

Town of Mendon

Vermont



Mendon Route 4 circa 1908

2003

Annual Report

Financial Reports

July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003

Budget Reports

July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005

Town of Mendon Vermont

www.mendonvt.org

Town Office Staff

Ann Singiser - Town Clerk/ Town Treasurer/ School Board Treasurer
Nancy Gondella - Assistant Town Clerk/ Assistant Town Treasurer
Town Office: 775-1662 Email: mendonclerk@adelphia.net
Hours: Mon. - Wed. 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM, Thurs. 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM,
Friday closed:

Spencer Potter - Tax Assessor	802-496-9689
Ted Pratt - Director Public Safety/Constable	775-1662
Almer Bridge - Collector of Delinquent Taxes	773-6757
Neil Langer - Zoning Administrator	775-0758
Bill Ellis - Road Commissioner	773-4402
Scott Bradley - Fire Warden	773-4851
Planning Commission	775-1662

Selectboard Responsibilities

<u>Mike Barone</u>	<u>Betsy Gray</u>	<u>Barry Isaacs (*)</u>
775-6413	747-6981	773-8792
Roads	Planning & Zoning	Personnel Officer
Fire Protection	Listers	Mendon Website
Police Protection	Reappraisal	GASB-34
Ambulance Service	Aesthetics	Auditor Overseer
E-911	Library	
Conservation		
Recreation		

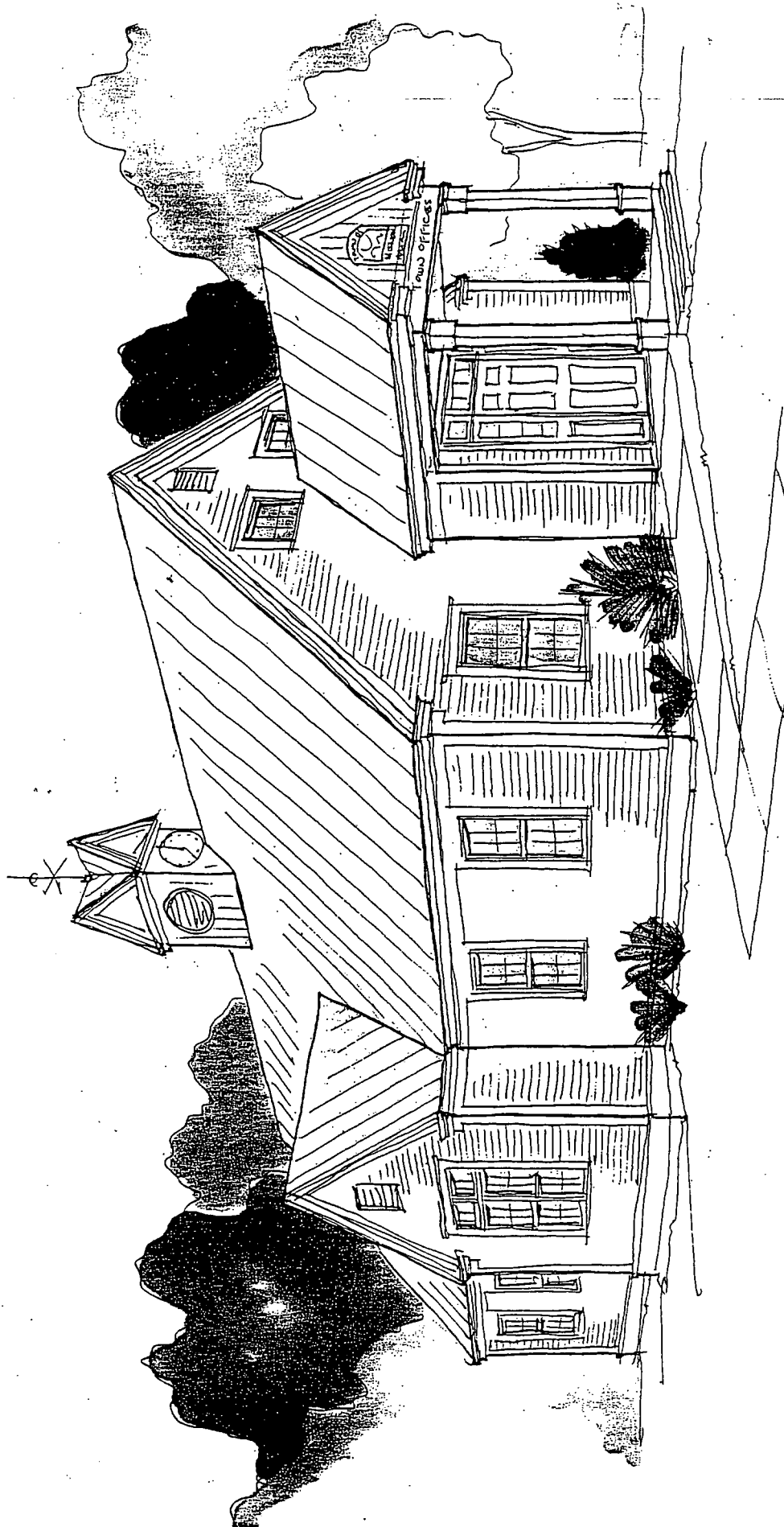
* Chair Email: isaacsbm@together.net

Sara Hebert - Town Administrator 775-1662
Email - mendonadmin@adelphia.net

Meeting Schedule

Selectboard	Second and fourth Monday at 5:30 PM
Planning Commission	First Monday at 4:00 PM
Zoning Board of Adjustment	meets as required.

NOTICE
THIS YEAR'S TOWN
MEETING
WILL BEGIN AT
6:00 P.M.
AT THE CORTINA
INN
MONDAY 03/01/04



A complete set of plans is on display at the Town Office.

Dear Neighbor,

At the polls on March 2nd you will be asked to vote on the following article by Australian ballot:

Article 3 – Shall the bonds, of the Town of Mendon, in an amount not to exceed \$275,000 be issued for the purpose of planning, engineering and constructing a New Town Office?

A vote in favor of this article will give the authority to proceed with the construction of a new town office. The estimated cost of the project will be \$392,000. This includes approximately \$91,000 in site improvements. We have \$117,790 in the Reserve Fund and \$15,180 in the Moller Trust set aside for the project. The remaining amount will be raised by the bond. Under the terms of the Moller trust, the money must be used by June 2004.

The present town office is an inadequate place in which to transact the town's business in an efficient and professional manner. Space is at a premium for day-to-day operations, for meetings, and for elections. It affords no privacy for the various officials working in the office. The electrical system needs total re-wiring. The heating system is inefficient. The septic system is antiquated. The vault is too small.

The New Town Office Committee has been meeting for over five years and has considered many different alternatives ranging from constructing a new building using other property that the town owns, to buying and/or adapting other property or existing buildings. Cost was always a primary consideration. At last, after working with architect Mark McManus, we have arrived at a design that is attractive and one the community will be proud of.

The plan you are now presented with proposes the construction of a new building just east of the present office location. Upon completion of construction, the current building will be removed.

We are all excited about the proposed building as it offers the following advantages:

- ♦ The town already owns the property.
- ♦ After careful analysis of our needs, the floor plan provides a designated area for each office function.
- ♦ The square footage will be increased from 960 to 2532, more than doubled.
- ♦ Parking will be more than doubled.
- ♦ Business as usual will be carried on at the old site during the construction phase.
- ♦ The current vault door will be used in the new building.
- ♦ Keeping the office at its present approximate location preserves the sense of a village center.
- ♦ We will still enjoy the extraordinary setting and aesthetics of the present site.

From a financial point of view, this is a very favorable time to undertake this project. Interest rates are at historic lows. The estimate is that we can obtain a 20-year bond at an interest rate of 3.608%. The increase on the tax rate will be two cents per year. The garage bond, which now represents one cent on the tax rate, will be paid off in 2006. Next year's proposed municipal tax rate will decline from 49 cents to 46 cents. This includes the first year's bond payment and \$25,000 that the Selectboard has budgeted for furnishing and landscaping the new town office.

For these and many other reasons, **we urge you to vote in favor of Article 3.** Please feel free to call any of us for more information or with questions.

Sincerely,

Barry Isaacs
Helen Lawrence
Ted Pratt

Mike Barone
Leo Lawrence
Hal Rosenzweig

Betsy Gray
Justin Lindholm
Ann Singiser

Cort Jones
Ira Pike
Steve Singiser

Members of the New Town Office Committee

**Town of Mendon
Vermont**

**2003
Annual Report**

**Including Financial Reports
July 1, 2002– June 30, 2003**

**Including Budget Reports
July 1, 2004– June 30, 2005**

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Photo Credits:

Cover, courtesy of the Mendon Historical Society - Route 4, Mendon

Page 6, courtesy of Sara Hebert - Road Commissioner, William Ellis, on the Mendon Grader

Page 12, courtesy of Sara Hebert- Town Trucks

Page 30, courtesy of AJ Marro, Rutland Herald- Mendon Wellness Program

Page 48, courtesy of Barry Isaacs - Ted Pratt, Mendon Emergency Response Trailer

Page 81, courtesy of Barstow School - Barstow Graduating Class 2003

Page 81, courtesy of Barstow School - Odyssey of the Mind Team

Inside Back Cover, courtesy of The Scott Family - Wesley and Doris Scott

Highlights

Last year the town adopted a policy requiring its employees to contribute to their health insurance coverage. This was done to help offset the cost of health insurance. Employees paid 5% of their premiums, and 7.5% of their dependents' premiums. This year the town takes the second step in its implementation plan raising employee contributions to 10% and 15% respectively. The policy will be fully implemented in July.

The Mendon 2015 Survey was mailed to the local property owners in August and realized an 18.3% response rate. The Planning Commission and the Selectboard will hold a special meeting during 2004 to share the results with townspeople and invite discussion on long-range plans for the town. The views expressed in this survey will provide the basis for direction and policy decisions over the coming years. We thank you for your participation.

The New Town Office Committee met regularly during the year, and has selected an architect, Mark R. McManus, to design the building. Preliminary plans and the request for funding will be presented at the Town Meeting.

The Town of Mendon website is up and running, and will be updated on a regular basis. Visit the site at www.mendonvt.org.

The Meadowlake Drive bridge was deemed unsafe, briefly closed and then limited to one-way traffic in September. After substantial repair, it was reopened to two-way traffic in October. The bridge is slated for replacement in 2006.

The Mendon Emergency Response Trailer (M.E.R.T.) became fully equipped and was displayed at the Town Picnic in August. This winter it is in use during search and rescue operations.

A Procedures Manual covering all Town Clerk and Treasurer functions continues to be updated and amended.

The Automatic Tax Payment Program was implemented, giving property owners the option of paying their taxes through automatic deduction from their checking, savings or money market account.

The town continues to change existing and adapt new procedures in the financial area to become compliant with the federal Government Account Standards Bureau directives (GASB-34). The new section Management Discussion and Analysis included in this town report is an example of one of those changes.

The town management team has been working on a governmental charter. A governmental charter is the vehicle by which a town asks the permission of the voters and then the legislature to alter its management structure and procedures. The emphasis of the Mendon charter will be to make government more efficient and to spell out ethical groundrules under which town officials and employees operate. Thirty-five other cities and towns in Vermont have adopted governmental charters.

As a result of the tighter budget controls that have been implemented, the end-of-year tax anticipation borrowing requirement was avoided this year. Expenditures were \$9,875 under budget while revenue was \$30,179 over budget.

The Listers have requested and the Selectboard has approved funding for a town-wide reappraisal. Potential vendors are now being screened. This activity will be scheduled based on a mutually agreeable date between the Listers and the vendor selected.

A new service available at the Town Office is the issuance and renewal of U.S. Passports. Please call for an appointment.



Road Commissioner, William Ellis, on the Mendon Grader

Management Discussion and Analysis

Introduction

This is the first year that a Management Discussion and Analysis section appears in our Town Report. This change was dictated as part of the new Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34 (GASB-34) implementation process that has been imposed by the Federal Government.

Your town's management team has prepared this section of the Town Report and it offers the readers an improved insight into the financial activities of the past year. We urge you to review not only this section, but also the entire report, and to join your neighbors in discussing and voting upon the issues at the annual Mendon Town Meeting.

Overview of 2002 – 2003 Fiscal Year

The 2002 – 2003 fiscal year was a successful one for the town office management team. We continued to strengthen our financial and business controls in an effort to stretch your tax dollar. At the same time we have introduced new services that are designed to make interacting with town/state government simpler.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the town of Mendon at the close of the 2003 fiscal year were \$1,114,790, an increase of \$79,191 over the 2002 fiscal year.
- The Town purchased a new backhoe at a net cost after trade-in of \$70,725 as well as the Mendon Emergency Response Trailer (MERT) at a cost of \$25,199, both paid for out of the appropriate Reserve Fund.
- At the end of the fiscal year, the excess of revenues over expenditures resulted in a General Fund balance of \$93,380.

- The Town's only long-term debt is a bond issue that financed the town garage. Annual payments are made with the last principal payment of \$10,000 due in 2006. The bond interest rate is 7.75%.

Financial Outlook

Plans to construct a new town office will necessitate the floating of a bond to supplement the monies already raised by the town. Authorization to float that bond issue is on the Town Meeting Warrant. As of June 30, 2003, the New Town Office Reserve Fund totaled \$121,600. In addition, \$14,960 is available from the C. Gerhard Moller Trust. This money must be used for the construction of a new town office and is available until June, 2004. According to the terms of the trust, if construction has not begun by then, the money will be given to the Rutland Regional Medical Center.

The Town will be conducting a town-wide reappraisal as soon as a mutually agreeable date can be reached with the vendor. The cost of the reappraisal is estimated at \$85,000. Currently, there is enough money in the Reappraisal Reserve Fund to cover this expenditure.

Explanation of Financial Statements

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003 the town received total revenues of \$30,179 in excess of budgeted income. The majority of this increase was attributable to over budget collections from recording fees, highway grants, delinquent tax collections, and traffic/ ordinance fines. The staff recognizes that recording fees will decrease in the future should interest rates rise. In addition, expenditures were \$9,875 under budget. A large portion of the savings was a reduction in fire protection costs. The end result is a positive balance of \$40,054 over budgeted figures.

Reserve Fund

The town continues to build, maintain and manage its Reserve Fund balances. It is the purpose of the Reserve Funds to cover major purchases without incurring debt. At the last Town Meeting,

voters approved an article allowing the Town General Fund to borrow from the Reserve Fund in anticipation of taxes. If this occurs, the General Fund will repay the Reserve Fund with interest at the prevailing loan interest rate. Voters also voted to allow the Town to borrow across the vehicle replacement funds to purchase new town vehicles as necessary, while still maintaining separate equipment fund accounts.

The Reserve Fund balances are summarized below with further detail provided in the auditor's report found at the end of this section.

Reserve Fund Balance \$828,569

As of: 6/30/2005

	Value	
	\$K	Pct
Highway and Bridges	\$352	42%
Road Equipment	\$159	19%
New Town Office	\$121	15%
Reappraisal	\$94	11%
Maintenance	\$33	4%
Contingency	\$24	3%
Law Enforcement	\$18	2%
Preservation	\$18	2%
Other Funds	\$10	1%

Equipment Replacement Schedule

The Selectboard and Road Commissioner have developed an equipment replacement schedule projecting the cash flow requirements out through 2006. This plan, coupled with the flexibility to borrow across fund boundaries, will enable us to minimize the contribution to these funds. We will update annually, continually track and re-evaluate the plan. The equipment replacement schedule follows.

Mendon Capital Equipment Fund

Budget 2004 Case



Current Year 2003

Assumptions:		Facts:			
Big Trucks have a life expectancy of	12 years	Big Truck #1	MAC	1996	\$75,000
Small Truck has a life expectancy of	7 years	Big Truck #2	MAC	2000	\$90,000
Grader has a life expectancy of	20 years	Small Truck	Ford	1999	\$45,000
Backhoe has a life expectancy of	15 years	Grader	CAT	1994	\$100,000
		Backhoe	CAT	2003	\$85,000
Replacement Cost					
Big Truck #1	2003				
	\$105,000				
Big Truck #2	\$105,000				
Small Truck	\$63,000				
Grader	\$120,000				
Backhoe	\$89,000				
Interest rate	1.5% percent				
Inflation rate	5.0% percent				
Trade in value	20.0% percent				
Annual Contribution				\$37,500	

Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Available Cash	Equipment Replaced	Cost (inflation adj)	Trade In	Net Expend	Interest Earned	Closing Balance
2003	\$189,427	\$37,500	\$226,927	Backhoe	\$88,725	\$18,000	\$70,725	\$2,343	\$158,545
2004	\$158,545	\$37,500	\$196,045		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,941	\$198,986
2005	\$198,986	\$37,500	\$236,486		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,547	\$240,033
2006	\$240,033	\$37,500	\$277,533	Small Truck	\$72,450	\$9,000	\$63,450	\$3,211	\$217,294
2007	\$217,294	\$37,500	\$254,794		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,822	\$258,616
2008	\$258,616	\$37,500	\$296,116	Big Truck #1	\$131,250	\$15,000	\$116,250	\$2,698	\$182,564
2009	\$182,564	\$37,500	\$220,064		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,301	\$223,365
2010	\$223,365	\$40,000	\$263,365		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,950	\$267,316
2011	\$267,316	\$40,000	\$307,316		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,610	\$311,925
2012	\$311,925	\$40,000	\$351,925	Big Truck #2	\$152,250	\$18,000	\$134,250	\$3,265	\$220,940
2013	\$220,940	\$40,000	\$260,940	Small Truck	\$97,808	\$14,490	\$83,318	\$2,664	\$180,287
2014	\$180,287	\$40,000	\$220,287	Grader	\$186,000	\$20,000	\$166,000	\$814	\$55,102
2015	\$55,102	\$40,000	\$95,102		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,427	\$96,528
2016	\$96,528	\$40,000	\$136,528		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,048	\$138,576
2017	\$138,576	\$40,000	\$178,576		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,679	\$181,255
2018	\$181,255	\$40,000	\$221,255	Backhoe	\$155,750	\$17,745	\$0	\$3,319	\$224,574
2019	\$224,574	\$40,000	\$264,574		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,969	\$268,542
2020	\$268,542	\$40,000	\$308,542	Big Truck #1	\$194,250	\$15,000	\$179,250	\$1,939	\$131,231
	\$131,231		\$131,231	Small Truck	\$132,040	\$19,562	\$112,479	\$281	\$19,034
2021	\$19,034	\$40,000	\$59,034		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$886	\$59,920
2022	\$59,920	\$45,000	\$104,920		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,574	\$106,493
2023	\$106,493	\$45,000	\$151,493		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,272	\$153,766
2024	\$153,766	\$45,000	\$198,766	Big Truck #2	\$215,250	\$18,000	\$197,250	\$23	\$1,539
2025	\$1,539	\$45,000	\$46,539		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$698	\$47,237
2026	\$47,237	\$45,000	\$92,237		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,384	\$93,620



Depreciation Schedules

The town continues to strive to create reasonable depreciation schedules for its equipment in accordance with the GASB-34 requirements. The objective is to maintain the equipment as long as the maintenance costs make it cost effective to do so. The following depreciation schedule has been established and is consistent with the previously presented equipment replacement schedule.

Mendon Depreciation Schedule

Equipment		Life		Original Cost	Book Value
Big Truck #1	MAC	1996	12	\$75,000	\$25,000
Big Truck #2	MAC	2000	12	\$90,000	\$60,000
Small Truck	Ford	1999	7	\$45,000	\$12,857
Grader	CAT	1994	20	\$100,000	\$50,000
Backhoe	CAT	2003	15	\$88,725	\$82,810
MERT Trailer		2003	20	\$7,500	\$7,125
MERT ATV #1		2003	15	\$5,200	\$4,853
MERT ATV #2		2003	15	\$5,700	\$4,853

GASB-34 also requires depreciation schedules be established for the Town's roads and bridges. These will be established over time consistent with individual road and bridge maintenance activity.

Debt Administration

The town has one outstanding bond debt of \$46,141 including interest, with the last payment due in 2006. This amount represents the balance of principle and interest for a bond issued on August 8, 1986 for the construction of the town garage. The amount originally financed was \$230,000.

Article 3 to be voted on by Australian ballot authorizes the Town to issue a bond for \$275,000 to finance the construction of a new Town Office. With interest rates at historic lows approval of a bond issue at this time would be extremely beneficial. If the voters approve Article 3 the Selectboard will work with the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank to obtain the best rate possible. The anticipated rate of the note should be half the interest paid on the garage bond issue. Approval of Article 3 will add approximately 2 cents to the tax rate.

Vermont Municipal Bond Bank

Bond Amount **\$275,000**

Estimated Interest Rate **3.608%**

<u># Years</u>	<u>\$Amount of Principal</u>	<u>Est % Rates</u>	<u>\$Amount of Interest</u>	<u>\$Total Fiscal Year</u>
Issue Bond			7,444	7,444
1	15,000	1.060	8,402	23,402
2	15,000	1.370	8,219	23,219
3	15,000	1.680	7,991	22,991
4	15,000	1.990	7,715	22,715
5	15,000	2.300	7,394	22,394
6	15,000	2.520	7,032	22,032
7	15,000	2.740	6,638	21,638
8	15,000	2.960	6,210	21,210
9	15,000	3.190	5,749	20,749
10	15,000	3.410	5,254	20,254
11	15,000	3.540	4,733	19,733
12	15,000	3.670	4,192	19,192
13	15,000	3.800	3,632	18,632
14	15,000	3.930	3,052	18,052
15	15,000	4.060	2,453	17,453
16	10,000	4.140	1,941	11,941
17	10,000	4.220	1,523	11,523
18	10,000	4.300	1,097	11,097
19	10,000	4.370	664	10,664
20	10,000	4.450	223	10,223
Total	\$ 275,000		\$ 101,558	\$ 376,558

Note: This is an estimate of current interest rates and is NOT a forecast of future interest rates.

Road and Bridge Repair

The major expenditure from this fiduciary fund this year was to fund emergency repairs to the Meadowlake Drive bridge in September. The repairs cost a total of \$32,900.

The town management team would like to thank the Vermont Agency of Transportation and Representative Harry Chen for their prompt attention and support during this emergency repair situation. Mendon was responsible for \$4,100 of this total, with the State providing the rest of the funding.



State of Vermont
Agency of Transportation
National Life Building
Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT
05633-5001

VTTrans

Working to Get You There

October 29, 2003

Mr. Barry M. Isaacs, Chair
Town of Mendon Selectboard
C/ O Ann Singiser, Town Clerk
34 US Route 4
Mendon, VT 05701

RE: **Mendon BRO 1443(35)** TH 1 Br. 3

Dear Mr. Isaacs,

Thanks for your note on the current status of the above bridge. I have placed the replacement bridge project for this site in the 2006 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for federal funds in 2006. The federal fiscal year for 2006 begins in October of 2005. Therefore, we should be able to advertise this project for bids in the fall of 2005. By the time a contract is awarded and the contractor given a notice to proceed it will probably be too late in the construction season to adequately construct the temporary bridge for the project. So the temporary bridge will most probably not be in place until late in the spring of 2006.

The additional support system added to this bridge should be maintained in good condition until the spring of 2006 when the project will start. Any critical connections should be protected from deterioration to insure their structural integrity. Any areas of bare steel probably should be coated with grease or another protective system.

We will keep the Town informed of any changes that may develop in the funding for this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Craig Keller, Project Manager, with any further questions.

Sincerely,

James B. McCarthy
Structures Engineer

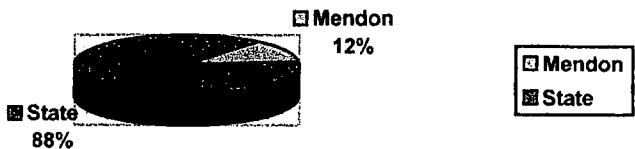
JBM:jbm

Cc: C. Keller, Project Manager
Dave Lathrup, DTA #3
Central Files

www.aot.state.vt.us
Telecommunications Relay Service 1-800-253-0191

Vermont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Meadowlake Bridge Repairs



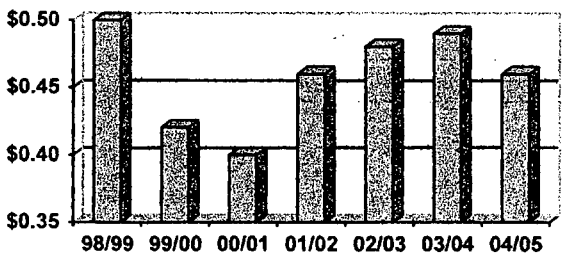
Risk and Uncertainties

Any financial plan is fraught with risks and uncertainties. It is impossible to predict the number of accidents on Route 4, the number of snowstorms in a winter, the number of fires within the town, or the devastation a major forest fire would cause. Yet all of these impact the cash flow requirements of your town.

Your town management team continues to “buy” services when it is cost effective to do so rather than “provide” them. The new disciplines established by the management system and GASB-34 ensures that taxpayer dollars are used effectively.

The management team, along with the town employees, continually strives to provide excellent services at a reasonable cost.

Municipal Tax Rate



Questions about GASB-34 or the MD&A section of this report can be addressed to:

Ann Singiser, Treasurer (Mendonclerk@adelphia.net) or
Barry Isaacs, Selectboard Chair (Isaacsbm@together.net)

Jeffrey R. Bradley CPA, P.C.

-Member-

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

65 US Route 4

Mendon, Vermont 05701

Telephone/Fax: (802) 775-0103

Email: jbradcpa@together.net

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Selectpersons
Town of Mendon, Vermont
Mendon, Vermont

I have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Mendon, Vermont (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, as indicated in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States of America. Those standards require that I 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 amount 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. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

A statement of general fixed assets, required by generally accepted accounting principles, is not included in these financial statements because the Town has not maintained records as to the historical cost of its general fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the General Fixed Assets account group is not known.

In my opinion, except for the omission of the general fixed assets account group noted above, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above, presents fairly the financial position of the Town of Mendon, Vermont as of June 30, 2003 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

JR Bradley CPA PC

Mendon, Vermont

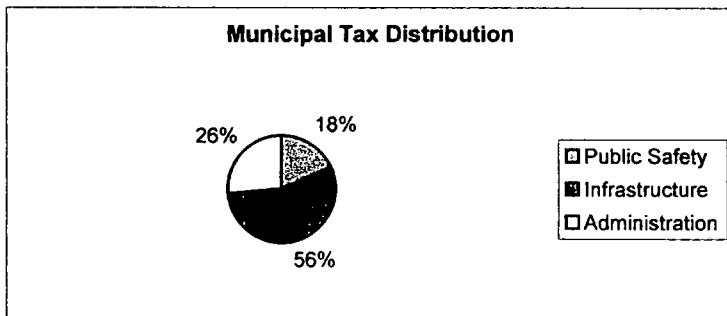
October 9, 2003

License #92-0000515

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET -
ALL FUNDS AND ACCOUNT GROUPS
JUNE 30, 2003

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Account Group</u>	Total (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	General Long-Term Debt	
ASSETS				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 109,386	\$ 912,263	\$ -	\$ 1,021,649
Accounts Receivable	2,132	305	-	2,437
Delinquent Taxes Receivable (net of Allowance for Uncollected Delinquent Taxes)	39,793	-	-	39,793
Due from Other Funds	-	3,455	-	3,455
Prepaid Expenses	7,456	-	-	7,456
Amount Available in Debt Service Fund	-	-	40,000	40,000
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 158,767</u>	<u>\$ 916,023</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,114,790</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Accrued Vacation Pay	\$ 2,134	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,134
Accrued Wages Payable & Related Expenses	4,376	-	-	4,376
Funds Held in Escrow	-	87,454	-	87,454
Due to Other Funds	3,455	-	-	3,455
Bond Payable	-	-	40,000	40,000
Total Liabilities	<u>9,965</u>	<u>87,454</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>137,419</u>
<i>Fund Balances:</i>				
Reserved for Infrastructure and Other Purposes	-	828,569	-	828,569
<i>Unreserved:</i>				
Undesignated	148,802	-	-	148,802
Total Fund Balances	<u>148,802</u>	<u>828,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>977,371</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 158,767</u>	<u>\$ 916,023</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,114,790</u>

2004/2005 Estimated Municipal Tax Rate



- (a) Amount to be raised by taxes \$523,183 *
- (b) Estimated Grand List \$1,146,600
- (c) Estimated Tax Rate 46 cents

(*) Assumes passage of budget articles, appropriations and New Town Office Bond.

Calculation of Municipal Tax Rate

The *Municipal Tax Rate* is expressed as the amount of tax to be paid for each \$100 of assessed value.

Tax Rate = Amount to be raised by taxes / (Grand List / 100)

Amount to be raised by taxes = total expenditures for general government and roads, reduced by other sources of revenue.

Grand List = the total value of all taxable real estate and personal estate taxable to the town.

2003/2004 Tax Rate = \$2.56

Municipal Tax Rate: \$.49

2003-2004 Amount to be Raised by Taxes	\$560,744
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2003-2004 Municipal Grand List	\$1,146,629
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State Education Tax Rate: \$1.18

2003-2004 Amount to be raised by Taxes	\$1,357,884
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2003-2004 Education Grand List	\$1,146,629
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Local Share Tax Rate: \$.89

2003-2004 Amount to be Raised by Taxes	\$1,021,618
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2003-2004 Education Grand List	\$1,146,629
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2003-2004 Total Taxes Billed	\$2,935,616
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2004/2005 Town of Mendon Budget Summary

Page 1 of 1

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
Cash Balance Forward	-\$16,400	\$16,700	\$16,700	\$93,380
Total Property Taxes Collected	\$520,004	\$610,830	\$342,039	\$517,184
On-Time	\$353,800	\$501,485	\$296,135	
Delinquent	\$166,204	\$109,345	\$45,904	
Non-Property Tax Revenue				
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	\$45,248	\$45,658	\$14,050	\$25,000
Revenue Allocated to Infrastructure	\$63,116	\$40,283	\$20,388	\$40,000
Revenue Allocated to Administration	\$87,547	\$101,246	\$38,930	\$57,955
Total Revenue	\$715,915	\$798,017	\$432,107	\$733,519

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
Total Expenses				
Expenses Allocated to Public Safety	\$124,790	\$132,330	\$64,931	\$134,325
Expenses Allocated to Infrastructure	\$353,878	\$310,270	\$169,057	\$373,140
Expenses Allocated to Administration	\$220,547	\$206,537	\$97,161	\$226,054
Total Expenses	\$699,215	\$649,137	\$331,149	\$733,519

2004/2005 Town of Mendon Operating Budget

Public Safety

Detail Page

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
<u>Revenue Allocated to Public Safety</u>				
Real Estate Taxes (20%)	\$104,001	\$122,166	\$50,881	\$109,325
Law Enforcement Income	\$45,248	\$45,658	\$14,050	\$25,000
Total Public Safety Revenue	\$149,249	\$167,824	\$64,931	\$134,325
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Public Safety				
Law Enforcement	\$41,474	\$42,286	\$24,466	\$43,506
Constable	\$12,518	\$12,466	\$6,388	\$13,032
Special Officer(s)	\$18,158	\$18,832	\$9,731	\$21,474
Public Safety Expenses	\$5,798	\$5,938	\$3,347	\$6,500
Fuel	\$0	\$2,716	\$0	\$3,000
Cell Phone	\$0	\$589	\$0	\$600
Equipment Replacement & Repairs	\$0	\$415	\$0	\$400
Vehicle Expense	\$0	\$1,110	\$0	\$2,000
Supplies	\$0	\$807	\$3,347	\$300
Clothing	\$0	\$301	\$0	\$100
Training & Dues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100
Highway Safety Program	\$0	\$50	\$0	\$0
Law Enforcement Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$2,500
Fire Protection	\$78,333	\$85,675	\$36,096	\$86,450
Rutland City Fire Contract	\$78,333	\$83,959	\$35,000	\$85,000
Equipment	\$0	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
Variable	\$0	\$23,959	\$5,000	\$25,000
Fire Warden	\$0	\$1,716	\$1,000	\$1,000
Fire Warden Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$96	\$450
Regional Ambulance Service	\$4,983	\$4,369	\$4,369	\$4,369
Total Public Safety Expenditures	\$124,790	\$132,330	\$64,931	\$134,325
Percent of Total Expenditures	18%	20%	20%	18%

2004/2005 Town of Mendon Operating Budget

Community Infrastructure

Detail Page

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Infrastructure				
Real Estate Taxes (56%)	\$275,602	\$323,740	\$148,669	\$333,140
State Aid to Highways	\$51,866	\$40,283	\$20,388	\$35,000
Road Maintenance Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Other Income	\$11,250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Community Infrastructure Revenue	\$338,718	\$364,023	\$169,057	\$373,140
Expenditures				
Community Infrastructure				
Roads				
Salaries	\$64,793	\$70,593	\$34,270	\$80,050
Winter	\$37,991	\$43,724	\$17,548	\$45,000
Summer	\$23,052	\$23,119	\$14,934	\$31,300
Commissioner	\$3,750	\$3,750	\$1,788	\$3,750
General Road Expenses	\$78,086	\$77,087	\$31,947	\$88,200
Winter				
Fuel	\$2,371	\$3,404	\$2,115	\$4,000
Salt	\$35,816	\$20,727	\$0	\$25,000
Ice Be Gone	\$5,854	\$5,052	\$2,527	\$6,000
Sand	*	\$8,920	\$9,038	\$9,000
Repairs & Supplies	\$22,298	\$11,725	\$4,260	\$13,500
Equipment Hire	\$5,010	\$1,583	\$3,500	\$2,500
Vehicle Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
Summer				
Fuel	*	\$607	\$2,151	\$2,200
Gravel	\$2,705	\$5,591	\$871	\$10,000
Repairs & Supplies	\$4,032	\$15,708	\$5,635	\$8,500
Equipment Hire	*	\$3,770	\$1,850	\$2,500
Vehicle Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Garage Bond - Principal & Interest	\$14,786	\$13,540	\$11,635	\$11,919
Interest	\$4,786	\$3,540	\$1,635	\$1,919
Principal	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Miscellaneous Infrastructure	\$13,822	\$11,412	\$12,464	\$14,500
Robinwood Roads	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Garage Utilities	\$11,822	\$9,412	\$6,509	\$12,000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$3,455	\$0
Road Repair&Equipment Replacement Funds	\$119,500	\$100,000	\$46,500	\$121,000
Garage Maintenance	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
New Equipment Replacement Fund	\$39,000	\$24,500	\$41,000	\$37,500
Highway Improvement	\$75,000	\$70,000	\$0	\$78,000
Bridge Repair Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

* Included in other winter/summer road expenses.

2004/2005 Town of Mendon Operating Budget

Community Infrastructure

Detail Page

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
Community Infrastructure - continued				
Expenditures				
Municipal Infrastructure	\$27,761	\$30,833	\$30,841	\$32,471
Library	\$11,897	\$14,750	\$15,193	\$15,725
Organizations & Associations				
Rutland Regional Commission	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Vermont Coalition of Municipalities	\$301	\$739	\$0	\$250
Vermont League of Cities and Towns	\$720	\$668	\$939	\$966
Mendon Historical Society	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500
Rutland County Tax	\$13,843	\$13,676	\$14,209	\$14,500
New Town Office Building	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000
Appropriations	\$10,130	\$6,805	\$1,500	\$0
Barstow Boosters	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Boy's and Girl's Club	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
BROC	\$525	\$525	\$0	\$0
Geo D. Alken RC&D Council	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$0
Retired & Senior Volunteer	\$230	\$230	\$0	\$0
Rutland Area Comm Service	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0
Rutland Area Visit Nurse	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$0	\$0
Rutland County Comm Child	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rutland County Women's Network	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rutland Economic Develop	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$0
Rutland Natural Resources	\$75	\$75	\$0	\$0
Rutland West	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Southwestern Council Aging	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$0
TIME	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vermont Ctr for Indep Living	\$125	\$125	\$0	\$0
Vermont Green Up	\$50	\$100	\$0	\$0
Vermont Cares	\$125	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Community Infrastructure	\$353,878	\$310,270	\$169,057	\$373,140
Percent of Total Expenditures	51%	48%	51%	51%

2004/2005 Town of Mendon Operating Budget

Administration

Detail Page

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Administration				
Real Estate Taxes (26%)	\$140,401	\$164,924	\$58,231	\$157,599
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$21,188	\$15,576	\$16,038	\$20,000
Interest Late Taxes 1%	\$0	\$13,052	\$6,307	\$2,500
Delinquent Tax 8%	\$0	\$17,527	\$4,008	\$8,000
Investment Interest	\$25,533	\$6,578	\$1,922	\$4,500
Licenses & Fees	\$40,826	\$48,513	\$20,970	\$33,455
Recording Fees	\$0	\$21,173	\$10,054	\$15,000
Preservation Fees	\$0	\$3,456	\$1,663	\$2,200
Marriage/Civil Union Licenses	\$0	\$137	\$178	\$125
Dog Licenses	\$0	\$1,082	\$10	\$1,000
Zoning and Building permits	\$0	\$12,849	\$5,695	\$8,000
Septic Fees	\$0	\$750	\$450	\$400
Copying Fees	\$0	\$3,030	\$1,304	\$2,500
Liquor License	\$0	\$1,200	\$250	\$1,000
Motor Vehicle Registration	\$0	\$72	\$51	\$100
Town Shop Rental	\$0	\$2,400	\$1,200	\$2,400
Reappraisal Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Truck Permits	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$340
Alarm System	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90
Passport Fees	\$0	\$0	\$67	\$300
Other	\$0	\$2,364	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$227,948	\$266,170	\$107,476	\$226,054
Expenditures				
Administrative Expenses				
Wages & Salaries	\$73,123	\$61,039	\$27,353	\$71,307
Town Clerk/Treasurer	\$32,918	\$12,660	\$6,348	\$14,111
Asst Town Clerk/Treasurer	\$10,870	\$20,196	\$8,656	\$24,010
Supplemental Help	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Information Mgr	\$0	\$333	\$0	\$0
Selectmen	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$4,000
School Board	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Town Administrator	\$21,635	\$21,650	\$10,749	\$24,986
Zoning Administrator	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$1,600	\$3,200
Coverison Cost (one time)**	\$3,679	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fees Paid	\$19,663	\$22,660	\$5,944	\$12,300
Zoning Administrator	\$4,706	\$4,893	\$2,536	\$4,000
Sewage Officer	\$400	\$600	\$350	\$300
Tax Collector	\$14,557	\$17,167	\$3,058	\$8,000

* Not previously itemized

** Strategy re-evaluated in March/April 2002

2004/2005 Town of Mendon Operating Budget

Administration

Detail Page

Category	2001/2002 Actual	2002/2003 Actual	2003/2004 YTD 12/31/03	2004/2005 Budget
<u>Administrative Expenses - continued</u>				
Office Expenses	\$64,993	\$63,131	\$28,372	\$71,750
Auditing	\$9,448	\$5,983	\$4,250	\$5,000
Insurance	\$14,885	\$14,911	\$7,455	\$16,000
Legal Expense	\$3,013	\$1,622	\$411	\$3,500
Appraisal Services	\$6,500	\$6,593	\$3,249	\$7,150
Election Expenses	\$128	\$680	\$0	\$1,000
Office Expenses	\$6,757	\$6,536	\$1,942	\$7,000
Continuing Education	\$2,484	\$1,793	\$862	\$2,500
Property Maps	\$800	\$1,200	\$0	\$800
Town Reports	\$1,183	\$1,261	\$0	\$1,300
Advertising and Warnings	\$2,401	\$1,013	\$130	\$1,500
Postage & Printing	\$1,122	\$2,478	\$1,018	\$3,500
Computers/ Computer Services	\$2,057	\$4,061	\$1,410	\$4,000
Copier Service Contract	\$0	\$474	\$193	\$500
Planning & Zoning Exp	\$1,228	\$585	\$298	\$1,500
Mendon 2015 Project	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Animal Control	\$0	\$41	\$0	\$500
Town Office Utilities	\$4,158	\$4,498	\$2,438	\$5,000
Street Lights	\$6,010	\$6,125	\$3,385	\$7,000
Miscellaneous	\$2,821	\$3,277	\$1,331	\$2,500
Payroll Taxes and Benefits	\$49,089	\$52,707	\$26,992	\$62,197
Health Insurance	\$26,468	\$31,116	\$16,045	\$38,805
Benefit Strategies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,067
Payroll Taxes	\$14,720	\$16,327	\$7,776	\$15,000
Retirement Funds	\$7,901	\$5,264	\$3,171	\$7,525
Working Funds Contribution	\$10,000	\$7,000	\$8,500	\$8,500
Town Maintenance	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Town Shop Maintenance	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Recreation	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
New Office Equipment	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reappraisal	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Preservation	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Cemetery	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total Administrative Expenses	\$220,547	\$206,537	\$97,161	\$226,054
Percent of Budget Expenditures	32%	32%	29%	31%

Summary of Reserve Funds

	Beginning Balance
	7/1/03
Road Equipment & Vehicles	158,545
Highway & Bridges	351,656
Facility Maintenance	33,210
New Town Office	121,257
Reappraisal	94,026
Law Enforcement	17,825
Contingency	23,797
Records Preservation & Restoration	17,582
New Office Equipment	3,049
Recreation	6,160
Cemetery Maintenance	1,462
Total	828,569

Schedule of Outstanding Bond Payments Town of Mendon Garage

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2004-2005	10,000	1,919	11,919
2005-2006	10,000	152	10,152
2006-2007	10,000	384	10,384

No other outstanding bonds or long-term indebtedness.

Appropriations

Appropriation Request Total: \$9,055

Barstow Boosters

69 US Route 4, Mendon, Vermont 05701 (Greg Smith) 802-775-0708

The Barstow Boosters request \$1,000 to support the baseball, softball, Mitey Mites, and T-ball leagues that consistently attract 120 children each year. This support helps provide equipment, uniforms, field maintenance and improvements.

Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County

101 Allen Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701 802-773-1902
www.rutlandbgclub.org

Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County request \$1,000 to provide programming for area youths ages 6-18 in five core areas - Arts, Character and Leadership Development, Education and Career Development, Health & Life Skills and Sports, and Fitness & Recreation.

BROC- Community Action in Southwestern Vermont

60 Center Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701 802-775-0878
www.broc.org

BROC request \$525 to provide direct services to help individuals and families with low-income meet their basic needs- food, fuel, utilities, and safe, affordable housing.

George D. Aiken RC&D Council

22 North Main Street, Suite 2
Randolph, Vermont 05060 802-728-9526

George D. Aiken RC&D Council request \$50 to provide assistance with natural resource conservation and rural development to town governments, school districts, fire departments, watershed groups, and nonprofit organizations in the six southern Vermont counties.

RSVP & The Volunteer Center

39 East Center Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701 802-775-8220

RSVP request \$230 to provide an "Invitation to Serve" program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through meaningful use of their skills, talents, interests and knowledge in volunteer service.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice

7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland, Vermont 05702 802-775-0568

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice request \$2,600 to promote preventative health, dignity, independence and respect both in the community and home environment. They provided 188 visits to 16 individuals in Mendon.

Rutland County Women's Network

P.O. Box 313, Rutland, Vermont 05702 802-775-6788

The Rutland County Women's Network request \$500 to provide safety and support services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Rutland Economic Development Corporation

110 Merchants Row, 4th Floor, Suite 3, Rutland, Vermont 05701
www.rutlandeconomy.com 802-773-9147

REDC request \$500 to support their organization that has sought to bring together local business and community members to improve the Rutland region. From providing parking for downtown merchants to the many loans they provide to local business owners, they have remained committed to the concept that the standard of living and quality of life of the region's citizens can best be served by a vibrant, healthy economy, sensitive to the environment and preservation of our cultural heritage.

Rutland Mental Health Services

PO Box 222, 78 South Main Street, Rutland, Vermont 05702
Mail@rmhscn.org 802-775-8224

Rutland Mental Health Services request \$1,200 to support their organization in providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. They provide individual counseling for children, adults and

families, substance abuse treatment services and emergency/crisis services.

Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District

170 South Main Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701 802-775-7129

Rutland NRCD request \$200 to support their commitment to fostering an awareness of the link between stewardship of the natural environment and the agricultural community as well as other landowners, and encouraging and supporting efforts with partners, in meeting the need for the conservation of Rutland County's natural resources.

Rutland West Neighborhood Housing Services

71 Marble Street, PO Box 541 802-438-2303
West Rutland, Vermont 05777

Rutland West Neighborhood Housing Services request \$500 to provide a full range of housing services including budget and financial assistance, home buyer training and assistance, rehabilitation assistance as well as emergency housing.

Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging

East Ridge Professional Building, 1085 US Route 4, Unit 2B, Rutland,
Vermont 05701-9039 802-786-5990
svcoa@svcoa.org

The Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging request \$400 to provide senior meals, case management, Senior Helpline, Elder Service Clinician and Peer to Peer volunteers, health benefit counseling, legal service through the Senior Law Project, transportation through Elders on the Go and One-2-One Program, and Senior Companion Program.

Vermont Center for Independent Living

11 East State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 802-229-0501
vcil@vcil.org

The Vermont Center for Independent Living request \$125 to provide services that improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Vermont Cares

P.O. Box 5248, Burlington, Vermont 05402

802-863-2437

www.vtcares.org

Vermont Committee for AIDS Resources, Education & Services request \$125 to provide support services to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS.

Vermont Green Up

P.O. Box 1191, Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191

802-229-4586

www.greenupvermont.com

Green Up Vermont request \$100 to support their efforts to promote litter-free communities by supporting Green Up Day, civic pride and education.



**Mendon Wellness Program: Ted Pratt, Ann Singiser, Sara Hebert,
Nancy Gondella and Cheryl McEwan.**

Mendon Historical Society

During the past year the Mendon Historical Society has undertaken a number of successful projects.

In March we held a program presented by historian Michael Sherman on the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918-1919 in Vermont. On Green-up Day in early May, a group of volunteers raked and cleaned up Tenney Cemetery on Meadowlake Drive. We planted annuals in the area around the World War II memorial at the corner of Meadowlake Drive and Route 4. We held a town-wide picnic in August attended by over 50 people. We joined with other Mendon residents in the purchase of the Phelps house on Route 4 to save it from the being razed. We continue to pursue our oral history project in which we tape record the memories and recollections of some of our older residents.

Our major effort for the year was to participate in Vermont History Expo 2003 held at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in June along with over 90 other historical societies in the state. We prepared an exhibit featuring the history of Edward H. Ripley's presence in Mendon. Ten of our members took turns staffing our booth and over 8000 people attended the weekend-long event.

Plans for the future include the documentation and cleaning of all gravestones in our cemeteries, the reissuing and updating of the book *History of Mendon*, originally published in 1981, and the presentation of several special programs. A long-range goal is the acquisition of a building or location for the storage and display of our growing collection of historical records and artifacts.

We thank the Town of Mendon for its support during the past year. We invite any resident to attend our meetings held every other month on the second Wednesday starting in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Singiser, President

Delinquent Taxes
Almer G. Bridge - Tax Collector

(Delinquent Taxes as of January 31, 2004)

2001/2002 Taxes

*Baechle, Mark	\$ 1,178.50
*McKechnie, Roger & Margaret	<u>1,915.08</u>
Total 2001/2002 Taxes	\$ 3,093.58

2002/2003 Taxes

*Baechle, Mark	\$ 1,324.35
*Bourn, Tony W	1,538.24
*Crean, Timothy	396.44
Dotson, Stephen P	88.04
GS Hotels LLC	196.19
*GS Hotels LLC	2,006.38
Jeifa, Bernard & Ruth	1,419.08
**Killington Pool Houses	5,330.65
**Killington Pico Overlook	883.59
*McKechnie, Roger & Margaret	3,787.58
Russomanno, Carl E	3,358.25
*Walter, Richard	<u>3,061.10</u>
Total 2002/2003 Taxes	\$23,389.89

Note: Amounts due include penalty and interest as of 01/31/04. Interest continues to accrue at a rate of 1% per month.

*Pending Tax Sale

**Currently in Bankruptcy

Record of Vital Statistics – Mendon, VT 2002

Births

Name	Sex	Date of Birth	Place	Father's Name Mother's Maiden Name
Kiah Elizabeth Daniels	F	March 1, 2003	Rutland	Frederick A. Daniels Brennyn C. Gagnon
Levi Arrow Shaw	M	April 14, 2003	Mendon	Benjamin L. Shaw Jeannette M. Swears
Devon Marie Kibbey	F	May 11, 2003	Rutland	Jason P. Kibbey Robyn A. King
Evelyn Ann Rushing	F	May 18, 2003	Rutland	Kevin A. Rushing Deborah A. Singiser
Brodie James Walck	M	July 9, 2003	Mendon	Kevin R. Walck Kristy L. Robinson
Nina Jean Elizabeth Savage	F	September 4, 2003	Rutland	Jesse W. Savage Carrie Burke
Nicholas James Marra	M	November 5, 2003	Rutland	James G. Marra Lorena K. Empie

Deaths

Name	Age	Date	Place of Death
Doris Scott	74	February 11, 2003	Mendon
Lyola E. Mangan	81	July 6, 2003	Rutland
Michael J. Zakrzewski	37	August 21, 2003	Hartford

Civil Unions

Party A Name	Residence	Party B Name	Residence	Date
Rosemarie M. Muro	NY	Brenda L. Giammarino	NY	Jan. 27, 2003
Joan F. Watson	MN	Katherine M. Ray	MN	Feb. 20, 2003
Ann M. Lewis	FL	Isobel Loring	FL	Aug. 18, 2003
Patricia A. Dalton	OH	Tammy N. Turos	OH	Aug. 30, 2003
William T. Johnson III	VA	Michael G. Leddy, Jr.	VA	Sept. 29, 2003
Mary Beth Mell	MD	Laura Ann Mc Nay	MD	Oct. 18, 2003
Robert J. Collins II	NJ	Charles F. Schreck III	NJ	Nov. 11, 2003

Marriages

Name of Groom	Residence	Name of Bride	Residence	Date
Russell A. Siegel	NY	Paulette J. Hernandez	NY	Jan. 25, 2003
Timothy R. Mailloux	MA	Randi L. Vancott	MA	Feb. 8, 2003
Dale O. Gray	VT	Carol L. Kostelnik	VT	Feb. 14, 2003
Anthony R. Bove	NJ	Melissa L. Seubert	NJ	March 4, 2003
James N. Stoetzle	CT	Sally A. Pasioka	CT	April 12, 2003
John Pfister	NY	Debra Ann Utiko	NY	June 14, 2003
Harley E. Peryer	VT	Deborah E. Robert	VT	June 21, 2003
Roger C. Thomas	MI	Carla A. Hammersley	MI	June 25, 2003
Glenn C. Bailey	FL	Amy K. Anderson	FL	June 28, 2003
Brian N. Chase	CT	Bonnie Jo Hanks	CT	July 12, 2003
James G. Marra	VT	Lorena K. Empie	VT	Aug. 4, 2003
Robert M. Armstrong	VT	Alison P. Darrow	VT	Sept. 27, 2003
Kevin J. Tomasetti	MA	Emily C. Quayle	MA	Oct. 4, 2003
Brian M. Gates	VT	Carol Ann Westphal	VT	Oct. 18, 2003
Daniel R. Fitzmaurice	VA	Emily B. Egbert	VA	Dec. 6, 2003
Bradford L. Eakin	PA	Lori A. Oetting	PA	Dec. 12, 2003
Phillip T. Andrews	VT	Beata M. Pietrzak	VT	Dec. 21, 2003

Mendon Planning Commission Report

There are several new faces on the Mendon Planning Commission. Many thanks are owed to outgoing chair Chris Corsones, and to long-time members Ken McEwan and Ron Lazzaro. Each contributed countless hours over many years of service to the Planning Commission. We thank them for their generosity of time and effort.

New members include Teri Corsones, Chair, Shawn Smith and Steve Ellerin. Ernie Smalley, Pete Polli, Frank Domenicucci and Neil Langer remain on the Planning Commission as knowledgeable veterans.

The Mendon Planning Commission has jurisdiction over subdivision permits and site plan approval for any use or structure other than one-family and two-family dwellings. In addition to these responsibilities, the Planning Commission is working on obtaining Rutland Regional Planning Commission certification for the Mendon Town Plan. Certification will enable the Town to be eligible for a variety of funding opportunities. The Mendon Planning Commission will also be working on drafting permanent Telecommunications Zoning Bylaws. If any town resident has an interest in either of these projects, please let a Planning Commission member know. We welcome your input. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Corsones, Chair

Lister's Report

The Town of Mendon will be conducting a complete town-wide reappraisal beginning April 1, 2004, to be completed for the 2005 Grand List. This is being done to bring all properties to current market value and to regain equity between all properties. Vermont Municipal Assessor will be providing this service. A representative of VMA will visit each property to do a complete interior and exterior inspection, take exterior measurements and photograph the exterior of the property. Each property owner will be notified by mail approximately two weeks prior to the visit. Expect a letter in the mail explaining the process more fully.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl McEwan, Chair

Recreation Committee Report

During the spring 2003, the ball field received its annual maintenance in preparation for the youth baseball season. A rototiller was used on the base paths and infield to help with weed removal. Green field mix was then added. This project will be repeated again in the Spring of 2004. Volunteers are greatly appreciated for this project. Other maintenance projects included trimming of trees, repairs to the horseshoe pits, and repair of the outfield fence.

The Recreation Committee would once again like to remind Mendon residents that there are over two miles of nature trails available year round for hiking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and other passive uses. Motorized vehicles are not allowed.

The Mendon Historical Society held their annual picnic and fundraiser at the recreation area this summer. Ted Pratt had the Mendon Emergency Response Trailer and equipment on display at this event.

You've probably heard that there is an effort to create a regional recreation center in the works. The project is now gaining momentum, with seven communities signed on to work on the initiative. The process is now at the point where consultants are developing a conceptual design and cost estimates for the facility. Residents of Mendon, Clarendon, Proctor, Rutland City, Rutland Town, Wallingford and West Rutland will then be asked whether they want their community to become inaugural members of the Rutland County Recreation District. Consultants have been hired to study the financial feasibility of the project and identify what facilities are needed. Bill Godair and I represented Mendon on the Regional Recreation Steering Committee.

In accordance with Vermont Statute Title 24, Chapter 122, seven interested municipalities created a Joint Survey Committee in the fall of 2003. The committee includes three representatives from each community who were appointed by the local legislative body. Members on the Joint Survey Committee from Mendon are Mike Barone, Therese Corsones, and Bill Godair. Additionally, in the fall, randomly selected residents from each of the seven communities were mailed surveys about household priorities for fitness facilities, social activities, day care, senior programs, types of amenities they would like to see in a recreation center, and their financial willingness to pay user fees, taxes, etc. to fund the center. The

survey will provide the information that the consultants need to address feasibility, potential sites and design.

Our desire is to create a dynamic, visible facility that offers something important for everyone, incorporating as many amenities as determined needed by the community. An initial concept of what the facility might include are an aquatics center with a leisure pool and competitive pool; a multi-faceted fieldhouse space and indoor walking/jogging track; program space; a wellness and fitness center; meeting rooms; teen space; space for the cultural arts; senior space; and space for non-profit partners.

This fall, residents in each of the seven communities will vote on whether to join an official Rutland County Recreation District. Key to the district is the power to borrow money and issue evidence of indebtedness. With a goal of being as self-sufficient as possible, the District would be managed by a Board of Supervisors, which would be comprised of one member from each municipality in the District. Each member would have one equal vote, regardless of the size of the population or the grand list. Once a district has been created, funding from outside sources (public and private) will be sought. For the amount not raised or funded, the District will pursue the issuance of bonds.

Our purpose is to strengthen local governments by promoting the more efficient and economical operation of recreation services within the participating municipalities by developing a regional recreation community center and other facilities. This would permit and encourage quality recreation and leisure opportunities that will promote positive lifestyle habits and contribute to the health and wellness of residents of and visitors to the District. In so doing, a new level of regionalism will be fostered through cooperation that will contribute to the economic health of the region by creating jobs. This in turn will lead to purchasing local goods and services and will encourage tourism. If you have any questions regarding this project or would like to become involved, please contact any member of the Joint Survey Committee or Larry Courcelle.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Al Curns for the many years of service he has given to the Mendon Recreation Area, as both a committee member and chairman. We wish him well on his retirement.

We presently have an opening on the committee. If you are interested, please contact any member of the Recreation Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
The Mendon Recreation Committee
Larry Courcelle, Chairman
Leo Lawrence
Dave Sharp

Cemetery Report

Cemetery space continues to dwindle at Tenney Cemetery on Meadowlake Drive. In 2003 we had two burials in the Tenney Cemetery. There were no plots sold in 2003. The Mendon 2015 Project will address future plans for cemetery space within the town.

Last year, the town increased the price of the remaining lots in the Tenney Cemetery to \$4,000 for a 10' X 20', \$2,000 for a 10' X 10' and \$1,000 for a 5' X 10'. The cost to mow the cemeteries continues to rise. In the past the revenue from the sale of plots has covered the cost of maintenance. Recently, revenue from the sale of lots has diminished. This year the town continued to budget \$2,500 to the Cemetery Reserve Fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Barone, Cemetery Commission Chairman

Zoning Administrator Report

This was a busy year with 73 permits issued. The breakdown of permits is 8 new single family homes, 24 assorted additions, sheds, garages and pools, 24 certificates of compliance, 6 septic systems, 6 signs, 4 change of use, and 1 commercial building.

Zoning information and some printable forms are now available on the town web site as well as in the Town office.

I would like to encourage residents to use the upcoming Green Up Day to remove unnecessary junk items from their land or to store items out of site of the road.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil Langer, Zoning Administrator

Dog License Report

144	Neutered males or spayed females	\$ 1039.00
3	Males not neutered	12.00
5	Females not spayed	20.00
	Late fees	28.00
152	Total Licenses	<u>\$1,099.00</u>

State of Vermont Rabies Control 152.00

Total to General Fund \$ 947.00

Please register your dog on or before April 1st, 2004 to avoid penalty. The State of Vermont requires a current rabies vaccination certificate to be on file at the Town Clerk's Office. Failure to register your dog is a violation of the Mendon Animal Control Ordinance.

Health Officer

There were two dog bites reported to the Health Officer in 2003. I would like to remind the residents that it is Vermont State Law as well as a Mendon Town Ordinance that you register your dog by April 1st each year. Upon registering your dog, current rabies vaccinations are on file at the Town Office, making this information available to the health care provider in the unfortunate case of a dog bite.

There was one bird found on the Notch Road that was infected with West Nile virus. There have been no documented cases of human illness caused by West Nile virus in Vermont. Dead birds can be reported to the Vermont Department of Health by calling 800-464-4343.

No health orders were issued this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Hebert, Health Officer

Elected Town Officers

Office	Official	Term Ends
Moderator (one year)	Cortland Corsones	2004
Town Clerk (three years)	Ann Singiser	2006
Treasurer (three years)	Ann Singiser	2004
Selectmen (three years)	Barry Isaacs	2004
	Michael Barone	2005
	Betsy Gray	2006
School Directors (three years)	Harry Chen, MD	2004
	David Doenges	2005
	Cortland Corsones	2006
Tax Collector (one year)	Almer Bridge	2004
Justice of the Peace (two years)	Lindsay MacCuaig	2004
	Judith Dark	2004
	Robert P. Darrow	2004
	Robert Eaton	2004
	Kristine Hubenet	2004
	Steve Long	2004
	Wesley Scott	2004
Constable (two years)	Norman "Ted" Pratt, Jr.	2004
Listers (three years)	Cheryl McEwan	2004
	Jody Wilcox	2005
	Julie Limmer	2006
Grand Juror (one year)	Norman "Ted" Pratt, Jr.	2004
Town Agent (one year)	Therese Corsones	2004

Appointed Town Officers

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Assistant Clerk	Nancy Gondella	
Road Commissioner	William Ellis	3/31/04
Fire Warden	Scott Bradley	1/31/05
Health Officer	Sara Hebert	3/31/06
Sewage Officer	Neil Langer	3/31/06
Town Service Officer	Diane Westebbe	4/14/04
Planning Commission (7 Member Board)		
	Ronald Lazarro	3/31/04
	Frank Domenicucci	3/31/04
	Therese Corsones	3/31/04
	Ernest Smalley	3/31/06
	Neil Langer	3/31/06
	Peter Polli	3/31/07
	Shawn Smith	3/31/07
Rutland Regional Planning		
Commission	Larry Courcelle	3/31/06
	Neil Langer (alternate)	3/31/05
Rutland County Solid Waste		
District Rep.	Vacancy	3/31/04
	Neil Langer (alternate)	3/31/06
Zoning Administrator	Neil Langer	3/31/04
Zoning Board	Jack Kennelly	3/31/06
of Adjustment	Mike Curran	3/31/07
	Andrew Zak	3/31/07
	DeWitt Woods	3/31/08
	Vacancy- Stephen Cosgrove(resigned 1/03)	
Alternates:	Therese Corsones	3/31/08
	Robert Eaton	3/31/08
	Vacancy	

Town Recreation	David Sharp	3/31/04
	Larry Courcelle (chair)	3/31/05
	Leo Lawrence	3/31/06
	Alan Curns - moved 8/03	3/31/07
Cemetery Commission Chairman	Michael Barone	3/31/04
Animal Control Officer	John Flory	3/07/04
Regional Ambulance Service	Diane Westebbe	3/31/07
Regional Transportation Commission	Donald Westebbe	3/31/07
	Therese Corsones	3/31/05
Emergency Management	Ted Pratt, Chair	3/07/05
	Scott Bradley	3/07/05
Emergency Response Program Coordinator	Sara Hebert	3/31/05
Board of Civil Authority:		
	(Town Clerk, Selectboard, Justices of the Peace)	
	Ann Singiser, Clerk of the Board	
	Barry Isaacs, Selectboard	
	Michael Barone, Selectboard	
	Betsy Gray, Selectboard	
	Lindsay MacCuaig, Justice	
	Judith Dark, Justice	
	Robert P. Darrow, Justice	
	Robert Eaton, Justice	
	Kristine Hubenet, Justice	
	Steve Long, Justice	
	Wesley Scott, Justice	

Minutes of Mendon Town Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2003
Cortina Inn Conference Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Moderator Cortland Corsones.

After the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Dotty Scott, Frank Ellis and Ray Reynolds.

The Moderator outlined the procedures to be followed during the meeting and introduced the Selectboard members, the School Directors, the Town Clerk and Treasurer, and himself.

On a motion by Ernie Smalley, seconded by Ted Pratt, the minutes of the 2002 Town Meeting and of the School District Meeting were accepted.

Article 1 – to act on Town Reports.

Ann Singiser presented the Treasurer's report highlighting new financial procedures and reporting that for the current year, revenue and expenses are on budget.

Barry Isaacs, Chair of the Selectboard, commended Cheryl McEwan, outgoing Selectboard member, on her service to the town. He then reported on the following items:

1. E-911 addresses in the town will be changed in order to adhere to statewide standards.
2. There are no delinquent taxes due that are more than one year in arrears.
3. A web site for the town with the address of mendonvt.org is under construction.
4. Steps are being taken by the town to conform to GASB 34, an accounting system in which all town assets will be inventoried.
5. Plans are underway to initiate a study to determine what the residents would like the town to look like in the year 2015. He introduced Bill Godair who will help with this project.

Bill Godair explained that the community will be involved in planning for the future of the town and will address needs such as a regional recreation center, a new town office, public gardens, housing, economic development, utilities and transportation. As a timeline for this project, he proposed that three public meetings be held in May, June and July 2003. The goal of these meetings will be to determine goals and action plans.

The remainder of the town reports were reviewed and accepted. Larry Courcelle, chair of the Recreation Committee, announced that volunteers are needed for the summer.

Article 2 – To whom and when shall taxes be paid?

Ann Singiser moved and David Cleary seconded that taxes be paid to the Town Treasurer on September 8, 2003 and March 8, 2004. These dates avoid the Labor Day weekend and the week of Town Meeting. The motion passed.

Jane Ross asked if taxes could be paid quarterly. Barry Isaacs responded that if adequate cash flow could be assured and payments to the school be kept on a timely schedule, it will be studied.

Article 3 – Shall the voters of the Town of Mendon authorize the town treasurer to combine the Truck Fund, Grader Fund, Backhoe Fund, and New Road Equipment Fund into a single Road Equipment Replacement Fund, and authorize the town treasurer to borrow up to \$150,000 from this fund for a period not to exceed 90 days to meet such expenditures in anticipation of the collection of taxes and to repay any amounts borrowed?

A motion to accept the article was made by Ted Pratt, seconded by Andrew Zak. Cort Jones cautioned the Selectboard to stay on schedule regarding contributions to the equipment replacement funds. Ernie Smalley noted that the funds are restricted and proposed that each of the individual funds to be included in the combined fund be set up as a sub accounts of the Road Equipment Replacement Fund. After some discussion concerning the integrity of each fund and the need for accountability to each individual fund, David Cleary, seconded by Peter Gray, moved to amend the motion by adding, "having in mind the

necessary purchases anticipated by each sub reserve account.” The amendment was accepted and the motion as amended passed.

Article 4 – To see if the Town will vote the Public Safety portion of the budget to meet expensed and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

David Cleary, seconded by Cort Jones, moved acceptance of the article. After clarifying that the Town pays \$60,000 to the City of Rutland for fire protection plus \$500 per call, the motion passed.

Article 5 – To see if the Town will vote the Community Infrastructure portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

Steve Singiser, seconded by Cort Jones, moved acceptance of the article. The motion passed.

Article 6 – To see if the Town will vote the Administrative portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

Ernie Smalley, seconded by Ted Pratt, moved acceptance of the motion. Barry Isaacs pointed out that for the first time, employees will contribute to the health insurance premiums. The motion passed.

Article 7- Shall the town provide appropriations requested by:

Barstow Boosters	1000
Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council	525
Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County	1000
Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice	2600
Rutland Economic Development Corporation	500
Rutland Mental Health	1200
Rutland Natural Resource Conservation District	75
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	400

Judy Barone, seconded by Steve Long, moved to accept the motion. Barry Isaacs pointed out that the Appropriations Committee presents the following changes: Boys and Girls Club, \$550 and Rutland

Economic Development Corporation, \$525. An amendment to accept the recommendation of the Appropriation Committee was accepted. The motion as amended passed.

Article 8 – To see if the town, in the interest of making Mendon more business friendly and creating jobs, will repeal the business personal property tax.

A motion by David Cleary, seconded by Ted Pratt, to accept the article passed.

Article 9 – Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to produce wood products, maintain wildlife habitat, protect water supplies, provide forest recreation, and for conservation education purposes?

A motion by Cort Jones, seconded by David Cleary, to accept the article passed.

Article 10 – To see what compensation the Town will vote for its officers, but permit the Selectmen, at their discretion, to set the hourly rate.

A motion by Ted Pratt seconded by Cort Jones, to accept the article passed.

Article 11 – To elect all necessary Town Officers.

The Moderator informed the gathering that the polls to vote on Town Officers by Australian ballot will be open the next day from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Article 12 - To transact any other legal business.

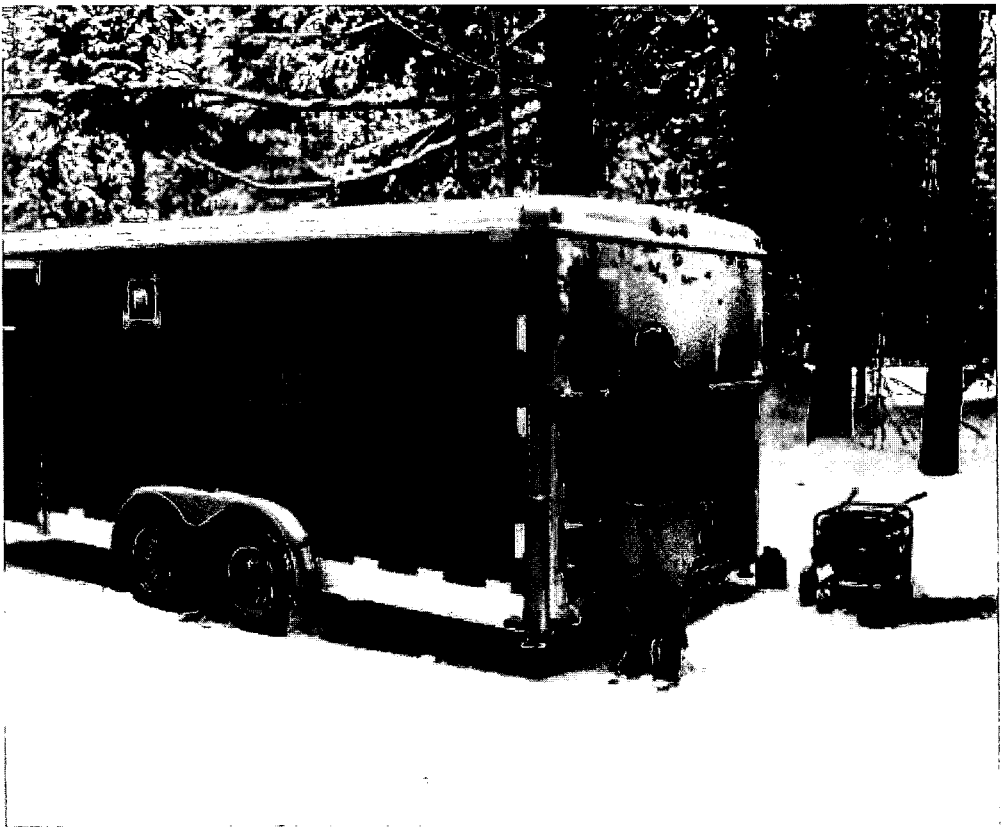
Cort Jones asked, that in light of the fact that a reappraisal of the town has not taken place since 1990 and that there is \$84,143 in the Reappraisal Fund, what is the Selectboard planning and what is its opinion about reappraisal. Ensuing discussion included observations that as time goes on, inequities in appraisals increase, reappraisal should level out assessments, a reappraisal will cost \$80 to \$90 per parcel, and property values have increased greatly since 1990. Barry Isaacs said that the State

of Vermont will require a reappraisal soon as our CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) falls below 80%. He added that if this does not happen in the next year, reappraisal will be put on the warning for next year's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cortland Corsones, Moderator
Michael Barone, Selectboard
Ann Singiser, Town Clerk

Following the Town Meeting, Representative Harry Chen gave a legislative report focusing on proposals before the legislature for Act 60 reform.



**Ted Pratt, Director of Public Safety
Mendon Emergency Response Trailer**

Back at the State House

Rep. Harry Chen

I am proud of all we accomplished last session, particularly in the areas of job creation, property tax reform, farm relief and balancing the budget. We achieved this without increasing taxes or sacrificing services to our most vulnerable. My goal is to continue working with other legislators and Governor Douglas to improve Vermont. That being said, we have much yet to do over the coming months.

In contrast to the recent frigid weather, things are heating up at the State House. Education funding continues to be an issue despite the \$50 million in tax relief; property taxes are still too high. We will work to reduce them further this session and examine the underlying causes, the property assessment process, the common level of appraisal and the high cost of education. A reminder here: residents must file a Declaration of Vermont Homestead form before April 15, 2004 to ensure accurate calculation of taxes and income sensitivity payment,

I am encouraged by the Governor's tax proposal. He proposes eliminating the capital gains exemption and a corporate tax loophole. He proposes using the additional revenue to reduce individual and corporate income taxes. I believe the reduction in corporate income tax merits some discussion.

Environmental issues will attract attention this session. The Conference Committee will continue work on consensus permit reform, while a new issue this year is stormwater runoff. The issue is complex and sometimes contentious; we must work for a collaborative solution that protects the environment while not unduly hindering development.

Many are unhappy with the Governor's recently released Energy Policy. The concerns relate to failure to follow the required process for community input and overwhelming emphasis on electricity. It is shortsighted to minimize renewable energy, alternative energy and energy conservation in any plan. The plan does little to address our long-term energy concerns and would likely increase energy costs for most Vermonters.

Healthcare was noticeably absent last session. We did tighten up the Certificate of Need process. I plan to attack the problem with some basic principles in mind. They are: expanded access, health promotion, consumer choice, cost containment without sacrificing quality and fair reimbursement for providers.

The Vermont economy is looking much better this year. Our jobless rate is among the lowest in our nation. The economists have upgraded our revenue estimates. Taken with the state's small surplus, Vermont is in much better shape than most states. This year's budget will still be difficult because of upward pressures based on current programs and continuing uncertainty in the economy. Our priorities will be to control spending while maintaining essential services.

Other issues up for discussion this year are genetically engineered crops, the right to farm, workers' compensation and school choice. I'd like to see some initiatives that facilitate healthy lifestyles in our youth. The benefits we will likely reap in terms of future productivity and reduced healthcare expenses make this a worthy investment.

Thanks again for your continuing support. I was energized by my first legislative session. I look forward to a productive second year and welcome any input from my constituents. Please contact me at the State House at 800-322-5616, at home at 802-7751695, or via email at harrylc@sover.net.

2003
School Reports

**Rutland Northeast
Supervisory Union**

**Frederic Duclos Barstow
Memorial School**

**Town of Mendon
School Directors**

Report of the Superintendent of Schools Barstow Joint School District

Next school year brings the beginning of Act 68, the new state aid formula. This law, passed with broad bipartisan support, is seen by most folks as a significant improvement to Act 60. While exact numbers are not available as this report goes to press, early estimates show significant decreases in your school property taxes. However, the law now places technical (vocational) education costs in your local town school budget. This makes your town school budget appear to increase more than it actually does. Please rest assured that we get other revenues from the state to offset these vo-tech costs.

Across the state, school enrollments are going down and this remains a concern for us. However, families moving into Mendon and Chittenden plus a few tuition students have kept your numbers stable. I think that Barstow is a draw for parents. Rutland Northeast schools are very close to state averages on teacher to student ratios.

Blue Cross/ Blue Shield rates went up 9.75%. This is a lower level of increase than in earlier years but this is still a serious problem. Many of us are disappointed that the federal and state governments have not moved on this nationwide crisis. Comprehensive health care reform is beyond the scope of school districts, businesses and most citizens to solve. For your information, our employees must pay deductibles as well as co-pay 20% of their medical expenses.

As part of our goals, we have expanded our early education programs. Money spent in the early years is returned four-fold in later school and adult years. We now have solid options available to students throughout the supervisory union. Barstow has expanded their capability in the past two years.

Another major goal is the implementation of the new federal education law. While the intentions were certainly noble, the law is drastically underfunded. What this means is an "unfunded mandate" where the costs are passed on to state and local governments. Despite Vermont's scoring an average of thirty percentile points higher than the nation (and our lead is increasing) on state tests every school in the state will ultimately be declared a "failure" due to flaws in the law. We continue to work with our state and federal governments on these issues. The Rutland Northeast

board asked us to look at whether we should reject the federal money because the costs outweigh the benefits.

We can take justifiable pride in many of our stellar student performances such as Odyssey of the Mind. They match the best in the nation. At the same time, we are just as concerned with giving the best opportunities to all children regardless of their unique needs..

In inservice, we have concentrated on improving our classroom assessment practices. We have good performance on our commercial standardized tests and our students consistently score above the national averages at all grade levels. In fact, Barstow is consistently in the top ten, if not the top five, schools across the state.

The Barstow board meets on the third Monday at 7:00pm at the school. Both the Mendon and Chittenden boards meet at the school immediately prior to the Barstow board meetings. We welcome your participation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of your board members.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Mathis
Superintendent of Schools

**RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
2004-2005 ASSESSMENT CALCULATION**

TOTAL ASSESSMENT TO BE CALCULATED FY 2005

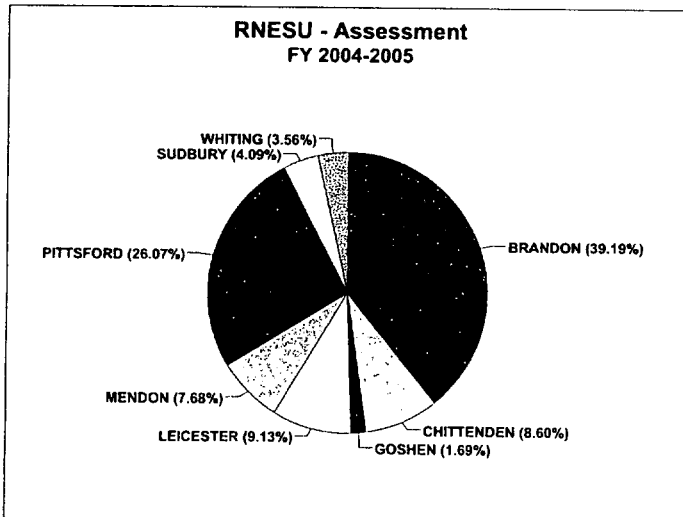
\$787,455.96

SCHOOL DISTRICT	40-DAY ADM-10/03	PERCENT	AMOUNT
BRANDON	708.51	39.19%	308,584.30
CHITTENDEN	155.46	8.60%	67,709.02
GOSHEN	30.47	1.69%	13,270.90
LEICESTER	165.01	9.13%	71,868.42
MENDON	138.86	7.68%	60,479.06
PITTSFORD	471.26	26.07%	205,252.49
SUDBURY	73.98	4.09%	32,221.23
WHITING	64.45	3.56%	28,070.54
	1808.00	100.00%	787,455.96

TOTAL ASSESSMENT CALCULATED FY 2004

\$773,912.68

SCHOOL DISTRICT	40-DAY ADM-10/02	PERCENT	AMOUNT	CHANGE	PERCENT
BRANDON	736.74	40.00%	309,554.99	(970.68)	-0.31%
CHITTENDEN	144.60	7.85%	60,756.37	6,952.64	11.44%
GOSHEN	33.91	1.84%	14,247.92	(977.02)	-6.86%
LEICESTER	173.22	9.40%	72,781.60	(913.18)	-1.25%
MENDON	134.80	7.32%	56,638.72	3,840.33	6.78%
PITTSFORD	475.55	25.82%	199,811.16	5,441.33	2.72%
SUDBURY	78.49	4.26%	32,979.03	(757.80)	-2.30%
WHITING	64.60	3.51%	27,142.89	927.65	3.42%
	1841.91	100.00%	773,912.68	13,543.28	1.75%



**RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
2004-2005 BUDGET WORKSHEET**

ACCOUNT NAME	2001/2002 ACTUAL	2002/2003 ACTUAL	2003/2004 BUDGET	2004/2005 PROPOSED
EST. FUND BALANCE FWD.	34,984.77	23,811.96	8,000.00	29,114.94
ASSESSMENTS	722,030.71	769,746.16	773,912.68	787,455.96
INTEREST INCOME	15,324.33	6,293.01	10,000.00	6,000.00
GRANT REIMBURSEMENTS (TITLE 1 & CSR)	8,015.00	8,015.00	37,531.00	35,215.00
PRIOR YEAR REFUNDS	0.00	1,434.63	0.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	780,354.81	809,300.76	829,443.68	857,785.90

EXPENDITURE RECAP

TOTAL PUPIL SUPPORT	23,395.97	17,802.30	28,400.00	28,400.00
TOTAL CURR & STAFF DEVEL	197,900.41	199,385.60	238,775.47	247,630.39
TOTAL BOARD EXPENSES	6,928.54	14,674.61	12,700.00	20,500.00
TOTAL SUPT'S. OFFICE	156,421.44	161,390.25	166,717.87	171,407.42
TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	105,142.55	101,314.19	109,911.71	119,104.96
TOTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	182,375.83	184,240.74	192,227.03	198,618.85
TOTAL MAINT./REPAIRS	86,014.47	93,378.13	80,711.60	72,124.27
GRAND TOTALS	758,179.21	772,185.82	829,443.68	857,785.90

**RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
2004-2005 BUDGET WORKSHEET**

ACCOUNT NAME	2001/2002 ACTUAL	2002/2003 ACTUAL	2003/2004 BUDGET	2004/2005 PROPOSED
PUPIL SUPPORT				
BB PATH ADVANCE	457.40	733.70	400.00	400.00
STANDARDIZED TESTING	22,938.57	17,068.60	28,000.00	28,000.00
TOTAL PUPIL SUPPORT	23,395.97	17,802.30	28,400.00	28,400.00
CURR & STAFF DEVEL.				
SECRETARY	22,088.30	22,972.18	23,660.94	24,370.77
TECHNOLOGY	34,284.84	35,100.00	57,440.80	63,448.00
CURRICULUM FICA	10,334.81	10,829.61	12,643.14	13,350.16
CURRICULUM HEALTH	26,293.00	20,294.25	29,593.73	28,433.90
CURRICULUM DENTAL	658.13	1,045.08	1,478.68	1,605.78
CURRICULUM WORKERS COMP	0.00	0.00	743.71	506.08
CURRICULUM UNEMPLOYMENT	213.13	233.20	304.00	128.00
CURRICULUM RETIREMENT	3,290.73	3,533.83	4,599.61	4,951.79
DIRECTOR SALARIES	65,865.54	68,500.12	70,555.11	72,671.76
TUITION/WORKSHOP REIMBURSEMENT	4,656.42	3,675.38	7,500.00	7,500.00
TRAVEL- C & SD OFFICE	2,797.37	4,061.47	4,000.00	4,000.00
DUES	615.78	335.00	500.00	500.00
DISTRICT FESTIVALS	1,274.44	0.00	500.00	500.00
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	218.13	0.00	250.00	250.00
IN-SERVICE - INSTRUCT STAFF	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
MEDIA CLERK	14,518.08	16,936.58	13,613.00	14,021.39
DISTRICT MULTI MEDIA SUPPLIES	10,791.71	11,868.90	10,892.75	10,892.75
TOTAL CURR & STAFF DEVEL	197,900.41	199,385.60	238,775.47	247,630.39
BOARD EXPENSES				
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HONORARIA	700.00	2,400.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
MANDATORY EMPLOYMENT TESTING	648.00	552.00	900.00	900.00
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSE	1,567.90	837.35	1,100.00	1,100.00
LEGAL SERVICES	1,445.96	2,417.26	2,000.00	2,000.00
DUE PROCESS INSURANCE COVERAGE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PLAN	0.00	1,318.00	1,700.00	6,000.00
NEGOTIATING EXPENSES/PORTFOLIO TRAINING	330.11	0.00	500.00	4,000.00
COMMUNITY SURVEY/WEB DESIGN	236.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
DISTRICTS FIXED ASSET INVENTORY	0.00	5,050.00	0.00	0.00
AUDIT	2,000.00	2,100.00	2,900.00	2,900.00
TOTAL BOARD EXPENSES	6,928.54	14,674.61	12,700.00	20,500.00
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE				
SUPERINTENDENT SALARY	91,324.74	94,977.74	97,827.18	100,762.00
PERSONNEL OFFICER	27,301.56	28,393.56	29,245.35	30,122.71
SUPERINTENDENT ADMIN ASST	27,301.56	27,655.29	29,245.35	30,122.71
SUPT OFFICE - SUBSTITUTES	0.00	1,436.00	500.00	500.00
SUPERINTENDENT PROFESSIONAL DEV.	746.50	1,387.95	1,200.00	1,200.00
SUPERINTENDENT - TRAVEL & WORKSHOPS	4,165.69	3,890.77	4,000.00	4,000.00
SUPERINTENDENT DUES	1,281.00	539.94	700.00	700.00
GRANT WRITING COSTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
VSA SERVICE FEE	3,104.00	3,109.00	3,100.00	3,100.00
PUBLICATIONS	1,196.39	0.00	900.00	900.00
TOTAL SUPTS. OFFICE	156,421.44	161,390.25	166,717.87	171,407.42

**RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
2004-2005 BUDGET WORKSHEET**

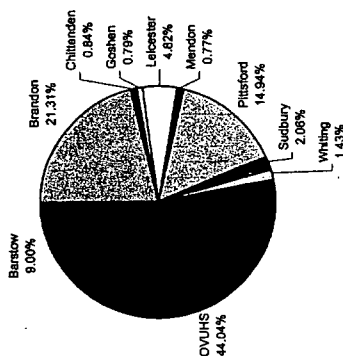
ACCOUNT NAME	2001/2002 ACTUAL	2002/2003 ACTUAL	2003/2004 BUDGET	2004/2005 PROPOSED
FRINGE BENEFITS SUPT & BUS OFFICES				
HEALTH INSURANCE	67,997.11	64,079.70	66,851.32	75,207.89
SOCIAL SECURITY	20,759.59	22,244.51	23,506.15	24,510.92
ADMIN. INSURANCE	2,896.29	2,513.01	2,900.00	2,900.00
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	9,745.40	9,986.35	10,910.89	11,418.21
WORKMENS COMPENSATION	1,317.64	907.80	1,422.20	954.47
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	428.91	418.70	486.40	204.80
DENTAL INSURANCE	1,652.56	1,004.56	2,334.75	2,408.67
CLERICAL IN-SERVICE/WORKSHOPS/CLASSES	345.05	159.56	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	105,142.55	101,314.19	109,911.71	119,104.96
BUSINESS OFFICE				
POSTAGE	5,956.56	2,989.64	5,000.00	4,000.00
ADVERTISING	6,639.06	5,612.14	6,000.00	6,000.00
SUPPLIES	9,660.03	8,224.52	11,500.00	10,500.00
OFFICE EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	2,139.60	1,800.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
SOFTWARE/HARDWARE	4,415.20	5,998.98	4,000.00	4,000.00
BUSINESS MANAGERS SALARY	61,537.06	63,998.48	65,918.43	67,895.98
MANAGER SECRETARY SALARY	4,352.40	9,399.69	9,324.52	9,604.27
TUITION/DUES BUSINESS MGR.	887.19	895.58	1,000.00	1,000.00
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	33,184.84	34,512.40	35,547.71	36,614.14
BOOKKEEPER SALARIES	26,837.44	21,817.52	22,242.51	22,909.79
BOOKKEEPER SALARIES	24,919.70	25,916.28	26,693.86	31,094.68
PRINTING	670.00	1,397.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
TRAVEL - OFFICE STAFF	1,176.75	1,678.51	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	182,375.83	184,240.74	192,227.03	198,618.85
MAINT./OPERATIONS				
TELEPHONE	5,974.49	6,153.68	8,000.00	7,000.00
ELECTRICITY	8,532.52	8,861.60	9,000.00	9,000.00
LEASE/PURCHASE PAYMENT	32,100.00	32,100.00	1.00	0.00
PARKING LOT RESURFACING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HEAT	3,401.13	4,793.51	6,000.00	6,000.00
UPKEEP OF GROUND (PLOW/MOW)	2,970.60	3,511.00	2,500.00	3,500.00
WATER & SEWER	468.84	406.25	500.00	500.00
GARBAGE REMOVAL	1,097.40	1,172.16	1,100.00	1,100.00
CUSTODIAN SALARIES	6,476.04	7,744.50	7,438.50	8,536.76
CUSTODIAN FICA	495.27	592.43	569.05	653.06
CUSTODIAN HEALTH	0.00	0.00	1,569.41	1,765.58
CUSTODIAN DENTAL	0.00	0.00	102.76	102.76
CUSTODIAN UNEMPLOYMENT	0.00	54.80	56.53	25.60
CUSTODIAN WORKERS COMP	195.57	297.40	392.75	293.66
CUSTODIAN RETIREMENT	254.80	297.56	371.93	426.84
ASBESTOS MAINTENANCE	0.00	2,000.00	300.00	300.00
BUILDING REPAIRS	10,682.01	11,734.25	23,500.00	15,000.00
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	552.07	791.49	800.00	800.00
MAINT. CONTRACTS/EQUIP. REPAIR	11,600.05	11,229.21	16,500.00	14,000.00
INSURANCE - PROPERTY/LIABILITY	1,213.68	1,638.29	2,009.67	3,120.00
TOTAL MAINT./REPAIRS	86,014.47	93,378.13	80,711.60	72,124.27
GRAND TOTALS	758,179.21	772,185.82	829,443.68	857,785.90

Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union
Proposed FY2005
Special Services Funding - Grant Revenues and Assessments

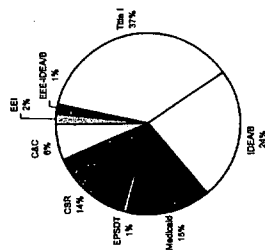
<u>Total Special Assessments</u>	<u>FY2005 Proposed Total Assessments</u>
	\$4,127,513.26
Brandon	\$879,731.23
Chittenden	\$34,724.55
Goshen	\$32,467.98
Leicester	\$189,024.84
Mendon	\$31,884.17
Pittsford	\$816,769.81
Sudbury	\$85,070.02
Whiting	\$58,986.38
OYUHS	\$1,817,597.69
Barstow	\$371,274.80
	\$4,127,513.26

Grant Revenues:	
EEL	\$30,639.33
EEE-IDEA/B	\$20,875.00
Title I	\$545,807.48
IDEA/B	\$350,749.20
Medicaid	\$215,551.74
EPSDT	\$12,614.07
CSR	\$210,707.42
C&C	\$95,660.02
	\$1,482,604.26
Total Special Services	\$5,610,117.53

Special Education Proposed Assessment
\$4,127,513.26



Grant Revenues - Proposed FY2005
\$1,482,604.26



Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union
Summary of Discipline Policy
(Annual Report required by Safe Schools Act, 16 VSA 165 (J))

The school is a community. It is responsible for education of those children who attend and, therefore, it must establish and enforce guidelines and procedures that provide for an orderly learning atmosphere. There must be a set of procedures for dealing with inappropriate student behavior; including ones for detention, suspension, and expulsion.

Principals and teachers shall have the authority to establish and enforce such rules and procedures as are consistent with state laws, regulations, local policies and board directives.

Among these actions are:

Immediate removal: A student may be summarily removed if there is an imminent danger to the student, other school personnel, or the school property. Due process rights will be accorded as soon as practical following the summary suspension.

Short Term Suspension: The Superintendent, principal, or a teacher (in the absence of the principal), may suspend a student from the school as a reasonable form of punishment, or for the purpose of securing or maintaining order in the school. Suspensions under this section shall not exceed 10 consecutive days. Due process rights are provided to the student.

Long Term Suspension: Long term suspension is defined as exclusion from school for ten days or more, but for a set period of time, not to exceed 90 days. Due process rights provided to the student are the same as those provided under expulsion.

Expulsion: The dismissal of a student for the remainder of the school year, or up to 90 days, (or in the case of a weapons violation, one year) shall occur only upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and concurrence of a majority of the Board of School Directors. Due process rights shall be available to a student whose dismissal is under consideration.

Early Care and Educational Opportunities for Children	
Addison County Community Child Care Support Services	388-4304
Addison County Family, Infant, Toddler Project	388-1437, 1-800-639-1577
Addison County Headstart	388-9881
Addison County Parent/Child Center	388-3171
Addison County WIC/Well-Child Clinic	388-4644
Addison Social Rehabilitative Services (SRS)	388-4660
Addison Children's Upstream Services (CUPS)	382-8893, 388-3171
Rutland County Family, Infant, Toddler Project	747-0539, 1-800-974-2034
Rutland County Headstart	775-8225
Rutland County Parent/Child Center	775-9711
Rutland County WIC/Well-Child Clinic	786-5811
Rutland Children's Upstream Services (CUPS)	775-2395
Rutland Social Rehabilitative Services (SRS)	786-5817
Barstow Preschool serves Chittenden and Mendon	773-3763
Brandon Early Essential Education serves Brandon, Leicester, Sudbury	247-4354
Pittsford Early Essential Education serves Pittsford, Chittenden, Mendon	483-2062
Whiting Preschool serves Leicester, Sudbury and Whiting	623-7991
Child Care Resource and Referral	775-9711
Child Development Clinic	1-800-660-4427
Kids on the Move	775-7612
Smart Moves	247-9500
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	1-800-244-5373

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

AGENCY	PHONE	TYPES OF SERVICES
Addison Co Women in Crisis	388-4205	Assistance to women and families
Adult Education/Diploma	775-0617	For students 21 or older interested in pursuing an adult diploma
Boys & Girls Club of Rutland Co	773-1902	Teen drop-in center; mentoring
Brattleboro Retreat	800-345-5550	Support, treatment, counseling, respite services for teens
Counseling Service of Addison County	388-6751 388-7641	Individual, group, & family counseling, psychiatric evaluations,
Evergreen Center	775-4388	Drug & alcohol treatment
HerStory House	775-3232	Women's shelter, support for women & families dealing with domestic abuse
Infoline	747-9961	Listing of health and human services resources
Northeastern Family Institute	802-655-9013	Support, treatment, counseling, respite services for teens
Outright VT	800-452-2428	Support for gay, lesbian, and bisexual students
Police (Brandon)Police (Pittsford)	B: 247-5723 P: 773-9101	Law enforcement services
Police (VT State Police)	R: 773-9101 M: 388-4919	Law enforcement services
PRIME	773-4225 773-4365	Conflict mediation; respite for families. Some services provided at school.
Public Defenders Office	R: 773-5823 M: 388-4656	Support for students dealing with the legal system
Rape Crisis (Rutland County)	775-3232	Hot line & support for women dealing with issues related to sexual assault
Rape Crisis Hot Line (Addison County)	388-4205	Hot line & support for women dealing with issues related to sexual assault
Rutland Area Community Services	775-2381 775-1000	Individual, group, & family counseling, psychiatric evaluation & treatment
Rutland Area Prevention Coalition	775-4199x190	Countywide organization to coordinate substance abuse prevention programs
Rutland County Victim's Advocate	786-2531	Assistance to victims of crime
Rutland Reg. Board for Family Svcs.	776-4340 x116,117	Resources and Support for families
SRS: Department of Social & Rehabilitative Services	R: 786-5817 M: 388-4660	Child protective services & foster care placement
The Lund Family Center	802-864-7467	Parent/child center; teen pregnancy preparation
Vocational Rehabilitation	R: 786-5866 M: 388-4671	Provides support for people with disabilities to prepare them for work
VSAC	800-642-3177	Preparation for college & financial assistance
VT Department of Employment & Training	786-5837	Assistance with job finding and job finding skills
VT Department of Health	786-5876	Pregnant teens; HIV testing; other health services
VT Parent Information Center	773-2023	Provides support & information to parents regarding educational issues

Information as required by 16 VSA 165 (2G)

R=Rutland, M=Middlebury

Early Reading Instruction

Reading services in our elementary schools continue to include professional and paraprofessional services to children in the area of literacy as well as consultation to teachers. The early education and kindergarten programs provide a variety of experiences with reading and writing that will enable all students to become emergent readers and writers. Concepts about print, phonological awareness, environmental print reading, name and letter recognition are the focus of instruction. Summer services are available for students at-risk. Parent training and informational sessions are offered throughout the school year. Home/School Coordination Services are available to all schools.

Most of our primary grade teachers and special educators have taken extensive training in early literacy instruction, including Guided Reading and Writing. The goal of this program is to provide professional development for teachers and to help students become stronger readers and writers. The focus of instruction for teachers is assessment of children's strengths and needs, matching book levels to student's needs, teaching for strategies, and organization and management of the classroom using Guided Reading and Writing. Throughout the school year, consultation to teachers and direct service to children is provided. Most of our teacher and special educators have also taken extensive training in phonological awareness and have experience with various multi-sensory, sequential, systematic phonics programs. Extended-year services are also available for older students who may be at-risk.

Information as required by 16 VSA 165 (2E)

**BARSTOW MEMORIAL SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S LETTER
2003-2004**

Thanks to the support of the Chittenden and Mendon communities, Barstow Memorial School continued to upgrade the facility this year by installing energy efficient storm windows and applying much needed exterior paint. We've especially appreciated the addition of the storm windows with the recent cold spell that we've experienced. What a difference!

I am pleased to report that we have met or exceeded our 2000-2003 Action Plan goals. In addition, assessment data shows that our students continue to perform well above state and national averages. In recognition of exemplary elementary and middle school performance on statewide assessment results, Barstow was again recognized by the Vermont Business Roundtable as a Medallion School. This is the third consecutive year that Barstow has received this recognition. An award such as the Medallion Award validates the hard work of our students and faculty.

A new Action Plan for 2003-2006 was developed this year with emphasis on areas of need such as reading analysis and interpretation; writing strategies; proficient use of technology; mathematical concepts and problem solving; and social/emotional competence. Progress toward meeting these goals will be reviewed annually in an effort to assist our students in achieving the high expectations set in Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities. Throughout the 2002-2003 school year, attendance for all students in grades K-8 averaged 86 percent, with two student suspensions.

On behalf of our students and staff, I'd like to thank you for your continued support of our school. It is evident that the communities of Chittenden and Mendon take pride in their school and place great value on the education of their children.

Respectively submitted,
Karen E. Prescott

2003 Student Assessment Results

Terra Nova Assessment

The *Terra Nova Multiple Assessment* is a norm-referenced, standardized test, in its fourth year of use in Rutland Northeast. A great advantage of this test is that it allows citizens to see how Rutland Northeast achievement test scores compare to the nation. Further, you can see whether a group of students is improving as compared to the nation.

In looking at the scores for your school, the national average is 50. If your grade level scores increase as you read across a line, that means that class of students improved, as compared to the national average, as they moved from one grade to the next. The **bold** printed number is the grade the students were in when tested in Spring, 2003. The regular print numbers are the grade levels for earlier year scores. A score of 60 for a grade level grouping is excellent and a score of 70 or above is exceptional.

Cautions: Standardized tests are important but they do not measure all the important things that we teach. They also do not test the various skills and talents of individual students. Further, attitudes, behaviors, school tone and the like are not well represented by standardized tests.

Also, year-to-year comparisons become less reliable as the number of children tested within a grade level goes down. Twenty is about the lowest stable class size and classes of less than ten show erratic score patterns.

BARSTOW

TerraNova Scores - Total Reading MNCE

Grade	Class Year	Spring 00	Spring 01	Spring 02	Spring 03
3	Class of 2012				65.9
3, 4	Class of 2011			62.8	
3, 4, 5	Class of 2010		68.6		74.2
3, 4, 5, 6	Class of 2009	66.9		75.2	69.5
3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Class of 2008		68.3	69.7	68.4

TerraNova Scores - Total Language MNCE

Grade	Class Year	Spring 00	Spring 01	Spring 02	Spring 03
3	Class of 2012				64.6
3, 4	Class of 2011			60.4	
3, 4, 5	Class of 2010		65.3		65.1
3, 4, 5, 6	Class of 2009	61.5		68.6	69.8
3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Class of 2008		67.2	70.3	65.5

TerraNova Scores - Total Math MNCE

Grade	Class Year	Spring 00	Spring 01	Spring 02	Spring 03
3	Class of 2012				70.0
3, 4	Class of 2011			61.9	
3, 4, 5	Class of 2010		68.2		68.5
3, 4, 5, 6	Class of 2009	64.4		66.8	68.9
3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Class of 2008		61.4	72.1	64.4

New Standards Reference Examination

The New Standards Reference Examination is required by the State of Vermont and is administered in reading and mathematics in grades 4, 8, and 10.

The test results indicating the percent of students who “mastered” the examinations are available on the state education department’s site and are not reported here. State mastery levels are not consistent from grade to grade or from year to year due to changes in test forms.

The scores below show how local students scores in relation to national averages over the past four years. The national average is set at 50, a score of 60 is excellent and a score of 70 is exceptional.

Cautions: Remember that each fourth grade class is different. These tests do not compare the same students over time like the TerraNova tests. Thus, scores will not always show a consistent pattern. Twenty is about the lowest stable class size and classes of less than ten show erratic score patterns.

New Standards Reference Exam – MNCE

Grade 4	N*	Spring 2000	N*	Spring 2001	N*	Spring 2002	N*	Spring 2003
Reading	35	72	32	77	26	77	30	86
Math	35	81	31	76	26	78	30	87
Grade 8	N*	Spring 2000	N*	Spring 2001	N*	Spring 2002	N*	Spring 2003
Reading	32	70	36	68	39	75	40	80
Math	32	78	36	76	39	81	39	92

*N = Number of Students Tested

Vermont Developmental Reading Assessment

The Vermont Developmental Reading Assessment is required by the State for students in Grade 2. It is a performance-based test that reports the percentage of students who met the state’s second grade standard for reading. National norms are not provided for this test.

Vermont Developmental Reading Assessment

% Passing	
Barstow	State
83%	82%

BARSTOW MEMORIAL SCHOOL
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE
2002-2003 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
2003-2004 BUDGET AND PROJECTION
2004-2005 BUDGET

	Budget 2002 - 2003	Actual 2002 - 2003	Budget 2003 - 2004	Projection 2003 - 2004	Budget 2004 - 2005
REVENUE					
Beginning General Fund Balance (Deficit)	10,223	12,116	(12,783)	18,624	(18,181)
Assessment - Chittenden	1,262,207	1,262,208	1,345,492	1,345,492	1,443,042
Assessment - Mendon	1,119,316	1,119,316	1,241,993	1,241,993	1,279,678
Tuition Receipts	6,250	0	3,710	18,087	29,707
Interest Income	0	6,773	0	0	0
Enrichment Fund	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Prior Year Refund	0	556	0	0	0
TOTAL REVENUE	2,422,997	2,425,968	2,603,412	2,649,197	2,759,246
EXPENDITURES					
School Board	298,107	314,072	337,484	379,835	360,898
Instruction & Administration	1,275,285	1,272,991	1,266,142	1,283,757	1,348,610
Instructional Support	45,572	44,579	48,310	48,310	51,460
Student Support	74,828	75,391	78,815	78,815	79,200
Health Services	500	569	1,250	1,250	1,250
Food Services	6,000	8,578	7,000	8,600	8,600
Transportation	107,173	106,594	105,229	108,296	108,194
Buildings & Grounds	166,712	210,008	206,523	234,046	225,086
Employee Benefits	310,574	315,113	381,556	350,065	392,773
Loan Payments	138,246	59,449	171,102	174,402	183,175
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,422,997	2,407,344	2,603,412	2,667,377	2,759,246
EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN					
SCHOOL BOARD					
Expenses	2,200	2,565	2,200	2,200	2,200
Expenses - 504 P/R	0	2,871	7,200	7,200	7,488
Expenses - 504	385	80	385	385	385
Employee Advertising	3,000	3,662	3,000	3,000	3,000
Employee Testing	150	168	150	150	150
VSBA Dues	1,400	1,200	1,400	1,400	1,400
Special Education	286,922	301,602	318,649	361,000	343,275
Legal Services	2,500	125	2,500	2,500	500
Audit Fees	1,550	1,800	2,000	2,000	2,500
TOTAL SCHOOL BOARD	298,107	314,072	337,484	379,835	360,898

BARSTOW MEMORIAL SCHOOL
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE
2002-2003 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
2003-2004 BUDGET AND PROJECTION
2004-2005 BUDGET

	Budget 2002 - 2003	Actual 2002 - 2003	Budget 2003 - 2004	Projection 2003 - 2004	Budget 2004 - 2005
INSTRUCTION & ADMINISTRATION					
Teachers	984,079	970,197	988,766	1,002,532	1,037,338
Athletic Program - Salaries	9,500	11,840	13,200	13,200	14,300
Teacher Aides	29,804	40,581	28,315	30,664	35,281
Summer School	0	0	3,400	3,400	3,400
Teacher Substitutes	13,500	20,140	15,000	16,500	15,000
Teaching Supplies	17,725	10,070	16,735	16,735	15,935
Office Supplies	14,000	17,815	13,000	13,000	13,800
Textbooks	8,979	6,056	5,352	5,352	6,241
Periodicals	5,879	4,014	2,234	2,234	2,493
Learning Resources	7,120	4,867	3,685	3,685	5,531
Educational Technology	13,438	25,095	4,000	4,000	7,410
Instructional Equipment	5,122	1,549	760	760	12,444
Instructional Equipment Repair	1,960	2,292	710	710	500
Student Furniture	4,250	1,566	600	600	1,190
Graduation Expenses	750	1,125	750	750	750
Enrichment Fund	25,000	28,225	25,000	25,000	25,000
Athletic Program - Expenses	6,150	3,781	3,000	3,000	2,500
Tuition Reimbursement	15,000	12,957	20,000	20,000	20,000
Instructional Staff Improvement	3,000	1,260	3,000	3,000	3,000
Library Books	0	2,362	3,500	3,500	5,406
Audio Visual	500	399	500	500	500
Travel	1,740	112	257	257	1,190
Principal	71,000	71,775	73,928	73,928	75,887
Principal Secretary	22,725	23,100	23,793	23,793	24,423
Summer Clerical	1,262	949	1,262	1,262	1,295
Principal Substitute Secretary	357	709	350	350	350
Assistant Principal	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	3,200
Principal Support	0	0	1,000	1,000	3,000
HS Sped Travel	1,200	0	1,200	1,200	1,200
Enrichment P/R	0	0	600	600	600
Postage	2,000	813	2,000	2,000	2,000
Printing	0	1,634	1,000	1,000	1,000
Administration Travel p/r	400	150	400	400	400
Administration Travel	750	53	750	750	750
Headmaster Dues	400	725	400	400	400
Miscellaneous Administration Expense	1,200	527	1,200	1,200	800
Field Trip Travel	1,755	2,549	1,755	1,755	1,755
Hulbert Travel	0	0	0	0	0
Athletic Travel	2,341	1,306	2,341	2,341	2,341
TOTAL INSTRUCTION & ADMINISTRATION	1,275,285	1,272,991	1,266,142	1,283,757	1,348,610
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT					
Librarian	44,012	42,854	46,750	46,750	49,900
BCBC	0				
Homework Club	1,560	1,725	1,560	1,560	1,560
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT	45,572	44,579	48,310	48,310	51,460

BARSTOW MEMORIAL SCHOOL
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE
2002-2003 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
2003-2004 BUDGET AND PROJECTION
2004-2005 BUDGET

	Budget 2002 - 2003	Actual 2002 - 2003	Budget 2003 - 2004	Projection 2003 - 2004	Budget 2004 - 2005
STUDENT SUPPORT					
Nurse Salary	33,800	33,800	36,700	36,700	36,000
Guidance Salary	41,028	41,591	42,115	42,115	43,200
TOTAL STUDENT SUPPORT	<u>74,828</u>	<u>75,391</u>	<u>78,815</u>	<u>78,815</u>	<u>79,200</u>
HEALTH SERVICES					
Physical Therapy	0	0	50	50	50
Supplies	500	569	1,200	1,200	1,200
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES	<u>500</u>	<u>569</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>
FOOD SERVICE					
Cook Salaries	0	2,057	4,000	4,000	4,000
Other Cook Salaries	3,000	2,850	0	0	0
Propane Gas				600	600
Hot Lunch	3,000	3,671	3,000	4,000	4,000
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	<u>6,000</u>	<u>8,578</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>8,600</u>	<u>8,600</u>
TRANSPORTATION					
Bus Driver Salaries	47,607	48,673	45,300	45,300	52,052
Bus Driver Substitute Salaries	2,000	632	2,000	2,000	2,000
Bus Driver Extra	0	0	0	0	0
Physicals	350	363	500	500	0
Liscensing	0	130	0	0	0
Bus Driver In-Service	500	0	500	500	500
Maintenance	15,500	13,984	15,500	15,500	15,500
Tires	2,500	1,668	2,500	2,500	2,500
Lubricants	500	687	750	750	750
Bus Insurance	3,800	6,698	3,800	5,867	7,040
Supervisor Travel	200	262	200	200	200
Lease	26,716	25,553	26,679	26,679	19,151
Gasoline	500	83	500	500	500
Diesel Fuel	7,000	7,863	7,000	8,000	8,000
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	<u>107,173</u>	<u>106,594</u>	<u>105,229</u>	<u>108,296</u>	<u>108,194</u>
BUILDING & GROUNDS					
Telephone	5,500	5,227	6,100	6,100	6,100
Electricity	25,000	31,788	27,000	27,000	27,000
Heat	25,000	24,469	32,000	32,000	32,000
Custodial Salaries	62,290	68,387	78,501	74,819	75,430
Substitute Salaries	4,000	5,505	4,000	4,000	2,000
Mosing				4,200	4,200
Other Maintenance Salaries	0	330	0	0	0
Water Testing	400	673	600	600	600
Building Repair, General	6,500	26,499	17,200	20,700	13,100
Custodial Supplies	12,000	14,692	14,000	14,000	14,000
Contracted Services	9,100	8,337	11,200	11,400	20,592
Upkeep of Grounds	4,000	6,215	4,000	4,000	4,000
Equipment Repair	5,472	5,563	5,472	5,472	5,472
New Equipment	2,100	1,558	1,100	14,345	2,100
Property Insurance	5,350	10,764	5,350	15,410	18,492
TOTAL BUILDING & GROUNDS	<u>166,712</u>	<u>210,008</u>	<u>206,523</u>	<u>234,046</u>	<u>225,086</u>

BARSTOW MEMORIAL SCHOOL
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE
2002-2003 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
2003-2004 BUDGET AND PROJECTION
2004-2005 BUDGET

	<u>Budget</u> <u>2002 - 2003</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2002 - 2003</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2003 - 2004</u>	<u>Projection</u> <u>2003 - 2004</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2004 - 2005</u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS					
Health Insurance - Teachers	157,941	172,046	203,744	170,131	190,887
FICA - Teachers	56,160	57,301	62,967	62,967	70,649
Municipal Retirement	6,175	8,608	6,397	6,397	7,178
Workers Comp. Insurance - Teachers	9,000	8,703	6,500	9,080	10,188
Unemployment Insurance - Teachers	3,000	3,327	5,000	5,000	5,610
Long-Term Disability	700	765	700	700	785
Dental Insurance	8,000	8,475	9,800	9,343	10,483
FICA - Librarian	2,882	3,183	3,231	3,231	3,625
Other Benefits - Librarian	10,019	9,378	12,925	12,925	14,502
Dental Librarian	0	283	0	0	0
FICA - Nurse	2,533	2,586	2,840	2,840	3,187
Other Benefits - Nurse	1,604	1,507	2,069	2,069	2,322
UCI Nurse	0	0	21	21	24
Dental Nurse	0	260	0	0	0
FICA - Guidance	3,304	2,869	3,704	3,704	4,166
Other Benefits - Guidance	10,052	0	12,967	12,967	14,549
UCI Guidance	0	135	148	148	166
Dental Guidance	0	283	0	0	0
Health Insurance - Clerical	4,023	3,559	5,189	5,189	5,822
FICA - Clerical	1,801	1,733	2,019	2,019	2,266
Unemployment Insurance - Clerical	102	135	102	102	114
Health Insurance - Custodial	22,609	15,311	29,166	29,166	32,724
FICA - Custodial	5,322	5,577	5,967	5,967	6,695
Unemployment Insurance - Custodial	204	360	204	204	229
FICA - Bus Driver	3,866	4,087	4,335	4,335	4,864
Health Insurance - Bus Driver	0	135	148	148	166
Health Insurance - Bus Driver	0	3,559	0	0	0
Unemployment Insurance - Bus Driver	102	405	102	102	114
Dental - Bus Driver	374	386	458	458	514
FICA - Cooks	87	153	97	97	109
FICA - Other	0	0	42	42	47
Municipal Retirement - Cooks	714	0	714	714	801
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	<u>310,574</u>	<u>315,113</u>	<u>381,556</u>	<u>350,065</u>	<u>392,773</u>
LOAN PAYMENTS					
Principal					
Interest	138,246	59,449	171,102	174,402	183,175
TOTAL LOAN PAYMENTS	<u>138,246</u>	<u>59,449</u>	<u>171,102</u>	<u>174,402</u>	<u>183,175</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>2,422,997</u>	<u>2,407,344</u>	<u>2,603,412</u>	<u>2,667,377</u>	<u>2,759,246</u>
ENDING GENERAL FUND BALANCE (DEF	<u>0</u>	<u>18,624</u>	<u>(0)</u>	<u>(18,181)</u>	<u>0</u>

Barstow Teacher Salaries

In June 2000, the Board and Teachers settled on a five-year contract, beginning July 1, 2000. While the new contract still has a matrix (below) of salaries, the way teachers advance on the matrix is different. The "Step" is the teachers' years of service at the start of the school year. Formerly teachers moved across the columns by accumulating graduate credits. Now teachers develop a plan, with the principal, for compiling a portfolio of achievements for moving to the next column. The completed portfolio is reviewed and approved by a Moveover Panel comprised of the principal, a teacher and a Board member. Components of the portfolio must directly relate to the goals of the school. Costs are similar, except that the Board will fully fund the cost of obtaining a master's degree (80% in prior contract). The table below presents the salaries for the 2004-2005 school year and where Barstow teachers are distributed on the matrix. Four of the positions below are part-time: [B-8 (.80), C-7 (.44), C-9 (.50), and F-20 (.44)]

<u>Step</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>
0	32,000	32,750	33,500	34,250	35,000	35,750
1	32,500	33,250	34,000 1	34,750	35,500	36,250
2	33,000 1	33,800	34,700	35,775	36,750	37,550
3	33,450	34,300	35,350	36,750	37,975	38,800
4	33,850 1	34,750	35,950	37,675	39,100	40,000
5	34,200	35,150	36,500	38,550	40,200	41,150
6	34,500 1	35,500	37,000 1	39,375	41,250	42,250
7	34,750	35,800	37,450	40,150	42,250	43,300
8		36,000 1	37,854	40,875	43,200	44,300
9			38,000 2	41,550	44,100	45,250
10				42,175	44,950	46,150
11				42,750	45,750	47,000
12				43,275	46,500	47,800
13				44,000 2	47,200	48,550
14					47,850	49,250
15					48,450	49,900
16					49,000	50,500 1
17					49,500	51,505
18					50,500 5	51,550
19						52,250
20						54,000 8

Frederic Duclos Barstow Memorial School
2004 - 2005 Budget
Report of the School Directors

The following table is a summary of the changes for next year's budget as compared to both the original budget for the 2003 -2004 school year, and what we project to be the actual costs for this year.

Budget Analysis:

Budget Item	2004-2005		2003-2004 Budget		2003-2004 Projection		
	Budget	Amount	% Change	% of Increase	Amount	% Change	% of Increase
Contract Salaries	1,166,438	1,114,331	4.68%	2.00%	1,128,098	3.40%	1.44%
Other Salaries	317,979	298,609	6.49	.74	302,975	4.59	.56
Total Salaries	1,484,417	1,412,940	5.06	2.75	1,431,073	3.73	2.00
Benefits	392,776	381,556	2.94	.43	350,065	12.20	1.60
Board	17,623	18,835	-6.43	-.05	18,838	-6.43	-.05
Transportation	54,142	57,929	-6.54	-.15	60,996	-11.24	-.26
Maintenance	143,456	124,022	15.67	.75	144,712	-5.01	-.28
Instructional	140,386	118,379	18.59	.85	126,294	17.01	.77
Special Education	343,275	318,649	7.73	.95	361,000	-4.91	-.66
Bond	183,175	171,102	7.06	.46	174,402	5.03	.33
Total Expenses	2,759,246	2,603,412	5.99	5.99%	2,667,377	3.44	3.44%

Negotiations: In matters related to controlling the costs of education, taxpayers frequently site professional salaries, benefits and special education as areas of major concern. Barstow teachers' salaries are negotiated at the supervisory union level. Representative school directors from districts within Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (RNESU) will start negotiating the next contract with representatives from the two teachers' unions later in 2004. Tentatively, all RNESU directors will meet February 26 and discuss their ideas with the Board Negotiating Team. Then at the March RNESU full Board meeting, the Negotiating Team will present to the directors the approach they plan to take in negotiations. Although both meetings are open to the public, negotiating strategies will be held in executive session so individuals should make their views clear to their own district's directors.

Building Bond: Last year, at both Town Meetings, the Directors presented their plan to issue a small additional bond that was within the amount approved by the Department of Education, to take care of items that were not in the original project, but came to light as workers more carefully inspected the building as the project was underway. That accounts for the increase in the amount of the Bond payment in next year's budget. In subsequent years, the amount of the bond payment will decline slowly as smaller interest payments are due on a decreasing principal balance. The second bond also received a 30% match from the State.

Building Maintenance: The building renovations included better windows and a heating/ventilation system that controls the flow of heat via computerized sensors. While we need to pay a service contract for this system, the Board expects that the reduced heating costs will far exceed the service contract. Before the renovation, Barstow's heating fuel costs exceeded Otter Valley's. The largest line item increase for building maintenance, however, was for insurance.

Transportation: The decrease in this line item was due to the termination of the handicapped bus lease, offset in part by an increase in insurance.

Special Education: Special education costs are impacted directly by the number of students served under federal and state programs. The following table presents number of students, total costs and total federal/state revenues for the designated years. In 1999, Mendon & Chittenden withdrew from the RNESU special education pool, which combined all RNESU special education costs and then allocated those costs to the towns based on total student enrollment (i.e. not for the actual cost of special education students for that town). RNESU still provides the services, but the two towns are now billed for their direct special education expenses. Even with the large increases in our special education budget in the subsequent years, the fact that the two towns are not in the pool will save \$262,044 next year. The table below follows presentations in the Barstow and Town School District budgets: the Barstow budget contains the direct expenses for their students and the budgets for the two towns includes direct expenses for their high school students and administrative expenses for all students.

Special Education Information

School Year Ending:	Expenses				Federal & State Revenues *			
	2003 Actual	2004 Budget	2004 Projected	2005 Budget	2003 Actual	2004 Budget	2004 Projected	2005 Budget
Direct Expenses:								
Barstow (K-8)	301,601	318,649	361,000	343,275				
Chittenden (High School)	49,954	50,000	50,000	74,804				
Mendon (High School)	67,942	72,350	120,700	234,309				
Administrative Expenses								
Chittenden	34,927	32,772	32,772	34,725	131,402	115,667	115,667	168,000
Mendon	29,055	30,118	30,118	31,864	139,798	153,879	153,879	265,496
Total Special Education Expenses	483,489	503,889	594,590	718,977	271,200	269,546	269,546	433,496

Number of Students:

Barstow (K-8)
Chittenden (High School)
Mendon (High School)
Total Number of Students

*Revenues for Barstow are sent to the two towns

Revenues as a Percent of Expenses 56.09% 53.49% 45.33% 60.29

Requirements: The Vermont Department of Education has an excellent website, including information on Special Education for both Federal and State programs. (www.state.vt.us/educ/cses/index.htm) Students eligible for special education services must have a disability (such as autism, attention deficit disorder, learning impairment emotional disorder, developmental delay, as examples), which is both adverse to learning and requires specialized instruction. There is a formal structure for evaluating the student and formulating an educational plan for that student. Special education costs, therefore, are directly linked to the level of services required to implement that educational plan.

Funding: What some refer to as government educational mandates are to others the minimum level of service that our legislators feel this country should provide to both regular and special education students and that this level of service represents the social conscience of our nation. As much as all would like to see both regular and special education costs fully funded from federal and state sources, there is one strong and overriding reason for keeping much of the funding at the local level. Local funding provides the greatest measure of cost control, a control that has not yet been matched by any other expense/funding scheme.

Expenses & Cost Containment: In Vermont, special education programs are administered at the supervisory union level (60 in VT). Administrators at the supervisory union hire and supervise the staff required to implement the educational plans for each student mentioned earlier. They also submit reports to the State on special education costs, which are used to allocate a fixed pool of revenues to all the towns. There is both an art and skill to filing these reports so that our towns obtain the greatest share possible from that limited pool.

School Board directors are not completely helpless when it comes to controlling special education costs. Nearly all of Barstow's directors are also on the RNESU Board. Each year that Board closely examines the special education budget, which is prepared by the special education staff, the superintendent and the business manager. The Board often asks those administrators to consider alternative programs. Local districts have worked together to provide joint programs resulting in efficiencies. The best strategy is to hire competent staff, and RNESU has the best.

For the latest year available (2001), the average special education cost per student (all students) statewide was \$1,365. The per student costs for Chittenden & Mendon were \$978 and \$896, respectively.

Board of School Directors:

John Sampson, Chair (Chittenden)
Lynn Farwell (Chittenden)
Jeff Spaulding (Chittenden)

Harry Chen (Mendon)
Dave Doenges (Mendon)
Cort Corsones (Mendon)

SCHOOL LEGAL NOTICES - TOWN OF MENDON

School Board - The school boards welcome your input on all issues. The Mendon Town School Board meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:50 PM at the school. The Barstow school board meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the school. Please call the school at least a week in advance in order to assure time for you on the agenda and to see if there have been any postponements or cancellations. Special meetings of the Barstow school board will be posted at the Mendon Town Office, the Mendon Country Store and the Grange Hall.

Equal Opportunity - The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union insures equal employment and educational opportunities regardless of race, color, handicap, national origin, or sex.

Students with Disabilities - The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union is required by federal laws IDEA-B (Formerly EHA-B) and Section 504 and state regulations to identify and locate all persons with disabilities between the ages of birth and 21 who may be in need of regular education, special education services or accommodations in accessing public education. If you know of any individual residing in the town of Mendon who you suspect of having such needs, but who is not currently receiving them, please contact the special education coordinator, Michele LaRouche, at (802) 247-5757 or the school principal for your town.

Records Review - As provided under federal and state laws and regulations, all parents and legal guardians are hereby notified that the school records for their children are available for inspection. Please contact your school and set up an appointment if you wish to exercise this right.

Asbestos - The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act [40 CFR 763.93 (g) (4)] requires that written notice be given that the following schools have Management plans for the safe control and maintenance of asbestos-containing materials found in their buildings. These Management Plans are available and accessible to the public at the administrative offices of each facility listed below. Please contact the building Principal if you wish to read this plan.

	<i>School Address</i>	<i>Designated Person</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
1.	Barstow School 223 Chittenden Road Chittenden, VT 05737	James Ashby	773-3763
2.	Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union 49 Court Drive Brandon, VT 05733	Brenda Fleming	247-5757

Audit Reports - Certified Public Accountants audit reports are available for public inspection. Call the business office at (802) 247-5757.

Mendon School Directors' Report-2003

For the third year in a row, Barstow was named a "Medallion Quality School" by the Vermont Business Roundtable, in recognition of its outstanding achievement in education. Recognized at the elementary and middle school level, this distinction clearly validates the hard work of our students and faculty. The characteristics of a Medallion School highlight what makes Barstow so successful. These include:

- Supported by faculty, staff, parents, school board and community
- Boasts excellent leadership beginning with a strong principal
- Cultivates a mutually respectful and welcoming atmosphere
- Values every student and ensures that every student learns
- Curriculum is aligned to the Vermont Framework
- Committed to faculty and staff professional development
- Has a cohesive and dedicated faculty and staff committed to working together

This level of achievement continues with our students into high school and beyond. I can't tell you how many times I hear from the local high schools how well prepared and ultimately successful our students are.

Again I would like to thank our community for your support for our highly successful building project. Touted as a model for school renovation, it completed the package that ensures our future. Contrary to statewide trends and demographers' predictions, Barstow's enrollment has increased. Ask any Rutland County realtor where families with school age children want to move and I suspect you'll learn why. The benefits of our popularity are stable numbers that keep our costs down. The downside is the negative effect on our "Common Level of Appraisal" and ultimately our taxes.

As usual, the Barstow School Board worked diligently to create a fiscally responsible budget. The majority of the 5.99% increase relates to salaries and benefits, most of which is dictated by negotiated contracts. Other areas of increase include special education, maintenance and instructional supplies. Some of the increases represent expenses deferred during the building project. Barstow has a high percentage of highly qualified and experienced teachers. There's no question in my mind that we get our money's worth.

The Mendon School District budget saw modest increases related to Barstow and the supervisory union, but the major increases were at the high school level. We expect ten additional high school students next year

and a small increase in high school tuition. All told, this represents a 15.6% increase. Finally our special education costs at the high school level are estimated to increase by a rather astounding 185%. Over half of the increase will be reimbursed by the state, but in a small district like ours, a small number of high-needs children can have a pronounced impact on our budget. Still they are "our" kids and deserve the same level of support as the rest.

It is important to benchmark our school and district academically and financially to know how we are doing. Academically, our test scores are consistently among the best in the state. Financially, Barstow's per pupil costs continue to hover around the statewide average. Mendon's per pupil costs are significantly below statewide averages. It's easy to conclude that we are getting quite a bang for our buck.

Act 68, passed this past year, which replaces Act 60, reduces our reliance on the property tax, clarifies that education funding is a statewide system and simplifies the relationship between spending and taxes for resident property owners. H 540, just passed by the House this year, is expected to reduce property taxes further. Understanding that there is still some uncertainty, one can only estimate the expected tax rate at this stage. Assuming H540 is enacted, I expect the residential tax rate in Mendon will be \$1.72 compared to \$2.07 last year; this represents a decrease of 16.9%. Household incomes less than \$88,000 will be income sensitized. The non-residential rate is expected to be \$1.84, an 11.1% decrease. I do want to emphasize that the "Three Prior Year Comparison" in the town report does not factor in the common level of appraisal (CLA), and reflects a tax rate as if we were assessed at 100% of market value under Act 68, before H540.

Two reminders:

- 1) Resident property owners must file a Declaration of Vermont Homestead form before April 15, 2004 to ensure accurate calculation of taxes and income sensitivity payment and
- 2) Town Meeting will start at **6PM**, one hour earlier this year, in an effort to complete business at an earlier hour.

We thank the town for its continuing support and generous investment in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Chen, Chair, Mendon School Directors

Mendon Town School District Budget - 2004-2005

<u>Revenues:</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2001-2002</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u> <u>2002-2003</u>	<u>BUDGET</u> <u>2003-2004</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2004-2005</u>
Fund Balance	29,140.97	29,140.97	3,787.36	<u>DUE TO</u> 4,839.42
Property Taxes	748,638.00	812,035.00	963,749.00	<u>ACT 68</u> 0.00
Homestead Revenues to School			0.00	<u>CHANGES</u> 894,211.97
GSSG/Education Spending Revenue	987,886.00	1,025,313.00	1,063,518.00	0.00
Non-Residential Property Tax			0.00	<u>REVENUES</u> 1,002,672.13
Grants for Technical Centers			0.00	<u>CANNOT</u> 15,780.00
Amount Due Education Fund	(276,635.00)	(305,228.00)	(287,006.00)	<u>BE</u> 0.00
Special Education (K-8)	92,833.24	102,429.24	114,086.49	<u>DIRECTLY</u> 127,296.44
Special Education (High School)	9,910.38	37,368.30	39,792.50	<u>COMPARE</u> 123,349.43
Transportation Aid	20,875.00	20,754.00	19,845.00	<u>WITH</u> 22,305.00
Interest Income-General Fund	2,000.00	3,843.31	2,000.00	<u>PRIOR</u> 2,000.00
Endowment Interest	4,000.00	0.00	11,826.00	<u>YEARS</u> 0.00
National Forest Receipts	0.00	8,952.62	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	1,618,648.59	1,734,608.44	1,931,598.35	2,192,454.39

Expenditures:

Barstow Assessment	1,069,577.88	1,119,316.08	1,241,992.46	1,279,733.70
High School Tuition	449,004.89	446,965.41	523,599.61	605,328.46
Special Education Assessment	24,467.09	29,054.89	30,117.58	31,864.17
Special Education (High School)	15,915.00	67,942.36	72,350.00	206,149.00
Act 504 Expenditures (High School)	0.00	4,315.00	0.00	4,000.00
RNESU Assessment	48,596.55	52,957.42	56,638.70	60,479.06
School Board	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Treasurer Salary	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Misc. Board Exp.	1,671.98	2,622.19	900.00	900.00
Legal Fees	112.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest transfer to Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Expense	3,309.62	808.31	4,000.00	2,000.00
TOTALS	1,612,655.01	1,725,981.66	1,931,598.35	2,192,454.39

*The audit of the Mendon School District, may be reviewed at
the Mendon Town Office during regular business hours*

High School Estimates 2004-2005

<u>School</u>	<u>FY2005</u> <u># Students</u>	<u>FY 2002</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>FY 2003</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>FY 2004</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	
Rutland	73 \$7,700	424,351.69	411,437.00	488,400.00	562,100.00
Mill River	0	0.00		0.00	0.00
Stafford Tech	2.83 \$9,162	12,670.00	11,108.61	11,199.61	25,928.46
Otter Valley Union High School	0	0.00		0.00	0.00
Private	2 \$8,650	11,983.20	24,419.80	24,000.00	17,300.00
Prior Years Underbilling Due (RHS & STC)	0	0.00		0.00	0.00
TOTALS	77.83	449,004.89	446,965.41	523,599.61	605,328.46

Three Prior Years Comparisons

ESTIMATES
ONLY

District: Mendon County: Rutland		LEAC S.U.:	122 Rutland Northeast																
Expenditures				FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005												
Budget (local budget approved in prior years)				1,620,434	1,693,129	1,931,600	2,192,454												
82% of base payment per FTE paid to each center by the State on behalf of the district in FY2005				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
S.U. assessment (included in local budget)				88,978	94,410	159,108	325,692												
Deficit (if included in local budget)																			
Block grant paid by State to tech center in prior years				20,866	18,535	18,418	not applicable												
1. Separately warned article passed at town meeting				+	+	+	+												
2. Separately warned article passed at town meeting				+	+	+	+												
3. Separately warned article passed at town meeting				+	+	+	+												
Act 144 Expenditures, (excluded from "Education Spending")				-	-	-	-												
Act 68 local adopted budget				1,641,300	1,711,684	1,950,018	2,192,454												
Union school or joint school district assessment				+	+	+	+												
Deficit if not included in budget or revenues				+	+	+	+												
Special programs expenditures (if not included in local budget)				+	+	+	+												
Gross Act 68 Budget				1,641,300	1,711,664	1,950,018	2,192,454												
Act 144 expenditures (if any, excluded from "Education Spending")				-	-	-	-												
Revenues																			
Local revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including Act 144 revenues)				160,545	161,009	191,337	294,640												
Capital debt aid				+	+	+	+												
Special program revenues (if not included in local budget)				+	+	+	+												
Deficit if not included in budget or expenditures				-	-	-	-												
Act 144 revenues				160,545	161,009	191,337	294,640												
Total revenues				-	-	-	-												
Fund raising (if any)				-	-	-	-												
Adjusted local revenues				160,545	161,009	191,337	294,640												
Education Spending (Act 68 definition)				1,480,755	1,550,655	1,758,681	1,897,814												
Equalized Pupils				185.16	187.54	190.94	204.01												
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil				7,997	8,268	9,211	9,303												
Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil (if any)				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
District spending adjustment (\$9,303 / \$6,800)				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized (\$138,809% x \$1.10)				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Household Income Percentage for Income sensitivity				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Household Income Percentage for Income sensitivity (\$138,809% x 2.0%)				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
Household Income Percentage for Income sensitivity				not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable												
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Household Income Percentage for Income sensitivity				not applicable															

Minutes of the Town of Mendon School District Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2003
Cortina Inn Conference Center

Moderator Cortland Corsones called the meeting to order at 9:55 p.m.

Article I – To elect the necessary Town School District officers (By Australian Ballot):

a. A School Director for a term of three (3) years.

Moderator Corsones announced he is running for this office.

Article II – To hear reports of the Mendon School District Officers and take action thereon.

Harry Chen expressed thanks to Joe Rodolfy for his service on the School Board.

David Doenges presented a slide show on the “rejuvenation” of Barstow School. The presentation showed the progress of the construction as it happened and the finished product including the gym, classrooms, offices and cafeteria. He reported that the project was completed on time and within the budget.

Joe Rodolfy reported on the Barstow School budget. Test scores of Barstow students are among the best in the state. Overall the budget is up 7.45%. Debt service on the bond for the renovation project accounts for 1.36% of this. The bond payments are less than expected due to the lower cost of the project and a lower interest rate than anticipated. Health benefits account for 40% of the increase. Special education costs are increasing because we have more students requiring these services, but they are mandated. We now have to provide English as a Second Language instruction. Teachers’ salaries are high because we have a relatively senior staff earning higher salaries. One benefit of our teachers’ contract is a “pay for performance” provision by which meaningful continuing education meriting a salary increase must be approved after a presentation by the teacher.

Harry Chen reported on the Mendon Town school budget. Although our health insurance costs are high, they are less than average because we pool our buying power with other school throughout the state. Our per pupil costs are slightly above the state average, \$6928 versus \$6797. The increase in the Mendon budget is due to a higher percentage of Mendon students at Barstow, an additional special education student with high needs, an increase in the Rutland Northeast Supervisory budget, and additional high school students. The Mendon budget is up 14% and the

tax rate for the school will increase from \$1.86 to \$2.16, some of that due to Act 60.

Mark Welch asked why the treated wood used in the playground equipment at Barstow has not been removed, or at least stained or varnished. This wood endangers the health of the children. Children should wash their hands after playing on the playground. David Doenges reported that money has been appropriated to stain and varnish the treated wood. Mark Welch feels that this has not been done in a timely manner.

Article III – To have presented by the Board of School Directors of the Mendon Town School District its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year and to appropriate such sum as it, the Mendon Town School District, deems necessary for said expenses, together with the amount required to pay any balance left unpaid from the preceding year, expressing such sum in dollars in its vote.

Cort Jones, seconded by Peter Gray, moved to approve the Mendon Town School budget for \$1,931,598.35. The motion carried.

Article IV – To see if the voters of the Mendon Town School District will authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to meet the necessary expenses of the District.

Barry Isaacs, seconded by Steve Long, moved that the article be accepted. The motion passed.

Article V – To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

David Doenges gave a project update on the renovation of Barstow School. The original goals were met and with cost savings of \$265,550, the project stayed within budget. There remain some items that were not completed including engineering designs, parts of the electrical system, upgrades in the heating system, storm windows and some new windows. The estimate to complete these items is \$202,250. This will be considered part of the original project and therefore the State will pay for 30% of the cost. The School Directors would like to go ahead with these items. Because the cost would fall within the amount bonded for the project, the School Directors have the authority to expend this amount. On an advisory vote moved by Cort Jones and seconded by Steve Long, it was moved to proceed with the improvements as outlined. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cortland Corsones, Moderator
Michael Barone, Selectboard
Ann Singiser, Town Clerk



Barstow Graduation Class 2003



**Barstow 7-8th Grade Odyssey of the Mind Team
Vermont State Champs
They represented Vermont in the World Finals in Iowa.**

MENDON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
WARNING

The legal voters of the Mendon Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Cortina Inn at 6:00 p.m. on March 1, 2004 to transact the business of the Town School District except for the election of officers which shall be done by Australian ballot. The polls will be open on Tuesday March 2, 2004 from 8 AM to 7 PM at the Mendon Town Office for the election of officers.

- Article I To elect the necessary Town School District officers (By Australian Ballot):
 a. A School Director for a term of three (3) years.
- Article II To hear the reports of the Mendon School District Officers and take action thereon.
- Article III To have presented by the Board of School Directors of the Mendon Town School District its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year and to appropriate such sum as it, the Mendon Town School District, deems necessary for said expenses, together with the amount required to pay any balance left unpaid from the preceding year, expressing said sum in dollars in its vote.
- Article IV To see if the voters of the Mendon Town School District will authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to meet the necessary expenses of the District.
- Article V To transact any other business proper to be done when met.

Dated at Mendon, Vermont this 23rd day of January, 2004.

MENDON BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

	Term Expires
Harry Chen, Chair	2004
David Doenges, Clerk	2005
Cort Corsones	2006

Warning
Town Meeting - March 1, 2004
Mendon, Vermont

The legal voters of the Town of Mendon and Town of Mendon School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Cortina Inn on Monday, March 1, 2004 at 6:00 PM to transact all business except Articles 3 and 11. The meeting will adjourn until March 2, 2004 at 8:00 AM, at the Mendon Town Office, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 3 and 11. Voting will close at 7:00 PM.

Article 1

To act on Town Reports

Article 2

Shall the Town vote to approve that taxes be paid annually to the Town Treasurer in two installments on the second Monday of September and the second Monday of March?

Article 3

Shall the bonds, of the Town of Mendon in an amount not to exceed \$275,000, be issued for the purpose of planning, engineering and constructing a New Town Office?

Article 4

Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to change the distribution of the fines collected by Law Enforcement from mandatory of 80% General Fund, 20% Law Enforcement Fund to a maximum of 20% to the Law Enforcement Fund?

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote the Public Safety portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

Article 6

To see if the Town will vote the Community Infrastructure portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote the Administrative portion of the budget to meet expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the same.

Article 8

Shall the Town provide appropriations requested by:

Barstow Boosters	1000
Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council	525
Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County	1000
George Aiken	50
RSVP	230
Rutland Area Community Service	1200
Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice	2600
Rutland County Women's Network	500
Rutland Economic Development Corporation	500
Rutland Natural Resource Conservation District	200
Rutland West	500
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	400
Vermont Cares	125
Vermont Center for Independent Living	125
Vermont Green Up	100

Article 9

Shall the Town authorize the Selectmen to acquire by gift or purchase, land for municipal forest, to produce wood products, maintain wildlife habitat, protect water supplies, provide forest recreation, and for conservation education purposes?

Article 10

To see what compensation the Town will vote for its officers, but permit the Selectmen, at their discretion, to set the hourly rate.

Article 11

To elect all necessary Town Officers.

Article 12

To transact any other legal business.

Dated at Mendon, Vermont on this 22nd day of January, 2004

/s/ Barry Isaacs

/s/ Michael Barone

/s/ Betsy Gray

/s/ Ann Singiser, Town Clerk

Comings and Goings

Therese Corsones (Teri) Teri was appointed to the Planning Commission in January 2003 and immediately assumed the position of Chair. Teri succeeded her brother-in-law, Christopher Corsones, and we have broken her in well this year. Teri brings to us a long history of service to local schools, organizations and her community.

Al Curns was a Justice of the Peace and a hard working member of our Recreation Committee. Al and his wife Terry moved from Vermont and will be missed as they were both active in their community. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

Lindsay MacCuiag was appointed Justice of the Peace in Mendon by Governor Douglas to complete the term of Al Curns. Lindsay has lived in Mendon since 1976 with her husband Rod and daughter Morgan. She has been active in the Barstow PTO. A marathon runner, Lindsay and her dogs can often be found running on the Wheelerville Road.

Recreation Committee Vacancy

There is a vacancy on the recreation committee and all interested parties can contact Larry Courcelle or the Town Office.

Doris (Dotty) Scott was a Justice of the Peace from 1986 to 2003. In addition to this official capacity, she worked as an election official for many years and was one of Mendon Historical Society's most loyal and dependable members. Dotty brought joy to our community with her friendliness and sense of humor.

Stephen Long was appointed Justice of the Peace in Mendon by Governor Douglas to complete the term of Dotty Scott. Professionally, Steve specializes in custom kitchens and home building. Steve lives in Mendon with his wife Linda and two daughters, Sarah and Molly.

Ron Lazzaro resigned from the Planning Commission in November 2003 due to professional responsibilities. Ron has been a member of the Planning Commission since 1987. The Town of Mendon would like to thank Ron for his years of dedicated service to his community.

Steve Ellerin was appointed to the Planning Commission November 2003. Steve is one of our more recent residents in town, but he has been a Vermonter since 1986. Steve owns Excel Plumbing and Heating which he opened in 1990 and is now located in Mendon.

Jeff Machain was a part-time road crew member and has moved on the snowier pastures. We thank him for a job well done while he was working for Mendon.

Joe Dicton was hired as a part time employee for the Mendon Road Crew in December 2003. We welcome Joe to our community.

This year's Town Report is dedicated to

Mike and Dotty Scott



Mike has held various offices in the Town of Mendon continuously since 1955. He currently serves as Justice of the Peace and has served as Moderator and School Board Director in the past.

Dotty served as Justice of the Peace from 1986 to 2003.

We are grateful for their many years of service to our community.

Town of Mendon
34 US Route 4
Mendon, Vermont 05701

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Permit # 117
Rutland, VT
05701

Vermont Department of Libraries
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609

Please bring this copy to Town Meeting, March 1, 2004

New start time, 6:00 PM at the Cortland