years
Library Trustees (2)	3 years each

**Article 2.** To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

School Director	3 years
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**Article 3.** To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$640,890.48 to be allocated as follows, with \$435,558.84 to be raised in taxes:

\$554,703.00 for the payment of indebtedness, general expenses, and the support of highways and bridges (\$133,362.50 from Other Income, \$31,714.66 from surplus, \$389,625.84 to be raised in taxes);

\$32,900.00 in support of the Marshfield Fire Department;  
\$13,951.00 in support of the Marshfield Planning Commission (\$2,730.00 to be raised in permit fees, \$11,221.00 to be raised in taxes);

\$1,812.00 in support of the Marshfield Recreation Committee;

\$37,524.48 in support of the Old Schoolhouse Common (\$37,524.48 to be raised through building lease/rentals, no taxes anticipated)

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$42,695.31 in support of the Jaquith Public Library.

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$3,400.00 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society.

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$7,500.00 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries.

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 in support of the Cabot Ambulance Service.

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$4,500.00 in support of Plainfield Fire and Rescue.

**Article 10.** To see if the town will authorize the sale of the following town-owned property or a conservation or recreation easement on those properties, at a price and to such purchasers as the Selectboard in its discretion shall determine, to raise and expend funds to improve the covered bridge on the former Thorndike property on the southerly side of Route 2.

Town Forest	50 acres, more or less
Margaret Rose lot	2 acres
Eugene Roberts lot	0.16 acre
Railroad Depot	8.10 acres
Gumprecht lot	1.5 acre and mobile home
A portion of the Thorndike lot	

**Article 11.** To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$5,900.00 to be allocated as recommended by the Budget Committee:

Battered Women's Services/Shelter	350.00
Central Vermont Community Action Council	300.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging	800.00
Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation	300.00
Central Vermont Home Health	2,000.00
Green Mountain Transit	100.00
Northern VT RC & D	50.00
Onion River Arts Council	100.00
Onion River Food Shelf	300.00
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	200.00
RSVP	150.00
Twin Valley Seniors	300.00
Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	150.00
Washington County Diversion Program	150.00
Washington County Youth Services Bureau	250.00
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	400.00

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide funds for the amounts previously voted.

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to have the Town taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, August 20, 2004, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers.

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to have the School taxes paid to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, November 5, 2004, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers.

**Article 16.** To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

**Article 17.** To see if the voters will approve the following amendment to the Marshfield Zoning Regulations:

Change to Section 180: definition of Camp - to further specify the use as seasonal dwelling only.

"A structure used primarily for recreational purposes and as a seasonal dwelling unit, not as a primary year round residential dwelling. This seasonal dwelling can not be occupied for more than 12 weeks at any given time and can not be occupied for more than 6 months in any given year."

**(to be voted by Australian ballot)**

**Article 18.** To see if the voters will approve the following amendment to the Marshfield Zoning Regulations:

A) Change to Section 180: definition of Building Height - to simplify it so that all building heights are measured the same way.

"Vertical distance measured from the average elevation of the proposed finished grade at the front of the building to the highest point on the roof."

B) Change to the Maximum Building Height numbers in the General Regulations charts in Sections 410, 420, and 430.

- "Primary uses and structures: Residential, commercial, public, industrial uses – 3 stories or 45 feet, whichever is less"
- "Accessory buildings – 35 feet"

**(to be voted by Australian ballot)**

**Article 19.** To see if the voters will approve the following amendment to the Marshfield Zoning Regulations:

Change to Section 225: Zoning Permit and Certificate of Occupancy – to set a time limit for a zoning permit and the completion of the project permitted. Added after the paragraph stating that the construction of the proposed use must start within one year.

- "An approved zoning permit shall be considered valid for a period of six (6) years from the effective date of the permit as defined by

4443(3) of the Act. The project permitted must be completed within this time period. Issuance of a certificate of occupancy by the zoning administrator shall constitute proof of completion.

- In cases of undue hardship, the Development Review Board may grant a 3-year extension of the permit under the original conditions.
- For projects that require approval from the Development Review Board, after such approval is granted, all zoning permits must be applied for within three (3) years."

**(to be voted by Australian ballot)**

**Article 20.**

To see if the voters will approve the following amendment to the Marshfield Zoning Regulations:

Change to Section 304: Protection of Home Occupations and to Section 180: Definition of Home Occupation - to allow home occupations to use up to 100% of an accessory building, provided there is no change to the character of the neighborhood.

- "Section 304: Protection of Home Occupations

No regulation herein is intended to infringe upon the right of any resident to use a minor portion of a dwelling for an occupation which is customary in residential areas and which does not change the character thereof.

The home occupation is carried on principally and wholly within the walls of a legally established dwelling and occupies 50% or less of the floor area of the dwelling, or may occupy the entire floor space of an accessory building. Usable floor space will be defined as including multiple levels except for attic space. (Garages which are attached or unattached will be defined as accessory buildings.) The home occupation must satisfy the following criteria:

- A. Building or buildings must not change the character of the agricultural and residential area. They must be made to look like an agricultural building (barn, agricultural shed, etc.), or in the case of a residential structure they must be made to look like a home or garage.
- B. The home occupation shall not produce levels of noise, vibration, smoke, dust, odors beyond those usually present in residential neighborhoods.
- C. The home occupation shall be carried on only by members of the family residing in

the dwelling and not more than two non-residents.

- D. For seasonal workloads, home occupations may hire up to eight non-family members for a period of not more than 90 days in any given year.
- E. Outdoor storage is permitted under the following conditions:
  - a. All rubbish and refuse are stored in suitable containers.
  - b. All storage not stored in suitable containers must be considered temporary.
  - c. All stored material must be screened from view.

Any occupation that cannot meet the above criteria must obtain a conditional use permit from the Development Review Board."

- "Section 180: Definition of Home Occupation: Home industry or occupation within a portion of the dwelling, or accessory building thereto, carried on by members of the family residing in the dwelling. Such use is clearly secondary to use of the premises for dwelling purposes."

**(to be voted by Australian ballot)**

**Article 21.**

To see if the voters will approve the following amendment to the Marshfield Zoning Regulations:

Change to Sections 410: Village Residential and Section 420: Agricultural and Rural Residential – to require more review if more than one dwelling is requested per lot.

- Section 410: Village Residential - Addition to the list of permitted uses:
  - "18. Second or third dwelling per lot with site plan review"
- Section 410: Village Residential – Addition to the list of conditional uses:
  - "3. Fourth or more dwelling per lot with site plan approval and conditional use approval"
- Section 410: Village Residential – Addition under the heading for the Frontage, Area, Setbacks, Coverage, Height, and General Regulations Chart:
  - "Minimum lot area applies to each dwelling unit or commercial structure."
- Section 420: Agricultural and Rural Residential - Addition to the list of permitted uses:
  - "17. Second or third dwelling per lot with site plan review"
- Section 420: Agricultural and Rural Residential – Addition to the list of conditional uses:"

- "12. Fourth or more dwelling per lot with site plan approval and conditional use approval"
- Section 420: Agricultural and Rural Residential – Addition under the heading for the Frontage, Area, Setbacks, Coverage, Height, and General Regulations Chart:
  - "Minimum lot area applies to each dwelling unit or commercial structure."

**(to be voted by Australian ballot)**

Marshfield, Vermont, January 30, 2004 I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Warning for the Annual Town Meeting for the year 2004 and that it was recorded before posting.

Attest, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

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**Jaquith Library Trustees** meet the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Marshfield Development Review Board** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Marshfield Fire Department** meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. (at the Marshfield Fire Station).

**Marshfield Historical Society** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Marshfield Planning Commission** meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Marshfield Recreation Committee** meets the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

**Marshfield Selectboard** meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Old Schoolhouse Common Board** meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**Library hours – see Library Report** or telephone 426-3581

### **Town Clerk's hours**

Tuesday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(closed for lunch 12:00 - 12:30)

Telephone: 426-3305 email:marshfield@innevi.com

<b>SELECTBOARD:</b>	John Warshow	454-7161
	George Longenecker	426-3874
	Christopher Martin	426-3637
<b>ROAD FOREMAN:</b>	Daniel Tetreault	456-1977
	Town Garage	426-3752
<b>VILLAGE CLERK:</b>	Deborah Tousignant	426-3393
<b>VILLAGE TRUSTEES:</b>	Steven Bronstein	426-3369
	Gordon Durkee	426-3257
	Arthur Gilman	426-3272
	Bruce Hayden	426-3310
	Homer Peake	426-3886
<b>DOG OFFICER:</b>	Josephine Guertin	748-4230

**Town Clerk's Office**  
122 School Street, Room 1  
Marshfield, VT 05658

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 43  
Barre, VT

Vermont Department of Libraries  
Law Library  
111 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609

**Please Bring This Report to Town Meeting on March 2, 2004**