

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OF STAMFORD

VERMONT



STAMFORD

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003

2003

(Continued from Page 1)

for the shelves that will make it easier to find Dewey Decimal numbers in the nonfiction section and authors in the adult and juvenile fiction sections. Other signs designate different collections in the library, which will make it easier to find the sections for adult fiction, videos, nonfiction, etc. In addition to signage, Victoria has given to the library a collection of carefully-chosen books for adult readers and books on tape for both adults and children, including all three books, unabridged, of *The Lord of the Rings*, read by Rob Inglis.

Other volunteers have given generously of their time and expertise. Thanks to Eva Holmes, Heidi Peterson, and Marci O'Neill for helping with our online cataloging project. Thanks too to Ken Butcher, who spent many hours helping to make our computers secure against viruses and data loss. ❁

SCL Has a New Website!

The Stamford Community Library Website offers information about the library, including library hours, the schedule of library classes, library policies and rules, lists of new books and videos, and much more. We hope that soon a connection to our online catalog will be available on the website.

Click on "Library Guides" to find guides on doing email, using MicrosoftWord, and searching the internet, among other topics. Click on "Town Links" to find internet links of interest to people of all ages. Click on "VOL Databases" to connect to the Vermont Online Library, a suite of databases that patrons may, at no charge, search for newspaper and magazine articles, health and wellness information, business information, and research materials. (NOTE: if you are connecting from home, the password to get into VOL is creek.)

To connect to the website, point your browser to www.stamford.lib.vt.us. ❁

The Library Automation Project

More than half the library's collection has been cataloged. Here is a breakdown of the sections:

Adult Fiction	100%	Juvenile Fiction	80%
Picture Books	100%	EZ Reader Books	100%
Videos	20%	Books on tape	80%
Nonfiction	10%	Reference Books	0%

Even though the collection is not completely cataloged, you can still search the online catalog on the library's computers. Click the OPAC icon on the desktop. It's wonderful to finally have access to our collection without having to browse for everything! ❁

New Books on Tape at the Library

In the fall of 2003 the library received a \$500 grant from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Hardman Fund. The grant money was spent on books on tape, half to supplement the adult collection and half to begin a collection for readers between the ages of 8 and 15. All books were chosen for their literary quality, and many are award winners.

Because books on tape are more expensive and more fragile than books, we cannot expend much of our budget on them, and therefore the grant is very welcome. We hope that this collection will serve readers of all ages who for various reasons have difficulty reading (as well as those needing high-quality entertainment for long car trips). ❁

New books on tape for kids:

- Ramona Quimby, Age 8
- Island of the Blue Dolphins
- Brian's Winter
- A Single Shard
- A Door in the Wall
- The Giver

New books on tape for adults:

- At Home in Mitford
- The Teeth of the Tiger
- The Red Tent
- Girl with a Pearl Earring
- Prey

THE STAMFORD COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

January 2004

A New Year - a New Director

Please welcome a new Librarian

As of February 1st, Stamford Community Library will be under the direction of a new Librarian. Karen Bucky, Librarian since August of 2002, will be leaving to take a full-time position as Reference Librarian at the Clark Art Institute Library in Williamstown.

Our new Librarian, Janice Shotwell, lives in Williamstown and has training and experience both as a librarian and as a teacher. She earned her MLS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has worked in public and academic libraries in many states, including Maryland, Maine, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and North Carolina. Her last library position was with the Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries. She has just finished getting her certification at MCLA to teach English at the Middle School and High School levels, and so is eligible to be certified as a school library Media Specialist.

This is a good time to be taking over the library. The automation project is nearing completion, the library has met the Standards for Public Libraries and is eligible for Vermont Department of Libraries services (such as Interlibrary Loan) for another year, and there is Freeman Grant money to be spent on new shelving for children's picture books. We are delighted to have Janice on board, and hope the community will give her a warm welcome. ☼

Thank You to Donors and Volunteers

We couldn't get along without you!

Stamford Community Library has received several important gifts from Stamford community members during 2003; gifts of money, books, videos, and time and expertise. Our limited resources make these gifts all the more appreciated.

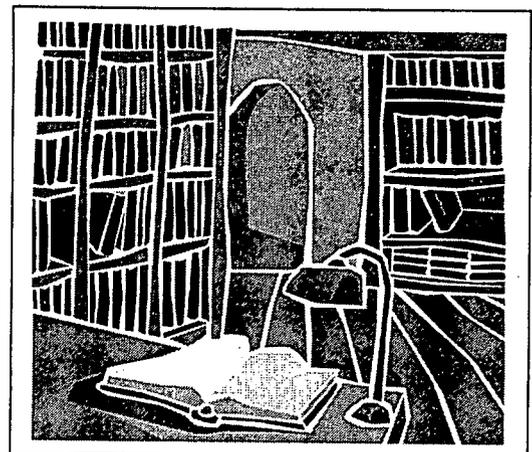
Mrs. Sheila Pecor, who has long been a generous benefactor for the library, donated more than 250 high-quality videos in memory of her mother, Phyllis E. Blood. Many of the videos are great film classics. A further gift provided plastic cases to protect the videos from damage. An area of shelving has been cleared to accommodate the videos, and more shelving is being built. The videos are being made available as they are being cataloged. These videos are a wonderful addition to our collection, and will certainly be appreciated by the whole community. A list of the videos can be found in the library, and on the library's new website (see next page for more information about the website).

Victoria Jefferies, in addition to volunteering several hours each week, has given a gift to the library that has allowed us to buy all new signage, including signs

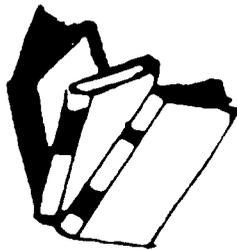
(Continued on Page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 SCL's New Director
- 1 Thanks to donors and volunteers
- 2 The Automation Project and New Books on Tape
- 2 SCL has a new website!



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF
STAMFORD
VERMONT**



★ **2003** ★

LAMB PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247

TOWN MEETING

Monday, March 1, 2004 7:30 p.m.

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING HOURS

Tuesday, March 2, 2004 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

VOTER REGISTRATION

If you have already registered to vote in Stamford, please check the posted Voter Checklist to verify that your name appears. If not, the last day to register to vote is Monday, February 23, 2004. The Town Office will be open on the 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to accept applications.

EARLY VOTER ABSENTEE BALLOT

An early or absentee voter, family member or authorized person, can request an absentee ballot in Vermont, without providing any reason for the request, by telephone, in person or in writing until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election. You do not register by party in Vermont. You don't have to tell anyone which party you favor. Ways of voting absentee:

- Vote in town clerk's office before the deadline.
- Pick up a ballot at the town clerk's office and mail or take it back to the clerk's office before election day or to polling place before 7:00 p.m. on election day.
- Have ballot mailed to you and mail or take it back to the clerk's office before election day or to polling place before 7:00 p.m. on election day.
- If disabled or ill, have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home on the day before or the day of the election.

Table of Contents

Dedication	4
Town Officers	5
Town Information	8
School Warning & Warrant	9
Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School	
District No. V009 Warning	10
Town Warning & Warrant	13
Receipts	15
Expenditures	17
Selectmen's Report	23
Bridge Accounts, Record Restoration, and	
Town Office Equipment Replacement Fund	26
Statement of Taxes Raised and Accounted For	27
List of Delinquent Taxpayers	28
Statement of Delinquent Taxes	31
Invested Funds	32
Equipment Fund	34
Town Clerk's Report	35
Dogs	37
Planning Commission	38
Cemetery Trustees	38
Library	40
Fire Department	45
School	51
Tax Rate Comparison	94



Henry M. Kennedy
1916-2003

This town report is dedicated to Henry M. Kennedy who served the Town of Stamford as a selectman and was a member of the Stamford Volunteer Fire Department.

**TOWN OFFICERS
ELECTED**

	Term Expires
Town Moderator	
WILLIAM H. LEVINE	2004
School Moderator	
WILLIAM H. LEVINE	2004
Town Clerk	
NANCY L. BUSHIKA	2005
Town Treasurer	
NANCY L. BUSHIKA	2005
Selectmen	
WILLIAM B. MOREHOUSE, JR.	2004
SHEILA G. LAWRENCE	2004
BRUCE C. ROBARE	2005
DIANA BELOUIN	2005
DAVID L. SALDO	2006
School Directors	
KIMBERLY ROBERTS-MORANDI	2004
CHRISTOPHER VADNAIS	2004
CYNTHIA LAMORE	2005
S. STEPHEN TWORIG, III	2005
JANICE FARINON	2006
Listers	
SHERYL MOREHOUSE (resigned)	2004
BRAD A. SCHUECKLER (appointed)	
PETER CHESBRO (resigned)	2005
SALLY A. BOHL	2006
Auditors	
	2004
	2005
	2006
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	
SALLY A. BOHL	2004
Grand Juror	
	2004
Town Agent	
	2004

Cemetery Commissioners

	2003
SALLY A. BOHL	2004
EDWARD C. ROBARE	2005
PATRICIA M. RONDEAU	2006
DOROTHY M. BLISS	2007

Library Trustees

BARBARA B. BARLOW	2004
PATRICIA BURTON	2005
LORANE WHITCOMB (resigned)	2006
THOM GENTLE (appointed)	
PATRICIA CARLSON (resigned)	2007
CHRISTINA KELLY-WHITNEY (appointed)	
PAULA N. PLOCK	2008

Justices of the Peace

MICHAEL S. BOBOWIEC, JR	Jan. 31, 2005
MARION BEVERLY	Jan. 31, 2005
LYNN M. DEPAOLI	Jan. 31, 2005
DAVID C. HOWE	Jan. 31, 2005
HAZEL SACCO	Jan. 31, 2005

United States Senators

PATRICK J. LEAHY	JAMES M. JEFFORDS
------------------	-------------------

United States Representative

BERNIE SANDERS

State Senators

MARK I. SHEPARD	R-BENNINGTON
RICHARD W. SEARS, JR.	D-BENNINGTON

State Officials

JIM DOUGLAS	GOVERNOR R
DEBORAH MARKOWITZ	SECRETARY OF STATE D

Representative for District Windham-Bennington-1

PHILIP E. BARTLETT	R-BENNINGTON
--------------------	--------------

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Administrative Officer	RONALD W. PLOCK	2006
Board of Adjustment	WILLIAM RIVARD (alternate)	2004
	JEAN KURPIEL	2004
	EDWARD C. ROBARE	2004
	THEODORE N. DOBBERT	2005
	VICTORIA I JEFFERIES	2006
	STEPHEN W. EDDY	2006
Civil Defense	WILLIAM H. LEVINE	2004
Assistant Civil Defense	LEO E. ETHIER	2004
	SHEILA G. LAWRENCE	2004
Constable		2004
Dog Officer	WILLIAM ENGLAND-HORSFALL (resigned)	2004
Energy Coordinator	WILLIAM H. LEVINE	2004
Fence Viewers	SELECTMEN	2004
Fire Warden	DOUGLAS K. WYLDE	June 30, 2006
Deputy Fire Warden	ROBERT B. COSTINE	June 30, 2006
Septic Officer	MAURA HAWKINS-CONIGLIO	2004
Health Officer	MAURA HAWKINS-CONIGLIO	April 30, 2005
Deputy Health Officer		
Inspector of Coal & Lumber	SELECTMEN	2004
Inspector of Shingles & Wood	SELECTMEN	2004
Planning Commission	RONALD W. PLOCK	2004
	KENNETH BURTON	2005
	MARTIN CRISTOFOLINI	2005
	DARRELL CARLSON	2006
	DANIEL J. POTVIN	2007
Conservation Commission	LARS GARRISON	2004
	STANLEY LAWRENCE, SR.	2004
	ROBERT BARLOW	2005
	MARTIN CRISTOFOLINI	2005
	BRUCE RICHARDSON	2006
	THOM GENTLE	2007
	DAVID L. SALDO	2007
Road Commissioner	JOHN L. TATRO	2004
Tree Warden	JOHN L. TATRO	2004
Town Service Officer	SHEILA G. LAWRENCE	2004
Bennington County Regional Commission		
	WILLIAM B. MOREHOUSE, JR.	2004
	RONALD W. PLOCK	2004
Green Up Day Coordinator	BRUCE RICHARDSON	2004

Bennington County Sheriff's Department
(802) 442-4900

Town Office (694-1361)

Hours

Monday	closed
Tuesday	11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting

The Stamford Board of Selectmen meet at 7:00 p.m. in the town office on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Recycling Hours

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Summer - Last Wednesday in April to last Wednesday in October 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Taxes

Taxes are due the third Thursday of November. If not received in the treasurer's office by the due date, they become delinquent and are subject to penalty and interest.

School Director's Meeting

The Stamford School Directors meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Stamford Elementary School on the second Thursday of each month.

Stamford Community Library (694-1379)

Librarian	KAREN A. BUCKY (resigned)
Librarian	JANICE SHOTWELL
Assistant Librarian	LYNN M. DEPAOLI

Library Hours

Monday	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

These hours are in effect throughout the school year. Summer hours to be announced.

**CORRECTED
WARNING – WARRANT
STAMFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Legal Voters of the Town School District of Stamford, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the School Hall in said Stamford at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2004 to vote on Articles of the Town School District Warning. The meeting will be adjourned until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at which time Articles I, II, III will be transacted by ballot.

Article I

To elect a Moderator.

Article II

To elect a School Director for two (2) years.

Article III

To elect a School Director for three (3) years.

Article IV

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to appropriate \$1,268,426 necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2004.

Article V

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to exempt the District from the requirement of 16 V.S.A. § 1264 that it operate a school breakfast program for the 2004-2005 school year.

Article VI

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to exempt the District from the requirement of 16 V.S.A. § 1264 that it operate a school lunch program for the 2004-2005 school year.

Article VII

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to subsidize the school lunch program.

Article VIII

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to approve the expenditure of \$150,000 for replacing the Stamford School roof, such expenditure to be funded by (1) an appropriation of \$35,000 for the school year commencing July 1, 2004, (2) state construction grants-in-aid estimated to be \$45,000 and (3) the proceeds of a loan in the amount of \$70,000 to be repaid over a two year term.

Article IX

To see if the Stamford Town School District will vote to authorize the School Directors to borrow money on the notes of the Town School District or otherwise in anticipation of taxes.

Article X

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated at Stamford, Vermont this 28th day of January, 2004.

Cynthia M. Lamore, Chairperson
Janice Farinon
Kimberly Roberts-Morandi
S. Stephen Tworig
Christopher Vadnais
SCHOOL DIRECTORS

**SOUTHWEST VERMONT REGIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO V009
WARNING OF ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 1 AND MARCH 2, 2004**

The legal voters of the Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District Service Region (consisting of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Manchester, North Bennington, Pownal, Readsboro, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford) are hereby warned to meet in the Assembly Room of the Southwest Vermont Career Development Center, 321 Park Street, Bennington, Vermont, at 5:00 o'clock in the evening, on Monday, March 1, 2004 to transact the following business from the floor.

ARTICLE 1: To establish the annual salaries of the District directors at \$500 each.

ARTICLE 2: To authorize the School District Board to borrow money in anticipation of revenues to meet current operating expenses of the District.

ARTICLE 3: To hold a public informational hearing on articles to be voted upon by Australian Ballot on March 2, 2004.

ARTICLE 4: To transact any other business found proper when met.

The legal voters of Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District #V009 are hereby WARNED FURTHER to meet on Tuesday March 2, 2004, when the polls will be open to transact business by Australian Ballot as follows:

ARTICLE A: To elect a Moderator for a term of three (3) years beginning April 1, 2004

ARTICLE B: To elect a District Clerk for a term of (3) years beginning April 1, 2004

ARTICLE C: To elect a Treasurer for a term of (3) years beginning April 1, 2004

ARTICLE D: To elect (eleven) 11 School Directors, who are legal residents of the Service Region as listed above in accordance with the bylaws of the Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District, as follows:

Initial three (3) year terms: The Candidates receiving the four (4) largest vote totals.

Initial two (2) year terms: The Candidates receiving the fifth through the eighth largest vote totals.

Initial one (1) year term: The Candidates receiving the ninth through the eleventh largest vote totals.

ARTICLE E: Shall the voters of the Service Region of Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District appropriate \$2,639,632.44 necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2004?

Voting at the meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2004, shall be at large by Australian ballot. The polls will be open as indicated below for each respective town, as follows:

Residents of Arlington vote at the Arlington High School Gym, 529 East Arlington Road, Arlington, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Bennington vote at the Bennington Fire House, River Street, Bennington, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Dorset vote at The Dorset School, Morse Hill Road, Dorset, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Glastonbury vote at the Shaftsbury Fire House, Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Manchester vote at the Manchester Town Hall, Manchester Center, Vermont. Polls will be open from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of North Bennington vote at the McCullough Firehouse, North Bennington, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Pownal vote at the Pownal Center Fire House, Route 7, Pownal Center, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Readsboro vote at the Readsboro Central School Gym, Readsboro, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Sandgate vote at the Sandgate Town Hall, Sandgate Road, Sandgate, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Searsburg vote at the Searsburg Town Offices, Searsburg, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Shaftsbury vote at the Shaftsbury Fire House, Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Stamford vote at the Stamford Elementary School, 986 Main Road, Stamford, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Residents of Sunderland vote at the Sunderland Elementary School, 98 Bear Ridge Road, Sunderland, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10 AM to 7 PM.

Residents of Woodford vote at the Woodford Town Office Building, Route 9, Woodford, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10 AM to 7 PM.

Register to Vote! Applications for addition to voter checklist must be received by the Town Clerk's Office of said District by Monday, February 23, 2004 at 12:00 Noon for approval by your Town Clerk.

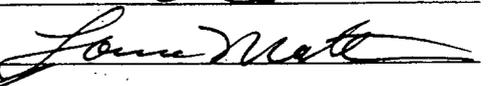
Interpreting services for this meeting will be provided upon request. If this service is required, please notify SVRTSD at 447-0220, at least three (3) days before the meeting.

Signatures

Brian Doxide, Chair



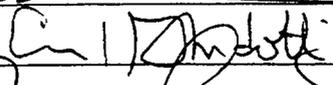
Lance R. Matteson, Vice Chair



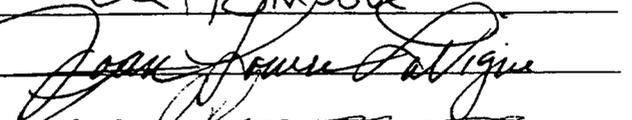
Donald K. Wilson



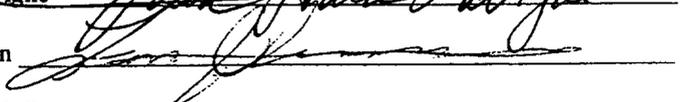
Craig J. Ghidotti



Joan L. La Vigne



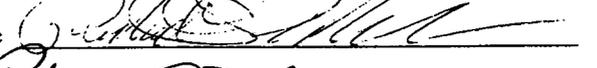
Leon Johnson



Timothy T. Holbrook



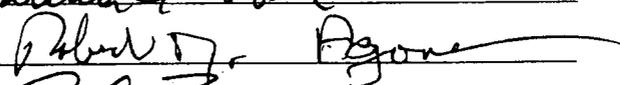
Richard C. Pembroke



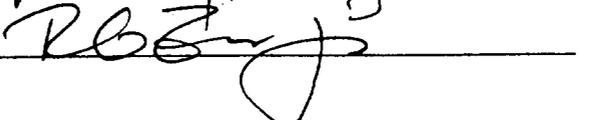
Patricia A. Toth



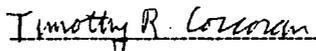
Robert D. Agone



Richard G. Zens



Received for recording this 27th day of January 2004



Timothy Corcoran, Clerk SVRTSD

**WARNING -WARRANT
FOR TOWN OF STAMFORD**

The Legal Voters of the Town of Stamford, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the School Hall in said Stamford at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2004, to vote on the Articles of the Town Warrant. The meeting will then be adjourned until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 2004, at the School Hall at which time Article 1 will be transacted by ballot.

Vermont law imposes requirements to ensure that elderly and disabled persons have access to polling places and town meeting. Individuals requesting alternative accommodations should contact the town clerk's office prior to the town meeting so that arrangements can be made in advance.

Article 1: To elect the following Town Officers:

- Town Moderator - 1 year**
- School Moderator - 1 year**
- Selectman - 3 years**
- Selectman - 2 years**
- School Director - 3 years**
- School Director - 2 years**
- Lister - 3 years**
- Auditor - 3 years**
- Auditor - 2 years**
- Auditor - 1 year**
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes - 1 year**
- Grand Juror -1 year**
- Town Agent - 1 year**
- Cemetery Commissioner - 5 years**
- Cemetery Commissioner - 4 years remaining on a 5 year term**
- Library Trustee - 5 years**
- Library Trustee - 3 years remaining on a 5 year term**
- Library Trustee - 2 years remaining on a 5 year term**

Article 2: Shall the Town of Stamford authorize the expenditure of \$389,573.00 (General Expenses - \$145,140.00 and Highway Expenses - \$244,433 00) and if so appropriate \$300,678.00 to defray to that extent the expenses and liabilities of the Town?

Article 3: Shall the Town of Stamford appropriate \$1,000.00 for the maintenance and improvement of the Town Cemeteries?

- Article 4:** Shall the Town of Stamford appropriate \$500.00 for the cemetery stone restoration reserve fund?
- Article 5:** Shall the Town of Stamford authorize the expenditure of \$21,287.00 and if so appropriate \$20,887.00 for the operation of the Town portion of the Library?
- Article 6:** Shall the Town of Stamford appropriate \$ 24,440.00 for the equipment and operation of the Stamford Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.?
- Article 7:** Shall the Town of Stamford appropriate \$10,000.00 for Stamford Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. for their Fire Truck Replacement Fund?
- Article 8:** Shall the Town of Stamford authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the Town owned Alpenwald lots to any interested buyer providing the interested buyer is NOT a property tax exempt entity?
- Article 9:** Shall the Town of Stamford change the start time of the annual and special town meetings from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.?
- Article 10:** Shall the Town of Stamford authorize the expenditure of \$8,676.00 for the repair of the tennis court?
- Article 11:** Shall the Town of Stamford authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of tax revenue?
- Article 12:** To transact any non-binding business deemed necessary and proper when met.

Dated at Stamford, Vermont this 29th day of January 2004.

**William B. Morehouse, Jr.
Bruce C. Robare
Sheila G. Lawrence
David L. Saldo
Diana Belouin
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS
FOR GENERAL & HIGHWAY FUNDS**

GENERAL FUND

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 RECEIPTS	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
TAXES			
Tax Rebates	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Use ChangeTax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
National Forest	\$7,500.00	\$10,316.00	\$8,500.00
State Owned Property	\$4,000.00	\$5,972.00	\$5,000.00
Use Value-Hold Harmless	\$0.00	\$3,300.00	\$2,500.00
INTEREST RECEIVED			
CD & Investment Interest	\$4,000.00	\$14,524.01	\$4,000.00
Money Market Interest	\$1,500.00	\$1,249.96	\$1,200.00
Checking Interest	\$0.00	\$132.90	\$0.00
Delinquent Tax Collector's Int	\$0.00	\$138.97	\$0.00
DELINQUENT TAXES			
Receipts-Penalty & Interest	\$9,000.00	\$22,152.85	\$12,500.00
PERMIT AND FEE REVENUES			
Local Fines	\$6,000.00	\$8,165.66	\$6,000.00
Beer & Wine Licenses	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Driveway Permits	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00
Fish & Wildlife Licenses	\$800.00	\$748.50	\$750.00
Wildlife Reports	\$0.00	\$23.00	\$0.00
Deed Recordings	\$5,000.00	\$8,578.00	\$6,000.00
Marriage Licenses	\$50.00	\$159.00	\$50.00
Copies Vital Statistics	\$200.00	\$322.00	\$200.00
Examination of Records	\$50.00	\$86.00	\$50.00
Cert. & Uncert. Copies	\$500.00	\$974.75	\$600.00
UCC'S	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Fee	\$0.00	\$16.00	\$0.00
Record Restoration	\$0.00	\$1,358.00	\$0.00
Utility Permits Under Town Roads	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Municipal Excess Weight Permit	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$0.00
OTHER REVENUE			
Receipts-Dog License	\$1,300.00	\$1,338.00	\$1,300.00
Receipts-Dog Officer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Receipts-Planning Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest-Planning Commission	\$0.00	\$49.79	\$0.00
Sanitary Inspections	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00
Septic Permits	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$0.00
Perc Test Review	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Permits & Appeals-Board of Adjustment	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$0.00
Permits & Appeals-Administrative Officer	\$0.00	\$858.00	\$0.00

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 RECEIPTS	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
Recycling Receipts-Cards	\$11,000.00	\$8,974.00	\$9,000.00
Recycling Receipts - Demo	\$2,000.00	\$2,082.00	\$2,000.00
Recycling Receipts- Returns	\$0.00	\$104.00	\$0.00
Receipts-Copier	\$25.00	\$41.15	\$25.00
Receipts-Fax	\$70.00	\$126.00	\$70.00
DMV Renewal Fee	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
GENERAL FUND REVENUES	\$53,145.00	\$93,830.54	\$59,895.00
HIGHWAY FUND			
State Aid-Highways	\$28,000.00	\$29,714.36	\$29,000.00
State Aid-Flood	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
State Aid-Bridges	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
State Aid-Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Class II Resurfacing Program	<u>\$8,400.00</u>	<u>\$8,400.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES	\$36,400.00	\$41,114.36	\$29,000.00

REMINDER

The new Declaration of Vermont Homestead form (HS-131) must be submitted to the State of Vermont by April 15th. This form was mailed to all Vermont Homeowners in December 2003. The form is also included in the Vermont Income Tax Booklet and available at the town office. In order to be billed at the correct school tax rate, it is imperative to file this form. The SPAN number may be found on your tax bill and the school number is 191. If you have any questions, please call the town office at 694-1361.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR GENERAL & HIGHWAY FUNDS**

GENERAL FUND

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER				
Expenses	\$100.00	\$56.79	\$43.21	\$100.00
Salary A.O.	\$0.00	\$858.00	(\$858.00)	\$0.00
Receipt Permit A.O.\$858.00				
AUDITORS				
Audit	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,575.00
Postage	\$300.00	\$68.37	\$231.63	\$200.00
Town Reports	\$1,200.00	\$1,048.00	\$152.00	\$1,200.00
BOARD OF HEALTH				
Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$50.00
Salaries	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
CIVIL DEFENSE				
Expenses	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00
Salary	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Telephone	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
CONSERVATION COMMISSION				
Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Salary	\$60.00	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$70.00
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR				
Office Expenses	\$300.00	\$275.62	\$24.38	\$300.00
Salary	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Del Tax Legal	\$0.00	\$1,300.00	(\$1,300.00)	\$0.00
Del Tax Sale Expense	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$175.00	\$1,000.00
Del Tax Sale Reimburse	\$0.00	(\$1,400.00)	\$1,400.00	\$0.00
Interest from Tax Sale	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Del Tax Rebates	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DOGS				
Damage Claims	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dog Officer Salary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outside Service	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
License Book & Tags	\$220.00	\$214.96	\$5.04	\$220.00
Expenses	\$0.00	(\$38.55)	\$38.55	\$0.00
Receipt Dog Licenses \$1,338.00				
ELECTIONS & TOWN MEETINGS				
Ballots	\$85.00	\$7.50	\$77.50	\$25.00
Clerks	\$120.00	\$117.00	\$3.00	\$430.00
Legal Notice	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Moderator	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
FICA	\$3,944.00	\$3,969.47	(\$25.47)	\$4,320.00
Blue Cross & Blue Shield	\$2,358.00	\$2,156.64	\$201.36	\$3,005.00
Vt. State Ret. System Town	\$1,557.00	\$1,483.12	\$73.88	\$1,612.00
Unemployment Comp.	\$178.00	\$177.53	\$0.47	\$158.00
Life & Disability Ins	\$254.00	\$151.52	\$102.48	\$410.00
ENERGY COORDINATOR				
Expenses	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
Salary	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
FOREST FIRE WARDEN				
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Permits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
INSURANCE AND BONDS				
Workmen's Compensation	\$391.00	\$404.89	(\$13.89)	\$416.00
Prop & Cas/VLCT	\$3,823.00	\$3,823.00	\$0.00	\$3,669.00
Employment Practices	\$437.00	\$437.00	\$0.00	\$401.00
INTEREST				
Interest-Tax Anticip. Loan	\$1,500.00	\$1,685.09	(\$185.09)	\$1,700.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT				
Law Enforcement	\$22,000.00	\$20,269.25	\$1,730.75	\$17,000.00
Receipts Local Fines \$8,165.66				
LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES				
Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,340.15	\$659.85	\$3,000.00
LISTERS				
Office Supplies	\$250.00	\$268.86	(\$18.86)	\$275.00
Salaries	\$1,500.00	\$1,602.25	(\$102.25)	\$2,500.00
Software Support	\$135.00	\$135.00	\$0.00	\$135.00
Reappraisal	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	
MISCELLANEOUS				
Town Lighting	\$2,000.00	\$1,961.09	\$38.91	\$2,000.00
Mowing	\$1,600.00	\$1,400.00	\$200.00	\$1,600.00
Security Monitor	\$100.00	\$85.47	\$14.53	\$100.00

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
Recycling Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$16,168.36	\$3,831.64	\$18,000.00
BCRC-Solid Waste Plan	\$0.00	\$286.73	(\$286.73)	\$1,065.00
Receipts Recycling \$11,160.00				
TAXES				
Bennington County Taxes	\$5,500.00	\$5,388.96	\$111.04	\$5,500.00
TOWN OFFICE				
Advertising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank & Check Charges	\$175.00	\$7.50	\$167.50	\$150.00
Contingency Funds	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Equip Maint and Repair	\$500.00	\$112.50	\$387.50	\$250.00
Computer Purchase	\$1,500.00	\$1,181.28	\$318.72	\$0.00
Office Equip Purchase	\$500.00	\$359.97	\$140.03	\$500.00
Office Renovation	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,752.66	(\$552.66)	\$1,300.00
Postage	\$500.00	\$567.20	(\$67.20)	\$500.00
Petty Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary-Town Clerk/Treas	\$28,121.00	\$28,120.56	\$0.44	\$29,232.00 *
Salary-Asst. Clerk/Treas	\$9,926.00	\$9,925.28	\$0.72	\$10,713.00 *
Tax Bills and Postage	\$600.00	\$666.60	(\$66.60)	\$700.00
Telephone	\$1,700.00	\$1,534.01	\$165.99	\$1,700.00
Travel Expenses	\$275.00	\$220.32	\$54.68	\$275.00
Education Travel Expense	\$250.00	\$474.72	(\$224.72)	\$250.00
Copier-Service Contract	\$2,000.00	\$618.00	\$1,382.00	\$650.00
Copier-Supplies	\$0.00	\$551.00	(\$551.00)	\$600.00
Fax Bill	\$50.00	\$41.94	\$8.06	\$50.00
Receipt Fax Bill \$126.00				
Computer Service Contract	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Record Restoration	\$0.00	\$462.70	(\$462.70)	\$0.00
Receipts Record Rest. \$1,358.00				
*50 weeks & 2 days at 2004 rate and 8 days at 2003 rate				
TOWN OFFICERS SALARIES				
Salary-Cemetery Comm	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Salary-Grand Juror	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary-Justices of Peace	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
Salary-Library Trustees	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
Salary-Town Agent	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salary-Tree Warden	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
Tennis Court Repairs	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
School Lot Rental	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$0.00	\$24.00
Council on Aging	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
BROC	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Tutorial Center	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
PAVE	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Town Flags	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
G.Aiken C & D Council, Inc	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT & NH	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Center for Restorative Justice	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Bennington Coalition for Homeless	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT				
Hardware Upgrade	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Parcel Map Preservation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Benn Cty Reg Comm Dues	\$1,013.00	\$1,013.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Expenses	\$750.00	\$3.93	\$746.07	\$400.00
Salaries for Pl Commission	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Septic Officer's Expenses	\$50.00	\$11.72	\$38.28	\$50.00
Sanitary Inspections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Septic Permit	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00
Salary - Septic Officer	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	(\$1,100.00)	\$0.00
Receipt Septic Permit \$1,100.00				
Perc Test Review	\$0.00	\$50.00	(\$50.00)	\$0.00
Receipt Perc Test Review \$0.00				
SELECTMEN				
Bid Advertisement	\$100.00	\$116.88	(\$16.88)	\$100.00
Liability Insurance	\$994.00	\$994.00	\$0.00	\$928.00
Office Supplies	\$100.00	\$141.61	(\$41.61)	\$100.00
Salary-Chairman	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Salary-Selectmen	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
Selectmen's Expenses	\$250.00	\$261.45	(\$11.45)	\$250.00
Vt. Leag. of Cities & Towns	\$795.00	\$795.00	\$0.00	\$837.00
Education Fund	\$250.00	\$138.68	\$111.32	\$250.00
Telephone	\$50.00	\$32.80	\$17.20	\$50.00
SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING				
Labor				
Oper & Monitor	\$5,600.00	\$5,137.52	\$462.48	\$6,550.00
H'way Super/Rd Comm	\$1,500.00	\$1,016.72	\$483.28	\$1,500.00
Equip Operator/Laborer	\$1,500.00	\$892.28	\$607.72	\$1,500.00
Labor Other Employees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Electricity	\$700.00	\$779.76	(\$79.76)	\$800.00
Repair and Maintenance	\$500.00	\$1,223.00	(\$723.00)	\$500.00

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT				
Expenses	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Permits & Appeals	\$0.00	\$349.02	(\$349.02)	\$0.00
Receipts Permits ZBA \$450.00				
Salaries	\$60.00	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$60.00
SUB TOTAL	\$156,630.00	\$137,454.68	\$19,175.32	\$145,140.00
Reappraisal Deleted at Town Meeting	(\$10,000.00)		(\$10,000.00)	
	<u>\$146,630.00</u>		<u>\$9,175.32</u>	
TOTALS	\$146,630.00	\$137,454.68	\$9,175.32	\$145,140.00

2004 Proposed General Fund Budget
2004 Anticipated Receipts
2004 Raise & Appropriate

\$145,140.00
(\$59,895.00)
\$85,245.00

HIGHWAY FUND

ACCOUNT NAME	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENDITURES	(OVER) UNDER	2004 PROPOSED BUDGET
Labor				
H'way Super/Rd Comm	\$33,907.00	\$35,238.28	(\$1,331.28)	\$36,000.00 *
Equip Operator/Laborer	\$20,124.00	\$20,007.08	\$116.92	\$23,356.00 *
Overtime	\$15,000.00	\$15,696.65	(\$696.65)	\$15,000.00
Labor-Other Employees	\$500.00	\$378.00	\$122.00	\$500.00
FICA	\$5,281.00	\$5,456.87	(\$175.87)	\$5,689.00
Blue Cross & Blue Shield	\$13,357.00	\$12,220.98	\$1,136.02	\$17,033.00
Vt State Ret. System Town	\$3,452.00	\$3,566.00	(\$114.00)	\$3,718.00
Workmen's Compensation	\$5,146.00	\$5,334.56	(\$188.56)	\$5,465.00
Life & Disability Ins	\$762.00	\$858.62	(\$96.62)	\$600.00
Unemployment	\$532.00	\$532.59	(\$0.59)	\$474.00
Highway Maintenance	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$0.00	\$28,000.00
Highway Pave & Cold Patch	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Highway Sand	\$14,000.00	\$18,747.00	(\$4,747.00)	\$14,000.00
Highway Salt-Winter	\$8,000.00	\$7,546.22	\$453.78	\$8,000.00
Calcium Chloride	\$2,000.00	\$2,460.00	(\$460.00)	\$2,000.00
Culverts	\$2,000.00	\$617.85	\$1,382.15	\$2,000.00
Bridges	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$800.00	\$694.72	\$105.28	\$800.00
Heat-Town Garage	\$800.00	\$3,978.11	(\$3,178.11)	\$1,000.00

*50 weeks & 2 days at 2004 rate and
8 days at 2003 rate

Fuel-Equipment	\$6,500.00	\$6,247.74	\$252.26	\$6,500.00
Blding-Maint & Repair	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Equip-Maint & Repair	\$10,000.00	\$16,585.95	(\$6,585.95)	\$10,000.00
Equip Repl Fund-Grader	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Equip Repl Fund-Loader	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Equip Repl Fund-Ford	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Equip Repl Fund-Mack Truck	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Outside Services	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Flood	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Projects	\$10,000.00	\$8,355.63	\$1,644.37	\$10,000.00
Road Improvements	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
Street Signs	\$200.00	\$150.26	\$49.74	\$200.00
Bridge #14 (Mill Road)	\$5,000.00	\$3,971.61	\$1,028.39	\$2,500.00
Klondike Bridge	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00
Bridge and Culvert Prog	<u>\$2,500.00</u>	<u>\$3,750.00</u>	<u>(\$1,250.00)</u>	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
Receipt Bridge and Culvert Prog \$3,000.				

TOTALS	\$239,311.00	\$248,144.72	(\$8,833.72)	\$244,285.00
---------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

2004 Proposed Highway Budget	\$244,285.00
2004 Fund Balance deficit as per preliminary draft of 2003 audit	\$148.00
2004 Anticipated Receipts	<u>(\$29,000.00)</u>
2004 Raise & Appropriate	\$215,433.00

.....

2004 Fund Balance as per preliminary draft of 2003 audit	\$57,908.00
Reserved for vault map storage system and record restoration	(\$2,908.00)
Reserved for appraisal	(\$23,111.00)
Reserved for The Lane	<u>(\$31,889.00)</u>
	\$0.00

.....

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Greetings everyone. 2003 proved to be a very demanding yet prosperous year. Being one of the wettest years on record, the numerous storms caused considerable problems for our town roads. Approximately 1 mile of Jepson Road, 200 feet of Sportsmen Road and 200 feet of Sumner Road were impassable due to the deep mud in April. It required over \$10,000 in stone and \$15,000 in gravel to make them passable. Further attention will be needed in 2004. The hill section on Lesure Road had ditch work done and was covered with 2" of much needed gravel. Five trees had to be removed from Jepson Road, Sumner Road and The Lane. We would like to thank the Barlows for cooperating with the town and allowing the removal of several evergreen trees that were causing ice problems by shading the bridge and roadway. We were denied grant monies this year for the Town Highway Structures Program and the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program.

As a result of the March election, the selectmen have a five member board. This has allowed the board to be more productive.

After several months of negotiations between Alpenwald Directors, Stamford's delinquent tax collector, treasurer, selectmen and the town attorney, an agreement was made that the selectmen were able to sign. This agreement allows the town to accept gifted properties in Alpenwald while not being liable for any association fees. This agreement also allows us to more efficiently get these delinquent tax properties back on the tax rolls.

The town's tennis court is in need of considerable repairs and the board has reviewed the cost. We feel it is a decision the townspeople should make and that is why it is being presented as a ballot item.

An epidemic of rubbish dumping in the town has been ongoing as the price to dispose of objects and demolition rises. The selectmen have chosen to address this problem by improving the solid waste ordinance which gives the power of prosecution to local officials. This allows citations and heavy fines to be imposed on anyone caught illegally dumping any materials deemed as a potential hazard within the Town of Stamford. Illegally dumping of materials that are considered pollutants near or in rivers carries additional fines imposed by the State. The selectmen will act as the Issuing and Prosecuting Officials that will argue each case in front of the Municipal Court in the Town of Bennington. The Municipal Court was set up so lay people could act as prosecutors and therefore not incur the extra expense of hiring lawyers or involving law enforcement. Fines range from \$100 to \$500 per day depending on the infraction.

We have signed a new agreement with the Bennington County Sheriff's Department to continue 20 hours of coverage. This agreement is federally funded which provides a significant savings to the town. Our current contract expires in March.

The board is debating whether class 4 roads should be left closed or allowed to be plowed with the condition that the plowing parties are responsible for all damage incurred to the road once they have opened the road. At this time class 4 roads cannot be plowed without permission from the selectmen.

Four wheeler legislation has empowered selectmen to make a decision whether class 4 roads can be opened for all terrain vehicles. Many towns have already incorporated where and when four wheelers can be ridden. The selectmen are reviewing the possibility of having part of the Old Long Trail opened before the Green Mountain Forest takes possession. This will allow a link with trails already opened by the Town of Pownal providing a longer trail. Presently people using these trails on the Stamford side are being informed that they will be fined until a policy is adopted.

Bids have gone out and are being reviewed for the state required town property evaluation and assessment. There has been very little response to our many attempts to get this job done. The listers have presented the selectmen with a bid from Green Mountain Appraisals located in Manchester, VT. Some contract clarification is being worked on but it looks very promising.

The selectmen reviewed the high cost of insurance benefits for employees. Changes were made this year and we will be looking at further changes in the upcoming year.

The selectmen are reviewing the value of joining the school in upgrading internet and computer needs by adding a high speed T-1 line. A proposal was made that a T-1 line would actually take care of most of the school's and town's internet needs without increasing the cost but increasing service by 10 fold. More information will be needed to make the final decision.

With the large amount of delinquent tax monies collected during 2003, we were able to pay off the 2002 Deficit and still have a fund balance of \$57,908. The selectmen have decided to use this fund balance as follows:

We have set aside \$23,111 to add to the monies already reserved for our town reappraisal.

\$31,889 will be added to the \$18,815 already reserved to resurface The Lane.

\$2,908 will be used to complete the vault map storage system and record restoration.

As always the selectmen would like to thank all town employees for a job well done. A special thank-you to the Firemen, Ladies Auxiliary, all town board members and volunteers within the town. Your continued service to Stamford helps to keep the town running safely and efficiently throughout the year.

William B Morehouse, Jr., Chairman
Bruce Robare, Vice Chairman
Sheila Lawrence, Clerk
David Saldo
Diana Belouin
Board of Selectmen

Annual reports from the following organizations were not published in the town report. If you would like to read any of these reports, they will be posted on the bulletin board located outside of the town office.

Bennington Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.
PAVE (Project Against Violent Encounters)
BROC - Community Action in Southwestern Vermont
CRJ (Center for Restorative Justice)
The Tutorial Center
George D. Aiken Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging
Bennington County Regional Commission
Green Up Vermont
Green Mountain National Forest
Vermont Department of Health
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT & NH
Enhanced 9-1-1-Report

REMINDER

No person shall leave a motor vehicle on any town road so as to interfere with snow removal from November 1st until April 1st of each year. A motor vehicle so illegally parked may be towed at the full responsibility of the owner for both the towing and storage charges and for any damages resulting to the vehicle due to such towing. (Stamford Town Highway Ordinance. Adopted 2/22/1973. In addition, according to Title 23 VSA 1126, it is illegal to plow, shovel or blow snow from private property on or across public highways. Your cooperation with highway department crew members during winter storm conditions will be greatly appreciated.

Bridge Accounts

	Bridge #14 Mill Road	Klondike Bridge
Balance as of January 1, 2003	\$ 12,164.27	\$9,095.90
Interest	\$103.03	\$75.88
Town Appropriation	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
Disbursement	(\$3,971.61)	\$0.00
Transfer to CD	<u>(\$10,000.00)</u>	<u>(\$9,000.00)</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2003	\$3,295.69	\$3,171.78

September 2003 purchased a 1 year CD at Hoosac Bank for \$41,201.57 for Bridge #14
(CD \$40,338.74 & INT \$862.83)

CD	\$ 41,201.57
Transfer from savings	\$ 10,000.00
Interest Sept - Dec	<u>\$ 178.05</u>
Value Dec 31, 2003	\$ 51,379.62

September 2003 purchased a 1 year CD at Hoosac Bank for \$5,150.15 for Klondike Bridge
(CD \$5,042.32 & INT \$107.83)

CD Hoosac Bank	\$ 5,150.15
Transfer from savings	\$ 9,000.00
Interest Sept - Dec	<u>\$ 48.53</u>
Value Dec 31, 2003	\$ 14,198.68

Record Restoration Fund

January 1, 2003	\$1,429.53
2003 Receipts	\$1,358.00
2003 Expenditures	<u>(\$462.70)</u>
December 31, 2003	\$2,324.83

Town Office Equipment Replacement Fund

Money Market at Banknorth	
January 1, 2003	\$420.01
2003 Receipts	\$140.03
Interest	<u>\$1.77</u>
December 31, 2003	\$561.81

2003 STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

For 2003, school tax billed, collected and paid to the school by the town

TOTAL EDUCATION LIABILITY	\$787,454.00
TOTAL TOWN LIABILITY	<u>\$350,705.00</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$1,138,159.00

EDUCATION GRAND LIST	\$510,494.00	
\$510,494.00 x \$1.54 (tax rate) =		\$786,160.76

MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST	\$510,494.00	
\$510,494.00 X \$.69 (tax rate) =		<u>\$352,240.86</u>

TOTAL 2003 TAXES BILLED	\$1,138,401.62
-------------------------	----------------

2003 TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR

TOTAL 2003 TAXES COLLECTED	\$1,053,625.40
----------------------------	----------------

DELINQUENT TAXES PASSED TO COLLECTOR ON NOVEMBER 21 st	<u>\$ 84,776.22</u>
---	---------------------

Total 2003 Taxes Accounted for	\$1,138,401.62
--------------------------------	----------------

Submitted by:

Nancy L. Bushika
Treasurer

LIST OF DELINQUENT TAXES December 31, 2003

	NAME	LOCATION	YEARS	TOTAL
	Andover Hills Inc	Main Road	2003	\$3,855.67
	Bakewell, Howard	Alp.	1990---2003	\$1,099.49
	Ballard Kathy C	Alp.	1996---2003	\$478.54
**	Bilney, Harold & Joan	Alp.	1990---2003	\$1,203.27
*	Bressette Steve & Ann	Boulger Rd	2003	\$360.10
	Briggs Marvin	Mill Rd	2003	\$8.92
	Bruno Regina M	Alp.	2001---2003	\$194.72
	Bryant James	Alp	1998---2003	\$525.17
	Burger, Frank C & Audrey O	Lesure Rd	2002---2003	\$990.64
	CDP Realty Inc	Alp. #361	1992----2003	\$654.33
	CDP Realty Inc	Alp. #281	1992----2003	\$638.90
	CDP Realty Inc	Alp. #387	1992----2003	\$978.39
	CDP Realty Inc	Alp. #347	1992----2003	\$978.39
	CDP Realty Inc	Alp. #336	1992----2003	\$944.82
	Chand Subhash	Alp.	1994----2003	\$774.50
*	Choquette Joel C	Alp	2003	\$122.65
*	Chutjian John & Mary	Alp.	1994----2003	\$362.88
	Clegg Melody	Alp.	1995----2003	\$509.29
	Cloutier et al Donald M	Schenk Rd	2003	\$385.79
	Colosi Stephen	Alp	1995----2003	\$467.61
	Cullen Shawn	County Rd	2003	\$323.35
	D'Agostino et al J	Alp	2003	\$55.75
**	Daniels, David & Frances	Alp.	1993----2003	\$1,072.94
	Debease, Antoinette	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,187.83
	Demarco David John	Lesure Rd	2003	\$760.43
	Dematteo, William	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,194.75
**	Dicenzo William	Noble Estates	1995----2003	\$903.10
**	Dicenzo William	Alp.	1995----2003	\$457.45
	Dickey, David	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,426.25
**	Donath Mariel & Eric	Alp.	1996----2003	\$370.49
	Donegan, Thomas & Jean	Alp.	1990----2003	\$2,287.31
	Donegan, Thomas & Jean	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,664.68
	Duff, Cecil & Sally	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,764.16
	Dunn Jr Nelson & Joni	Main Rd	2003	\$2,384.18
	Dvorocsik, Michael & Dorothy	Alp.	1991----2003	\$1,335.38

LIST OF DELINQUENT TAXES December 31, 2003

	Eldracher, Andreas & Sandra	Alp.	1992----2003	\$696.78
*	Finn Paul	Alp.	1994----2003	\$539.48
	Fletcher, Natalie	Alp.	1990----2003	\$3,843.91
	Franz, Virginia	Alp.	1989----2003	\$1,371.29
	Geannelis Peter J & Judith	Sucker Pond	2003	\$501.75
	Giaquinta Robert & Margaret	Alp	1995----2003	\$865.95
	Goosman Thomas & Lilly	Alp	2002---2003	\$129.07
	Gresh Paint Company Inc	Alp.	2000---2003	\$227.10
	Harten, Bernard	Noble Estates	1992----2003	\$1,464.28
	Hartman Mark D et als	Main Rd	2003	\$611.02
	Henderson Jsutin	East Rd	2003	\$374.10
**	Heveran Kusumi Mary	Noble Estates	1989---2003	\$1,488.58
	Hill Lisa	Alp	2003	\$82.51
**	Hughes Richard	Noble Estates	1994----2003	\$1,042.52
	Jacobellis Rima	Alp.	1994----2003	\$893.74
	Judge, George & Constance	Alp.	1993----2003	\$1,134.68
**	Keitel, Jack & Carol	Alp.	1993---2003	\$784.51
	Klease, Rodney & Victoria	Alp.	1991----2003	\$2,778.81
	Kruszewski Joseph Jr & Wanda	Boulger Rd	2003	\$474.99
	LaCorte, Jane O	Tatro Rd	2003	\$390.25
*	Lafayette Roland W & Irene	Main Rd	2003	\$323.35
	Langenback Paul R & Debra	Sparrow Dr	2003	\$4,408.71
	Lara et als Raul	Alp.	1989----2003	\$3,005.00
	Lara et als Raul	Alp.	1989----2003	\$2,637.52
	Lee Thomas F	Alp	1997----2003	\$401.30
	Libby William & Judith	Noble Estates	1995----2001	\$677.31
	Libby William & Judith	Noble Estates	1995----2001	\$611.29
	Liebenson, Manuel & Helen	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,337.90
	Lockhart, Mary	Alp.	1993----2003	\$689.40
	Lonis David D	Alp	1997----2003	\$321.05
	Lora III Joseph S	East Rd	2003	\$5,708.80
	Lumbis Thomas	Main Rd	2002---2003	\$870.91
	Mach Anthony & Veronica	County Rd	2003	\$606.56
	McMahon Mary	Alp	1998---2003	\$388.17
	McQuoid, Raymond A. & Nancy A	Main Rd	2001---2003	\$7,482.12
	Medici, Paul & Joanne	Alp.	1994----2003	\$899.36
	Meyers Jr Charles	Alp	2002---2003	\$133.52
	Milanese Dawn & David	Alp	2003	\$35.68

LIST OF DELINQUENT TAXES December 31, 2003

	Moffitt John & Kathleen	Alp.	1996----2003	\$383.00
**	Mohrman, Thomas & Sheila	Noble Estates	1990----2003	\$3,073.69
**	Mohrman, Thomas & Sheila	Noble Estates	1990----2003	\$1,603.80
	Moller Burchard	Alp	1997----2003	\$321.05
	Monaco, Joseph	Alp.	1990----2003	\$1,172.31
	Nowicki et als John J	Alp.	2001---2003	\$181.74
	Nowicki et als John J	Alp.	2001---2003	\$220.68
	Noyes Timothy L Brenda	Robillard Rd	2003	\$2,060.52
	O'Dea, Thomas & Kathryn	Alp.	1989----2000	\$1,519.68
	O'Donnell et als, Timothy	Alp.	1989----2003	\$1,270.27
*	Quimette Paula R & Robert	Harley Rd	2003	\$604.33
	Patalano Frank D & Betty M	Alp	1998----2003	\$422.43
*	Pena James D et als	Alp	2003	\$62.44
	Pergoda, H.	Alp.	1989---2003	\$1,141.67
	Petrone Josephine	Alp.	2001---2003	\$188.23
	Potvin Daniel J / Laurence R	Lot 48,55	2003	\$6,277.45
	Potvin Daniel J / Laurence R	Basin Rd	2003	\$1,400.44
	Potvin Daniel J / Laurence R	Robillard Rd	2003	\$10,447.55
	Potvin Daniel J / Laurence R	Robillard Rd	2003	\$1,427.20
	Potvin Daniel J	Robillard Rd	2001---2003	\$1,621.21
	Ristau Kenneth & Elizabeth	Alp.	1994----2003	\$686.81
	Roche Michael & Joanne	Alp.	1994----2003	\$686.81
	Roehr Henry Inc.	Alp.	1992----2003	\$1,038.67
	Russell Donald Jr	Alp	2003	\$49.06
	Sandor Robert	Alp.	1994----2003	\$660.86
	Schiffman Harvey & Jeanne	Alp	2000----2003	\$117.56
	Seeger Eugene W & Andrea E	Alp.	2001---2003	\$155.78
**	Silvia Frank & Mary A	Alp	2002---2003	\$133.52
	Soter Charles J	Alp	1998---2003	\$285.42
	Soter Jr Charles J	Alp	1998----2003	\$193.92
	Stevenson, Humphrey	Alp.	1989----2003	\$1,921.00
	Tatro, Debra A	Tatro Rd	2003	\$973.10
*	Thornton, Michael R	Alp	2003	\$60.21
	Vidal, Kevin	Alp.	1993----2003	\$1,134.68
	Vitale Jr Thomas L	Lesure Rd	2003	\$575.34
	Whitney Allen W	Main Rd	2003	\$524.05
	Wright Alan E & Diane M	County Rd	2002---2003	\$1,518.47
	Wrubel, John	Noble Estate	1989----2003	\$1,281.66
				\$130,352.00
*	paid after 1/1/04			
**	gifted to the town			

STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES BY YEAR

YEAR	BALANCE TO COLLECT January 1, 2003	TAXES COLLECTED	BALANCE TO COLLECT December 31, 2003
1989	\$1,221.95		\$1,221.95
1990	\$4,110.27		\$4,110.27
1991	\$4,123.08		\$4,123.08
1992	\$5,290.12		\$5,290.12
1993	\$6,020.68		\$6,020.68
1994	\$8,667.19	\$319.20	\$8,347.99
1995	\$9,679.23	\$348.50	\$9,330.73
1996	\$3,913.99	\$107.12	\$3,806.87
1997	\$3,986.64	\$101.92	\$3,884.72
1998	\$3,565.62	\$84.24	\$3,481.38
1999	\$3,731.40	\$87.68	\$3,643.72
2000	\$3,638.10	\$132.44	\$3,505.66
2001	\$26,996.23	\$20,524.57	\$6,471.66
2002	\$83,130.48	\$73,936.53	\$9,193.95
2003		\$26,857.00	\$57,919.22
TOTAL	\$168,074.98	\$122,499.20	\$130,352.00

	ALPENWALD NOBLE ESTATES	OTHER PROPERTY	BALANCE TO COLLECT
1989	\$1,221.95		\$1,221.95
1990	\$4,110.27		\$4,110.27
1991	\$4,123.08		\$4,123.08
1992	\$5,290.12		\$5,290.12
1993	\$6,020.68		\$6,020.68
1994	\$8,347.99		\$8,347.99
1995	\$9,330.73		\$9,330.73
1996	\$3,806.87		\$3,806.87
1997	\$3,884.72		\$3,884.72
1998	\$3,481.38		\$3,481.38
1999	\$3,643.72		\$3,643.72
2000	\$3,505.66		\$3,505.66
2001	\$4,606.32	\$1,865.34	\$6,471.66
2002	\$5,114.30	\$4,079.65	\$9,193.95
2003	\$6,223.93	\$51,695.29	\$57,919.22
TOTAL	\$72,711.72	\$57,640.28	\$130,352.00

ACT 60 REAPPRAISAL FUND

March 2003, purchased a CD for 6 months at Berkshire Bank for 1.64% and rolled September 2003 for another 6 months at 1.24% (June 1998, added \$1,460.00 that was received from State of VT to be used toward the purchase of software in 1999 but purchase postponed until 2004.)

CD value as of December 31, 2002	\$44,590.14
State of VT (Grand List maintenance)	743.00
State of VT Reappraisal	4,458.00
Town of Stamford	.00
Interest for 2003	<u>798.63</u>
Current value December 31, 2003	\$50,589.77

INVESTED FUNDS

1. September 2003, the \$34,362.56 CD matured at Adams Co-operative Bank. A \$34,362.56 CD was purchased for 1 year at 1.75% at Adams Co-operative Bank. Due to mature September 2004.

CD	\$34,362.56
Interest since September 2003	<u>173.11</u>
Current value December 31, 2003	\$34,535.67

Interest (in lieu of taxes) from invested funds transferred to General Fund September 2003. \$944.15

2. August 2003, the \$40,000.00 CD matured at Adams Co-Operative Bank. A \$40,000.00 CD was purchased for 1.75% at Adams Co-Operative Bank. Due to mature August 2004. (\$3,000.00 from sale of Patten land to National Forest, \$34,000.00 from sale of Warner land to National Forest and \$3,000.00 from sale of Mirante land to National Forest.)

CD	\$40,000.00
Interest since August 2003	<u>289.52</u>
Current value December 31, 2003	\$40,289.52

Interest (in lieu of taxes) from invested funds transferred to General Fund December 2003. \$1,099.48

3. July 2003, the \$15,000.00 CD matured at Hoosac Bank. A \$15,000.00 CD was purchased for 1.24% at Hoosac Bank. Due to mature July 2004. (\$15,000.00 from sale of Haynes land to National Forest)

CD	\$15,000.00
Interest since July 2003	<u>82.27</u>
Current value December 31, 2003	\$15,082.27

Interest (in lieu of taxes) from invested funds transferred to General Fund July 2003. \$480.38

4. Town of Stamford Land Sale Fund - Evergreen Funds
 (Initial town investment of \$14,416,84 in 1992 and \$20,000.00 in 1994 from previous sale of lands to National Forest)

Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2002	\$41,960.15
Dividends reinvested	2,193.30
Unrealized gain	616.85
Redemption*	<u>(8,000.00)</u>
Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2003	\$36,770.30

Note: Cost basis at December 31, 2003 \$37,824.91

5. Town of Stamford Land Sale Fund - Putnam Investments
 (Initial town investment of \$20,000.00 in 1994 from previous sale of land to National Forest)

Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2002	\$25,690.39
Dividends reinvested	360.19
Capital gain	139.89
Unrealized loss	(182.31)
Redemption *	<u>(4,000.00)</u>
Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2003	\$22,008.16

Note: Cost basis at December 31, 2003 \$13,272.03

* Transfer of interest to General Fund

AUDITING STATEMENT

The firm of Fisk Reed & Love, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, conducted an audit for the Town of Stamford's cash receipts and disbursements for the year 2003 in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

The Financial Statements, Supplementary Information and Auditors' Report are available for inspection in the Town Office during the regular office hours.

BIRTHS

Name	Sex	Date of Birth	Parents
Ariel Marie Dupras	F	July 12, 1999	John Edward & Andrea (Laezza) Dupras
* Hunter John Hathaway	M	March 6, 2003	Daniel & Sherry (Tatro) Hathaway
* Elizabeth Marie Dupras	F	April 1, 2003	John Edward & Andrea (Laezza) Dupras
Dylan Micheal St. Hilaire	M	April 2, 2003	Keith M. St. Hilaire & Claire D. Ryan
Jonathan Trevor Grant	M	April 19, 2003	Steven David & Lynne Kathryn (Butler) Grant
Emilia Rose LaBombard	F	June 29, 2003	Stephanie Lynn LaBombard
* Ashlyn Nicole Belisle	F	July 4, 2003	Bruce & Jennifer (Calvi) Belisle
Emma Rose Treece	F	July 11, 2003	Jeremy Alan & Bonnie Elizabeth (Bielaski) Treece
Catherine Ann Forbes	F	October 26, 2003	John Scott & Julie Ann (Potvin) Forbes

DEATHS & BURIALS

Name	Age	Sex	Date of Death	Place of Death	Place of Burial
* Henry Matthew Kennedy	86	M	February 11, 2003	Lake Wales, FL	-----
William Gordon Tisdale	78	M	February 17, 2003	Wichita Falls, TX	Stamford, VT
Martha Jane Tatro	58	F	May 7, 2003	Bennington, VT	Stamford, VT
* A. Jean (Gurney) Rice	90	F	May 16, 2003	Pittsfield, MA	North Adams, MA
Martha Gertrude Boge	91	F	July 15, 2003	Tucson, AZ	Stamford, VT

* Informational only, not recorded in Stamford's Vital Records

MARRIAGES

GROOM	RESIDENCE	BRIDE	RESIDENCE	DATE
Jeffery Hayden Duhamel	Dalton, MA	Cristina Margaret Sanchez	Dalton, MA	February 14, 2003
Brent Buda	Adams, MA	Melinda Susan Bennett	Adams, MA	March 22, 2003
Jason Richard Reynolds	Stamford, VT	Ruthann Smith	Stamford, VT	April 12, 2003
Raymond Leo Lemaire, Jr.	Adams, MA	Jeanette Marie Tatro	Adams, MA	April 19, 2003
James Michael Belanger	Adams, MA	Bonnie Lee Cote	Adams, MA	May 21, 2003
William Arnold Martin	North Adams, MA	Lisa Denise Daniels	North Adams, MA	June 7, 2003
Ian Richard Warren	Shrewsbury, MA	Susan Mary Davis	Shrewsbury, MA	June 21, 2003
Roy David Bugbee	Adams, MA	Sharron Ann Berry	Adams, MA	August 31, 2003
Timothy John Shepard	Stamford, VT	Lori Ann Brothers	Stamford, VT	October 4, 2003
Frederick Harding Whitham	Stamford, VT	Eleanor Jean Benedetti	Stamford, VT	October 20, 2003
Jeffrie Alan Shields	North Adams, MA	Karen Ann Brown	North Adams, MA	October 31, 2003
Ernest Charles Perry	North Adams, MA	Rebecca Karin Valois	North Adams, MA	November 1, 2003
William Anthony Jackson, Jr.	North Adams, MA	Eileen Louise Del Ratez	North Adams, MA	November 10, 2003
Robert Armand Shartrand	North Adams, MA	Theresa Mae Therrien	North Adams, MA	December 19, 2003

CIVIL UNIONS

PARTY A	RESIDENCE	PARTY B	RESIDENCE	DATE
Amanda Sue Whipple	Lipscomb, TX	April Natashi Simpson	Baltimore, MD	October 10, 2003

DOGS LICENSED IN STAMFORD

Total number of dogs licensed in 2003 is 236

RECEIPTS:

Regular Licenses	(228 dogs)	\$1,100.00
1 Special License	(8 dogs)	30.00
1 Kennel License		10.00
Fines		198.00
Replacement Tags		0.00
State Fee		<u>229.00</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$1,567.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

State Fee	\$229.00
-----------	----------

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$229.00

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$1,338.00

Submitted by:

Nancy L. Bushika
Treasurer

All dogs or wolf-hybrids more than six months old on or before April 1, 2004 are to be licensed by April 1. To obtain a license, owners must provide a current rabies certificate to show the dog or wolf-hybrid has been vaccinated. Copies of all rabies vaccination certificates for dogs and wolf-hybrids shall be filed with the Town Clerk.

Fees are as follows: \$8.00 for each male/female unneutered dog or wolf-hybrid, \$4.00 for each neutered male/female dog or wolf-hybrid. In addition \$1.00 will be charged for each license sold. This \$1.00 will be sent to the State of Vermont for their rabies control program.

All cats shall be inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. A person may use an approved vaccine to inoculate a feral feline that takes up residence in a building other than the person's home and need not use the services of a licensed veterinarian for this purpose.

REPORT OF PLANNING COMMISSION FUND

Balance Better Money Market Account at Banknorth January 1, 2003	\$3,993.99
RECEIPTS:	
Interest	\$ 49.79
Total Funds to Account For	\$4,043.78
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Total Disbursements	\$.00
BALANCE BETTER MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	
December 31, 2003	\$4,043.78

Submitted by:
Nancy L. Bushika
Treasurer

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Cemetery Trust Fund - Evergreen Funds

Sale of Cemetery Lots in	1992 - \$15,500.00
	1993 - \$ 2,200.00
	1994 - \$ 3,100.00
	1995 - \$ 600.00
	1998 - \$ 850.00
	1999 - \$ 150.00
	2000 - \$ 1,500.00
	2001 - \$ 650.00
	2001 - \$ (500.00) -- 1 lot repurchased
	2002 - \$.00
	2003 - \$ 350.00

Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2002	\$36,410.05
Dividends reinvested	776.92
Capital gains	.00
Unrealized gain	5,512.64
Purchased Cemetery Lots	350.00
Redemptions	<u>(600.00)</u>
Carrying value (market value) at December 31, 2003	\$42,449.61

Note: Cost basis at December 31, 2003 \$52,923.77

Submitted by:
Nancy L. Bushika
Treasurer

STAMFORD CEMETERY TRUSTEE REPORT

	2003 BUDGET	2003 EXPENSES	2004 PROPOSED
Mowing	\$2,000.00	\$1,120.00	\$2,000.00
Flags	\$75.00	\$59.00	\$75.00
Expansion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Maintenance	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Monument Repair	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00
Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Charge	<u>\$0.00</u>		<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$3,000.00	\$1,179.00	\$3,000.00

Checking Account Balance as of January 1, 2003 **\$1,581.45**

2003 Receipts

Town Appropriation	\$1,000.00
Stone Restoration	\$500.00
Cemetery Trust Fund	\$600.00
Bank Interest 2003	\$5.01
Cemetery Donation	\$200.00
Sale of Cemetery Marker	\$15.00

Total Receipts	\$2,320.01
Less Total Expenditures	<u>\$1,179.00</u>

Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2003 **\$2,722.46**

2004 Budget	\$3,000.00
Anticipated Receipts -Trust Fund	(\$600.00)
Anticipated Surplus in Checking	<u>(\$1,400.00)</u>
2004 Raise and Appropriate	\$1,000.00

Community Library Report for 2003

Circulation

	2002	2003
Books	12,660	6,847
Books on Tape	*120	93
Periodicals	760	521
Videos	956	94
Interlibrary Loans	46	592
Total Circulation	14,524	8,147

*Estimate. Accurate figure not available.

Library Patrons

Registered Borrowers	284	304
Students	79	94
Total Borrowers	363	398

What's available at our library?

The library's collection includes:

- Adult and Juvenile fiction and non-fiction
- Magazines for all ages and interests
- Books on tape for adults and children
- Picture books and board books for young children
- Videos for educational and recreational viewing
- Reference materials



Library resources and services include:

- Internet access
- Microsoft Office computer programs for word-processing, spreadsheets, image manipulation, and other needs
- Access to the Vermont Online Library, a collection of full-text databases
- Interlibrary Loan

Again this year Stamford Community Library met Vermont Department of Libraries standards for public libraries. This allows us to borrow materials from other Vermont libraries for our patrons through the Vermont Automated Libraries System (VALS).

The automation project is more than half done. The online catalog can be used to find fiction, books on tape, most videos, and all materials purchased since December, 2002. Nonfiction and reference materials will be cataloged in 2004. Automated circulation will begin when all circulating materials are online.

Our new library website (www.stamford.lib.vt.us) allows patrons to check lists of new books and videos, library class schedules, library rules and policies, and other library information. It also provides access to selected internet sites and a collection of online databases.

Library Holdings, 2002-2003

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Books, January 1	*10,465	#8,400
Purchases: Town	179	204
School	174	123
Gift/Grant	315	266
Withdrawn from collection	<u>** -150</u>	<u>** -170</u>
Total books, December 31	10,983	8,823
Videocassettes, January 1	*238	281
Purchases: Town	0	0
School	0	0
Gift/Grant	54	235
Withdrawn from collection	<u>-9</u>	<u>** -30</u>
Total videos, December 31	283	486
Books-on-Tape, January 1	*122	139
Purchases: Town	0	0
School	0	0
Gift/Grant	2	26
Withdrawn from collection	<u>0</u>	<u>-14</u>
Total books on tape, December 31	124	151
CD-ROMs, January 1	13	13
Purchases: Town	0	0
School	0	0
Gift/Grant	0	0
Withdrawn from collection	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total CD-ROMs, December 31	13	13
Total Collection, December 31	11,403	9,473
Periodical Subscriptions		
Town	8	9
School	3	11
Gift	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
Total periodical subscriptions	19	25

*Estimated figure carried through the years; accurate number not available.

#Estimate based on shelf-count average.

** Estimate.

(No asterisk indicates an accurate count.)

LIBRARY TRUSTEES' REPORT

The goal of the Stamford Community Library in 2003 continued to be to provide improved access to a current and diverse collection of materials for all age groups and interests. One way this goal was achieved was to once again meet the accreditation standards set forth by the Vermont Department of Library Services, making the library eligible for state grants. Another was to take advantage of outside grant programs, such as the Gates Foundation Grant, which has provided the library with four public-access computers available for all patrons to use for research, relaxation and communication.

The Gates computers allowed the library to present a series of six computer workshops for adults, teaching basic word-processing, internet searching, e-mail, and use of the Vermont Online Library. All of these computers were completely upgraded over the summer, running Windows 2000, Microsoft Office, a selection of educational computer games for children, and updated Encarta research and reference software for student projects. In addition, the upgrade provided a high level of security for our computers, a necessity in the current environment of computer viruses.

The library was once again the recipient of three important grants. The second year funds of the Freeman Grant brought us \$5,685 to meet ongoing automation expenses and to purchase new shelving for children's picture books and adult paperback books. The Hardman Grant, provided by the Berkshire Taconic Foundation, awarded the library \$500, which we used to build a core collection of audiobooks for adults and children. These audiobooks are valuable both for adults with failing eyesight as well as children with reading disabilities. We plan to expand this collection in the future. The Red Clover Grant brought us \$200 worth of award-winning children's picture books. In addition, a book sale, the result of our weeding project, brought in \$360 to the library.

A number of donations come into the library each year, some people donating materials, others donating money, and still others donating their time to library projects. All of these are appreciated. However, two donations especially stand out this year. The family of Phyllis E. Blood donated almost 250 video titles to the library, as well as plastic cases to protect the videos. This collection of perfect-condition, high-quality videos is in the process of being catalogued and shelved and will soon be circulating as a wonderful resource for the community. Victoria Jeffries also donated \$750 to the library for materials and projects. She also has donated much of her time, helping with shelving and weeding and creating artwork for the library.

Technology continues to expand the scope of the Stamford Community Library resources, as we have subscribed to a suite of Infotrac online databases provided by the Vermont Department of Libraries. These databases allow patrons to search for magazine and encyclopedia articles, excerpts from reference books and other documents, and to download or print the full text of most documents found. They are a rich resource for students needing research materials, patrons needing health information, and teachers and other professionals needing work-related information. Classes were offered in the use of these databases and we hope more people will take advantage of them in the coming year, accessing them both in the library and at home.

By far the largest project at the library this year has been automating the card catalog. In the space of one short year, more than half of the library's collection has been catalogued and entered into the Follett online database. Assistant Librarian Lynn DePaoli has been instrumental in this process. We hope to have the entire circulating collection online by the end of the school year, and as soon as it is online we will be able to begin using an electronic circulation system. Classes will be offered in the spring to teach patrons how to use the online catalog, a portion of which is already available online.

All of these efforts and innovations will continue to make the Stamford Community Library an important community resource well into the future.

PAULA NICKERSON-PLOCK
BARBARA BARLOW
PATRICIA BURTON
THOM GENTLE
CHRISTINE KELLY-WHITNEY
Library Trustees

STAMFORD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

	2003 Budget	2003 Expenses	2004 Proposed
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Library Materials	\$3,000.00	\$3,027.57	\$3,000.00
Continuing Education	\$200.00	\$187.95	\$200.00
Equipment Repair	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$25.00	\$40.00	\$25.00
Postage	\$200.00	\$200.47	\$250.00
Special Programs	\$500.00	\$484.40	\$500.00
Subscriptions	\$200.00	\$198.55	\$200.00
Supplies	\$400.00	\$511.06	\$450.00
Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Access	\$1,250.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,250.00
Travel	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
New Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer Tech Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Equipment Replacement	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Operating Subtotal	\$6,025.00	\$6,025.00	\$6,975.00
 SALARIES:			
Librarian	\$7,480.00	\$7,362.00	\$6,783.00
Town School Library			
Assistant Librarian	\$6,027.00	\$5,902.95	\$6,156.00
Substitutes	\$300.00	\$143.75	\$300.00
FICA	\$1,034.00	\$1,026.48	\$1,013.00
Workmen's Compensation	<u>\$57.00</u>	<u>\$58.99</u>	<u>\$60.00</u>
Salaries Subtotal	\$14,898.00	\$14,494.17	\$14,312.00
 TOTAL	 \$20,923.00	 \$20,519.17	 \$21,287.00 <u>(\$400.00)</u> **
 TOTAL RAISE & APPROPRIATE	 \$20,923.00		 \$20,887.00
 EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT FUND			
Opening Balance, January 1, 2003		\$1,495.58	
Unexpended from 2002		\$424.00	
Interest for 2003		<u>\$7.57</u>	
Ending Balance, December 31, 2003		\$1,927.15	

** Unexpended \$400.00 from 2003 budget

Stamford Volunteer Fire Department

2003 was a busy year for the fire department. Our calls were up from last year with a total of 58 calls. We responded to 1 Structure Fire, 4 Car Accidents, 7 Brush Fires, 33 Medical Assistance Calls, 7 Mutual Aid, 1 Car Fire, 1 Chimney Fire, 3 Miscellaneous & 1 Carbon Monoxide Call. We answered these calls with an average of eight firefighters per call, which represents 670 hours of service to our community. Our average response time for 2003 was 4 minutes.

We received our First Responder License from the State. We are one of only three fire departments to meet the First Responder requirements in EMS district 12, which covers all of Bennington and part of Windam Counties. The other two departments are Pownal and West Dover.

We completed a considerable amount of training in 2003. Fourteen members completed the first 45 hours of first responder training and will continue with 15 hours of additional training this year. We had two members complete 130 hour "Firefighter 1" training and two additional members challenged the "Firefighter 1" test and passed. We hosted a 9-hour Vermont Fire Academy air pack class in September, participated in a live burn exercise and a multi-victim motor vehicle accident drill with the Clarksburg Fire Company and the North Adams Ambulance Service. We held several in-house training sessions, which included Driver Training, Pump Operation, Large Diameter Hose & Propane Safety.

Several grants were available this year for the purchase of equipment and we received four of the six we applied for. The totals of these four grants are as follows.

Homeland Security 2003 Round 1	\$17,100.00
Homeland Security 2003 Round 2	\$12,000.00
Vermont Dept. of Health	Defibrillator (2000.00 Value)
Vermont Fire Academy	Air Pack (3,400.00 Value)

With the Homeland Security Round 1 Grant we received money to purchase two Scott Air Packs @ \$3,400.00 each, one Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera for \$9,800.00 and a Kenwood State Police Radio for Squad 3. With the Homeland Security Round 2 Grant we received money to purchase three more air packs, three spare air pack bottles and money to purchase rescue equipment, which will be purchased in 2004. In addition to this grant money, money from the ladies auxiliary, our

monthly raffle and this year's golf tournament were used to purchase an additional three air packs. We were also awarded a new air pack from the Vermont Fire Academy grant. This additional pack allowed us to place nine new air packs in service this year. In total \$44,700.00 worth of equipment was purchased and placed in service at no cost to the town. The new Scott Air Packs replaced our 28-year-old MSA Air Packs that weighed 30 lbs with state-of-the-art air packs that weigh only 17lbs and have several features that will improve firefighter safety. The Thermal Imaging Camera is a piece of equipment we thought we would never be able to afford. These cameras are becoming standard equipment for fire departments and give us the ability to find a person in a smoke filled building and check for hot spots inside a wall. The Automatic External Defibrillator we were awarded will enhance our Emergency Medical Response to include life saving defibrillation prior to the arrival of the ambulance. We expect to receive the defibrillator and have the training complete during the first quarter of 2004.

We currently maintain a roster of 28 firefighters. Fourteen of these are First Responders and an additional 5 are also Massachusetts EMTs who work or have worked with the North Adams Ambulance Service. Four members are certified by the State of Vermont to the "Firefighter 1" level. The Firefighter Level One training is not a requirement in Vermont; this is additional training these individuals chose to do on their own.

The continuous training is becoming an overwhelming task that our firefighters are meeting head-on with great enthusiasm. We are staying current with new improvements with-in the fire service and are continuously looking for new and creative ways to improve our skills and update our equipment. We would like to add new firefighters to the roster this year. The only benefit we have to offer prospective members is the satisfaction of providing a service to the town. Additional members are always needed to perform Fire and/or EMS duties. Please contact any firefighter if you are interested in helping or you can come to the station any Monday night.

Our annual golf tournament was another great success this year. We had 18 teams that participated and over 40 sponsors from area businesses that helped make it successful. We would like to thank all of our sponsors, especially the Lawrence family and West Oil Company for their generous donations.

Engine Two (1980 pumper) was taken out of service for three weeks in November to have repairs made to the pump shaft and impeller. The cost of these repairs was \$4,961.00 which is why we had such a large expenditure for vehicle maintenance this year. The budget for 2004 has increased \$690.00. This increase was necessary to cover the cost of Pulmonary Function Testing, which is an OSHA requirement, for all firefighters who wear air packs (We currently have 15 members who wear air packs). The increase also covers increased insurance costs. Reductions were made in other areas to limit this increase to \$690.00.

If your house is not marked properly our response time will be delayed. Please make sure your house, or if it is not visible from the road, your mailbox is marked so we can find you and your family as quickly as possible. Make your numbers large enough so they are visible at night and in poor weather conditions when visibility is limited. The use of reflective numbers is always helpful.

It has been fifty-two years since the doors first opened at the Stamford Volunteer Fire Department. Since that time we have been blessed with dedicated Firefighters who perform above and beyond without hesitation and a community that supports their efforts. We would like to thank all of our members both past and present for their service and the community for your continued support.

Janice Farinon President
June Mattimore Treasurer
Jeanne Lapine Secretary
Bill Levine Trustee
George Beckwith Trustee
Paul Ethier Chief

Stamford Volunteer Fire Department

	2003 Budget	2003 Expenses	2004 Proposed
Fixed Cost			
North Adams Dispatch	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Radio Phone Line	\$ 240.00	\$ 380.27	\$ 240.00
Red Base Phone Line (To N.A.)	\$ 360.00	\$ 296.56	\$ 300.00
Buisness Phone	\$ 600.00	\$ 508.57	\$ 600.00
Heating Oil	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,527.08	\$ 1,500.00
Electricity	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,398.30	\$ 1,100.00
VSFA Dues	\$ 250.00	\$ 294.00	\$ 250.00
Fuel (Gas, Diesel)	\$ 650.00	\$ 401.59	\$ 650.00
Book Keeping	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Insurance	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,009.24	\$ 5,500.00
Postage, Stationary	\$ 100.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 100.00
Telephone Toll	\$ 100.00	\$ 338.17	\$ 100.00
Total	\$10,250.00	\$10,538.78	\$10,590.00
Training			
Other	\$0.00	\$ 232.00	\$ 500.00
VT Fire Academy Classes	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 500.00
Total	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 512.00	\$ 1,000.00
Firefighter Health & Saftey			
Pulmonary Function Testing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 1,000.00
Maintenance			
Truck	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 7,348.92	\$ 3,000.00
Equipment	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.92	\$ 600.00
Communication	\$ 600.00	\$ 554.14	\$ 600.00
Building	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,558.58	\$ 2,000.00
Annual Air Pack Flow Test	\$ 400.00	\$0.00	\$ 400.00
Annual Jaws of Life Service	\$ 350.00	\$0.00	\$ 350.00
Total	\$ 7,650.00	\$10,262.56	\$ 6,950.00

New Equipment

Protective Clothing	\$ 2,000.00	\$0.00	\$ 2,400.00
Fire Fighting Equipment	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,279.33	\$ 2,000.00
Communications	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,190.88	\$ 500.00
Thermal Imaging Camera (HSU Grant #1)	\$0.00	\$ 9,800.00	\$0.00
(2) SCBA (HSU Grant #1)	\$0.00	\$ 6,668.00	\$0.00
UHF State Police Radio (HSU Grant #1)	\$0.00	\$ 632.00	\$0.00
(3)SCBA (HSU Grant #2)	\$0.00	\$ 8,397.00	\$0.00
(3)Spare SCBA Bottles (HSU Grant #2)	\$0.00	\$ 2,031.00	\$0.00

Total \$ 4,600.00 \$29,998.21 \$ 4,900.00

Budget Total \$23,750.00 \$51,311.55 \$24,440.00

Checking Account Balance 12/31/03 \$453.97
Escrow Balance Hepatitis B Shots \$444.00

Submitted By:

Janice Farrion President
June Mattimore Tresurer
Jeane Lapine Secretary
William Levine Trustee
George Beckwith Trustee
Paul Ethier Fire Chief

Stamford School District - Town Report

The year 2003 saw The Stamford School District continue to excel in elementary education. Our school remains one of the best in the state of Vermont. And our relatively low tax rates are a reflection of the hard work of our dedicated staff and school board. The school board is proud of Stamford School as an example for other schools in the state to follow.

As a result of meetings with our state legislators over the past year, Senator Dick Sears filed legislation seeking a more equitable state re-imbusement for towns sending students to out-of-state technical schools due to geographic isolation. We are pleased to report that this legislation has passed, and as a result Stamford will receive an additional \$18,500.00 in anticipated state re-imbusement for McCann tuition. The School Board extends our appreciation and gratitude to Senator Sears for his efforts.

This past year saw a change in classroom configuration and staff reduction as a result of last year's town meeting vote. Although we had to add a half-time teachers aid, the changes have been smooth. Leo Ethier and his staff are to be commended for such a painless transition. In addition, the school board has negotiated a new three-year teachers contract which will carry into June of 2007.

Our students continue to do well in testing. Students in grades four and eight taking The New Standard Reference Exams scored at levels exceeding supervisory union and state averages in math, reading, and writing skills. Our high school students taking MCAS tests have also done extremely well with nearly a 95% pass rate and a good distribution of students with high scores.

The Foundation For Excellent Schools programs continue at Stamford Elementary. Stamford has received a grant for the installation and monitoring of a weather station at the school under the guidance of Mass College of Liberal Arts students and Dr. Harold Brotzman. Williams College students are conducting a five-session program to teach our students about Asian cultures including China, Korea, India, Southeast Asia and Japan.

The WSSU Alternative School for special education students continues to serve Stamford well. We currently have two students enrolled in this innovative program. Which by all accounts has been deemed successful with a promising future for expansion. Stamford's participation in this program has relieved much of the financial burdens associated with special education.

With regards to the physical plant, the school recently replaced its water pump and is currently in compliance with state testing regulations. The roof on the school continues to deteriorate and is problematic. The school board is asking the Town to fund a warrant article to replace the roof on the entire school. While some sections are better than others, we believe it is prudent and cost effective to replace the whole roof now. In the process, additional insulation will be installed resulting in future energy savings. While the estimated cost is \$150,000.00, it is our hope that bids will reflect a lower final cost. Warrant article IX is to ask the Town to approve the expenditure of up to

\$150,000.00 to replace the roof and insulation. In addition, the article also asks the town to approve financing \$70,000.00 of the cost over two years with the first payment in fiscal 2005/2006 and the last payment in fiscal year 2006/2007. The anticipated interest rate is approximately 2.5%. The remaining balance will be paid with a \$35,000.00 appropriation in this year's budget and \$45,000.00 in re-imbursement from the state.

The School is continuing to update its technology department with the installation of several donated computers and wireless networking. Along with the board of selectmen, we are currently seeking information on the installation of a T1 line. It is anticipated that this can be accomplished at little or no additional expense and will greatly enhance the school's Internet capabilities.

Our hot lunch program was given new life with the addition of Pat Erdeski to the staff as school cook. Pat's efforts have resulted in the addition of nutritious morning snacks to the program along with a new lunch menu. Response from the children, faculty and seniors has been great. Many thanks to Pat for a job well done!

We would like to remind residents that the new Homestead Declaration forms *must* be submitted to the state of Vermont by April 15th. The number for the Stamford School District is 191.

In closing, our budget reflects a very modest increase. This is again a reflection of the good work done every day by Leo Ethier, his staff and the parent volunteers that all make this school a special educational experience for our children. This year's school budget along with changes in school funding by act 68, will hopefully result in a reduction in the tax rate of approximately \$.14 including the appropriations for the new roof. Despite the challenges the school board faced this year, we are pleased with the end result and the benefits the residents of Stamford will receive this year.

Thank you for your support,

The Stamford School Directors

STAMFORD BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

	2003-2004 <u>Budget</u>	2004-2005 <u>Budget</u>	Increase/ <u>Decrease</u>
<u>Elementary Costs</u> (Grades K-8)			
Elementary (including instructional, student activities, guidance, health, in-service, library & principal)	434,550	444,862	10,312
Elementary Athletics	2,009	2,041	32
Elementary Plant Operations	57,082	61,382	4,300
Elementary Remedial	0	0	0
Elementary Special Education	92,532	93,499	967
	-----	-----	-----
Sub-Total Elementary (K-8) Costs	586,173	601,784	15,611
School Board Costs	8,777	8,549	-228
WSSU Assessment	77,980	68,100	-9,880
Transportation	59,878	61,963	2,085
Tuition (Secondary)	479,074	476,129	-2,945
Special Education Extraordinary	37,458	51,901	14,443
Food Service Support	3,000	0	-3,000
 BUDGET	 1,252,340	 1,268,426	 16,086
Special Article: Hot Lunch Program	0	1,500	
Special Article: Roof Replacement	0	35,000	

Tuitions:

	<u>Budgeted 2002-2003</u>	<u>Budgeted 2003-2004</u>	
Drury	23 @ 5,613	31 @ 5,894	
Mt. Greylock	14 @ 8,085	7 @ 9,057	
Mt. Greylock Sped Extra	1 @ 2,772	0 @ 2,772	
McCann	15 @ 10,687	13 @ 11,948	
Mt. Anthony Regular Ed	1 @ 6,300	1 @ 6,800	
Mt. Anthony Vocational	3,964	6,936	
Whitingham,	1 @ 7,000	0	
Private	2 @ 8,222	2 @ 8,728	
Sped Private	1 @ 40,000	1 @ 43,500	(Sped Budget)
Total	479,074	476,129	

STAMFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET EXPLANATION AND REVIEW

2004 - 2005

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$1,252,340.00	\$1,268,426.00	\$+ 16,086.00

NOTE: The proposed budget of 1,249,340.00 for 2003-2004 was increased to 1,252,340.00 with the passage of a warrant article by the voters at the March, 2003 Town Meeting. The article appropriated \$3,000.00 for the hot lunch program.

Budget At A Glance
Percent of 2004 – 2005 Budget by Category

All High School Tuition Costs	37.54%
Elementary School Instruction	25.77%
Office of the Principle	6.15%
Special Education	5.79%
Superintendent's Office	5.37%
Pupil Transportation	4.89%
Maintenance of Plant	4.84%
Library Services	2.40%
Occupational Therapy	1.61%
Intensive Special Education	1.44%
Evaluations	0.87%
Physical Therapy	0.73%
Speech Services	0.72%
School Board Services	0.67%
Guidance Department	0.41%
Health Services	0.32%
Elementary Athletics	0.16%
Professional Services	0.08%
In-service Education	0.02%

INSTRUCTION:

Please see salary and benefits chart for all employees.

NOTE: The figures for salary and benefits for the teachers in the 2004-2005 budget are based on the new Teachers' Contract.

Substitutes: \$ 5,400.00 \$ 5,400.00 \$
0.00

The need for a full-time principal is still very evident. Mr. Ethier has been available to substitute as the need arises. This has been a tremendous help in controlling the cost of this category.

Hospitalization: \$ 26,765.00 \$ 23,495.00 \$-3270.00

The budgeted amount to cover health insurance represents a 9.75% increase in the premium. The premiums for 2004-2005:

	Total Premium	Portion Paid by Town (85%)
1. Single:	\$ 5,217.00	\$4,435.00
2. Two Person:	\$ 10,288.00	\$8,745.00
3. Family:	\$13,835.00	\$11,756.00

The budgeted figures for hospitalization represents only the School District's cost for the staff who participate in the health insurance benefit. The total cost of the health insurance including the 9.75% increase in the premium is \$52,920.00. Of this amount, the school district's portion is \$42,927.00 and the employees' contribution is \$9,993.00. The premium is prorated for part-time employees.

Unemployment \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00 \$ 0.00
Compensation:

Stamford self insures for unemployment compensation. For the tenth year, money is not being added to this account. Money previously put a side to cover this expense should be sufficient if it should become necessary.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Credit Reimbursement:	\$ 6,992.00	\$ 8396.00	\$+ 1404.00

This benefit is negotiated by the Teachers' Contract. The reimbursement allows a maximum of \$999.00 for expenses incurred for an approved accredited college or university course. It also provides up to \$500.00 per year per teacher for expenses incurred to attend workshops, conferences, and other professional development seminars. Part-time teachers are reimbursed on a prorated basis. This figure is based on the new contract.

Other Benefits:	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 0.00
------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------------

This benefit allowed by the Teachers' Contract provides \$450.00 for each full-time teacher and a prorated amount for part-time teachers to be used toward the teacher's portion of the health insurance premium, dental, life, or disability insurance. No cash is paid if a teacher elects not to participate. Again, a negotiated benefit with the budgeted figure based on the Teachers' Contract.

Professional Services:	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
-------------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Money for professional books to be used by staff in areas such as portfolio training and implementing the Vermont Standards.

Technology Coordinator:	\$ 1,832.00	\$ 1,832.00	\$ 0.00
--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------------

The budgeted amount is part of the cost of a WSSU position shared by the schools in the district. This employee is in charge of the technology committee, pursues mass purchasing to save the schools money, writes grants to obtain additional funds for technology, provides necessary training or offers assistance or advice with technical problems, and is responsible for E-Rate reimbursement.

Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3075.00	\$- 2925.00
----------------------------------	--------------------	-------------------	--------------------

This includes \$575.00 for a one-year maintenance contract (parts and labor inclusive) on the Xerox copier and the remainder budgeted for maintaining the computer system and network, and for computer repair/part replacement.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Field Trips:	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 0.00

The money will be used to assist with transportation or admission fees. With the continued support of the PTA and parents, it is possible to offer a few trips a year.

Travel:	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
----------------	-----------	-----------	---------

This will reimburse the instructional staff for travel expenses incurred for portfolio training.

Supplies:	\$ 9,718.00	\$ 9,856.00	\$+ 138.00
------------------	-------------	-------------	------------

Consumable materials and supplies such as report cards, assessment materials, paper, workbooks, paperbacks, printer ribbons, copier supplies, fax paper, etc., are covered in this category. It also includes money for hands-on science material, music, art and PE supplies.

Books & Periodicals:	\$ 3,330.00	\$ 3,826.00	\$+ 496.00
---------------------------------	-------------	-------------	------------

This money is used for updating and replacing textbooks and non-consumable materials. Textbooks average from \$45.00-\$58.00 per book.

Audio Visual Material:	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$- 4000.00
-------------------------------	-------------	-----------	-------------

For software to maintain compliance with state and federal guidelines

Equipment:	\$ 1,157.00	\$ 1,124.00	\$- 33.00
-------------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

ELF Program:	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 0.00
---------------------	-------------	-------------	---------

ELF (Environmental Learning For The Future) is a community-based program for elementary-aged children to encourage an appreciation for nature in their own backyard. It requires a volunteer coordinator and committed volunteers at a ratio of no more than six children to one adult. The volunteers attend monthly workshops given by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science staff at school. The volunteers then present the information to the children and give them opportunities for hands-on activities. The program is divided into five concepts – Habitats, Adaptations, Cycles, Forces of Nature and Designs of Nature.

	Budget	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Difference
Student Activities:	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 0.00

Continue the tradition of providing flowers for the 8th grade graduation.

Athletics:	\$ 2,009.00	\$ 2,041.00	\$+ 32.00
-------------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

This money includes \$1,500.00 for certified referees and gratuities for the coaches for the combined boys and girls after school soccer program and for the boys and girls basketball programs. Certified referees ensure fair play and good sportsmanship. It also includes \$352.00 for balls, equipment and first aid supplies.

The remaining \$189.00 covers the dues for the Vermont Headmasters Association which allows Stamford students to compete athletically and academically with other schools in the district and the State.

Guidance:	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 0.00
------------------	-------------	-------------	---------

Money to cover the cost of contracting guidance services as needed.

Health Services:	\$ 2345.00	\$ 4100.00	\$+1755.00
-------------------------	------------	------------	------------

This is monies that are spent to employ a one day a week school nurse and to meet the needs of a 504 plan. Monies in this category are used to purchase first aid supplies and ice packs.

Professional Educational Services	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
--	-----------	-----------	---------

In-service education for the instructional staff, if needed.

	2003-2004	2004-2005 Budget	Budget Difference
LIBRARY SERVICES:			
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
Computer Phone:	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Travel:	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 0.00
Travel on library business requested by the principal.			
Supplies:	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 0.00
Covers the necessary library supplies needed for the operation of the library (library cards, book pockets, postage, etc.).			
Books & Periodicals:	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,225.00	\$- 225.00
New children's books, periodical subscriptions, reference materials, and shipping charges are covered by this money. Children's books average about \$21.00 per book and prices continue to increase.			
Audio Visual:	\$ 400.00	\$ 300.00	\$- 100.00
This includes the cost of the computer software and to continue automating the community library.			
Equipment:	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 0.00
Dues & Fees	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00
SCHOOL BOARD SERVICES:	\$ 8,777.00	\$ 8,549.00	\$- 228.00

This category covers the expenses for audit services, liability insurance, legal services, a secretary for monthly School Directors' meetings, advertising, membership in the Vermont School Board Association and a gratuity for School Board members. The amount budgeted for advertising and legal expenses have been reduced.

	2002-2003 Budget	2003-2004 Budget	Difference
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE: (Supervisory Union Assessment)	\$ 77,980.00	\$ 68,100.00	\$-9,880.00

The WSSU budget for 2004-2005 is \$915,075.00 which is an increase of 4.6% from the preceding year. The Town of Searsburg pays 1% of the assessment as it doesn't have a school. The other five school districts in the union pay a percentage derived from a formula using the number of students and the number of teachers in their school(s) in the preceding October (2003). Stamford assessment will decrease from 9.5% to 8.5% based on the formula above.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL:

Repairs & Maintenance:	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
-----------------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Covers the cost of repairs on small office equipment.

Postage:	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
-----------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Telephone:	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 2,900.00	\$ 0.00
-------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------------

This category includes the cost of the regular telephone line, all long distance charges, and the telephone modem line which is used primarily for computer on-line access.

Petty Cash:	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
--------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Supplies(office):	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00
--------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Equipment:	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$+ 50.00
-------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

Covers the replacement or addition of office equipment.

Dues & Fees:	\$ 489.00	\$ 489.00	\$ 0.00
-------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

Covers the cost of professional membership to the Vermont Headmasters Association, Vermont Technology Council, Association For Supervision and Curriculum Development, etc.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
MAINTENANCE OF THE PLANT:			
Professional Services:	\$ 26,755.00	\$ 28,690.00	\$+ 1935.00

This includes \$27,090.00 for the cleaning contract with Whitman Crystal Cleaners. \$600.00 for snow removal from door and walkways. \$1000.00 for contracted building maintenance.

Repairs & Maintenance:	\$ 6,669.00	\$ 7,119.00	\$+ 450.00
-----------------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-------------------

The money in this category is budgeted to maintain the building and includes maintenance/repair of the heat controls if needed, cleaning carpets, electrical repairs, glass and screen replacement, lock repairs, vacuum repairs, the burglar alarm, the fire alarm and sprinkler, cleaning and repairing the burners, fire extinguisher maintenance, septic maintenance, etc.

Property Insurance:	\$ 3,168.00	\$ 3,858.00	\$+ 690.00
----------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-------------------

This includes the cost of a deductible boiler insurance policy to protect the town from the expense of costly repairs if the boilers should malfunction resulting in extensive damage. The multi-peril policy, providing overall liability including fire insurance, is also covered in this category.

Supplies:	\$ 2,084.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$- 84.00
------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------------

The consumable supplies necessary to provide a clean environment -- hand soap, paper towels, bulbs, fluorescent lights, plastic bags, can liners, etc. Note: Cleaning supplies are now being provided by the cleaning company.

Electricity:	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 0.00
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------

This includes the electricity for the entire building and outside lights except for the amount attributed to the lunch program.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Gas For Stove:	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00

The amount budgeted is for use of the stove for other than the lunch program.

Fuel Oil:	\$ 7,441.00	\$ 6,993.00	\$- 448.00
------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-------------------

Savings may be realized depending on the pre-buy price but this will not be known until summer when the price is available. The cost is based on the purchase of 7,000 gallons of #2 fuel oil at \$.99/gallon.

Equipment:	\$ 7000.00	\$ 1567.99	\$- 5432.01
-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

Water Tests/Boiler Inspection:	\$ 865.00	\$ 1,055.00	\$+ 190.00
---	------------------	--------------------	-------------------

This covers the mandated fire alarm/sprinkler inspection, the mandated state boiler inspection, and the permit to operate fee. The state also mandates that the water be tested for coliform, organic and inorganic wastes and chemicals such as lead and copper. The money covers the cost of the kits to perform the test. Leo Ethier is a certified Public Water Systems Operator and is able to perform the tests which results in a savings to the town. Leo Ethier obtained a \$500.00 voucher for water testing at the state lab.

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION:

Contracted Services:	\$ 59,878.00	\$61,963.00	\$+2,085.00
-----------------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------

This provides transportation for the elementary school, Drury High School, and the small bus that takes the kindergarten students home at noon. The budgeted amount is based on the first year of a 3 year contract with Sullivan Bus Line.

HIGH SCHOOL TUITION:

Budgeting in this category is done with the best available information at the time. It is never known exactly how many students there will be, which school the present 8th grade students will definitely attend, or the exact tuition rate for all high schools. The tuition increases are estimated based on the percentage increase of this year's compared to last year's rate.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Vermont LEA's:	\$ 13,300.00	\$ 6,800.00	\$- 6500.00
Outside Vermont LEA's:	\$ 242,289.00	\$ 246,113.00	\$+ 3,824.00
Private School:	\$ 16,444.00	\$ 17,456.00	\$+ 1021.00

School	Number Of Students	Estimated Cost	Total
Drury	31	\$5,894	\$182,714.00
		(an estimated increase of \$281 per student)	
Mt. Greylock	07	\$9,057	\$63,399
		(an estimated increase of \$972 per student)	
Mt. Anthony (regular)	01	\$6,800	\$ 6,800
		(an estimated increase of \$500 per student)	
Private School	02	\$8728	\$17,456

Vocational Education: \$164,269.00 \$174,208.00 \$+9,939.00

McCann	13	\$11,948.00	\$155,324.00
		(an estimated increase of \$1261 per student)	
Mt. Anthony (voc) Career Center	01	\$ 6,936.00	\$ 6,936.00

A significant increase in tuition is related to state reimbursement. In the past the state reimbursed Mt Anthony directly and we paid the difference. Now, we pay the full amount and are reimbursed by the state.

High School SPED: \$ 42,772.00 \$ 43,500.00 \$+ 728.00
(High School SPED is now shown under Special Education)

NOTE: The amount budgeted to cover all high school tuition including SPED for Stamford residents for 2004-2005 totals \$476,129.00 compared to \$479,074.00 budgeted in 2003-2004. This is a decrease of \$2945.00. The SPED high school tuition has been placed in a separate category under Special. It is included in this explanation to show the entire amount budgeted for high school tuition.

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Both State and Federal laws require and monitor standards and practices for educating students with learning and other disabilities. The special education program is designed to provide the opportunity for educational equality and to assure all children the opportunity to reach their full potential. Under Act 68, approximately 47% of the expense of SPED is reimbursed by revenue.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
In-service:	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
Training for the paraprofessional staff to meet the needs of special education students.			
Contracted SPED Services:	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0.00
Purchased services if needed for SPED.			
Supplies:	\$ 400.00	\$ 590.00	\$+ 190.00
Educational material to meet the needs of SPED students.			
Books & Periodicals:	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Audio Visual:	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00	\$- 200.00
Equipment:	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Intensive Special Education:			
Summer Tutor:	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 0.00	\$- 1,440.00

This is provided if required by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) of a SPED student.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Behavioral Specialist:	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,226.00	\$+2,226.00

Money for a consultant service for children with behavioral problems. After observing the child and gathering information, the specialist would recommend methods and accommodations to benefit the child's education plan. This may be in structure, material content, or ways to deal with certain types of behavior. This is a WSSU position and our cost is determined by the number of students whose IEP's require the service.

EEE Assessments:	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
-------------------------	-----------	-----------	---------

Essential Early Education is a district wide program provided through the WSSU to serve at risk children up to age six. The child is served at home, their preschool, or a combination of settings. The program is involved with screening and informational programs to identify children with needs -- handicapped, delay in language or motor skills, etc. It works with parents to provide the special parenting and teaching skills necessary. The budgeted money is Stamford's share based on the number of children serviced which is not covered by Medicaid and other funds through the WSSU.

Training:	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
------------------	---------	---------	---------

Specialized training course for teachers and paraprofessionals to educate children with severe behavior and learning disabilities.

EEE Summer Program:	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 0.00
----------------------------	-----------	-----------	---------

Provide speech services for a SPED student.

Purchased Services:	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 4,440.00	\$- 1,460.00
----------------------------	-------------	-------------	--------------

Again money to provide specialized services for SPED students.

Tuition, Private School:	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$+ 3,500.00
---------------------------------	-----------	-------------	--------------

Transportation:	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 0.00
------------------------	-------------	-------------	---------

Transportation to out of district schools for SPED children.

	2003-2004 Budget	2004-2005 Budget	Difference
Equipment:	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 250.00

Money to purchase handicap adaptive equipment, when needed.

Physical Therapy:	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 9,300.00	+\$2,700.00
--------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------

Provides for evaluations and therapy deemed necessary for SPED students. This is a contracted service.

Occupational Therapy:	\$ 16,900.00	\$ 20,460.00	+\$3,560.00
------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy are provided if required by a SPED student's IEP. These services are contracted through North Adams Regional Hospital.

Evaluations:	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	+\$2,000.00
---------------------	--------------------	---------------------	--------------------

Provides for three-year evaluations required for IEP students and/or new assessments to determine special needs. These evaluations range in cost from \$350.00 to \$1,000.00. Some of the evaluations are provided by specialists within the district but others are done by outside evaluators. The Individual Education Plans (IEP) are reviewed annually by a team of professionals (educational and medical) to maintain the integrity of the plan and to determine if a students needs are being met. It is required that physical and learning disabilities be provided for from 0-21 years.

Speech Services:	\$ 4,716.00	\$ 9,100.00	+\$4,384.00
-------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------

The speech services are provided by WSSU. The budgeted amount covers the portion of a speech pathologist's salary and benefits which is not covered by Federal money. It is based on the number of children receiving services. It also covers a portion of the salary and benefits of the speech paraprofessional who aids the speech pathologist.

High School Special Education:	\$ 42,772.00	\$ 43,500.00	\$+ 728.00
---	---------------------	---------------------	-------------------

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	Budget <u>2002-2003</u>	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>	Budget <u>2004-2005</u>
<u>LOCAL PAYMENT TO STATE ED</u>				
PAYMENT TO EDUCATION FUND	0	13,246.00	0	0
Total LOCAL PAYMENT TO STATE	0	13,246.00	0	0
 <u>INSTRUCTION</u>				
SALARIES	0	0.00	15,000	0
LEO ETHIER	22,344	0.00	23,319	24,252
CAROLE FOSSBENDER	38,517	41,697.00	41,697	43,365
JUDITH SPENCER	17,634	19,457.00	19,540	20,695
DANIEL TRUDEAU	38,517	41,697.00	41,697	43,365
PHYSICAL EDUC TEACHER	4,932	2,768.46	5,860	6,094
SARA BLACKBURN	0	0.00	0	19,144
MUSIC TEACHER 20%	5,006	3,391.46	5,860	6,094
KRISTY THOMAS	15,055	16,982.50	17,305	36,740
KATHRYN DESCHAMPS	30,590	33,492.00	34,237	0
JENNIE LORICCO 50%	15,115	6,944.00	0	0
ANNETTE CZARENCKI	13,856	16,249.32	15,628	0
ART 20%	5,284	2,913.33	5,860	6,094
MARLA DIX	27,830	30,636.00	31,382	33,383
LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE	0	0.00	0	0
PARAPROFESSIONAL	0	1,231.65	3,938	4,520
TEACHER INITIATIVE PROGRAM	500	0.00	500	500
SUBSTITUTES	5,400	2,802.30	5,400	5,400
HOSPITALIZATION	19,096	24,291.74	26,765	23,495
LEO ETHIER	1,709	0.00	1,784	1,855
CAROLE FOSSBENDER	2,947	3,189.78	3,190	3,317
PARAPROFESSIONAL	0	94.21	301	346
JUDITH SPENCER	1,349	1,488.48	1,495	1,583
DANIEL TRUDEAU	2,947	3,189.78	3,190	3,317
PHYSICAL EDUC TEACHER	377	211.72	448	466
SARA BLACKBURN	0	0.00	0	1,465
MUSIC TEACHER 20%	383	259.44	448	466
KRISTY THOMAS	1,152	1,299.30	1,324	2,811
KATHRYN DESCHAMPS	2,340	2,562.08	2,619	0
JENNIE LORICCO 50%	1,156	531.27	0	0
ANNETTE CZARENCKI	1,060	1,243.09	1,196	0
ART 20%	404	223.56	448	466
MARLA DIX	2,129	2,343.71	2,401	2,554
LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE	0	0.00	0	0
TEACHER INITIATIVE PROGRAM	39	0.00	39	39
SUBSTITUTES	413	214.45	413	413
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	1,213	1,538.60	1,383	1,262
UNEMPLOYMENT COMP	0	2,543.71	0	0
CREDIT REIMBURSEMENT	6,600	1,186.13	6,992	8,396
OTHER BENEFITS	2,970	394.12	2,520	2,520
DENTAL	0	0.00	0	0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	125	0.00	100	100
TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR	1,832	1,567.81	1,832	1,832
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	6,000	2,896.00	6,000	3,075
FIELD TRIPS	1,070	284.50	800	800
TRAVEL	250	232.50	200	200

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	Budget <u>2002-2003</u>	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>	Budget <u>2004-2005</u>
SUPPLIES	11,306	9,358.56	9,718	9,856
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	6,588	6,093.49	3,330	3,826
AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS	39	263.43	4,500	500
EQUIPMENT	1,868	487.96	1,157	1,124
ELF PROGRAM	1,100	1,100.00	1,100	1,100
Total INSTRUCTION	319,042	289,351.44	322,916	326,830
 <u>STUDENT ACTIVITIES</u>				
MISC EXPENSES	40	40.00	40	40
Total STUDENT ACTIVITIES	40	40.00	40	40
 <u>ATHLETICS</u>				
SALARIES	0	0.00	0	0
SOCIAL SECURITY	0	0.00	0	0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	1,500	790.00	1,500	1,500
SUPPLIES	320	62.98	320	352
DUES & FEES	175	168.75	189	189
Total ATHLETICS	1,995	1,021.73	2,009	2,041
 <u>GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT</u>				
PROF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	5,200	4,836.00	5,200	5,200
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	175	0.00	0	0
Total GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT	5,375	4,836.00	5,200	5,200
 <u>HEALTH SERVICES</u>				
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	2,050	2,050.00	2,145	3,900
SUPPLIES	200	110.87	200	200
Total HEALTH SERVICES	2,250	2,160.87	2,345	4,100
 <u>IN SERVICE EDUCATION</u>				
PROF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	200	0.00	200	200
Total INSERVICE EDUCATION	200	0.00	200	200
 <u>LIBRARY SERVICES</u>				
JOANN ERENHOUSE 60%	17,994	277.92	0	0
KAREN BUCKEY 60%	0	21,569.00	22,556	23,906
SUBSTITUTES	100	0.00	100	100
HOSPITALIZATION	2,038	665.88	0	0
JOANN ERENHOUSE 60%	1,377	21.26	0	0
KAREN BUCKEY 60%	0	1,650.09	1,726	1,829
SUBSTITUTES	8	0.00	8	8
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	102	53.97	127	135
CREDIT REIMBURSEMENT	600	0.00	768	899
OTHER BENEFITS	270	30.00	270	270
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	0.00	0	0
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	50	0.00	50	50
COMPUTER PHONE	0	0.00	0	0
TRAVEL	50	99.82	75	75
SUPPLIES	200	205.38	350	350
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	2,400	2,356.30	2,500	2,225
AUDIO VISUAL	0	0.00	400	300

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	<u>Budget</u> <u>2002-2003</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2002-2003</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2003-2004</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2004-2005</u>
EQUIPMENT	0	164.50	250	250
DUES & FEES	0	0.00	50	50
Total LIBRARY SERVICES	25,189	27,094.12	29,230	30,447
 <u>SCHOOL BOARD SERVICES</u>				
SALARIES	600	600.00	600	600
SOCIAL SECURITY	46	45.90	46	46
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	5,000	823.71	2,000	1,000
PROF SERVICES/SECRETARY	525	156.75	375	300
AUDIT SERVICES	2,500	2,850.00	2,500	3,000
LIABILITY INSURANCE	264	323.31	356	1,703
ADVERTISING	2,500	768.10	2,000	1,000
TRAVEL	0	0.00	0	0
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	0	182.14	0	0
DUES & FEES	900	850.00	900	900
MISC EXPENSES	72	39.00	0	0
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0	0.00	0	0
Total SCHOOL BOARD SERVICES	12,407	6,638.91	8,777	8,549
 <u>SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE</u>				
SUPERVISORY UN ASSESSMENT	73,332	73,323.00	77,980	68,100
Total SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE	73,332	73,323.00	77,980	68,100
 <u>OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL</u>				
LEO ETHIER	34,656	57,000.03	36,474	37,933
DEBRA HURLBUT-DAVIGNON	15,618	15,618.00	16,165	16,815
SECRETARY SUMMER	180	0.00	180	180
PRINCIPAL SUMMER	500	0.00	500	500
HOSPITALIZATION	9,392	9,392.40	11,177	12,267
LEO ETHIER	2,652	4,360.45	2,790	2,902
DEBRA HURLBUT-DAVIGNON	1,195	1,194.72	1,237	1,286
SECRETARY SUMMER	14	0.00	14	14
PRINCIPAL SUMMER	38	0.00	38	38
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	410	216.94	430	446
CREDIT REIMBURSEMENT	300	122.63	300	300
DENTAL PROGRAM	781	741.85	0	0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	0.00	0	0
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	100	0.00	100	100
POSTAGE	500	474.12	500	500
TELEPHONE	2,900	2,866.26	2,900	2,900
PETTY CASH	100	100.00	100	100
TRAVEL	925	801.22	925	925
SUPPLIES	200	128.40	200	200
EQUIPMENT	100	84.53	100	150
DUES & FEES	430	309.00	489	489
Total OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL	70,991	93,410.55	74,619	78,045
 <u>MAINTENANCE OF PLANT</u>				
STEPHEN MONETTE	20,800	0.00	0	0
SNOW REMOVAL	600	0.00	0	0
SUBSTITUTES	0	0.00	0	0

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	Budget <u>2002-2003</u>	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>	Budget <u>2004-2005</u>
HOSPITALIZATION	3,596	0.00	0	0
STEPHEN MONETTE	1,591	0.00	0	0
SNOW REMOVAL	46	0.00	0	0
SUBSTITUTES	0	0.00	0	0
NON-PROFESSIONAL RET	856	32.00	0	0
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	630	0.00	0	0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	430	25,800.00	26,755	28,690
CONTRACTED SNOW REMOVAL	0	492.00	0	0
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	8,969	7,272.15	6,669	7,119
ASBESTOS INSPECTION	0	0.00	0	0
PROPERTY INSURANCE	1,546	2,639.83	3,168	3,858
SUPPLIES	4,700	1,712.11	2,084	2,000
ELECTRICITY	9,600	9,723.25	10,000	10,000
GAS FOR STOVE	150	89.97	100	100
FUEL OIL	8,360	5,285.66	7,441	6,993
EQUIPMENT	0	0.00	0	1,567
WATER TESTS/BOILER INSP	830	466.00	865	1,055
Total MAINTENANCE OF PLANT	62,704	53,512.97	57,082	61,382
 <u>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</u>				
CONTRACTED SERVICES	57,878	57,878.00	59,878	61,963
Total PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	57,878	57,878.00	59,878	61,963
 <u>HIGH SCHOOL TUITION</u>				
TUITION VT LEA'S	6,024	1,166.70	13,300	6,800
TUITION OUTSIDE VT LEA'S	210,362	206,922.10	242,289	246,113
PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION	7,865	15,514.00	16,444	17,456
Total HIGH SCHOOL TUITION	224,251	223,602.80	272,033	270,369
 <u>VOCATIONAL EDUCATION</u>				
TUITION INSIDE VT LEAS	3,740	3,706.88	3,964	6,936
TUITION OUTSIDE VT LEA'S	215,156	128,310.15	160,305	155,324
Total VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	218,896	132,017.03	164,269	162,260
 <u>PRIOR YEAR TUITION</u>				
PRIOR YR. TUITION CHARGE	0	0.00	0	0
Total PRIOR YEAR TUITION	0	0.00	0	0
 <u>SPECIAL EDUCATION</u>				
SARA BLACKBURN 100%/50%	32,390	34,895.39	36,098	19,144
A CZARNECKI	0	0.00	0	33,252
SPED ASSISTANT	15,055	16,982.50	17,305	0
SUSAN LAW 40%	4,455	3,987.66	4,833	5,006
SUBSTITUTES	360	210.00	360	360
HOSPITALIZATION	9,004	9,454.12	10,715	5,880
SARA BLACKBURN 100%/50%	2,478	2,669.50	2,761	1,465
A CZARNECKI	0	0.00	0	2,544
SPED ASSISTANT	1,152	1,299.29	1,324	0
SUSAN LAW 40%	341	305.04	370	383
SUBSTITUTES	28	16.07	28	28
NON PROFESSIONAL RETIRE	0	0.00	0	0

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	292	154.51	327	323
CREDIT REIMBURSEMENT	1,500	375.00	1,920	2,249
OTHER BENEFITS	675	0.00	675	675
IN SERVICE	500	0.00	500	500
CONTRACTED SPED SERVICES	1,000	1,156.20	1,000	1,000
SUPPLIES	75	11.99	400	590
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	660	460.13	0	0
AUDIO VISUAL	250	0.00	200	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0.00	.0	0
Total SPECIAL EDUCATION	70,215	71,977.40	78,816	73,399
 <u>INTENSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION</u>				
SUMMER TUTOR	1,800	0.00	1,440	0
DANIELLE SMITH	0	617.78	0	3,904
SUMMER PARAPROFESSIONAL	0	0.00	0	0
PARA/CYNTHIA DUPLISEA	13,860	0.00	0	0
SUBSTITUTES	0	0.00	0	0
SUBSTITUTES	0	0.00	0	0
SUMMER TUTOR	138	0.00	110	0
DANIELLE SMITH	0	47.25	0	299
SUMMER PARAPROFESSIONAL	0	0.00	0	0
PARA/CYNTHIA DUPLISEA	1,060	0.00	0	0
NON-PROFESSIONAL RETIRE	582	0.00	0	0
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	99	0.00	8	22
BEHAVIORAL SPECIALIST	1,165	1,165.00	0	2,226
EEE ASSESSMENTS	0	0.00	500	500
PURCHASED SERVICE	0	0.00	0	0
TRAINING	500	0.00	0	0
EEE SUMMER PROGRAM	400	0.00	400	400
PURCHASED SERVICES	15,200	2,950.00	5,900	4,440
TUITION PRIVATE SCHOOL	5,250	0.00	500	4,000
TRANSPORTATION	500	0.00	1,700	1,700
SUPPLIES	200	0.00	0	0
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	0	0.00	0	0
EQUIPMENT	500	0.00	500	750
Total INTENSIVE SPECIAL EDUC.	41,254	4,780.03	11,058	18,241
 <u>PHYSICAL THERAPY</u>				
PT THERAPY	500	8,041.42	6,600	9,300
Total PHYSICAL THERAPY	500	8,041.42	6,600	9,300
 <u>OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY</u>				
OT THERAPY	10,300	12,389.04	16,900	20,460
Total OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	10,300	12,389.04	16,900	20,460
 <u>EVALUATIONS</u>				
COMP EVALUATION	9,000	8,205.00	9,000	11,000
Total EVALUATIONS	9,000	8,205.00	9,000	11,000

**STAMFORD SCHOOL BUDGET
PROPOSED BUDGET 2004-2005**

	Budget <u>2002-2003</u>	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>	Budget <u>2004-2005</u>
<u>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u>				
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	260.00	500	1,000
Total PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	260.00	500	1,000
 <u>SPEECH SERVICES</u>				
SPEECH SERVICES	2,862	4,287.08	4,716	9,100
Total SPEECH SERVICES	2,862	4,287.08	4,716	9,100
 <u>HS SPECIAL EDUCATION</u>				
PURCHASED SERVICES -TUTOR	0	0.00	0	0
TUITION OUTSIDE VT LEAS	2,232	6,094.00	2,772	0
PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION	40,000	44,300.00	40,000	43,500
Total HS SPECIAL EDUCATION	42,232	50,394.00	42,772	43,500
 <u>HIGH SCHOOL EVALUATIONS</u>				
H.S. COMP. EVALUATIONS	2,000	900.00	1,000	1,500
Total HIGH SCHOOL EVALUATIONS	2,000	900.00	1,000	1,500
 <u>HS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</u>				
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	280.00	1,000	1,000
Total HS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	0	280.00	1,000	1,000
 <u>HS TRANSPORTATION</u>				
TRANSPORTATION	400	0.00	400	400
Total HS TRANSPORTATION	400	0.00	400	400
 <u>FOOD SERVICE</u>				
FOOD SERVICE SUPPORT	3,000	479.34	3,000	0
Total FOOD SERVICE	3,000	479.34	3,000	0
 TOTAL	 1,256,313	 1,140,126.73	 1,252,340	 1,268,426

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUDIT REPORT TABLE OF CONTENTS
JUNE 30, 2003

EXHIBIT

Independent Auditor's Report

Financial Statements:

Combined Balance Sheets - All Fund Types and Account Groups A

Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balance - All Governmental Fund Types and
Expendable Trust Funds B

Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund
Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund C

Notes To The Financial Statements

Roderic A. Sherman & Company, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants
26 State Street
P.O. Box 957
Montpelier, Vermont 05601-0957

Member: AICPA
Vt. Society of CPAs
Vt. Reg. #190
Telephone: (802) 229-5777
Fax: (802) 229-5778

August 1, 2003

Board of School Directors
Stamford Town School District
Stamford, Vermont 05352

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Stamford Town School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, as listed in the Table of Contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of Stamford Town School District management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed asset account group, which should be included in order to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed asset account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the general purpose financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Stamford Town School District as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Roderic A. Sherman & Company

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
 COMBINED BALANCE SHEET-ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
 JUNE 30, 2003

EXHIBIT A

	<u>Governmental</u>		<u>Fiduciary</u>	<u>Account Group</u>		<u>Totals</u>
	<u>Fund Types</u>			<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>General</u>	
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>(Memorandum</u>	<u>Only)</u>
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Fund</u>			
<u>Assets</u>						
Cash	\$ 277,182	\$ 174	\$ 10,916	\$ 0	\$ 288,272	
Due from other governments	0	489	0	0	489	
Due from other funds	914	0	574	0	1,488	
Accounts receivable	90	251	0	0	341	
Inventory	0	724	0	0	724	
Amount to be provided for retirement of general long-term debt	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	
Total Assets	<u>\$ 278,186</u>	<u>\$ 1,638</u>	<u>\$ 11,490</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 301,314</u>	
<u>Liabilities And Fund Balance</u>						
<u>Liabilities:</u>						
Accounts payable	\$ 2,131	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,131	
Accrued salaries	19,268	0	0	0	19,268	
Employees' withholdings and other accrued expenses	1,473	0	0	0	1,473	
Due to other governments	3,893	0	0	0	3,893	
Due to other funds	574	914	0	0	1,488	
Due to student groups and others	0	0	11,490	0	11,490	
Retirement stipend payable - Note 4	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	
Total Liabilities	<u>27,339</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>11,490</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>49,743</u>	
<u>Fund Balance (deficit):</u>						
Reserve for inventory	0	724	0	0	724	
Reserve for self-insurance	5,027	0	0	0	5,027	
Reserved for subsequent year's expenditures	110,985	0	0	0	110,985	
Undesignated	<u>134,835</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>134,835</u>	
Total fund balance (deficit)	<u>250,847</u>	<u>724</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>251,571</u>	
Total Liabilities And Fund Balance	<u>\$ 278,186</u>	<u>\$ 1,638</u>	<u>\$ 11,490</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 301,314</u>	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
 COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue	<u> </u>
Revenues:			
Property taxes	\$ 192,635	\$ 0	\$ 192,635
Interest income	6,308	0	6,308
State	932,541	388	932,929
State - teachers retirement	23,805	0	23,805
Federal	7,313	5,109	12,422
Miscellaneous	2,077	1,975	4,052
Food sales	<u>0</u>	<u>14,240</u>	<u>14,240</u>
Total Revenues	<u>1,164,679</u>	<u>21,712</u>	<u>1,186,391</u>
Expenditures:			
Instruction	512,956	0	512,956
Special Education	161,513	0	161,513
Vocational Education	132,017	0	132,017
Student activities	40	0	40
Athletics	1,022	0	1,022
Guidance services	4,836	0	4,836
Health services	2,161	0	2,161
Library service	27,094	0	27,094
School board services	6,639	0	6,639
Superintendent's office	73,323	0	73,323
Principal's office	93,411	0	93,411
Maintenance of plant	53,513	0	53,513
Pupil transportation	57,878	0	57,878
Food Services	0	25,162	25,162
Payments to State Education Fund	13,246	0	13,246
Other	<u>23,805</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,805</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,163,454</u>	<u>25,162</u>	<u>1,188,616</u>
Excess of Revenue over (Under) Expenditures	1,225	(3,450)	(2,225)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Transfers (to) from other funds	<u>(479)</u>	<u>479</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess of Revenues and Other financing sources over (under) Expenditures and Other Uses	746	(2,971)	(2,225)
Fund balance - July 1, 2002	<u>250,101</u>	<u>3,695</u>	<u>253,796</u>
Fund balance (deficit) - June 30, 2003	<u>\$ 250,847</u>	<u>\$ 724</u>	<u>\$ 251,571</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance/Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Property taxes	\$ 179,389	\$ 192,635	\$ 13,246
Interest income	11,000	6,308	(4,692)
General State support grant - local tax	584,133	586,498	2,365
General State support grant - state tax	132,768	130,403	(2,365)
State aid - transportation	26,781	26,456	(325)
State aid - small schools	79,260	79,260	0
State aid - vocational education	5,500	12,979	7,479
State aid - special education	99,334	96,945	(2,389)
Federal forestry money	6,500	7,313	813
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>2,077</u>	<u>2,077</u>
Total Revenue	<u>1,124,665</u>	<u>1,140,874</u>	<u>16,209</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Instruction-elementary	319,042	289,353	29,689
Student activities	40	40	0
Athletics	1,995	1,022	973
Guidance services	5,375	4,836	539
Health services	2,250	2,161	89
In-service education	200	0	200
Library service	25,189	27,094	(1,905)
School board services	12,407	6,639	5,768
Superintendent's office	73,332	73,323	10
Principal's office	70,991	93,411	(22,420)
Maintenance of plant	62,704	53,513	9,191
Pupil transportation	57,878	57,878	0
Instruction-tuition-secondary	224,251	223,603	648
Vocational education - tuition	218,896	132,017	86,879
Special education:			
Instruction	111,469	76,757	34,712
Occupational/physical therapy	10,800	20,430	9,630
Comprehensive evaluation	11,000	9,105	1,895
Professional services	0	540	(540)
Speech services	2,862	4,287	(1,425)
Tuition	42,232	50,394	(8,162)
Transportation	400	0	400
Food service	3000	479	2,521
Payments to State Education Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>13,246</u>	<u>(13,246)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,256,313</u>	<u>1,140,128</u>	<u>116,185</u>
Excess of Revenue over (under) Expenditures	(131,648)	746	132,394
Fund balance July 1, 2002	<u>131,648</u>	<u>250,101</u>	<u>118,453</u>
Fund balance June 30, 2003	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 250,847</u>	<u>\$ 250,847</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Stamford Town School District is a legally separate Vermont entity which provides education services for the Town of Stamford, Vermont and provides assistance for secondary and vocational education outside the District. The voters of the Town of Stamford elect five (5) members of the Town School Board at large. The District is a member of Windham Southwest Supervisory Union from which it receives superintendent and business services.

Except where noted, accounting policies of the Stamford Town School District conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

A. THE REPORTING ENTITY

The Town School District, which is a separate entity for financial reporting purposes, includes all of the funds and account groups relevant to the operations of the Stamford Town School District. The financial statements presented herein do not include agencies which have been formed under applicable state laws or separate and distinct units of government apart from the Stamford Town School District.

The financial statements of the School District include those of separately administered organizations that are controlled by or dependent on the School District. Control or dependence is determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, funding and appointment of the respective governing board.

B. FUND ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the School District are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds are grouped, in the financial statements in this report, into generic fund types and fund categories as follows:

Governmental Funds

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the School District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Funds - Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than special assessments, expendable trusts or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. The special revenue fund of the Stamford Town School is the Hot Lunch Fund.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 1: **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (Continued)**

Fiduciary Funds

Trust and Agency Funds - Trust and Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the Schools in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments and/or other funds. These include Agency Funds.

Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liabilities expected to be financed from Governmental Funds are accounted for in the General Long-term Debt Account Group, not in the Governmental Funds.

The account group is not a "fund." It is concerned only with the measurement of financial position. It is not involved with measurement or results of operations.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition of Governmental Fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as Governmental Fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the General Long-term Debt Account Group.

C. FIXED ASSETS

The School has not established a record of the cost of its general fixed assets as required by generally accepted accounting principles. Therefore, property, plant, equipment and furniture expenditures are charged to current operations and are not controlled through general fixed asset records.

If generally accepted accounting principles were applied, fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) would be accounted for in the General Fixed Assets Account Group rather than in governmental funds.

All fixed assets would be valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated fixed assets would be valued at their estimated fair value on the date donated.

D. MEASUREMENT FOCUS / BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financial uses) in net current assets.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 1: **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (Continued)**

D. MEASUREMENT FOCUS / BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - (Continued)

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed by the governmental fund types and the agency fund. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures, other than principal and interest on long-term debt, are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Principal and interest on general long-term debt is recognized when due.

Revenues from local sources consist primarily of property taxes. Property tax revenues and revenues received from the State of Vermont are recognized when susceptible to accrual. Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenue when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received. Investment earnings are recorded as earned since they are measurable and available.

E. BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The School District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. The School Coordinator of Business Services submits to the School Board in November a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. The School Board reviews the school budget and adopts it with or without revisions.
3. The voters of the Town then vote on the budget at Town Meeting in March.
4. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund.
5. The budget is prepared based on generally accepted accounting principles, except that payments on behalf of the District by the State of Vermont to Vermont State Teachers Retirement System as further explained in Note 3 are not budgeted for and are included as revenue and expenditures only in Exhibit B.

F. INVENTORY

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market. Inventory in the Special Revenue Fund consists of food and expendable supplies held for consumption.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 1: **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - (Continued)**

G. CASH

At June 30, 2003 the carrying amount of the Stamford Town School District's deposits was \$288,272 and the bank balance was \$294,853. The bank balance at June 30, 2003 was all insured.

H. TOTAL COLUMNS ON COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The total columns presented in the combined financial statements are captioned Memorandum Only to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. No consolidating entries or other eliminations were made in the aggregation of the totals; thus, they do not present consolidated information and do not purport to present financial position, results of operations or changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Note 2: **Revenues**

The District receives a per pupil general state support grant and other state grants for education costs. Budgeted expenditures in excess of the general state support grant and other anticipated revenues are raised from local property taxes, which are levied on behalf of the District by the Town of Stamford. The Town is required by State Statute to annually remit this amount to the District.

In addition, the District may receive from, or be required to contribute to, the state education fund an amount calculated by the State Commissioner of Education using the statewide equalized yield funding formula established under Title 16, Sec. 4027.

The Stamford Town School District contributed \$13,246 to the state education fund based on the state formula.

Note 3: **Pension Plans and Other Retirement Benefits**

Of the District's total payroll of \$379,408, \$325,202 was covered under the Vermont State Teacher's Retirement System, and \$800 was covered under the Vermont Municipal Employee Retirement System, Group A, which are public employee retirement systems (PERS).

Vermont State Teachers Retirement System

Plan Description - The Vermont State Teachers Retirement System (System) is a multi-employer plan administered by an autonomous board, is funded by contributions from the State of Vermont, and, effective July 1, 2001, contributions of 3.54% of annual compensation from eligible employees. Eligible employees include teachers and licensed professional educational support staff. There is no waiting period for participation in the plan. Eligible employees are fully vested after five years. (There is no partial

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 3: Pension Plans and Other Retirement Benefits - (Continued)

Vermont State Teachers Retirement System - (Continued)

vesting). The District has no liability for contributions or benefits under this plan. Benefit and contribution provisions are established by Chapter 55 of Title 16 Vermont Statutes Annotated, and the System is administered by a Board of Trustees. The System issues a publicly available financial report which may be obtained from the Vermont State Treasurer's Office, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

For the year ended June 30, 2003 the State of Vermont contributed payments estimated at 7.32% of covered payrolls to the plan (\$23,805) on behalf of the District.

Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System

Plan Description - The District contributes to the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement System (VMERS), a cost sharing multiple employer plan administered by a Board of Trustees. The VMERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost of living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members who are municipal employees other than teachers and licensed professional education support staff, and their beneficiaries. Chapter 125 of Title 24 Vermont Statutes Annotated established VMERS and its benefit levels. The Board of Trustees establishes contribution rates based on advice of actuaries. Vermont municipalities, including school districts, may voluntarily participate in the plan. There are three levels of contributions and benefits in VMERS called Group A, Group B and Group C. The District participates in Group A. VMERS issues a publicly available financial report which may be obtained from the Vermont State Treasurer's Office, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

Funding Policy - Currently, both employees and employers contribute a fixed percentage of employees' gross earnings. The rates adopted by VMERS's Board of Trustees for the year were:

	<u>Adopted Rates</u>		
	<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>	<u>Group C</u>
Employer contributions	4.0%	5.0%	6.0%
Employee contributions	<u>2.5%</u>	<u>4.5%</u>	<u>9.0%</u>
Total	6.5%	9.5%	15.0%

The District's contributions to VMERS for the years ended June 30, 2003, 2002 and 2001 were \$32, \$802, and \$784, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 3: Pension Plans and Other Retirement Benefits - (Continued)

Retirement Stipends

Upon a teacher's retirement, in accordance with provisions of 16 V.S.A. Chapter 55, from the Stamford Town School District teachers with over fifteen years in the District receive the following applicable stipends:

A. Fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years of service	\$ 1,500
B. Twenty-One (21) to Twenty-Five (25) years of service	\$ 2,000
C. More than twenty-five (25) years of service	\$ 3,000

Administrators are eligible for retirement stipends based on contract. The amount of stipends accumulated as of June 30, 2003, are \$10,000.

Note 4: Reserve for Self Insurance

At June 30, 2003, the School District had reserved \$5,027 of its General Fund balance to provide for future liabilities arising from unemployment compensation claims. Self-insured unemployment claims are charged as an expenditure as claims occur.

Note 5: Risk Management/Contingent Liabilities

The District covers its significant risks of loss, which are identified with the assistance of insurance agents, by commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage or settlement amounts exceeding insurance coverage for the current or three (3) prior years.

The District has elected to fund unemployment compensation on a direct reimbursement basis. The District paid \$2,544 to the State of Vermont for claims related to the year ended June 30, 2003, and has made \$4,261 in reimbursements over the past three (3) years. The District has reserved \$5,027 of its General Fund balance to meet future unbudgeted claims.

The Stamford Town School District participates in a number of federally assisted grant programs which are subject to program compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The audits of these programs for or including the year ended June 30, 2003, have not yet been completed. Accordingly, the District's compliance with applicable grant requirements will be established at some future date. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time, although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Tuitions paid by the District are based on preliminary announced tuitions of the operating school districts. Subsequent to year end operating schools recalculate tuition rates based on net cost per pupil and sending districts may be billed or credited for the difference. The District paid and expensed no charges

STAMFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2003

Note 5: **Risk Management/Contingent Liabilities - (Continued)**

for prior years during the current year.

Note 6: **Bus Transportation Contract**

The School District entered into a transportation contract expiring June 30, 2004. Future payments required under this contract as of June 30, 2003, are as follows:

Year Ended

June 30

2004

\$ 59,878

STAMFORD HOT LUNCH

2002-2003

Fund Balance Hot Lunch Account 6/30/02: **\$3694.84**
(Inventory Value)

Hot Lunch Receipts:

Sales to Students	11,992.62
Sales to Adults	2,247.75
Misc. Sales	1,975.45
State Match Funds	388.01
Federal Reimbursement	3,103.64
Commodities	1,907.00
N.E. Dairy Compact	96.94

Total Receipts: **21,711.41**

Transfer of funds from School Budget **479.34**

Hot Lunch Expenses:

Cook Salary	7,386.98
Cook FICA	565.14
Repairs & Maintenance	.00
Commodity Pick-up	160.00
Electricity	1,175.24
LP Gas	359.88
Food, Milk, Supplies	15,514.84
Equipment	.00
Misc. Expense	.00

Total Expenses: **25,162.08**

Fund Balance Hot Lunch Account 6/30/03: **\$723.51**
(Inventory Value)

STAMFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT
As of December 31, 2003

	<u>GRADES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ELEMENTARY	K	6
	1	9
	2	6
	3	6
	4	3
	5	8
	6	13
	7	10
	8	<u>10</u>
Total Elementary:		71
SECONDARY:	McCann	10
	Drury	33
	Mt. Greylock	11
	Private	3
Total Secondary:		57
TOTAL ENROLLMENT:		128

STAMFORD STAFF 2003-2004

	<u>Position</u>		<u>Experience</u>
Kristy Thomas	1/2	Masters	6
Judith Spencer	K	Masters	12
Carole Fossbender	3/4	Bachelors +36	30
Daniel Trudeau	7/8	Bachelors +36	32
Marla Dix	5/6	Bachelors+12	4
Annette Czarnecki	SPED	Bachelors	9
Sara Blackburn	Reading	Masters	2
Ann Grees	P/T Phys. Ed.	Bachelors	0
Leo Ethier	Principal	Masters +39	35
Karen Bucky	P/T Librarian (.60)	Masters +30	1
Peter Siegel	P/T Music (.20)	Masters	0
Jennifer Lovett	P/T Art (.20)	Masters	2
Susan Law	Sped Para		8
Bonnie Pytko	Instructional Asst.		8
Danielle Smith	Spec. Services Asst.		0
Debra Davignon	Secretary	Associates	20
Patricia Erdeski	Head Cook/Food Service Manager		0

Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Windham Southwest Supervisory Union

2002 – 2003

The 2002-2003 year included the virtual demise of Act 60 with major financial revisions embedded in the passage of Act 68 during the 2003 legislative session. The financial impact of the passage of Act 68 on Stamford will hopefully reduce the FY '05 school tax rate for FY '05 and the 2004-2005 year.

Stamford residents approved a school budget of \$1,249,340 at the 3 March 2003 Town Meeting which represented a strong vote of confidence for the Board of School Directors and school administration who worked diligently preparing a responsible FY '04 budget. Decisive budget decisions by the School Board and administration were made more difficult by the necessity of reconfiguring instructional grades and teachers resulting from two teacher resignations and a diminishing student enrollment. In the end the School Board managed to eliminate one full-time equivalent of a teacher and continued to maintain a strong educational and instructional school structure. Another article at Town Meeting provided the community with the opportunity to appropriate \$3,000 to subsidize the hot lunch program and this was resoundingly supported and approved by the voters.

As the 2003-2004 school year began, federal monies under the President's No Child Left Behind Act provided the WSSU with available Title I monies which could be used to provide additional teacher instruction to all six schools in the supervisory union. Some of those monies were used to provide a half time Title I teacher at the Stamford School for increasing students' performance in mathematics and reading.

Academically the Stamford students did well on the Vermont Standardized New Standards Reference Exams and compared with the other school districts in Vermont did very well. Grade four did well overall and grade eight students showed substantial improvement in all areas of mathematics. The NSRE's assess student performance in a variety of areas in reading, writing and mathematics. Stamford's high school tuition students did extremely well on the MCAS exam (Massachusetts comprehensive assessment system) passing thirty-two (32) out of thirty-four (34) tests at the level required for meeting high school diploma requirements in Massachusetts. A strong academic contribution for students initiated by Principal Leo Ethier was the enrichment program offered through the Foundation for Excellent Schools. This program utilized college

mentors from both MCLA and Williams College to work with students in multicultural awareness, student newspaper publishing, weather station experiences and hockey. Additional opportunities were offered in winter activities which included skiing, bowling and skating.

In the area of teacher training, Stamford teachers were provided extensive inservice workshops in Thinking Maps provided by the supervisory union which provided additional teaching tools for improving student learning and performance on standardized exams.

Advanced informational technology was also an accomplishment this year and an internet filter was installed to comply with the federal Child Protection Act to safeguard our students from unnecessary and inappropriate computer usage.

The School Board has also been assessing building facilities issues such as the school roof in which some parts are over thirty (30) years of age and in need of replacement. The School Board will be addressing this issue and the availability of state aid for this initiative at the next Town Meeting on 2 March 2004.

Overall it has been a busy and very successful school year for the Stamford School Community this past year.

Special thanks to the members of the Stamford Board of School Directors: Cynthia Lamore, Chairperson, Janice Farinon, S. Stephen Tworig, Christopher Vadnais and Kimberly Roberts-Morandi.

I would also like to thank the Town Selectboard: William Morehouse, Chairperson, Raymond McQuoid, Sheila Lawrence, David Saldo and Bruce Robare.

Ongoing thanks to Town Clerk Nancy Bushika for her continued cooperation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. M. Peter Wright
Superintendent of Schools
Windham Southwest Supervisory Union

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF WINDHAM SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

<u>State Funds</u>	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>
Revenues:		
BEST Grant	7,500.00	0
New Directions State Grant	92,399.22	76,056
Other State Revenues	<u>4,426.62</u>	<u>5,024</u>
	104,325.84	81,080
Expenditures:		
BEST Grant	7,500.00	0
New Directions State Grant	53,094.03	76,056
Other State Grants	<u>1,821.12</u>	<u>5,024</u>
Total State Expenditures	62,415.15	81,080
Excess/(Deficiency)	41,910.69	0

	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>
Federal Funds:		
Special Programs Fund Revenues:	921,788.16	742,735
Local & Private Funds:	<u>25,950.76</u>	<u>24,675</u>
Total Revenues:	947,738.92	767,410
Special Programs Fund Expenditures:	616,032.73	742,735
Local & Private Expenditures:	<u>13,734.35</u>	<u>24,675</u>
Total Expenditures:	629,767.08	767,410
Excess/(Deficiency)	317,971.84	0
Title I Fund Revenues:	83,816.64	203,543
Title I Fund Expenditures:	7,090.00	143,513
Title I Transfer to Towns:	<u>75,926.00</u>	<u>60,030</u>
Excess/(Deficiency)	800.64	0
Title V Fund Revenues:	17,850.00	21,479
Title V Fund Expenditures:	<u>10,287.77</u>	<u>21,479</u>
Excess/(Deficiency)	7,562.23	0

Federal Revenues for 2003-2004 include carryover from 2002-2003.

Budgeted Federal Revenues for 2003-2004 include carryover from 2002-2003, and are restricted for use in those programs only.

1.15.2004

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF WINDHAM SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
GENERAL FUND**

	Actual <u>2002-2003</u>	Budget <u>2003-2004</u>	Budget <u>2004-2005</u>
Revenues:			
Interest	705.29	1,500	1,000
Federal Revenues	22,184.00	24,542	25,204
Assessments	748,569.00	824,301	802,698
<u>Misc. Income</u>	<u>33.81</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
General Fund Revenues:	771,492.10	850,343	828,902
Fund Balance	<u>39,759.16</u>	<u>24,310</u>	<u>86,173</u>
Total Gen Fund Revenues:	811,251.26	874,653	915,075
 Expenditures:			
Curriculum Development	62,727.63	66,826	72,251
Superintendent's Office	256,654.65	267,029	273,979
Fiscal Services	67,258.05	73,002	77,418
Speech Services	110,131.78	118,911	123,887
Alternative Program	58,585.74	200,930	210,682
EEE Program	66,618.09	65,457	70,836
Title I Administration	7,656.25	7,911	8,213
Special Education	<u>71,135.92</u>	<u>74,587</u>	<u>77,809</u>
Total Gen Fund Expenditures	700,768.11	874,653	915,075
Excess/(Deficiency)	110,483.15	0	0

The Windham Southwest Supervisory Union expects the financial budget for the current year (2003-2004) to be as budgeted.

**WSSU ASSESSMENT
FY '2005 (2004-2005)**

Assessment 802,698 - 8,027 (Searsburg 1%) = 794,671

<u>STAFF COUNT 2003-2004</u>		WSSU:	794,671 /
			102.26
		Ratio:	7771.08
		<u>2002-2003</u>	
Halifax	8.1	8.1	62,635
Readsboro	7.8	7.3	60,614
Stamford	8.7	9.6	67,608
Whitingham	27.7	27.8	215,259
Wilmington	50	50	388,554
Total	102.3	102.8	794,671

<u>PUPIL COUNT 2003-2004</u>		WSSU:	794,671 /
			811
		Ratio:	979.87
		<u>2002-2003</u>	
Halifax	62	61	60,752
Readsboro	74	67	72,510
Stamford	70	81	68,591
Whitingham	228	242	223,409
Wilmington	377	378	369,409
Total	811	829	794,671

<u>PERCENTAGE TO WSSU</u>		<u>AVERAGE OF STAFF & PUPILS</u>			
		<u>2002-2003</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2003-2004</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>
Halifax	7.7%	7.5%	61,693	62,023	(330)
Readsboro	8.3%	7.5%	66,562	62,022	4,540
Stamford	8.5%	9.5%	68,100	77,980	(9,880)
Whitingham	27.3%	27.8%	219,334	229,479	(10,145)
Wilmington	47.2%	46.7%	378,982	384,553	(5,571)
Searsburg	1.0%	1.0%	8,027	8,243	(216)
Total	100.0%		802,698	824,300	(21,602)

Final

**STAMFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT**

June 30, 2003: Fund Balance (surplus) per Audited Financial Statements	\$250,847.00
Less:	
Fund Balances applied to 2003-2004 budget June 30, 2002 Fund Balance	(110,985.00)
Less:	
Fund Balance (surplus) reserved for: Self-Insurance Unemployment	(5,027.00)
Fund Balance (surplus) To Be Applied To 2004-2005 Budget	<u>\$134,835.00</u> =====

BUDGET COMPARISON

	2003-2004	2004-2005
School Operating Budget	\$1,249,340.00	\$1,268,426.00
Special Articles	3,000.00	0.00
	-----	-----
Total Budget	\$1,252,340.00	\$1,268,426.00
Funds To Be Applied:		
Fund Balance (surplus)	110,985.00	134,835.00
State Transportation Reimbursement	27,380.00	28,361.00
State Small Schools Grant	77,306.00	69,575.00
Vocational Tuition Reimbursement	5,500.00	24,000.00
Interest Income	7,500.00	6,000.00
Special Education Funding	97,896.00	112,570.00
Federal Forestry	7,000.00	7,000.00
	-----	-----
Funds Applied to Budget (Revenue)	\$333,567.00	\$382,341.00
	-----	-----
TOTAL BUDGET MINUS REVENUE:	\$918,773.00	\$886,085.00
SEPARATE ARTICLES:		
Hot Lunch Program		\$1,500.00
Roof Replacment		\$35,000.00

School Tax Rate History

		State		State	
		Homestead	Stamford	Non-Residential	Stamford
		Residential	Homestead	Equalized	Non-Residential
Year	Tax Rate (1)	Tax Rate	Tax Rate(2)	Tax Rate	Tax Rate (3)
1995	\$ 1.72				
1996	\$ 1.44				
1997	\$ 1.41				
Act 60 Begins					
1998	\$1.0565				
1999	\$1.0829				
2000	\$ 1.04				
2001	\$ 1.44				
2002	\$ 1.56				
2003	\$ 1.54				
Act 68 Overhaul of Act 60 Begins					
**2004		\$1.152	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.93
**Projected tax rate if school budget (Article IV), school lunch program (Article VII), and roof replacement (Article VIII) are passed at Town Meeting and the Legislature passes Act H540.					
(1) Tax rate paid the last six years based upon Act 60					
(2) This column is calculated by using the statewide homestead residential equalized tax rate of \$1.152 divided by the percent (82.42%) of fair market value that the houses in Stamford are assessed at.					
(3) This column is calculated by using the statewide non-residential equalized tax rate of \$1.59 divided by the percent (82.42%) of fair market value that the houses in Stamford are assessed at.					

TOWN TAX RATE HISTORY			
	Town	Town	Total
Year	Highway	General	Town
1995	\$0.35	\$0.49	\$0.84
1996	\$0.28	\$0.34	\$0.62
1997	\$0.27	\$0.28	\$0.55
1998	\$0.33	\$0.23	\$0.56
1999	\$.3765	\$.2267	\$.6032
2000	\$0.35	\$0.23	\$0.58
2001	\$0.36	\$0.24	\$0.60
2002	\$.3754	\$.2880	\$.6634
2003	\$0.38	\$0.31	\$0.69
2004	\$0.42*	\$0.30*	\$0.72*
*Projected, based on 2003 Grand List and approval of all 2004 Town Warrant Articles			

TOWN OF STAMFORD, VT
986 MAIN ROAD
STAMFORD, VT 05352

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
READSBORO, VT
05350
FEB 20, '04
AMOUNT



\$1.52
00023317-03

0000

Vermont Department of Libraries
C/O State Office Building
Post Office
Montpelier VT 05602

First Class Mail